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## **Michigan Women's Commission to Meet Thursday, October 13 in Traverse City**

***Guest speaker to discuss microfinance and sustainability***

Lansing - The Michigan Women's Commission will meet at 2 pm on Thursday, October 13 at Great Wolf Lodge and Conference Center, 3575 N. US Highway 31 S, Traverse City, 49684.

Guest speaker is Marilyn Fitzgerald, PhD, the founder of Common Ground Solutions, a company dedicated to research and the endorsement of proven business models that provide opportunity for the poor to determine their own path to financial independence. Her background includes working in western Guatemala to empower local families through community development. She also serves on the Rotarian Action Group for Microfinance and Community Development Advisory Board. Dr. Fitzgerald is the author of "If I Had a Water Buffalo: Empowering Others Through Sustainable Lending."

Following the keynote speaker, the Commission will hear updates from Committee Chairs on the Commission's priorities of human trafficking, women veterans, and women in business/participation on corporate boards.

Meetings of the Michigan Women's Commission are open to the public. Guests may attend the entire meeting or just the speaker's presentation.

If you want to attend and need accommodations to do so, contact Elizabeth Thompson at [ThompsonE5@Michigan.gov](mailto:ThompsonE5@Michigan.gov) or via the Michigan Relay Center at 800-649-3777 by October 10.

For more information about the Michigan Women's Commission, please visit our website at [www.michigan.gov/womenscommission](http://www.michigan.gov/womenscommission).

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