

moka



Make Advocacy a Priority

Make your voice heard with just ONE click.

As state lawmakers work to develop next year's budget, please take the time to let your legislators know how important Direct Care Workers are to you or your loved ones. [Click here](#) to tell your State Legislator that you believe the Direct Care Worker Wage increase needs to be made permanent with just one click.

[Read Our Annual Report To Learn About Your Impact](#)



Best Financial Credit Union Muskegon chooses MOKA as the benefactor of their BFCU Madness Fundraising Week!

Last week one of our Community Supports groups had the pleasure of accepting a check from BFCU for a generous \$4,869.68!

The smiles were abundant and the joy in the air was palpable! We feel so lucky to have such an amazing community partner and are so grateful for their support.

Thank you, Best Financial Credit Union!

[Donate here to change lives today!](#)

Donor Spotlight

Meet Mary Moore



MOKA Foundation Board President

Mary Moore, a retired psychologist and the new MOKA Foundation Board President, has spent over 40 years working with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. From her time as a supervisor and therapist at Huron County CMH, to her role as the Compliance Director for Ottawa county CMH, Mary has a deep connection to MOKA and the work we do.

Mary first interacted with MOKA while she was employed with Ottawa county CMH checking that organizations, MOKA included, were complying with wellness and safety standards. This gave her an in depth look at the way MOKA stood out from other organizations. "I was always impressed with MOKA and their ingenuity," she said when asked what drew her to the organization. "They were willing to think outside of the box, marrying the rules with what was the best for the client. I watched the ingenious ways staff were always trying to do what was best for individuals."

Having watched the evolution of direct health care, from deinstitutionalization to what we know now, Mary had the unique experience of being there the day two individuals were brought from an institution to their new homes with MOKA. Homes that these individuals still live and thrive in – nearly 30 years later. Those individuals and their story were a tipping point for Mary when she was approached to be on the Board. "Very few providers can move someone from an institution to a group home and keep them there for over 30 years. That commitment requires many changes throughout the years to provide a person with a permeant home regardless of their changed behaviors and needs. To say no matter what, this is your home forever, is incredible."

The relationships she has formed with employees and individuals as well as the stories she has watched unfold in her time with MOKA have made a Board Member and lifetime giver out of Mary. She is a reoccurring donor and an avid participant in our Adopt-A-Home program, adopting a Holland home several times over. "Everyone deserves to have some things of luxury or recreation. Something that makes them happy. I know firsthand that if we do not give, these individuals will not receive the little bit of TLC they deserve," she said when thinking of the importance of her donations. Mary's work with Adopt-A-Home has been life changing for individuals who will meet her at the door and greet her by name or loudly exclaim their excitement to others at her arrival. Getting to build those relationships gives Mary just as much joy from giving as the individual's experience by receiving even the smallest of gifts from the program.

Mary's presidency has a goal of growth. With her mastery of policy and procedure, drive for advocacy, and knowledge of the field we are so excited for what the future holds. Led by a woman that cares so deeply for our mission and one that we are so proud to call our Foundation Board President – we are ready to make positive change and grow together. Thank you for everything you do, Mary. We are so grateful for you.



Open volunteer opportunities with our

Partnership Council

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Are you interested in getting involved with your community and leveraging your talents for good?

MOKA's Partnership Council may be the place for you! The Partnership Council offers a unique volunteer opportunity to serve your community, empowers you to use your network for good, connects you to other council members, and invites you in as part of the MOKA community.

Partnership Council members enrich MOKA through donor development and fundraising efforts by nurturing new community relationships, expanding current relationships, and acting as ambassadors to the organization.

If you are interested in becoming involved with our Partnership Council please visit <https://lnkd.in/efDVsyK>

MOKA is looking for a volunteer to maintain a pool at one of our AFC group homes in the Belmont area.

If you are interested in this volunteer position, please email info@moka.org.



Mark Your Calendar!



July is Minority Mental Health Awareness Month



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