

Wednesday	November	5	2025			
Presentations						
	Glens 1	Glens 2	Glens 3	Prairies 4	Prairies 5	Prairies 6
12:00pm-1:00pm	Leadership - Intermediate Workforce 101: Removing Barriers For a Better Workforce Dr. Mike Strouse	Employment Opprotunities - Advanced The Impact of Mental Health on Job Satisfaction: The Mediating Effects of Self-Esteem and Primary Job Perception Jiwon Seo, Elijah T. Salahuddin	Behavioral Health - Intermediate Disconnected or Misunderstood? How Trauma Shapes Youth Behavior and Belonging Detective Sergeant Sarah Combs, Sarah Britton, Quiano Davis	Transition - Intermediate Navigating First Jobs: A Qualitative Exploration of Self-Determination Among High School Students with Disabilities Rommel Johnson, Ph.D., LPC, CRC, CAADC, NCC, and Stephanie Picazo, M.S	Ethics - Beginner More Than Services: A Roundtable on Upholding Client Dignity Todd Michael and Dessie Johnson	Disability Specific - Beginner How Technology First Will Revolutionize Longterm Services Susan Chaplin, Margaret Overton
1:05-2:05pm		Employment Opportunities - Intermediate CMH Rate Restructuring to Support Employment Services and Outcomes: Results of Evaluation Lisa A. Mills, PhD			Ethics - Intermediate Ethics Over Optics: Protecting Inclusivity in an Anti-DEI Era Carie Branch	Disability Specific - Beginner Advancing Technology First: Transforming Support for People with IDD in Michigan Lindsay Calcaterra, and Tracey Hamlet
2:05pm to 2:40pm	Coffee and snacks - Kalamazoo					
2:40-3:40pm	Leadership - Intermediate AI in Behavioral Health: Opportunities, Risks, and Practical Steps Joe Torres	Employment Opprotunities - Beginner Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS): the Basic Overview and the Epic Partnerships in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. Ann Degeler, Kristi Palmer	Mental Wellbeing/Behavioral Health - Intermediate The Invitation: Cultural Humility in Practice Dr Crystallee Crain	Transition - Advanced Get 'Em Ready: Federal Policy Meets Inclusive Practice in Transition Planning Dessie Johnson	Leadership - Beginner 2025 Safety Included Katie Kinde, Todd Culver	Disability Specific - Beginner A World Where All People Are Empowered To Navigate Relationships At Work Mary Shehan MS, QSE Frank Vaca
3:45-4:45 pm	Leadership - Intermediate Strategic Alignment in Times of Change: Mergers, ASOs, and Back-Office Innovation in an Ever-changing Landscape Paul Blatt, Jeanette Hoyer	Employment Opprotunities - Intermediate Customized Employment: How to Partner for Success Cassandra Wolf, MSW		Transition - Intermediate Bridging the Gap: Strengthening Transition Services through Collaboration - Panel John Foster, Rachel Mularz, Julie Colliflower, Valerie A. Maloney MSW BSW, Brittany Hamilton-Reed, MA, CRC, LLPC, Chandler C. Yuen, BSW, CESPTM	Employment Opprotunities - Intermediate Empowering Learners: Data-Driven Insights on Independence and Career Mobility Tekisha Lee	

Thursday	November	6	2025			
Presentations						
	Glens 1	Glens 2	Glens 3	Prairies 4	Prairies 5	Prairies 6
9:00am-10:00am	Leadership - Advanced Career Pathways in Action Sarah Valez, Jack Schaberg	Employment Opportunities - Intermediate What Google Maps Doesn't Show: The Missing Info That's Keeping People from Applying Meegan Winters	Disability Specific - Beginner Break the Pain Cycle: Body-Based Tools for Stress Relief and Independence Patricia Marchal-Dumont	Leadership - Beginner Utilizing Vocational Rehab for Inclusive HR Practices Jessica Diener, Justin Walworth	Ethics - Beginner Supporting Job Seekers with Criminal Backgrounds Christa Martin	Behavioral Health - Advanced Artificial Intelligence Powered Service – A Use Case for Psychosocial Assessment Dr. Hung Jen Kuo, Zoey (Rouyi) Chen, Jiwon Seo, and Annie Lacasse
10:00am - 10:35am	Coffee - Kalamazoo					
10:35am - 11:35am	Leadership - Intermediate Strategic GPS: From Why to How to Wow James Willis	Employment Opportunities - Intermediate Community-Based Pathways to Employment - Practical Tools for Linking Community-Based Skill Building to Employment Success Shannon Webb and Lisa Mills, PhD	Disability Specific - Intermediate Amplifying Voices: Teaching Young Adults with Autism the Art of Podcasting and Self-Marketing Kari Thomas	Policy - Beginner Advocating for MI DCWs Stephanie Van Koevering, Angela Martin, Jan Lampman	Ethics - Beginner Beyond Survival: Ethical Advocacy and Best Practices for Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth Amid Civil Rights Crises LaVendee Fulton, LMSW, MA	Behavioral Health - Intermediate Roots Before Wings: How Mentoring Changes Lives in Flint and Beyond Tadarius Lowe, Sarah Britton
Lunch 11:40 - 1:10	KEYNOTE - MISHA SAFRAN					
1:10 - 2:10	Leadership - Beginner From Surviving to Thriving: Supporting Entry Level Employees Through Integrated Career Coaching and Resource Navigation Chris Smith and Torry Gargano	Employment Opportunities - Intermediate Building Workforce Partnerships: Employer Insights on Inclusive Hiring Jerry Block, Shayla Packer, Mike Israel and Sarah Ring	Leadership - Intermediate Transitioning into Leadership Sara Grivetti, Ph.D., CRC	Transition - Beginner Developing a Successful Pre-ets Program Jim Holz	Ethics - Intermediate ETHICS, BOUNDARIES AND CRITICAL LIFE SKILLS Dr. Rosanne Renauer	Behavioral Health - Beginner Introduction to Dementia in Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Kristi Davis, CTRS
2:10 - 2:45	Coffee - Kalamazoo					
2:45-3:45	Leadership - Intermediate Be Our Guest: Discovering the Intersection of Hospitality and Human Services Travis Atkinson and Michael Christy	Employment Opportunities - Intermediate Paralinguistic Creativity: Infusing Disability Identity in Career Development Robert Parsons, Jr., MA, CRC, CVRT, LLC	Leadership - Beginner AI (Artificial Intelligence) as an Advocacy Ally Laura Hall and Frank Vaca	Transition - Advanced Parents' Perspectives on Their Parenting Styles and Involvement in Transition Programs for their Ethnic-Minority Youth with Disabilities Adriza Caesar, Ph.D., CRC, LPC, Gloria Lee, PhD, CRC,	Ethics - Beginner Ethical Dilemmas When Working with Persons Served Christal Phillips, MS, JD	Behavioral Health - Intermediate Pathways to Reducing Depression in Korean Adolescents with Disabilities: The Role of Family Strength, Disability Acceptance, and Self-Esteem Seongeun Oh, Kyo-bin Jeon, Minju Lee, Jaeyoung Kim, and Jiwon Seo

Friday	November	7	2025			
Presentations						
	Glens 1	Glens 2	Glens 3	Prairies 4	Prairies 5	Prairies 6
8:40-9:40am	Leadership - Beginner Who's Not at the Table? Making Room for the Stories We're Missing Wendy Erzen	Employment Opportunities - Beginner Employing with a Heart and a Helping Hand Tracy Tanner, Tammey Wine,	Behavioral Health - Beginner The Communication Frequency Shonda Rushing	Policy - Intermediate Disability Policy and Legislative Advocacy Todd Culver and Malcolm Kletke	Transition - Intermediate Self-Determination Affirming With College Students Lynn Boza, Ph.D., CRC, LPC	Disability Specific - Beginner Late Diagnosed Autistics: Unmet needs and Resource Gaps Jessica Humiston, LPC
9:45-10:45	Leadership - Advanced Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Streamline Vocational Rehabilitation Tasks for Individuals with Disabilities: Stakeholder Perspectives Dr. Connie Sung and Dr. Matthew Smith	Employment Opportunities - Beginner Executive Functioning at Work: Practical Strategies to Support Independence and Retention Taylor Picano and Hannah Bals	Innovation Stage	Policy - Beginner MiABLE- Saving without Sacrifice R Scott de Varona	Transition - Intermediate Creative Approaches to Youth Transition Services! Pathway to Success! Rene Dell	Disability Specific - Beginner Empowering Transitions: Collaborative Strategies for Supporting Students with Disabilities in Michigan Rebecca Flatt
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee - Prefunction area					
11:00 - 12:00	Leadership - Intermediate The Necessity for Self-Care in Leadership Shonda Rushing	Leadership - Beginner The Future of Grant & RFP Writing: Leveraging AI Tools for Winning Proposals Heather Janci	Behavioral Health - Intermediate The Development and Feasibility of a Virtual Community-based Emotion Regulation Psychoeducation Program for Workers with Disabilities for Work Wellbeing Gloria K Lee, Li Mao, Mudita Jagota, Erica Johnson-McNeal, Kristina Zwick	Policy - Intermediate Navigating the Future of Vocational Rehabilitation Services Sigrid J. Adams and Maureen Webster	Transition - Beginner Advancing Sentence Writing Proficiency and Pre-Vocational Training of Junior and High Schoolers with Significant Support Needs Kate Connor and Richard A. Price	Disability Specific - Beginner Recentring with Empathy, Reigniting Joy: Creating Balance in Leadership and Life Misha Safran PCC
END OF CONFERENCE						
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Friday, Break

KEY

Unclaimed Spot	Transition	Potential Breakout/ Roundtable
Ethics	Innovation studio	break

Leadership	Policy	Facilitator
Employment Opprotunities	Mental Wellbeing/Behavioral Health	Dates
Disability Specific	Staff Development?	