



Regional Newsletter

September 2018

Letter from the MWOHS President, Kristin Faix-Wilkinson

*We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things,
because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths - Walt Disney*

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the State of our Region as we move closer to the national conference in Philadelphia next month. In the past two years, I have had the privilege to serve as your president. It has been a most exciting endeavor and I have been honored to be in such a position and with such an incredible Board. We have accomplished many things, but we still have much to do.

As a region, the past two years were focused on helping NOHS rebuild and redefine processes and procedures. We have supported NOHS with the national conferences and have increased our presence in many of the NOHS activities. Additionally, MWOHS was the first region to offer a successful web-based conference, facilitated by Dr. Paige Krabill. MWOHS also promoted podcasts called The Human Service Project; facilitated conversations with members; created a regional newsletter and updated our bylaws. It also is exciting to note that this year, we have six members of MWOHS presenting at the national conference.

While we have made accomplishments, more work is needed. The MWOHS Board has served diligently, but we are now at the end of our terms. Therefore, MWOHS needs to take on a new board. I encourage members who are willing to take MWOHS to the next level bringing innovation and energy to the region. We hope you will consider running for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested, please submit a self-nomination (name; address and contact information; the office(s) for which you are interested in running; and a brief bio/reason why you would be successful in the role). Please submit via email to kristin.faixwilkinson@mail.waldenu.edu and Emily Fenster at emily.fenster@vcsu.edu.

I want to thank you all for this incredible opportunity to serve you and the region. I look forward to our new adventures with MWOHS.

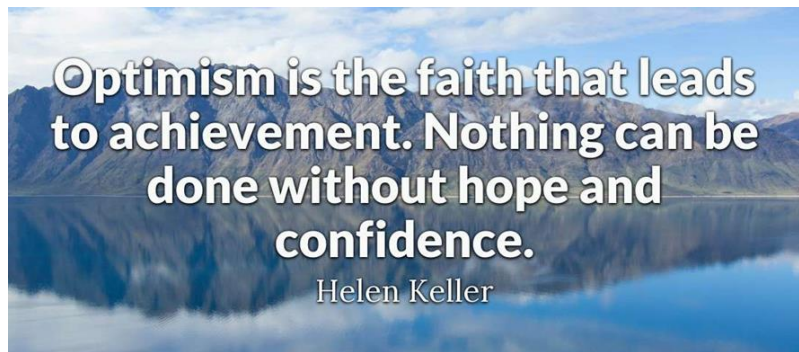


Letter from the MWOHS Vice President, Delores Langston

These past two years have gone by so quickly. I have had the pleasure of serving as your Vice President of the Mid-West Organization for Human Services region. It has been quite a learning experience! I have learned so much during my tenure with the leadership of our President, Kristin B. Faix Wilkinson. I have had the opportunity to meet and work with some wonderful people who have the desire to carve out an identity for the human services field. We have had some setbacks, but we have also had some victories. We persevered as a region and continued to move forward. And that is what it is all about!

We have achieved a lot in the past two years, but there is still more work to be done. My hope is that some of you will step in and continue to move our region forward. This is a great opportunity for growth, building relationships, and creating many more opportunities for the Mid-West region to grow. Take this opportunity to do something great.

Thank you for the tremendous opportunity to assist and serve the Mid-West region! I am excited about what is next for MWOHS! It has been my pleasure!



What's Happening in Our Region

Illinois: Illinois may become part of the change happening in national juvenile justice reform. Both Vermont and Massachusetts have reviewed expanding juvenile jurisdiction to include youth up to age 20. Rep. Laura Fine acknowledges the brain is not fully developed until age 26. Therefore, she introduced House Bill 4541 to allow 18-20-year-old individuals charged with misdemeanors to have their cases heard in juvenile court.

Indiana: The Indiana Youth Institute has a 2018 Kids Count Conference on November 27-28th at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. Keynote speakers are Dr. Christopher Emdin and Austin Eubanks. The convention will offer resources from national experts, best practice models and will explore relevant issues. To find out more go to the [event website](#).

Iowa: The Iowa Department of Education Director Ryan Wise announced the creation of a team that will review and recommend statewide standards for physical education and health. The reason for creating the team was in response to public support to raise standards on mandatory subject areas in English, mathematics, science, social studies and 21st century skills. Later this fall, the review team will seek public input through an online survey as well as regional meetings.

Kansas: HOPE mentoring is a Department for Children and Families program aimed to help families on temporary assistance reach their academic, career, social and personal goals to increase self-reliance and attain independence. A relationship is made with one mentor to support the client while they learn about community resources, finding gainful employment, responsible and effective parenting and how to achieve a healthy family.

Michigan: The annual fundraiser for Michigan's foster care youth took place this month on September 20, 2018. The Michigan Education Trust and Michigan Departments of Treasury and Health and Human Services hosted the

fundraiser. The Fostering Futures Scholarship Trust Fund provides the financial resources to former foster care students to attend college with a scholarship. To donate, if unable to attend the event, visit www.fosterfutures-mi.com a Section170© organization.

Minnesota: For-profit mental health centers are eligible for community mental health center funding. The provider must demonstrate their commitment to serve low-income and underserved populations. Eligible mental health providers must complete the Critical Access Mental Health Applicant Assurance Statement (DHS-7689) and fax it to Minnesota Health Care Programs.

Missouri: Missouri children are doing better than many other states in the country. Missouri ranks 26th in The Annie E. Casey 2018 KIDS COUNT Data Book which shows 10 percent fewer children were living in poverty between 2010 and 2016. Unfortunately, federal funding could be cut unless children 5 and under are accounted for in the upcoming 2020 Census.

Nebraska: On Tuesday, September 25th an Independent Provider Provider Relations Call will be offered on every fourth Tuesday. This program provides technical assistance in a question and answer conference call for independent providers of DD services. These calls are being offered to assist with any questions you may have. Questions may be submitted in advance to Katie Weidner or Kim McFarland or may be asked during the call. Pre-submitted questions will be answered at the beginning of the call. To access the sessions please call 1-888-820-1398 (toll free). When you dial the number you will be asked to enter your pass code, followed by the pound key. The pass code for these calls is 3231592#. If you have any questions you may contact Kim McFarland at kim.mcfarland@nebraska.gov or 402-471-8783 or Katie Weidner at Katie.weidner@nebraska.gov or 402-471-8716.

North Dakota: On Tuesday, October 9th from 7:30-4:00pm CDT a workplace wellness seminar will take place at the Holiday Inn in Fargo. The keynote speaker Laura Putnam, MA will present Workplace Wellness That Works offering a different perspective on how to promote employee well-being in the workplace. This workshop will introduce a step-by-step process for integrating wellness into your existing employee development strategy.

Ohio: On October 26th, a Celebration of Human Services will be conducted at the Hilton Garden Inn Cleveland Downtown and Child Welfare Information Gateway Conference Center. The annual celebration will promote people and organizations that improve the lives of residents living in Northeast Ohio. For more information go to the [event website](#).

South Dakota: South Dakota's Department of Human Services offers a rehabilitation service which helps with Cochlear implants used to assist an individual with severe or profound hearing loss to hear sounds. The program assists eligible individuals who are uninsured or to help offset the deductible or coinsurance involved with insurance plans that cover cochlear implants. For more information contact Katie Gran at (605) 367-4657.

Wisconsin: A study conducted by the School of Medicine and Public Health within the University of Wisconsin-Madison has charted the level of obesity in adults and children by their zip code. To find out more go to the [Wisconsin Health Atlas website](#).

MWOHS Member Spotlight

For each edition of our newsletter, we want to spotlight a member who is contributing to the field of human services. This month our spotlight is on Dr. Paige Krabill, who has been quite active in NOHS for the last 5 years.

Paige is currently serving as Vice President of Regional Development for NOHS. In this role, she helps facilitate collaboration between the national organization and regional groups. In addition, Paige is part of the credential committee as well as a work group focusing on reviewing and updating the NOHS bylaws. For MWOHS, she has

been actively consulting with the board and has been hosting a podcast with Kristin Faix-Wilkinson (president) called “The Human Services Podcast.”

Paige has a Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology with a specialization in School Psychology. In addition, she has earned the HS-BCP credential. Paige currently serves as associate chair in the School of Counseling and Human Services at Capella University. When asked about her interests and goals, Paige notes that she is “passionate about working with individuals and their unique gifts by creating functional, inclusive environments that lead them to success.”

For anyone with questions about ongoing efforts in MWOHS and NOHS, Paige is a great contact. She encourages you to communicate with her via [Twitter](#) or [FaceBook](#).

Leadership Opportunity: Become a Board Member

The terms for the current board members are ending in October. You have a chance to help direct the region by serving as the next President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer. With all the work we’ve been doing over the last few years, it really is a great time to get involved!

We encourage you to submit self-nominations for these opening positions. Please submit your name in advance, so we can conduct elections during our MWOHS regional meeting at the NOHS conference. Even if you can’t attend the conference, you can still self-nominate.

Please contact Kristin Faix Wilkinson at kristin.faixwilkinson@mail.waldenu.edu or Emily Fenster at emily.fenster@vcsu.edu if you’d like to self-nominate or if you have any questions. In your email, please include: name; address and contact information; the office(s) for which you are interested in running; and a brief bio/reason why you would be successful in the role.

Leadership Opportunity: Be a MWOHS State Representative

Since we are a large region, we would like to have direct connections to all 12 of our states. Consider being a representative for your state. Please contact Kristin Faix Wilkinson at kristin.faixwilkinson@mail.waldenu.edu if interested.

Are You Attending the NOHS Conference in October?

The NOHS annual conference for 2018 will be October 24-27th in Philadelphia. See the conference site for more information: <http://www.nationalhumanservices.org/national-conference-2018-philadelphia>. We hope to have a good MWOHS presence this year – be it at the MWOHS meeting during the conference, in presentations, or other social gatherings. Your board members will be in attendance, and we encourage you to chat with us and share your ideas for the region.

Wanted: Website & Facebook Suggestions

We’re continuing to make changes to improve our online presence; over the last year, we have been working on both our regional website and Facebook page. We encourage you to bookmark and like our website and Facebook page – and be sure to share them with others who may be interested in connecting with us.

Website: www.nationalhumanservices.org/mwohs

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Midwest-Region-of-Human-Services-MWOHS-1927109977316544/>

Do you have any ideas for our website or Facebook page? Is there something you’d like to see on them? Do you know of any other good links and resources we should be sharing on our sites? Please contact Kristin Faix Wilkinson at kristin.faixwilkinson@mail.waldenu.edu if you have any ideas or want to contribute.

Wanted: Newsletter Contributions

Are you looking for low-pressure opportunities to “beef up” your resume and/or share news with the region? Please consider contributing to our newsletter.

- Do you want to write an article on a Human Services topic?
- Do you have something interesting you want to share with others in MWOHS?
- Is your organization or program doing something you want to highlight?
- Is there something happening in your state that you’d like to share with the entire region?
- Do you want to nominate someone for a future MWOHS Member Spotlight?

Please contact Emily Fenster at emily.fenster@vcsu.edu if you would like to contribute or have questions.

MWOHS Human Service Project Podcast Series

Make sure to check out our podcasts, which are accessible at MWOHS website. Check out some of our recent ones:

- Thursday, March 22nd: “Human Service Professionals in the Future”
- Thursday, May 17th: “Employers: What They Want in a Human Service Professional: Human Service Employer Panel”
- Thursday, July 19th: “Social Justice and Social Change: The Role of Human Service Professionals in Creating Change”

General Information & MWOHS Board Members

Website: www.nationalhumanservices.org/mwohs

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Midwest-Region-of-Human-Services-MWOHS-1927109977316544/>

Board Members:

President: Kristin Faix Wilkinson, Walden University
Vice President: Delores Langston, Baker College of Flint
Secretary: Emily Fenster, Valley City State University
Treasurer: Allyson Hamlin, Walden University

Newsletter Co-Editors:

Emily Fenster
Allyson Hamlin