



MOHR 2023 Legislative Conference

Thursday August 31 and Friday September 1, 2023, Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria MN

Thursday August 31

8:00 - 8:45 am: Continental Breakfast

8:45 – 8:55 am: Legislative Retreat Welcome

Robin Harkonen (East Range DAC), Julie Johnson (MSS), Julie Zbaracki (Partnership Resources), MOHR Members

8:55 - 9:00 am: MOHR Training Committee Updates

Heidi Smith (Step Inc), MOHR Member

9:00 - 9:30 am: Preview of Dynamics Shaping the 2024 Legislative Session

Kevin Goodno, Fredrikson & Byron

9:30 - 10:00 am: Current Areas of Focus for MOHR's DEET (Documentation Effective and Efficient Team) Subcommittee

Ann Dahl (Udac Inc), MOHR Member

10:00 - 10:15 am: Morning Break

10:15 - 10:45 am: Current Areas of Focus for Best Life Alliance

Kevin Goodno, Fredrikson & Bryon

10:45 – 11:00 am: Current Areas of Focus for MOHR's Day Services Redesign Subcommittee

Robin Harkonen (East Range DAC), MOHR Member

11:00 – 11:30 am: Using Public Relations to Support Your Legislative Agenda

Catherine Roman, PineappleRM

11:30 – 12: 15 pm: Current Areas of Focus for MOHR's Workforce Subcommittee

Suzette Frith (TSE Inc), Jennifer Freeburg (Northeast Contemporary Services), MOHR Members

12:15 - 1:15 pm: Lunch

1:15 – 2:00 pm: Current Areas of Focus for MOHR's Transportation Subcommittee

Tim Schmutzer (PHASE-Industries), MOHR Member

2:00 - 3:15 pm: Current MN Department of Human Services Initiatives of Interest to MOHR, Including Cost Reporting

Lesli Kerkhoff and Meghan Lindblom, MN Department of Human Services

3:15 - 4:00 pm: Current MN Department of Employment and Economic Development Initiatives of Interest to MOHR

Janeen Oien, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development

4:00- 4:15 pm: Recognition of Kim Babine's Partnership and Collaboration with MOHR EE Providers During her DEED Tenure

Kassia Janezich (Tasks Unlimited), Robin Harkonen (East Range DAC), Julie Johnson (MSS), MOHR Members

4:15 – 4:45 pm: Current Areas of Focus for MOHR's Extended Employment Committee

Kassia Janezich (Tasks Unlimited), Shelly Borman (Goodwill Easter Seals), MOHR Members

Any time before 6 pm on the first day of the conference, MOHR members are encouraged to email ideas for the MOHR legislative areas of focus survey to Julie Johnson and Anni Simons (jjohnson@mssmn.org and asimons@fredlaw.com). Submitted ideas will be added to the MOHR legislative areas of focus survey, which will be emailed out to MOHR members and conference attendees the morning of the second day of the conference.

Retreat attendees will need to make their own plans for dinner Thursday evening. There will be options for retreat attendees to participate in recreational activities (including a golf scramble so bring your golf clubs for those interested) and a hospitality room on Thursday evening. Logistical information about those optional activities, including how to sign up, will be shared in the Welcome Remarks Thursday morning.

Friday September 1

8:00 - 8:30 am: Continental Breakfast

8:10 – 8:30 am: MOHR Extended Employment Committee Meeting to Elect Committee Leaders

8:30 - 9:45 am: Interactive Session - Helping to Guide MOHR's Government Affairs Committee Agenda Setting Work (Survey Completion and Results Discussion)

Robin Harkonen (East Range DAC), Julie Johnson (MSS), MOHR Members

9:45 - 10:00 am: Current Federal Initiatives of Interest to MOHR

Lynne Megan (TSE), MOHR Member

10:00 - 10:15 am: Morning Break

10:15 - 11:45 pm: Basics and Implications for MOHR Providers of Upcoming Employment Law Changes (Cannabis Legalization, Earned Sick and Safe Time, Paid Medical Family Leave)

Janet Olawsky, Fredrikson & Byron

12:00 pm: Close of Retreat