

moka



Advocacy Continues With Legislators Back In Session

Michigan Legislators are back in session and we have hit the ground running in partnership with our statewide advocacy groups to amplify the voices of the Direct Care Workers we all know, love, and appreciate so much.

Today's statewide labor shortage (the result of low compensation and demanding work) has resulted in a critical gap in service's. Right now, many families are trying to go it alone, with many quitting their jobs to provide 24/7 care to their vulnerable family members. In other situations, we find aging parents trying to care for their adult children without any support at all. It's an impossible situation with far reaching personal, economic, and potentially life-threatening consequences.

It is past time for our legislators to fight for the livelihoods of Direct Care Workers and the life altering work they do for Michigan's most vulnerable population. It is time to stabilize the DCW profession through adequate compensation & a strong, competency-based training infrastructure to advance the profession in ways that ensure better outcomes for individuals with I/DD.

To read the full Position Statement that has been sent to all Michigan Legislators Regarding Michigan's Allocation of Funding Received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Federal Medical Assistance Percentages (FMAP) please click the button below.

For more information on our continued advocacy efforts and how you can help please visit www.moka.org/advocacy

[READ THE FULL POSITION STATEMENT HERE](#)



Let Us Show You Or Your Business Off to the MOKA Family!

This October MOKA will be taking the time to say ***thank you*** to our outstanding direct support staff. It will be an opportunity to give our gracious thanks to the many MOKA employees who work directly with children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including autism. We call this annual gathering the "Heart and Soul" Event.

This event is time to recognize the heart and soul of our organization - individuals served and employees that live out our mission each and every day. We can't wait to celebrate our MOKA family and their many triumphs!

Click the "How Can I Help" Button for information on event sponsorship and ad sales - just two of the ways YOU can help support the direct support staff we all know and love!

[How Can I Help?](#)



Do you have a shout-out to anyone at MOKA that you think deserves special recognition? We would love to hear from you!

Help us spread the love in our Heart and Soul Program by clicking the "Share your thoughts" button to the left.

[Share Your Thoughts Here](#)



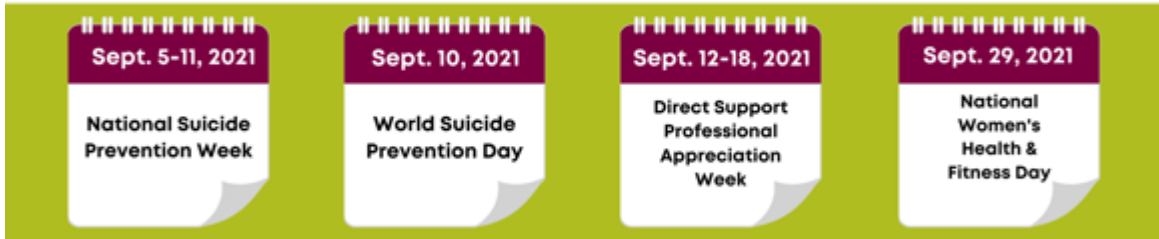
**We hope you are as excited about Direct Support Professional
Appreciation Week as we are!**

**Make sure you are following us on our social media channels to keep up with all
of the DSP Week fun this September 12-18!**



The musical minds of MOKA collaborated on a Spotify playlist inspired by the incredible Direct Support Professionals we are so excited to celebrate this Direct Support Professional Appreciation Week. It will be free and easy to share in the fun and find our final playlist on Facebook this DSP Week!

Mark Your Calendar!



September is Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

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