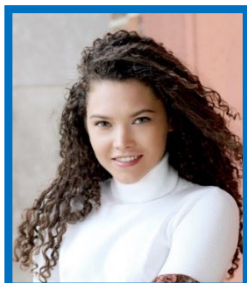




## Office of Workforce Development and Training

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### **Destiny Affholter**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [AffholterD@michigan.gov](mailto:AffholterD@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 616-213-4987

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Destiny graduated from Central Michigan University in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She began her career with MDHHS as an Assistance Payments Worker in April 2019 with Berrien County. Prior to working with the State of Michigan, Destiny worked as an Administrator in the Education and Healthcare sectors. During her time with MDHHS, Destiny has developed a passion for empowering others in reaching their full potential through mentoring new staff and assisting in local trainings. Apart from work, Destiny also enjoys being an active member of her community and has taken part in giving back through various volunteer roles.



### **Cindy Ahmad**

Training Development Manager

**E-mail:** [AhmadC@michigan.gov](mailto:AhmadC@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-290-3158

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Cindy has 25+ years of experience in training and development from the private and public sector. As the OWDT development manager, she oversees the development and production of training for those working with Michigan's most vulnerable adults, children, and families. In addition, she is a social work field liaison and teaches for Michigan State University School of Social Work.

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**Sabrenah Baker**

Training Administrative Manager

**E-mail:** [BakerS39@michigan.gov](mailto:BakerS39@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-242-2843

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Sabrenah has over 25 years of cross programmatic experience as a departmental manager, foster care/licensing supervisor, permanency resource manager, HR Developer, Departmental Analyst, foster care and CPS specialist, and assistance payments worker.

Sabrenah first began working with OWDT as a trainer in 2008 and returned in 2019 as the Administrative Manager where she manages staff with diverse roles and responsibilities. She has a strong commitment to anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Sabrenah is a member of OWDT's Race Equity team and is also actively involved with statewide groups such as the DEI Culture & Climate action team, Children services administration anti-racism transformation team, and assists with facilitating anti-racism discussions across the state.



**Joseph Beyrle**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [BeyrleJ1@michigan.gov](mailto:BeyrleJ1@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-269-3399

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Ste 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Joe has worked for MDHHS for over 10 years and has experience in CPS, FC, Juvenile Justice as well as Adult Services. Most recently he was on the MiSACWIS team as a Field Support Analyst and Departmental Manager. Before joining MDHHS he worked in Head Start/Great Start School Readiness for five years as an assistant teacher and Community Mental Health for a year as a Supports Coordinator Assistant. Joe has a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in Family Studies and an associate degree from Lansing Community College in Child Development.

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**Elysabeth Bourcier**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [BourcierE@michigan.gov](mailto:BourcierE@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-242-8160

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Elysabeth Bourcier started her career with the State of Michigan in 2018 in Midland County as an Eligibility Specialist. Prior to working with the State, Elysabeth student taught honors psychology classes at Saginaw Valley State University where she attended college. Elysabeth received her bachelor's degree in psychology with a minor in biology. She has extensive experience in the private sector as a Child Advocate before gaining employment with the State of Michigan. Elysabeth led the DEI team in Midland and Gladwin Counties, mentored new hires, provided training to Eligibility Specialist's for FAP accuracy, and created annual Development Week Trainings.

**Sarah Brandle**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [BrandleS@michigan.gov](mailto:BrandleS@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-236-4881

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Sarah completed her BSW at Saginaw Valley State University in 2005 and is a 2010 graduate of Michigan State University with a Master's Degree in Social Work with a Clinical concentration.

Before coming to MDHHS in 2023, her child welfare experience included working as an Adoption Specialist, Adoption Resource Consultant and Supervisor, and also working in Licensing and Placement. She also has extensive experience at Children's Advocacy Centers as a Forensic Interviewer, Program Coordinator, and Multidisciplinary Team Coordinator.

Sarah's training experience includes training residential staff in a trauma informed care curriculum she designed, training GROW and PRIDE for potential foster, adoptive and kinship parents, and training members of multidisciplinary teams as a part of her CAC role.

Sarah considers the opportunities she has had to work with children and families a privilege and she brings a trauma-informed, child centered lens to child welfare that she is excited to share with new specialists!

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**Shaure Brewer**

Delivery Manager

**E-mail:** [BrewerS@michigan.gov](mailto:BrewerS@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 810-228-6782

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3 Lansing, MI 48911

Shaure is a graduate of Saginaw Valley State University with a bachelor's degree in Social Work. He has been working in Human Services for over 25 years and has completed the last 20 of those years with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Shaure has been with the Office of Workforce Development and Training since 2008 and has demonstrated a very passionate and loyal commitment to the Training Division.

Prior to becoming a Training Delivery Manager, he was a Child Welfare Trainer with OWDT. Shaure's responsibilities included coordinating and conducting training to all Child Welfare New Hires and Transfer Child Welfare Workers. Periodically, Shaure would also deliver In-Service Trainings to both internal and external partners on child welfare policies and procedures, at their request. He also has facilitated and participated in other various workgroups and committees regarding Child Welfare and Training. He is currently on the MDHHS and Wayne State University Redesign of the Preservice Institute Steering Committee.

Some of Shaure's proudest moments include being a mentor to new trainers and services specialists/case managers within the department and private sector. It allows for him to pass on the knowledge that he has gained throughout his tenure in this profession.

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**Dawn Brown**

Departmental Analyst/LMS Administrator

**E-mail:** [BrownD3@michigan.gov](mailto:BrownD3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-331-8930

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Dawn has been with MDHHS since 1995. She serves on the Cornerstone Learning Management System (LMS) administration team and assists in managing the MDHHS Training@michigan.gov help desk. She has assisted and worked on various learning management systems. Dawn has a BA in Family Life Education from Spring Arbor University. She is currently on the OWDT Race Equity Team and assists in various workgroups.



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**Shulonda Brown**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [BrownS45@michigan.gov](mailto:BrownS45@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-648-4863

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Shulonda Brown has over 21 years of experience in the Child Welfare System. She is very passionate about assisting and servicing children and families. After graduating from Wilberforce University in 1996, Shulonda worked for Odyssey House Substance Abuse Agency as a Specialist for high-risk adolescents, YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter as an Intake Counselor, and Catholic Charities of Genesee County as a Child Welfare Specialist. Shulonda was hired by MDHHS in 1998 as a Social Service Specialist. She worked in Genesee County for 13 years as a Foster Care Worker, Maltreatment Infant and Toddler Court Program (Baby Court) Worker, and Child Welfare Funding Specialist (CWFS). In 2011, Shulonda was selected to work in Lansing on the MiSACWIS project. She remained on the project for five years as a Business Analyst, Help Desk Specialist, and Field Support Analyst/MiSACWIS Trainer. She provided assistance and training with MiSACWIS statewide to private agencies and DHHS offices in the areas of licensing, children's protective services, adoption, foster care, MYOI, and juvenile justice. She joined the CWTI team in 2017 as a Child Welfare Trainer. Shulonda enjoys training and teaching others about empowering children and families to overcome barriers and reach their goals.

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**Tony Calleja**

Facilities Coordinator

**E-mail:** [CallejaA2@michigan.gov](mailto:CallejaA2@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-220-0133

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Tony has worked for MDHHS since 1995, serving Wayne County MDHHS administration, field operations, and the director's office before joining OWDT in December 2010. He is currently the training facilities coordinator, responsible for oversight of OWDT training centers located throughout the state. Tony has the administrative and technological skills required to keep the training facilities operational. He also does data analysis, internal/external collaboration, and DTMB liaison. With an interest in graphic design, Tony has also created the brand identity for various statewide initiatives, including the design of the former DHS logo.



**Brenna Cavanaugh**

Family Preservations Trainer

**E-mail:** [CavanaughB@michigan.gov](mailto:CavanaughB@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-648-0071

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Brenna is a University of Michigan graduate with a background in psychology and mental health. While obtaining her bachelor's degree, Brenna worked with Genesee Health Systems as a tutor at the psychosocial rehabilitation center in Flint. Brenna then worked two years with the family reunification program at the Judson Center, transitioning later to a position as a post adoption resource center advocate for another year and a half. She also has experience working in children's protective services at the Genesee County MDHHS

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**Erica Childs**

Executive Secretary

**E-mail:** [ChildsE@michigan.gov](mailto:ChildsE@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-285-8181

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Erica graduated from Ferris State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. She began her career with the SOM in 2014 as a General Office Assistant with Ingham County. Erica joined OWDT in December of 2018 as the Secretary for the Delivery Division registering new hires for Child Welfare Trainings, and in July 2022 became the Executive Secretary.



**Rochelle Cooper**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [CooperR11@michigan.gov](mailto:CooperR11@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-410-4450

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Rochelle joined the State of Michigan in 2011. She worked in Washtenaw and Wayne counties as an eligibility specialist and assisted in various roles, such as a liaison with Washtenaw County for AMP and re-entry programs with various Washtenaw community partners. In Wayne County, she was a member of the FIP intake team. She is a recent graduate of the Emergent Leadership Program. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and an MBA with a specialization in human resource management from Davenport University. She is joining the OWDT team because she has a passion to help others learn, develop, and excel in their role.

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**Daniel Davis**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [DavisD21@michigan.gov](mailto:DavisD21@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-570-6467

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Daniel graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology. He started his career with MDHHS in August 2008, as an Assistance Payments Worker in Macomb County. Daniel has worked in several counties across the state of Michigan, including Benzie, Berrien, and Kent. Working with diverse groups has taught him to truly value diversity, equity, and inclusion. He has served as a Lead worker, Assistant Payments Supervisor, and Departmental Analyst for FAP Accuracy. Daniel has a passion for helping others and is delighted when he can help others overcome challenges to achieve successful outcomes.



**Darah Davis**

GROW Trainer

**E-mail:** [DavisD11@michigan.gov](mailto:DavisD11@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-530-8335

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Darah has over 18 years' experience in law enforcement and human services. Darah's experiences include training Michigan State Police, Michigan Department of Corrections, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the National Conference on Community and Justice. She has worked as a foster care case manager, a children's protective services investigator, and as a children's protective services manager. Darah was instrumental in the development and implementation of Family to Family for the State of Michigan. She is a master trainer/coordinator for PRIDE Foster & Adoptive Parent Trainings.

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**Carrie Dax Hutchinson**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [DaxC@michigan.gov](mailto:DaxC@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 616-438-4824

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Carrie joined OWDT in August 2019. Her career with the SOM/MDHHS began in November 2009. She worked in the Macomb County Sterling Heights District as an Eligibility Specialist for eight years as a MPRI Program Liaison, member of the Community Outreach Team, Affordable Care Act Trainer, Self-Employment Income Project Developer and Trainer, Project Re-Form Trainer as well as having a specialized CDC caseload. In January 2018, she became a Lead Worker for the Warren District where she mentored and trained teams of probationary employees, providing 1x1 training sessions and case reads, and developed and facilitated numerous local office training. Carrie is a graduate of the Emerging Leadership Program and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, French, and Secondary Education from the U of M. Prior to working with the State, Carrie taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts and Applied Technology and worked in online and print marketing for the mortgage and educational fundraising industries.

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**Shalonda Dennis**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [DennisS5@michigan.gov](mailto:DennisS5@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-236-7048

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Shalonda has worked for MDHHS since May 2011 and started with OWDT in January 2022. She began as an Assistance Payments Worker/Eligibility Specialist working at the Conner Service Center and Inkster MDHHS offices. She served on the pilot team for the Lobby Navigator project at Conner and earned a Good Government Award for Teamwork. She has experience working with urban and suburban families and ESL clients. She is very knowledgeable of Bridges and stays current with policy changes to accurately process case work. In October 2016 she moved to Pathways to Potential as a Success Coach/Family Independence Specialist serving two DPSCD schools. She made notable partnerships with community partners such as the Ford Resource Engagement Center, Detroit Parent Network, UAW Local 600, the Assistance League of Southeast Michigan, Gleaners, and other organizations and businesses. She secured many donations to service the resource needs of her students and families to address barriers they faced. She was recently selected to serve as a “Stop 2 Check 4 Accuracy” co-trainer for Wayne County Pathways to Potential. Shalonda earned a Good Government Service Award, honorable mention for the Daniel Pfaff Pathways to Potential Leadership Award, and recognition in an issue of the HOPE Weekly magazine. Prior to State employment, she worked as a para-educator in two charter schools for kindergarten and 1st grade classes. Shalonda has a Bachelor of Science degree from Oakland University in Finance and Marketing.

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**Veronica Eades**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [EadesV1@michigan.gov](mailto:EadesV1@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-402-9234

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Veronica has over 20 years of experience in human services. She worked for non-profit organizations in community and educational settings. She gained most of her work experience as a foster care case manager and guardianship specialist for MDHHS in Wayne County where she served for 14 years. Veronica hopes to inspire PSI attendees to move from theory to practice with practical tips that will lead to a fulfilling career serving children and families.



**Capri Ervin**  
New ES Trainer

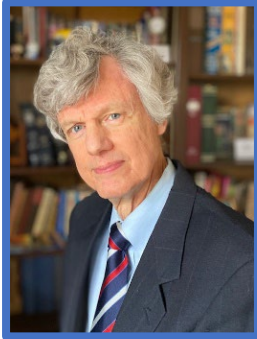
**E-mail:** [ErvinC1@michigan.gov](mailto:ErvinC1@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-302-4039

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

"Passionate about people" would be the best phrase to describe Capri. Capri worked as a Services Specialist for Child Protective Services as both an Investigator and On-Going worker for four years. Capri served as the Co-Chair of the BRDIGES DEI Training Committee, a member of the CQI team, and helped develop the Firearm Safety Protocol for Oakland County CPS. What Capri enjoyed most about working with CPS is the MiTEAM approach which is an approach that works with families to help them identify strengths and build on those strengths to help facilitate success. Much like teaming with families, Capri is excited to work with New Hires to help them identify their current strengths to facilitate growth and development as Child Welfare staff members. Capri brings a diverse work and educational experience with a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of Michigan. Prior to working with the State, Capri worked as a Substitute Teacher for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science at Scarlett Middle School in Ann Arbor, an Enrollment Coordinator with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Washtenaw County, and has held multiple positions at Girls Group facilitating college readiness programming for young women in grades 7-12.

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**Mike Firestone**

New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [FirestoneD2@michigan.gov](mailto:FirestoneD2@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-881-9034

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Mike is a trainer for OWDT, specializing in new ES and long-term care Medicaid trainings. Prior to joining OWDT, Mike had experience as a family independence manager, an assistance payments worker, and a teacher at the college and high school levels.



**Bill Furby**

Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [FurbyW@michigan.gov](mailto:FurbyW@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-881-2427

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Bill started with the MDHHS in February 2001. He has extensive experience as a public assistance case manager/case worker, a public assistance classroom trainer, and as a developer of public assistance e-Learning and job aids. Bill believes his main purpose as a trainer and training developer is to bridge the gap between Central Office policies and procedures and local office staff.

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**Ann Gaines**  
Training Delivery Manager

**E-mail:** [GainesA@michigan.gov](mailto:GainesA@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-530-3208

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Ann has over 14 years of experience in human services. For three years, she specialized in working with developmentally disabled adults. For the past 11 years, child welfare has been her specialty. Ann has worked both in management and as a supportive staff person. Her child welfare experience was gained in the field as a children's protective services specialist in Macomb County. She has also worked with the Family-to-Family Program as a team decision-making facilitator (back-up). She also has experience conducting trainings for the nine-week CPS New Hire Institute, the New CPS Supervisor Institute, and Safety by Design. She currently manages staff that deliver public assistance and family preservation training.



**Stacie Gibson**  
Director

**E-mail:** [GibsonS2@michigan.gov](mailto:GibsonS2@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-243-2237

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Stacie has worked at MDHHS since 1995 and has experience as a Services Specialist, Family Independence Specialist, Public Assistance Trainer, Director of the Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity, and Public Assistance Training Manager. She has been the Director of OWDT since 2013. Stacie also has experience as a Sociology Instructor for Michigan State University and Southern New Hampshire University.

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**Robin Grant**  
Family Preservation Trainer

**E-mail:** [GrantR1@michigan.gov](mailto:GrantR1@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-530-1746

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Robin has over 20 years of experience working with children, families, and other at-risk populations. Robin's MDHHS child welfare experience includes CPS, foster care, and TDM facilitation. She has also represented MDHHS on the Dexter/Elmhurst Area Building Community Partnership Committee to bring awareness to the needs of foster care givers, recruitment, and children aging out of the foster care system. She has served as one of the primary trainers for TDM community representatives and the Parent Partners Program.



**Raquelle Harris**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [HarrisR3@michigan.gov](mailto:HarrisR3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-242-8501

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Passionate about connecting with people, Raquelle has serviced at-risk children and their families for almost 20 years. Her child welfare experience includes residential care, Families First, and juvenile delinquency. Prior to joining OWDT as a foster care program trainer, Raquelle worked at MDHHS in Wayne County, as a MiTeam specialist for five years and as a foster care specialist for eight years. A proud alumna of the University of Michigan and Specs Howard School of Media Arts, Raquelle holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and Afro-American and African studies, and a broadcast media arts diploma.

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**Robert Harvey**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [HarveyR@michigan.gov](mailto:HarveyR@michigan.gov)

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Robert Harvey holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Madonna University and a BS in Sociology from Kenyon College. Robert comes with several years of experience working for the state and private agencies, as well as corporate America. His experience ranges from the automotive industry as a supervisor, and CPS, Foster Care, Human Trafficking, the statewide Medical/Dental workgroup, and the MiSACWIS launch team. Robert enjoys empowering new and seasoned workers to complete their jobs to the best of their potential.



**Karen Hayes**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [HayesK4@michigan.gov](mailto:HayesK4@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-243-5503

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Karen graduated with a BA in Teaching from Eastern Michigan University. She obtained her master's degree in Special Education from the University of Phoenix. She began her career with the State of Michigan in 2000 when she took a position as a CPS Specialist in Wayne County. After six years she left the State of Michigan to teach Special Education at the secondary level. In 2010 Karen became a foster parent, and in 2012 she became an adoptive parent. In 2016 Karen felt the call to return to the State of Michigan where she began as a CPS Specialist, and for the last five years she has worked as a Foster Home Licensing Specialist. Karen is a celebrator of people and enjoys building strong relationships with those around her. When she is not advocating for foster care, she is advocating for organ donation and adoption.

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**Shalanda Hunt**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [HuntS3@michigan.gov](mailto:HuntS3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-388-7378

**ID Mail:** 301 E. Louis Glick Hwy, Jackson, MI 49201

Shalanda has been with MDHHS since 2011. She currently serves as the Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative Coordinator for the Jackson County MDHHS, working with vulnerable and adjudicated youth. She also served as a Foster Care Worker (2010 – 2013) where she provided case management, placement services, and monitoring placements.

Shalanda has experience with interagency service coordination, foster care policies, and youth alternative programming. In 2020, she was elected to the Board of Trustees for Jackson Public Schools and was appointed as a member of the Board of Directors of Jackson County United Way. She also serves in municipal government as a member of the Human Relations Commission for the City of Jackson, where she is the Commission's Secretary.

She attended Jackson Community College where she earned both an Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.S.) degree and an Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree in General Studies. She later had the opportunity to attend Siena Heights University in Adrian, MI where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.) in Criminal Justice. She plans to earn a Master of Social Work degree (M.S.W.) to continue her work with youth and families in the Jackson community. But continues to be in demand as a speaker and youth advocate, working to empower children and families in the Jackson community and statewide.

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**Monique Jackson**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [JacksonM41@michigan.gov](mailto:JacksonM41@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 248-514-3925

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Monique started her career with the State of MI and OWDT in May of 2022. She is a Detroit native and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and a Master of Arts in counselling from Wayne State University. Monique has worked in child welfare for eight years. She served first as an adoption specialist and later being promoted to adoption supervisor. Monique is also trained in licensing and taught PRIDE classes. She previously served as a clinical therapist. In 2020, Monique joined the Minority Professional Leadership Development Program with Adopt USKids.



**Vindici Jackson**  
Delivery Division Secretary

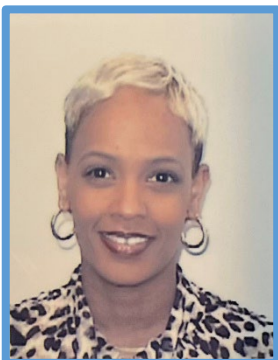
**E-mail:** [JacksonV@michigan.gov](mailto:JacksonV@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-582-2041

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Vindici has worked for MDHHS for over 14 years as a GOA providing administrative support to both Child Welfare and Adult Services staff. Vindici joined OWDT in October of 2022 as the Delivery Division Secretary registering trainees for Child Welfare trainings, as well as supporting other needs for the OWDT training department.

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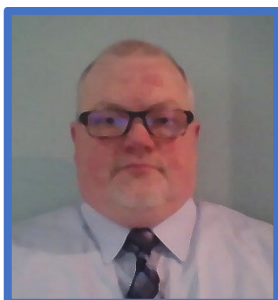
**Tacarra Jones**  
Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [JonesT39@michigan.gov](mailto:JonesT39@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 810-228-6784

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Tacarra Jones has been with MDHHS for 10 years. Tacarra comes with knowledge and experience working as an Eligibility Specialist, Eligibility Specialist Supervisor, NES Training Unit Supervisor, and various roles within the department. Tacarra earned her bachelor's degree in Community Services from Siena Heights University. Tacarra worked with OWDT on special assignment training New Eligibility Specialists before joining OWDT permanently as a Developer in March of 2023.



**Bradley Kirchner**  
Technology Specialist

**E-mail:** [KirchnerB@michigan.gov](mailto:KirchnerB@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-897-6167

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont Street, Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Bradley has been with the State of Michigan since 2015 as an Instructional Designer for the MiSACWIS project. His work revolved around designing, writing, and creating new employee trainings and computer-based training programs for the Learning Management System. He also has extensive experience as a LMS administrator, technical trainer, and applications specialist.

Bradley is a graduate of the University of Michigan – Flint campus, with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Philosophy and a Spanish minor. His work with Race, Equity, Diversion, and Inclusion involves participating in a pilot training as well as independent examination. Bradley states he's looking forward to future opportunities. He joined OWDT in May 2021.

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**Anya Krasnov**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [KrasnovA@michigan.gov](mailto:KrasnovA@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-388-7339

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Anya began her career in child welfare as an intern at Fostering Futures in 2015 while finishing her BA in Psychology at University of Michigan. After graduating she went to work as a Foster Care and Adoption Specialist at Hands Across the Water in Ann Arbor. Anya then obtained her master's degree in Social Work from the University of Michigan School of Social Work in Dec 2018 and completed her MSW internship with the Child Protection Team at Michigan Medicine. Anya began working at MDHHS in 2019 as a Children's Protective Services Investigator in Oakland County and joined OWDT in August 2022. Anya hopes to share her passion for child welfare work to inspire new workers to become successful in this field and better serve the children and families in our communities.



**Angelica MacFarlane**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [MacfarlaneA@michigan.gov](mailto:MacfarlaneA@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-236-9703

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Angelica has been with MDHHS for over 10 years. Her experience in child welfare includes working as a teen parent support partner and infant mental health specialist with St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher. She has worked as a foster care specialist for Wayne County MDHHS - Western Wayne District and has experience as a family independence specialist. Her experience in working with families and her dedication has led to her success as an OWDT trainer, specializing in foster care programs.

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**Amy Makowski**

Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [MakowskiA@michigan.gov](mailto:MakowskiA@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-881-4978

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Amy was a Lead Worker in the field when she began her career with OWDT as a New Eligibility Specialist Trainer. Since then, she has been involved in Performance Consultations, creating leadership in-service training curricula and classroom logistics, as well as, co-creating and facilitating the Emerging Leader program. Amy currently works with the Development Team where this position allows her to review, revise, and develop training materials for all areas of MDHHS.



**Letha Murray**

Department Analyst

**E-mail:** [MurrayL3@michigan.gov](mailto:MurrayL3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-316-7634

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Letha is an administrative professional with a work foundation in *legal, public, and health* services. She has worked with MDHHS for 11 years, which includes Macomb County General Services Administration and Children's Services Agency, Wayne County Children's Services Agency, and the Hawthorn Center. She graduated from the University of Detroit Mercy with an Associates of Arts Degree in the Legal Assistant Program, Bachelor of Arts Degree in Legal Administration, and a master's degree in Health Services Admin. Prior to her transition to OWDT in February 2022, she was the Social Services Administrative Supervisor who spearheaded and assisted with implementing contracts, services, negotiating pricing and contract compliance for the Wayne County Children's Services Agency Family Reunification program and MDHHS South Central District.

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**Joe Peterson**

Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [PetersonJ10@michigan.gov](mailto:PetersonJ10@michigan.gov)**Phone:** 517-256-5692**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Joe was a teacher for the Lansing School District where he taught special education for seven years. For two of those years, he developed and taught the middle school autistic program. Joe has worked in three state youth residential facilities including the Michigan School for the Deaf, Adrian Training School for Girls, and the Pine Lodge Halfway House for Boys. Joe has his degree in legal studies from National University in San Diego, California.

**Trameka Rodgers**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [RodgersT@michigan.gov](mailto:RodgersT@michigan.gov)**Phone:** 517-599-8134**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Trameka Rodgers graduated from Saginaw Valley State University with a bachelor's degree in Social Work. Early in her professional career, she trained teenage mothers on how to be effective parents. She has worked for Saginaw County Commission on Aging where she encouraged senior citizens and managed two of their programs including Kinship Care and Caregiver Support. She worked as a Wraparound Coordinator where she facilitated meetings to advocate for families. In 2016, she began working for the SOM as a CPS worker in Saginaw County. Trameka is currently a Child Welfare trainer with OWDT.

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**Carrie Roose**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [RooseC1@michigan.gov](mailto:RooseC1@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-231-9149

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Carrie has an undergraduate degree in criminal justice from Wayne State University and a graduate degree in administration from Saginaw Valley State University. Carrie has been employed with the State of Michigan since 2010 and has filled the roles of prevention, foster care and child protective services investigator for Iosco and Livingston Counties. During Carrie's time as a CPS investigator, she was part of the Pathways to Potential program and stationed at an elementary school. For four years Carrie also held the position of a Business Analyst for the MiSACWIS Project in Lansing. Prior working with the State Carrie worked for the Ogemaw County Friend of the Court as a Caseworker/Enforcement Officer. Outside of work Carrie volunteers with the Gift of Life Michigan charity to promote organ donation and also a local horse rescue. Carrie also volunteers for PRIDE events and has provided local trainings on LGBTQIA+ topics. In 2016 Carrie was nominated for Outstanding Mentor for the State

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**Laura Schneider**

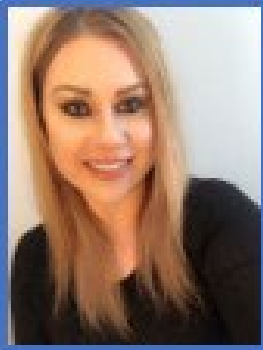
Training Development, Logistics & Delivery Division Manager

**E-mail:** [SchneiderL@michigan.gov](mailto:SchneiderL@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-720-7263

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Laura started her career with the MDHHS in 2001 as a child protective services worker in Allegan County. She came to Training in May 2004 as a child welfare trainer and was instrumental in the development of the CPS supervisor training, as well as the drug-endangered children's protocols. Laura then became the Child Welfare Training Institute manager, and now serves as the division manager of Training Development and Logistics for OWDT. Laura's proudest work is in anti-racism, diversity, equity, and inclusion. She is involved in deepening her own analysis of systemic racism and works to educate others about how institutional racism was intentionally woven into all realms of life in the United States. Her lifelong work will be to disrupt and dismantle systems of oppression.

**Georgia Smith**

Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [SmithG14@michigan.gov](mailto:SmithG14@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-388-7339

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Georgia obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology through Michigan State University in 2005 and completed a Master of Arts Degree in Family Studies through Spring Arbor University in 2011. She started with the State of Michigan as a Foster Care Services Specialist within Ingham County in 2011 and transitioned to Genesee County in 2012. During her time in Genesee County, she has held positions as a CPS investigator, Foster Care Services Specialist, and PAFC monitor. She mentored foster care new workers, was a member of the county wide Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team, Foster Care specific CQI subgroup and Hiring/Training/Retention Sub-Group. Prior to working with the State of Michigan, she worked for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan from 2008-2011 as a foster care worker and foster care/licensing team leader.

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**Maureen Smith**

Public Assistant Trainer

**E-mail:** [SmithM45@michigan.gov](mailto:SmithM45@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-388-4049

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Maureen has been with MDHHS since June 2008. She has served the following capacities under her role as an Eligibility Specialist at the Macomb County Mount Clemens office: Enhance Site Support Specialist, Hearings Facilitator, Macomb County Juvenile Justice Coordinator, CDC Task Force, BSC Training Facilitator, and FAP Accuracy Focus Group (Team Lead - Podcast Committee). She also served in the capacity as (WOC) Assistance Payments Supervisor from (Jan 2017-July 2017) in which she directed activities and aided Eligibility Specialists in rendering quality customer service along with accurate eligibility determinations.

In July 2017, she was nominated and selected to join the Universal Caseload Project (UCL) where she served as a Tester creating testing scenarios to test UCL functionality. She later joined the UCL Business Team serving as a subject matter expert providing onsite coaching and support to UCL Geo Groups.

In September 2018, she was selected to work out of class as a (WOC) Human Resource Developer with OWDT but returned to the UCL Project in December of 2018. She was provided with the opportunity to work with ESA (Economic Stability Administration) in implementing a feedback forum for employees, under the direction of Department Director Robert Gordon to initiate an "Error Free Workday".

She has rejoined OWDT as of January 2021, as a Public Assistant Trainer.

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**Meon Stubbs**  
Training Delivery Manager

**E-mail:** [StubbsM@michigan.gov](mailto:StubbsM@michigan.gov)  
**Phone:** 517-242-6659  
**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Meon holds a master's degree in social work from Eastern Michigan University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Central Michigan University. She has worked at MDHHS for 20+ years in various roles. She has experience as a family independence specialist with Genesee County, a foster care specialist, a Family-to-Family facilitator, a children's protective services manager, and a training coordinator, and now the manager in OWDT's training delivery division.



**Nichele Tell**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [TellN@michigan.gov](mailto:TellN@michigan.gov)  
**Phone:** 517-281-8470  
**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Nichele holds a master's degree in Psychology. She began her journey with the State of Michigan as an Assistant Payment Worker in Wayne County in 2011 and transitioned to a Service Specialist in Genesee County in 2012. She has worked as a Foster Care worker, Children Protective Services worker, and an Ongoing CPS worker in Genesee County. She has been a mentor to new workers and served on numerous local office committees such as IMPACT, MiTeam, Genesee County Emerging Leaders, and New Hire Training.

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**Andrell Thomas**  
Delivery Manager

**E-mail:** [ThomasA15@michigan.gov](mailto:ThomasA15@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-230-5426

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Andrell Thomas has over 12 years of experience in Human Services. Prior to becoming a Child Welfare Delivery Manager, he was a Child Welfare trainer with OWDT. His training experience includes Foster Care, Children Protective Services, New Supervisors Training Institute, and other general Child Welfare topics. Andrell has several years of experience in Child Welfare, which includes having been a case manager in Foster Care and Children's Protective Services in Jackson County. Prior to MDHHS, he worked at Jackson Cooper Street Correctional Facility as a Substance Abuse Therapist for inmates awaiting parole, and Interim Unit Program Coordinator. He worked at Starr Commonwealth Residential Facility serving delinquent teenagers and teenagers with substance abuse issues, both as a Clinician and Supervisor. Andrell graduated with a B.A. from Michigan State University and M.A. from Spring Arbor University.



**Dayle Thomas**  
Training Development, Logistics & Delivery Division Secretary

**E-mail:** [ThomasD49@michigan.gov](mailto:ThomasD49@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-269-4466

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Dayle started her career with OWDT in October of 2021 and is the Cadillac Place Secretary registering trainees for New ES trainings, as well as supporting other needs for the OWDT training department. She graduated from American Intercontinental University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration. Born in Detroit, she grew up a military dependent and spent over 10 years living overseas before returning to Detroit to assist her parents and family. Before coming to OWDT Dayle worked in the Charter School system in Human Resources focusing on Office Management and Staff trainings. Dayle was also a Health and Safety Planner for three years at General Motors

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**Jim Townsend**

Departmental Analyst/LMS Administrator

**E-mail:** [TownsendJ5@michigan.gov](mailto:TownsendJ5@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-243-9702

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Jim joined MDHHS and OWDT in 2013. He serves on the Cornerstone Learning Management System (LMS) administration team and assists in managing the MDHHS Training@michigan.gov help desk. Jim serves as a key point of contact for LMS planning between OWDT, DTMB, our LMS vendor, and numerous current and potential stakeholders. He has served as a co-lead on the OWDT Data, Support, and Logistics team and is routinely involved with the development and delivery of technology learning labs for OWDT staff. Jim also served as the WOC Administrative Manager in the Training Development, Logistics, & Delivery section of OWDT in 2022. He has a BA in business administration from Alma College. Prior to joining OWDT, he held various management positions over nine years with the Walgreen Company.



**Denise Turner**

Payments Secretary

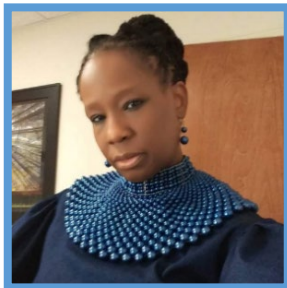
**E-mail:** [TurnerD@michigan.gov](mailto:TurnerD@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-582-8243 (text or email only)

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Denise has been with OWDT (former CWTI) since 2009 under a temporary agreement to audit private agency travel vouchers.

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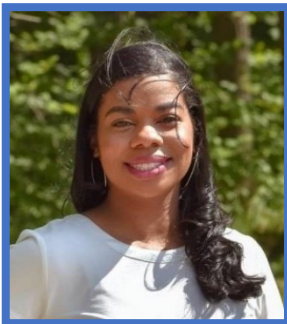
**Alexis Wallace**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [WallaceA7@michigan.gov](mailto:WallaceA7@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 313-530-8336

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Alexis is zealous about working with families and the community and hopes her passion for people resonates when she speaks. Alexis has over 20 years of experience working with individuals, children, families, and other at-risk populations. Alexis worked for over 20 years in residential settings and completed her internship with foster care at South Central in 2008 before receiving her Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Marygrove College. Alexis was the NASW social work student of the year in 2008 and has never lost her passion and joy for social work or working with the people she is honored to serve. Alexis believes in mindful and international communication and embraces the uniqueness and diversity of others. Alexis became a Northend storyteller in 2022 and enjoys uplifting the spirits of people. When talking with people Alexis hopes to leave them touched by joy, positivity, and kindness.



**Ledra Waller**  
Child Welfare Trainer

**E-mail:** [WallerL3@michigan.gov](mailto:WallerL3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-242-8924

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Ledra began her career as a Social Worker in May 2010 after obtaining her master's degree in Social Work at Michigan State University (MSU). Upon graduating from MSU, she started her career with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) Children Services Department in Genesee County. Over the past 10 years, she has deepened her understanding of the child welfare system working as a Foster Care Specialist, a Child Protective Services Investigator, and a MiSACWIS Local Office Expert. Prior to her career with MDHHS, Ledra was an Instructor for the Michigan State University Adolescents Diversion Project, where she trained students to become effective advocates for youth involved in the Juvenile Justice System.

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**Lamika Webster**

New ES Trainer

**Email:** [WebsterL10@michigan.gov](mailto:WebsterL10@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-243-2666

**ID Mail:** 3038 W. Grand Blvd, Suite 6-300, Detroit 48202

Lamika is a proud Detroit native and has always prided herself in meeting people where they are because “Everyone has a story”. Prior to beginning her career with MDHHS, she worked for a non-profit organization supporting and encouraging healthy family reunifications. During this time, she was able to work with community partners, advocate for families working towards self-sufficiency before beginning her career with MDHHS in 2013. Lamika began MDHHS as an Assistance Payments Worker where she later was promoted to Success Coach/ Family Independence Specialist with the Pathways to Potential Program. Lamika has also worked out of class as an Assistance Payments Supervisor and Family Independence Manager. During her time working out of class as a manager she was able to guide and train new and veteran staff with how to manage their caseloads while creating a positive and approachable work atmosphere. Lamika also briefly worked for the State of Georgia in Child Protective Service where she became fully certified to investigate child abuse and/or neglect. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from Michigan State University and Master of Arts degree in Mental Health Counseling. Lamika has expressed excitement to be a part of the OWDT team!

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**Ramona Webster-Kroning**  
Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [WebsterR3@michigan.gov](mailto:WebsterR3@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-582-2440

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Ramona joined the OWDT team in October 2016. She has worked in various training departments for nearly 30 years in both the private and government sectors. Ramona's roles have included being an instructor, trainer, and instructional designer. Her favorite talent development quote is: "Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I may remember. Involve me and I learn." ~ Benjamin Franklin



**Alvin Williams**  
New ES Trainer

**E-mail:** [WilliamsA11@michigan.gov](mailto:WilliamsA11@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-256-6495

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Alvin has been with MDHHS since 2008, working as an assistance payments worker in both Wayne and Oakland counties. In that time, he served as an expert in Bridges, providing site support and post training assistance to newly hired ES staff in his local office. Prior to working for MDHHS, Alvin had extensive management experience gained from hiring, training, and providing guidance to his employees to help them be successful. Alvin has a Bachelor of Arts degree in public administration from Michigan State University.

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**Clinton Wirtz**  
Juvenile Justice Trainer

**E-mail:** [WirtzC@michigan.gov](mailto:WirtzC@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-599-8392

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Clint trains juvenile justice programs with the OWDT Child Welfare Training Institute. He has over 18 years with MDHHS in the JJ, CPS, and APS fields. Clint was a CPS supervisor prior to joining OWDT in June 2013.



**Jennifer Wozniak**  
Human Resource Developer

**E-mail:** [WozniakJ@michigan.gov](mailto:WozniakJ@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 517-281-9882

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Jennifer has over seven years with MDHHS. She began her career as a Departmental Technician with the MiSACWIS project and then transferred to Genesee County. Jennifer has over four years of experience as a CPS Investigator and CPS ongoing worker. Jennifer also worked for the MiSACWIS project as a Field Support Analyst and has experience in development using Articulate Storyline and ROBOHelp. Jennifer also comes with other technical skills including developing instructor led trainings, job aids, and student guides.

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**Pamela Zsolzai**

Human Resources Developer

**E-mail:** [ZsolzaiP@michigan.gov](mailto:ZsolzaiP@michigan.gov)

**Phone:** 810-228-6779

**ID Mail:** 1048 Pierpont St. Suite 3, Lansing, MI 48911

Pam has over 20 years' experience with public assistance at MDHHS, where she has spent the last several years with OWDT as a trainer and developer. In her time at OWDT she has contributed to many projects both large and small. She is known for her strong connection and desire to serve the field. She has worked with a non-profit organization to help revolutionize and simplify the departments assistance application and redetermination forms.

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