Michigan Housing Directors Association

Spring Conference

Park Place Hotel
300 East State Street
Traverse City, MI 49684
(231) 946-5000

Mental Health First Aid – Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority

Mental Health First Aid training equips housing professionals, advocates, and community partners with the skills to recognize, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among residents and community members. Participants will learn how to identify early warning signs of common mental health conditions, de-escalate crisis situations, provide initial support, and connect individuals to appropriate professional and community resources. This session emphasizes practical, trauma-informed strategies that support safe, respectful, and effective interactions – particularly within housing and community settings. Mental Health First Aid promotes early intervention, reduces stigma, and strengthens collaboration between housing providers and mental health systems to better support individuals and families in achieving housing stability and overall well-being. **This is CERTIFICATION training and limited to 30 PARTICIPANTS so make sure you register as soon as possible! Spots will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis!**

Policies and Procedures for Commissioners – Jose Capales, Grand Rapids Housing Commission & Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, Retired

Policies and Procedures for Commissioners training will focus on how policies and procedures should align with the agency's mission statement and how they are regulated. This includes understanding key regulatory anchors (Fair Housing, VAWA, ACC, Nepotism, et. Cetera), strengthening relationships among residents, staff, and the Board by clarifying roles, ethical standards, communication protocols, and escalation pathways to support transparent and responsive governance.

Hydronic System Fundamentals – Johnstone Supply

Hydronic System Fundamentals for maintenance will provide instruction in essential and hydronic system fundamentals commonly found in public and affordable housing properties. Participants will review basic electrical concepts, including circuit protection, the use of volt-ohm meters, and how to read wiring symbols and diagrams. The session also covers hydronic heating systems, including boiler types, safety and control devices, pumping and piping configurations, and common applications such as combination boilers. Attendees will gain a stronger understanding of system operation, safety considerations, and basic troubleshooting techniques to support effective maintenance and preventative care. **This training is limited to 30 PARTICIPANTS so make sure you register as soon as possible! Spots will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis!**

Round Tables

As always, we have "Round Table Discussions" on Wednesday afternoon where all your questions are sure to be answered! If you have never been to our round table, it's a "do not miss" event! You will most definitely learn something. If you have a question and would like to submit it in advance or want to avoid public speaking, please submit your question to the moderators via the MHDA website, mhdaweb.com!

Wednesday Evening Winery and Distillery Tour

Join your cohorts for a few hours of fun and relaxation on a tour of Traverse City wine country! We will board the Hometown Trolley with Traverse City Wine and Beer Tour and make our way up the Old Mission Peninsula. Be in the lobby and ready to go at 4:45pm. **Space is limited to 32 passengers and the cost is $40 per person. Be sure to reserve your spot on the Registration Page!**

Wednesday Evening Hospitality Room - Paul Harris Suite

Come and enjoy networking, drinks, and laughs on Wednesday after the Winery and Distillery Tour, at approximately 9:00 pm.

Thursday Evening Hospitality – Hosted by PRC

We will have our 7th Annual Silent Auction Thursday night during Conference Hospitality along with 50/50 raffle drawing.

MHDA Annual Membership Meeting and Elections

Join us Friday morning for breakfast and the Annual MHDA Membership Meeting including Elections! We will wrap up our amazing conference and have an opportunity to say, "until next time" to all our MHDA friends and family!

Come join us for another informative and memorable Conference!

Park Place Hotel
300 E. State Street
Traverse City, MI 49684

Blocked rooms have been set aside from May 12th until May 14th, 2026. Room rate is $149.95 per night.

Members can call (231) 946-5000, ask for reservations, and mention **MI Housing Directors Association** to get conference discount or reserve a room online! Please see the attached information sheet with instructions for online reservations. A credit card is required to confirm registration.

RESERVATION CUT OFF DATE IS **APRIL 12, 2026**
SO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

MHDA Spring Conference
Park Place Hotel, Traverse City, MI
May 13 - 15, 2026

COMPLETE AND MAIL WITH REGISTRATION:

To register, make checks payable to **MHDA.**
Mail to: Mount Pleasant Housing Commission
C/O Annessa Haist, Treasurer
1 Mosher Street Ofc. – Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Please indicate YES or NO for the Bus Tour and if registrant is a first-time attendee.

NAME: _____ TITLE: _____

EMAIL: _____

BUS TOUR? _____ FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE? _____

Please select ONE training track:
☐ Mental Health First Aid Certification
☐ Policy And Procedures For Commissioners
☐ Hydronic System Fundamentals

AGENCY: _____

(_____) _____(Phone)

Registration Fees **received** by deadline: **Friday, April 24, 2026**

MHDA Agency Member (includes Staff/Commissioners)	$480.00 each
Non-Agency Member/Late and On Site	$580.00 each
Spouse/Friend Meals, Hospitality	$200.00 each
Winery/Distillery Bus Tour	$40.00 each
Late and on-site registration: (after April 24, 2026)	***$580.00***

Cancellations will be accepted, and registration fees refunded at a $10 service charge for pre-deadline refunds. For cancellations contact Annessa Haist at (989) 773-3784. We regret to announce, but to meet our program obligations, find it necessary to emphasize: THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE! Post deadline deficient registrations will be billed for the difference. Also, bills will be sent to any MHDA member, Commissioner, spouse, guest, etc., that attends any part of the conference without having paid required registration fees. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation! The cost remains $480.00 (member) if you attend any part of the conference. There are no reduced rates for only attending one day.

MHDA Spring Conference 2026
Park Place Hotel
May 13 – May 16, 2026
Hotel Room Reservation Link

We are excited to share that we have officially launched our **online reservation portal**. Guests can now conveniently make reservations within group blocks using a designated booking code or link.

Group Name: Michigan Housing Directors Association 2026
Group Code: MHDA2148
Group
Link: https://be.synxis.com/?hotel=62003&chain=16552&Group=MHDA2148

To ensure a smooth and accurate booking experience, please keep the following in mind:

- **Room Types & Availability:** Rooms are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Once a specific room type is fully booked, we kindly ask guests to choose from the remaining available options, as we cannot guarantee changes to room types.
- **Group Rates:** The online portal will clearly indicate when these rates are in effect.
- Make sure to choose the one that says Michigan Housing Directors Association 2026 and click on the name.
- Click the down arrow next to Nightly Rates
- This will show the nightly rate of $149.95. The $179 is going to be after tax and fees

Extended Stays: If a guest wishes to stay outside the contracted group dates, we are happy to accommodate based on general hotel availability. We recommend booking the contracted dates online first, then contacting me directly to request any adjustments. *Please note: Rates for non-contracted dates are subject to availability and current occupancy levels.*

2026 MHDA Spring Conference Agenda

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
MHDA Executive Board Meeting – Conference Room B

12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Registration – Conference Room Corridor

1:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Administrative Staff Round Tables – The Boardman Moderators: Carrie VanderMolen, Cadillac Housing Commission & Annessa Haist, Mt. Pleasant Housing Commission	**Commissioner's Round Tables** – Courtyard 1 Moderator: Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, retired	**Maintenance Round Tables** – Courtyard 2 Moderators: Eric Schalm, Alma Housing Commission & Jasmine Martin, Monroe and Rockwood Housing Commissions

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Break

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Administrative Staff Round Tables – The Boardman *(Continued)*	**Commissioner's Round Tables** – Courtyard 1 *(Continued)*	**Maintenance Round Tables** – Courtyard 2 *(Continued)*

Thursday, May 14, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Registration and Breakfast – Conference Center Hall

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Administrative Training – The Boardman	*Commissioner's Training* – Courtyard 1	*Maintenance Training* – Courtyard 2
Mental Health First Aid Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority	**Policies and Procedures for Commissioners** Jose Capales, Grand Rapids Housing Commission & Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, retired	**Hydronic System Fundamentals** Johnstone Supply

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
Break with Vendors

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Administrative Training – The Boardman	*Commissioner's Training* – Courtyard 1	*Maintenance Training* – Courtyard 2
Mental Health First Aid Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority	**Policies and Procedures for Commissioners** Jose Capales, Grand Rapids Housing Commission & Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, retired	**Hydronic System Fundamentals** Johnstone Supply

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Lunch – The Boardman

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Administrative Training – The Boardman	*Commissioner's Training – Courtyard 1*	*Maintenance Training – Courtyard 2*
Mental Health First Aid Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority	**Policies and Procedures for Commissioners** Jose Capales, Grand Rapids Housing Commission & Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, retired	**Hydronic System Fundamentals** Johnstone Supply

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Break with Vendors

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Administrative Training – The Boardman	*Commissioner's Training – Courtyard 1*	*Maintenance Training – Courtyard 2*
Mental Health First Aid Northern Lakes Community Mental Health Authority	**Policies and Procedures for Commissioners** Jose Capales, Grand Rapids Housing Commission & Shanda Johnston, Ingham County Housing Commission, retired	**Hydronic System Fundamentals** Johnstone Supply

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Hospitality Dinner – Top of the Park

Friday, May 15, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Membership Meeting, Elections, and Breakfast – The Boardman