

# MICHIGAN WIC ASSOCIATION



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Mission: MWA will act as a vehicle for sharing ideas, advocacy, & best practices on planning, operations, coordination, implementation, & administration of the WIC program

# MWA is part of NWA

- The National WIC Association (NWA) is the non-profit education arm and advocacy voice of WIC
- The mission is to provide our members with tools and leadership to expand and sustain effective nutrition services for mothers and young children.
- NWA dues have been generously covered by MDCH
- Abundant resources
  - Provide Local Agency representation on NWA Committees and Task Forces
  - Coordinate and communicate Local Agency issues
  - Webcasts-Live and on Demand



# NWA – Member Benefits cont

- Link Local Agencies in a national forum to advance the health of women, infants and children
- Assure the inclusion of Local Agency perspective on WIC issue discussions
- Provide grassroots support for issues concerning the WIC program
- Participation in National Conferences and Legislative Day
- Provide an opportunity to share client and staff experiences to congress and federal policy makers
- Access to the Online Community resources including webinars and discussion groups

# NWA Benefits cont

- NWA's email newsletters to keep you informed of WIC-related news on legislation, funding and policy including Monday Morning Report, Association Updates, Washington Updates, and Research to Practice
- Free job postings on the NWA website and in Monday Morning Report
- Social media connections on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and NWA's Blog
- Knowledgeable and available association staff
- Events eg Watch Party for White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health
- Reports eg RD Recruitment & Retention Report

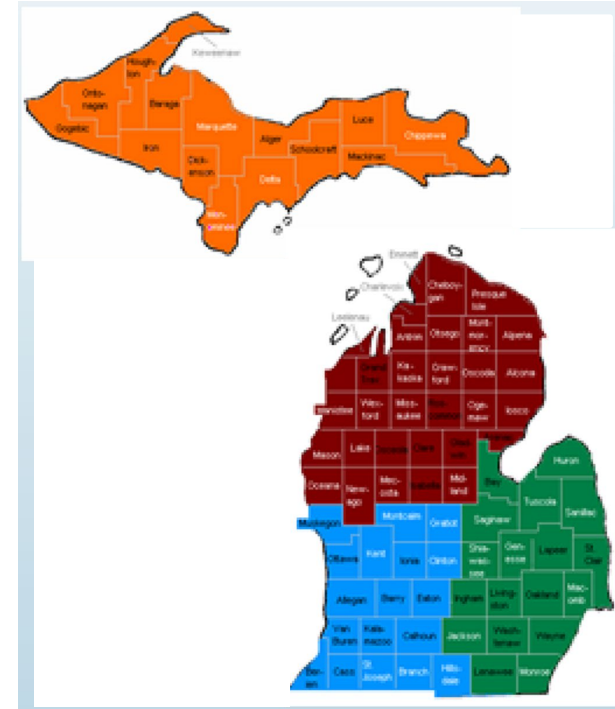
# MWA Goals

- To positively impact & advocate for local agencies & participants of Michigan WIC
- Summarize and communicate concerns raised by local WIC agencies with State and National stakeholders
- Collaborate w/ MDHHS WIC Division to highlight local agency concerns and offer solutions
- Represent Michigan WIC at national conferences, workgroups, and taskforces
- Finalize bylaws & investigate formal organization structure



# Current Board Members-Virtual Meetings

- Chair – Tracie Bolton – Ingham County
  - Chair Elect – Kali Jones - Intercare
  - Secretary – Abby Bishop – Kent County
  - Treasurer – Lynn Kuligowski – Community First
  - Regional Representatives:
    - Region 1 – Vacant
    - Region 2 – Anne Bianchi - DHD 10
    - Region 3 – Vacant
    - Region 4 – Vacant
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- A map of Michigan showing its counties. The counties are color-coded to represent different regions: Region 1 (orange) includes Ontonagon, Chippewagon, and Mackinac; Region 2 (red) includes Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Houghton; Region 3 (blue) includes Alcona, Alcona, and Calhoun; Region 4 (green) includes Arenac, Ionia, and Jackson. Other counties like Antrim, Baraga, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewagon, Clare, Clinton, Custer, Delta, Emmet, Genesee, Gladwin, Gogebic, Grand Haven, Grand Island, Ingham, Isabella, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Kent, Leelanau, Lapeer, Leelanau, Livingston, Macomb, Manistee, Marquette, Mecum, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, North Branch, Ogemaw, Okemos, Oshtemo, Ottawa, Oceana, Ontonagon, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Ignace, Tawas, Tuscola, Van Buren, Washtenaw, Wayne, and Winnebago are also visible but not color-coded.



# Board Positions

- Executive Board Chair – Provide oversight of the Association's mission and leadership in the development of policies to fulfill that mission. Also, assure that the Association develops, tracks, and implements its strategic plan.
- Chair Elect - Assist the Board Chair in fulfilling obligations of office by performing such duties as requested by the Board Chair.
- Secretary - Participate in and keep the records of the meetings and conference calls of the Association and Executive Board and send to Board members for review and approval in a timely fashion.
- Treasurer - Prepare and present, in collaboration with the Executive Board, the proposed annual budget to Association members at the Annual Business Meeting
- Regional Representatives
  - Represent his or her respective region.
  - Identify any regional concerns, interests, and issues and bring those matters to the Executive Board.

# Why get involved in MWA?

- Opportunity to routinely collaborate with other coordinators and collectively bring forward local agency needs and concerns
- Collaborate with coordinators to problem solve local agency issues
- Participation in national NWA conferences
- Participation on periodic regional conference calls
- Represent your colleagues for growth and positive change





# Elections 2024



- Nominations -
  - Put nominations in an email to [tbolton@ingham.org](mailto:tbolton@ingham.org) by 10/30/23 or write it out and give to a board member today.
  - Feel free to nominate yourself or others
  - We will reach out to those nominated to see if they are interested.
- You don't need to be a WIC Coordinator to serve on the board, but only one person per agency can serve on the board.
- Voting will be conducted online via a Survey Monkey link sent to WIC Coordinators by November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023.