



*Bridging Bright
Futures for Families*

**ERICSA
2024**

Grand Rapids

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TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION
APRIL 7-11, 2024**

Whole Family Services

A look at Fathers and the Essential Role They Play

Speakers:

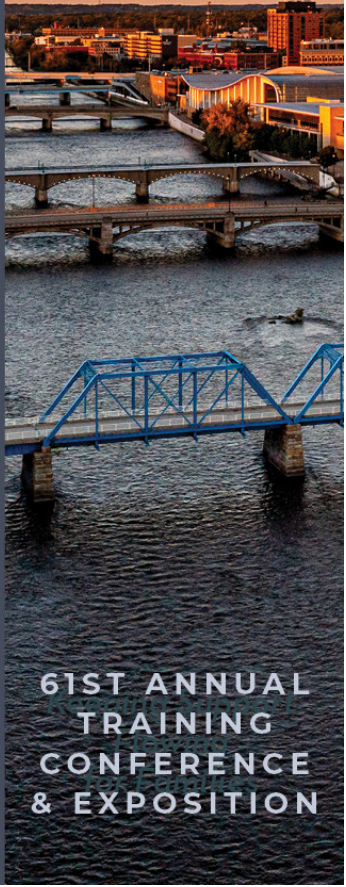
- Commissioner Tanguler Gray, ACF Office of Child Support Services
- Cole Williams, The Delta Project
- Calvontae Liptropt, Delta Project Participant
- Erin Frisch, Michigan IV-D Director
- Sarah Hurst, Georgia IV-D Director

Moderator:

Robyn Crittenden, Deloitte Consulting LLP



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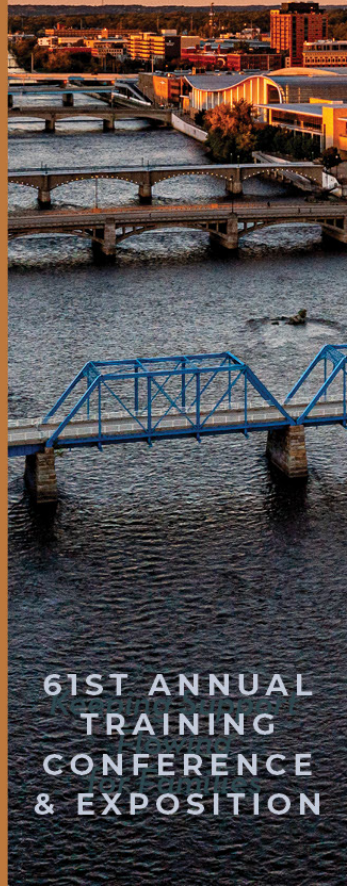
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Session Description:

The Administration for Children and Families has changed the name of the Office of Child Support Enforcement to the Office of Child Support Services (OCSS). This change demonstrates the program's continuous evolution to an inclusive, whole family-centered, and service-oriented model. Helping fathers with their key role in their children's lives and giving them the tools to do so is a key component of whole family services. Through speakers from OCSS, State fatherhood initiatives, a Fatherhood program provider, and a young father bringing his lived experience from the program to the discussion, this session will explore barriers fathers face, how to enable responsible parenthood, and how OCSS and various jurisdictions are addressing these challenges. This session will bring awareness to the issues and challenges surrounding fatherhood - especially for young fathers - along with actionable steps offices can take to improve family outcomes.



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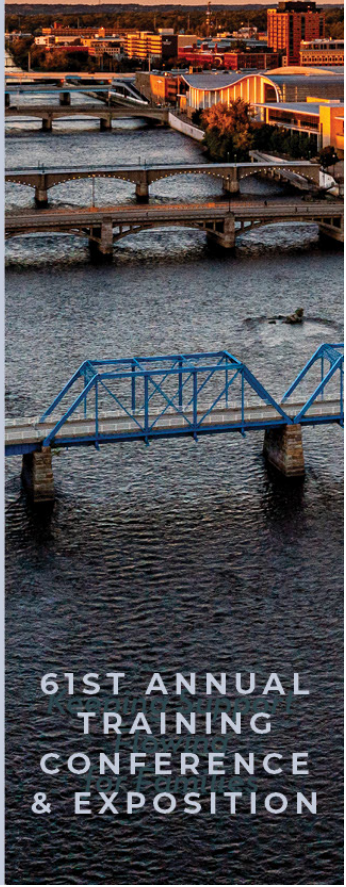
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Poll #1: Do you have a fatherhood initiative in your office?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. I don't know



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Poll #2 Does your fatherhood initiative address the issues that young fathers face?

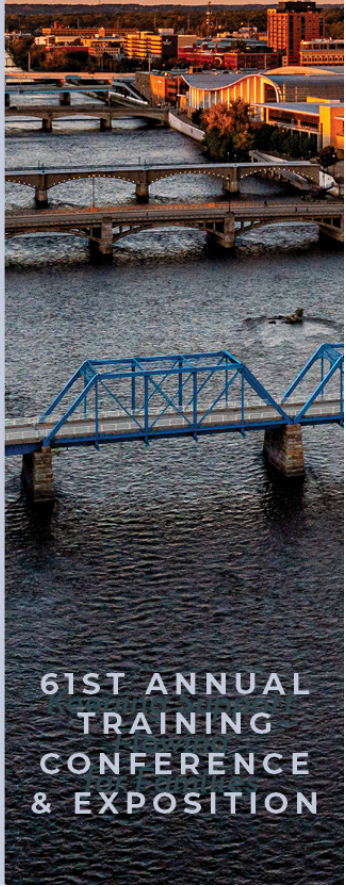
a. Yes

b. No

c. I don't know



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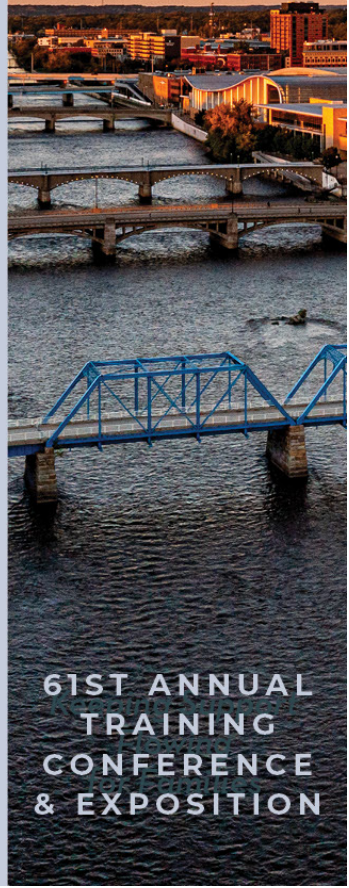
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BACKGROUND



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Office of Child Support Services

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

Advance equity by reducing structural barriers including racism and other forms of discrimination that prevent economic and social well-being

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

Take a preventative and proactive approach to ensuring child, youth, family, and individual well-being

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Use whole-family, community-based strategies to increase financial stability and economic mobility

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

Support communities and families to respond to acute needs and facilitate recovery from a range of crises and emergency situations

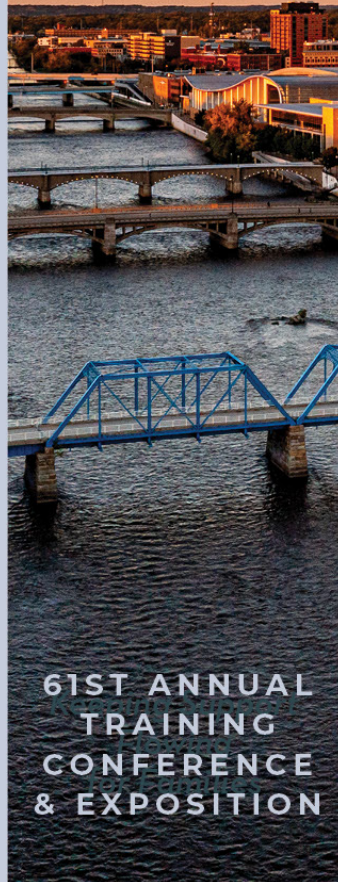
STRATEGIC GOAL 5

Enable and promote innovation within ACF to improve the lives of children, youth, families, and individuals

Fatherhood Task Force: Increase social service providers' connections with fathers by better awareness and collaboration across ACF offices

Helping Hands
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Office of Child Support Services

- New Name
- New Resources

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Find Services for Fathers and Families

Support for Fathers & Families

Fatherhood

Child Support Services

Health Insurance + Medical Services

Mental Health

Higher Education

Employment

Housing

Nutrition

- Fatherhood Information:** Access educational resources and tips to help dads be their best
- Fatherhood Programs:** Look for local programs to learn parenting skills and make connections with other dads in your community
- Local Child Support Resources:** Apply for child support or get help with your case
- Changing a Child Support Order:** Learn how to ask to have your child support order changed because of a change in your financial situation
- Debt Compromise:** See if your state has debt compromise options for child support arrears to be partially or completely forgiven
- Parenting Visitation:** Look for programs to help with access to and time with your children
- Medicaid:** Learn about Medicaid and if you're eligible based on your household income, family size, age, disability, or other factors
- Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):** Take a quick screening about eligibility for CHIP or other health insurance options for low-income children under 18 years old
- Behavioral Health Information for Parents and Caregivers:** Learn about mental health and substance use disorders
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Programs:** Get help with mental health and substance use challenges for you or your family
- Title IV Federal Student Financial Aid (FAFSA):** Look for grants, loans, and work-study programs to help pay for education
- Child Support Employment Programs:** Find out if your state has training and employment services to help noncustodial parents find stable employment
- Responsible Fatherhood Programs:** See if there is a fatherhood program near you with connections to employment and economic stability opportunities
- Public Housing Program:** Find information about affordable housing for eligible low-income families and individuals
- Housing Choice Voucher Program:** Learn about the housing voucher program to help low-income families and individuals pay rent
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):** See if you qualify for aid so that you can purchase healthy food for yourself and your family

Learn More

To learn about other support you may be eligible for and how to apply in your area, visit www.benefits.gov.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is committed to supporting the economic and social well-being of children and families. ACF programs aim to empower families, support the development of children, and encourage strong, healthy communities.

Fatherhood Questions/Concerns?

 1-877-4DAD411

 Help@FatherhoodGov.Info

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Child Support Enforcement
www.acf.hhs.gov



A Starter Kit on Engaging People With Lived Experience in Child Support Programs

January 2022

Office of Child Support Enforcement
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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Georgia



Employment-based program

Statewide program offered to both men and women

Connects participants with resources leading to career employment

Assists parents court ordered to pay child support prior to contempt

Increase self-sufficiency, financial, emotional, and parental involvement

- Program details:
 - Pilot – 1997; Statewide – 1998
 - Serves unemployed or underemployed parents
 - <https://childsupport.georgia.gov/programs-services/fatherhood-program>
- Program data:
 - FFY 2023
 - 4,429 participants
 - Since inception
 - Over 160,470 participants

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Michigan



[Michigan Action Plan For Father Involvement \(map-fi.org\)](http://map-fi.org)



Child Support Led
Employment Program



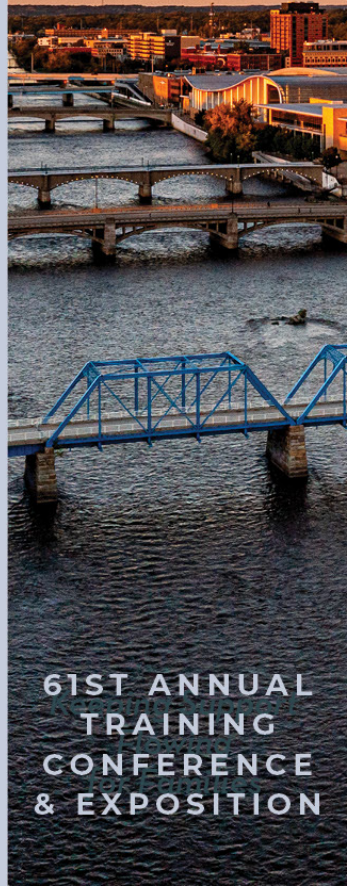
m i c h i g a n
child support

Community Advisory Council [Advisory-Council-Charter.pdf \(michigan.gov\)](#)

Navigator Pilot



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The Delta Project



The Delta Project

The Delta Project



Young Fathers Program

**Rights and
Responsibilities**

Co-parenting

**Employment
Instability**

**Financial
Constraints**

**Geographical
Distance**



Parenting Classes

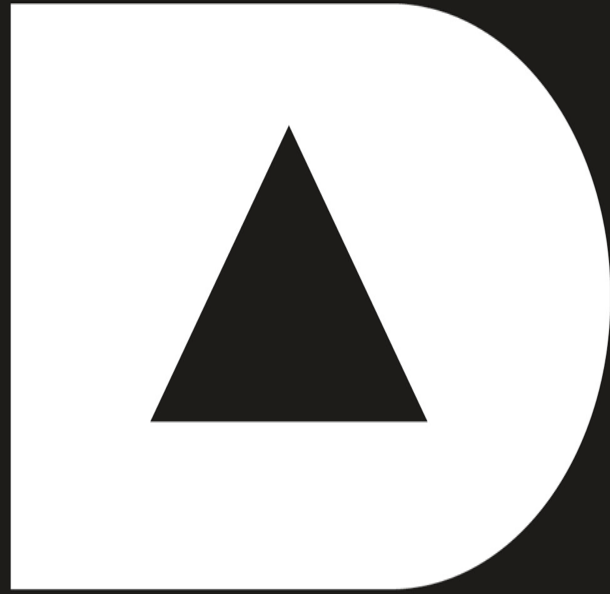
Young-Dad
Outreach

Employment

Mediation
Services

Policy
Advocacy





The Delta Project



thedeltaproject.co



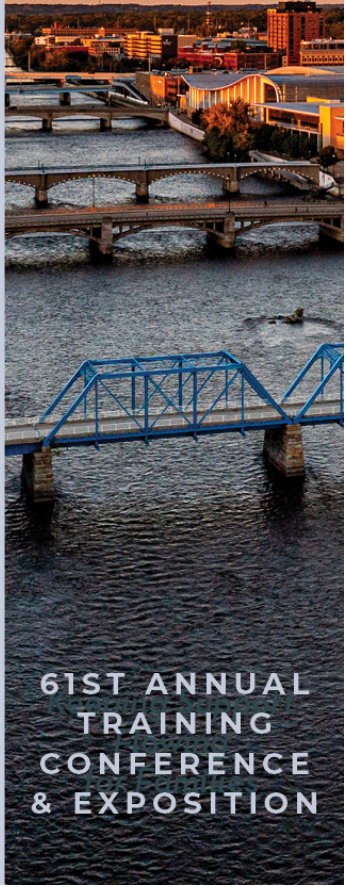
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Barriers



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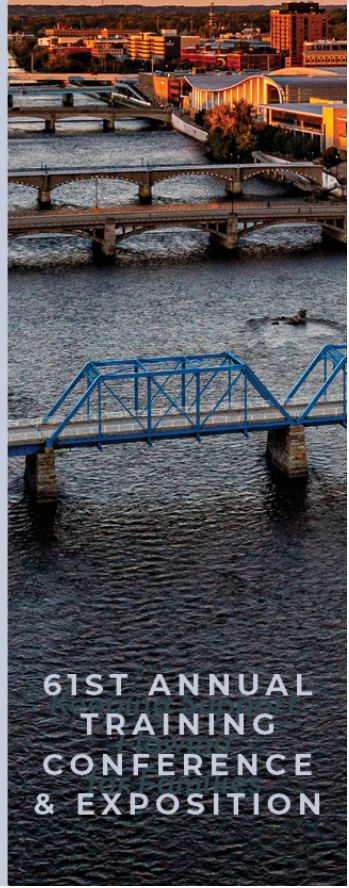
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Young Fathers



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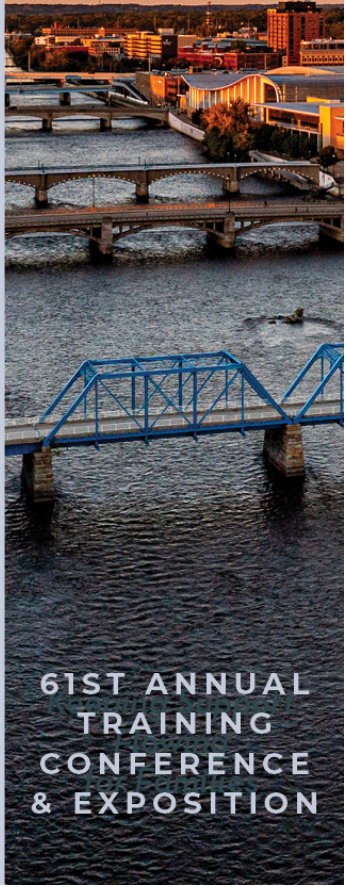
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Solutions



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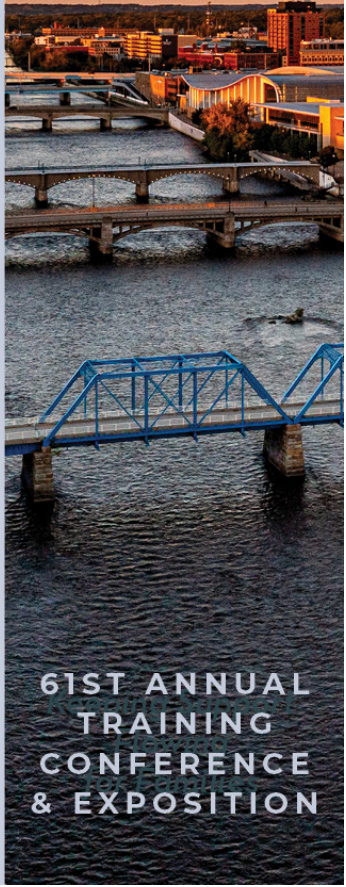


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Poll #3 What fatherhood barriers have you found most significant?



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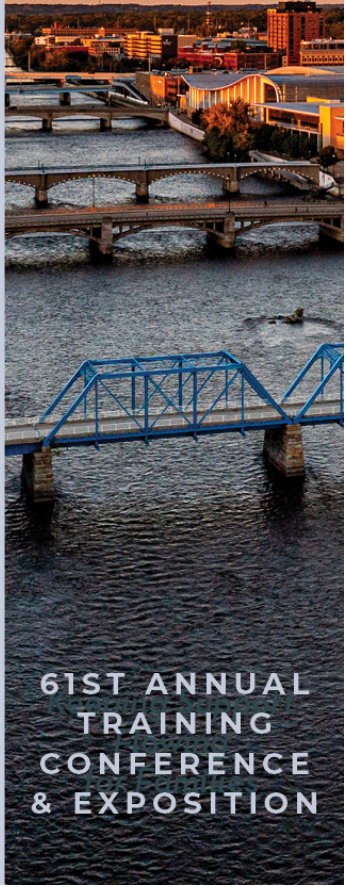
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Evolution of Services



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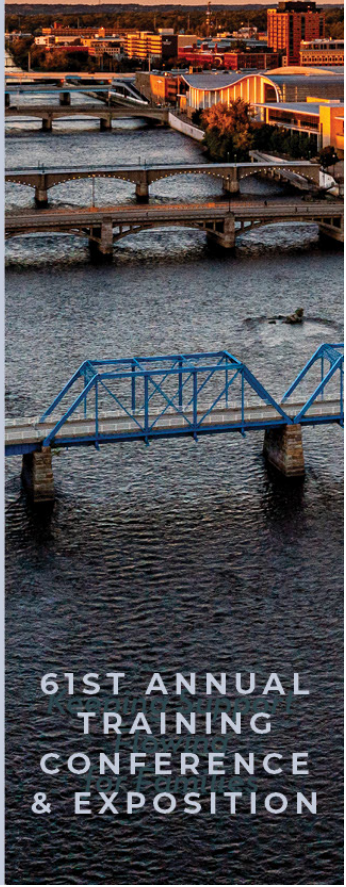
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Potential Program Changes



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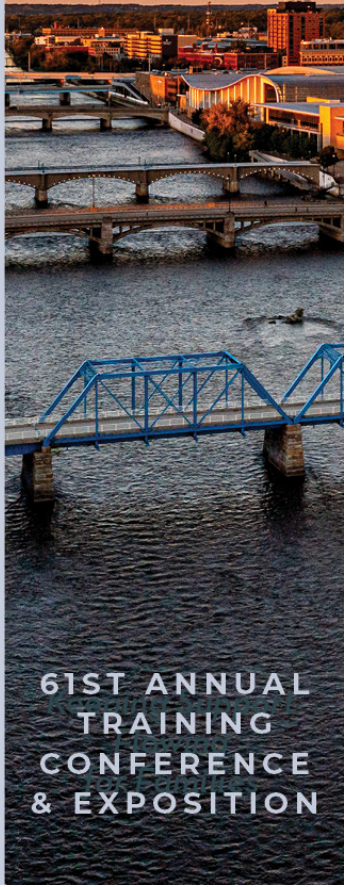
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Take-Aways



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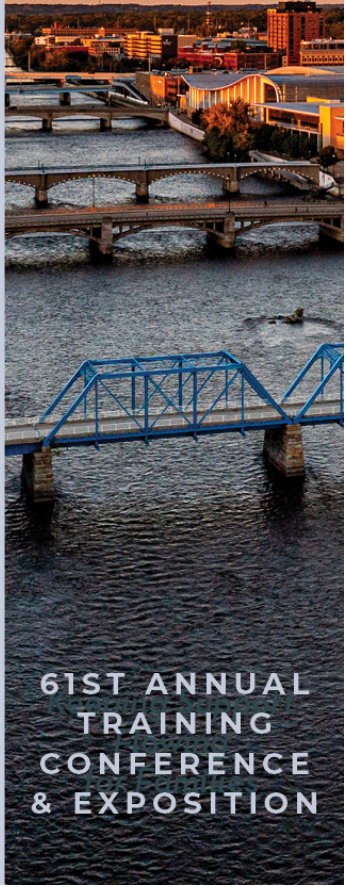
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Questions?



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