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Missouri Child Support Education Association

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly or Not

When planning for conference there are many decisions that have to be made. Location, is it big enough? The cost for the facility, meeting room rental, audio/video equipment availability or will it need to be rented outside of the facility? Is there a cost for parking? Does the hotel provide coffee or water in the meeting rooms? There are so many details that go into the decision making with the planning of our conference.

- ✓ Theme decided on
- ✓ Charity picked
- ✓ Supplies
- ✓ Everything and everyone ready to work preparing for our guests to arrive

Now you get a small picture of what it takes to get ready for conference and I didn't even mention the part about securing speakers for sessions. Or the booklet that holds the plans for the whole week! We hope everything goes as planned, but we all know the reality is quite different. There are many fires to put out and quick problem solving to be made.

Were there some glitches at conference this year? Sure, there were, just like every other year!! We had a holdup on name tags due to printer malfunction. We had people who didn't get their rooms until almost 9:00PM. There were many more challenges faced. Proudly we came through them by improvising, adapting and overcoming the obstacles that got in our way.

I've always tried to have the willingness and determination to make strategic decisions with a sense of purpose to meet the optimal goal. Sometimes things don't always go the way we planned but the question is this, did we obtain the goal we set out to reach when we planned the conference to begin with? Our mission was to provide attendees an adventure with everyone coming together; to learn, collaborate, and work together in an effort to better serve Missouri families. To sponsor educational training and advocating the importance of the Child Support program in hopes that you would return to work with increased knowledge, personal growth and a sense of camaraderie.



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When we have attendees coming up to us saying and I quote; “There was only one thing wrong with conference this year.” And you reply, “Oh, what was that?” Attendee Response: “There were so many good sessions at the same time to choose from, I didn’t know which one to go to!”

Sooo, with all the good, the bad and the ugly; did we obtain the goal we set out to reach when we planned conference? You’re darn right we did!!

We are in the planning stage for the 2023 conference to be held at the Oasis Hotel and Conference Center in Springfield, MO. Will there be glitches? Yep!! Will there be another charity to raise money for? You bet! Will there be great sessions that are hard to choose from? Absolutely!!

Make plans to attend the 2023 conference. There will be glitches along the way but our commitment has never wavered in providing high quality training to child support professionals.

Dori Moore
MCSEA Past President 2022



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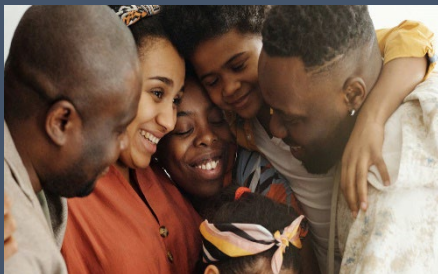
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year MCSEA friends! I am reaching out for the first time as the MCSEA President and let me tell you how proud I am to be here today, serving you. I wanted to take a few minutes to share some information about this year's MCSEA Conference so you could get us on your calendar and make plans to join us. MCSEA will return to my hometown, Springfield, Tuesday Oct 17th through Friday Oct 20th at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center located at 2546 N. Glenstone. We can depend on some of the wonderful things we have come to know and love about the Oasis and look forward to some new and exciting changes. They have many new amenities since we were there last, things like a larger restaurant space, new menu items, heated outdoor salt water pool that is open year-round and much more! We cannot wait to work with them again!

The Board has already begun to plan conference sessions and invite a few speakers, if you attended last year and believe there is someone you saw that we should ask to return, please send an email to mcsea77@gmail.com and let us know; we would love to hear your feedback. Visit our website at www.mcseaonline.org to join MCSEA and to keep up to date about events like Town Hall and Conference, and we even have some new things coming so watch for that! MCSEA would love to find new ways to stay in touch all year around, so if you have something fun or unique to do in your area, send us an email and let us know about it! It would be fun to plan an event in your area and invite MCSEA friends to participate!

Thank you for supporting MCSEA!!

Vicky Randle

MCSEA President 2023

Donald Stream has been the treasurer of MCSEA for so many years that he is like a permanent fixture to our association. He has kept us on track and helped us with all our finances, audits and anything else that needed to be done.

Donald decided in December to turn in his money bag and hand over the change purse. It is with heavy heart that Donald must give his resignation. This decision did not come lightly but due to circumstances out of his control, Donald felt this was the best decision for MCSEA.

There were things that needed to be taken care of by the treasurer that had not been done since conference so it was vital to fill this position as quickly as possible. As President of MCSEA, it is my duty to appoint a member to replace a position that is left open. At this time, I have appointed Kerensa Morrow-Kempf to the position of Treasurer and she has accepted the position.

Donald has served the MCSEA board well and he will be missed. We wish him well and know that he will still be around as he is serving on our Advisory Board. Thank you Donald for all you have done and will continue to do for MCSEA!

Dori Moore

President 2022

Charity Report and Thank You to Our Donors & Supporters

We have already begun planning the MCSEA 2023 conference but before we can really move on I wanted to make sure I shared with you the good news about the results of Conference 2022's charity raffle. Our event to benefit Kids in the Middle was held for two days, Wednesday and Thursday, of Conference week, and thanks to all of our generous donors we had some really fabulous items to bid on this year. Attendees of the conference were equally generous, volunteers sold a total of \$1800.00 in raffle tickets!!! When you add that with the direct contributions received from a couple of local attorney offices from Grant Kelley and Paula Hendrickson's regions, MCSEA was able to make a donation in the amount of \$2000.00 to Kids in the Middle.

The Children's Charity Raffle is always one of the most exciting parts of the week. The Board loves getting to see the items as they come in, finding out which items are the most sought after, the friendly competition at the tables, as people stuff the boxes full of raffle tickets and tease each other by shaking them after someone puts new tickets in, all for the benefit of Missouri's children and families. To all of you, thank you for your continued support of MCSEA and the raffle each year; without you, none of this would be possible.

We look forward to this year's event. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions about the charity raffle or if you would like to volunteer to help MCSEA!

Thank you for all you do!

Donna Jo Prather-Rhoads
MCSEA Vice President
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\$\$Change is Good\$\$

A few years ago, when I was MCSEA President, I gave Donald Stream the President's Award at our banquet. He was my rock that year. He's been MCSEA's trusted treasurer for over 10 years. We lovingly call him Money Bags. He's guided us through some tough times. I am not sure the association would still be here without his help and advice. When we make monetary decisions for MCSEA, I ask myself, WWDD? What Would Don Do? Serving on the executive board and the advisory board, I have learned so much from Donald, Sylvia, Donna Jo, and Dori. Little did I know that when Don decided to retire this year, I would be asked to fill what I will always call "Donald's position" as treasurer of Missouri Child Support Education Association. I am honored. I accepted and will do my best to fill his very large shoes. Rest assured Money Bags will remain on the advisory board. A few years ago, this picture was taken of Donald and me at meeting. I jokingly called myself "Little Don" but when the board was told that I would fill his position, someone said, "We call Donald Money Bags, we'll have to call Kerensa, Change Purse."

Kerensa "Little Don" "Change Purse" Morrow-Kempf
"Watch the pennies and the dollars will take care of themselves."
~ Donald Stream (and Benjamin Franklin)
"Don't just make money, make a difference." ~ Grant Cardone

