

MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

- 11:30a – Registration Opens
- **Registration fees must be paid online with a credit card. Only cash and check will be accepted at the door.**
- **Walk-in registration is strongly discouraged. Members who choose to register at the door will incur the standard monthly meeting registration fee for their membership type, the standard \$20 late registration fee, AND an additional \$25 walk-in fee. PLEASE NOTE THAT MEAL AVAILABILITY CANNOT BE GUARANTEED FOR WALK-IN REGISTRANTS.**
- Noon–12:30p - Lunch
- 12:30p-12:45p – Announcements
- 12:45p-1:45p – Education Session
- 1:45p-2p - Closing Announcements

**No Member Meeting in July
(July 21,2025; Board Meeting Only)**

August 20, 2025

Title:	An Action That Could Save a Life: Real-World Travel Safety and Risk Management for Executive-Level Professionals
Presenter:	Traci Ruiz
Description:	<p>You plan events down to the last detail—but what happens in the moment no one expected? When something dangerous unfolds in real time—do you freeze or do you lead? In this story-driven, scenario-based, interactive session led by Traci Ruiz—a 25-year police leader who trained officers in hand-to-hand combat and de-escalation tactics for nearly two decades—you’ll learn how to detect early red flags, respond with confidence under pressure, and take fast, effective action when personal or psychological safety is at risk.</p> <p>You’ll laugh, maybe tear up, and definitely walk away with tools that can be used immediately—plus, one action you may not realize could literally save a life.</p>
Competency:	Travel: Federal, State, and Local
Location:	DoubleTree by Hilton Battle Creek
Registration Sponsor:	Brighton Howell Area

Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain A: Strategic Planning)
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September 17, 2025

Title:	I Can't Wait to Make My Next Presentation!
Presenter:	Dave Weinandy
Description:	Just like effective interpersonal interactions, the best presentations are not speeches. Rather, they are conversations that invite listening. Everyone has the potential to be an engaging, clear, passionate, and memorable speaker with a message and delivery that can positively impact an audience, whether that audience is hundreds or one other person. In this nonthreatening, interactive, and enjoyable training, participants will learn how to become the self-aware communicator they want to be, while developing their unique presentation style and brand. The life-skills we will cover can be applied to one-on-one connections, virtual meetings, and when leading and guiding others with their presentations. We will cover topics such as: maximizing physical and vocal delivery, enhancing credibility, reducing speaker anxiety, as well as creating appealing introductions and conclusions.
Competency:	Personal and Professional Development
Location:	Delta Hotel by Marriott Kalamazoo
Registration Sponsor:	Brighton Howell Area
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain G: Meeting or Event Design)

October 15, 2025

Title:	AI 101: Understanding Its Role in Our Lives
Presenter:	Michigan Virtual - Justin Bruno
Description:	It seems like AI is everywhere now. But it's actually been all around us for quite some time. In this introductory session, we'll level-set with a common definition and understanding of AI and explore how the technology has evolved to such an extent that it is at the forefront of our daily lives. Attendees will gain a comprehensive overview of the AI landscape and its transformative impact on various industries, with a special focus on its role in disrupting education. We'll discuss how AI is reshaping teaching methods and assessment practices, and explore how educators are rethinking what skills are essential in a world increasingly shaped by AI. The session will also provide a glimpse into the potential future advancements and challenges the

	field might face, including ethical considerations for AI's application in education.
Competency:	Technology
Location:	DoubleTree Lansing
Registration Sponsor:	Experience Grand Rapids
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain G: Meeting or Event Design)

November 19, 2025

Title:	Lead the Room: Etiquette Essentials for Confident, Inclusive Meeting Planning
Presenter:	Shelley Boyd-Davis
Description:	In this empowering session, discover how modern etiquette enhances every stage of meeting planning—from first impressions to follow-up. Learn how small, intentional actions create lasting impact, foster inclusion, and elevate your professional presence. Whether welcoming VIPs or navigating unexpected changes, you'll gain the confidence and tools to lead with grace, clarity, and respect.
Competency:	Protocol
Location:	Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center
Registration Sponsor:	Brighton Howell Area
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain E: Human Resources)

December 17, 2025

Title:	TBD
Presenter:	Robin Shear
Description:	TBD
Competency:	TBD
Location:	AC by Marriott University Area Lansing
Parking Info:	
Registration Sponsor:	Meet Mount Pleasant
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain XX)

No Member Meeting in January (January 21, 2026; Board Meeting Only)

February 18, 2026

Title:	Mental Health in the Workplace
Presenter:	Sean Egan, Director of Labor
Description:	Investing in mental health and safety is critical to build strong workplaces, a strong workforce, and strong communities. Employers who invest in their employees' mental health and safety see a significant return on investment including improved employee satisfaction, increased productivity, and reduced absenteeism and turnover. This framework emphasizes workplace mental health as a public health priority. It highlights how workplace stressors affect not only employees but also business productivity and the economy. Organizations are encouraged to incorporate mental health strategies that prioritize workers' needs and promote resilience.
Competency:	Personal and Professional Development
Location:	Hyatt Place Lansing
Registration Sponsor:	Coming Soon!
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain E: Human Resources)

March 11-13, 2026 – Annual Education Conference

Location:	Sheraton Grand Rapids Airport, 5700 28th Street SE, Grand Rapids
Credit Hours Include:	Earn multiple credit hours during the 2.5-day conference for GMS, CGMP, and CMP (CMP excludes Ethics and Professional Development core competencies)

April 15, 2026

Title:	Stretch the Budget, Not the Planner: Strategies for Cost-Effective Events
Presenter:	Darla Bishop
Description:	Budgets are tight, expectations are high—and planners are feeling the pressure. In this fast-paced, practical session, Dr. Darla Bishop shares cost-saving strategies that help you deliver high-impact events without burnout or budget bloat. Learn how to prioritize spending, collaborate effectively with suppliers, and make smart financial decisions that serve both attendees and your sanity. Whether you're planning a board meeting or a statewide conference, you'll leave with actionable tips to stretch your budget—without

	stretching yourself too thin.
Competency:	Financial & Contract Management
Location:	DoubleTree Bay City
Registration Sponsor:	Coming Soon!
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain D: Financial Management)

May 20, 2026	
Title:	TBD
Presenter:	TBD
Description:	TBD
Competency:	TBD
Location:	Courtyard Downtown Lansing
Registration Sponsor:	Coming Soon!
Credit Hours Include:	1 – GMS, 1 – CGMP, 1 – CMP (Domain XX)