

# INSIDE BUZZ

SGMP  
Michigan



A monthly membership newsletter from the  
Michigan Society of Government Meeting Professionals (MiSGMP)

**July / August 2024**

## ||| President's Pen



Hello Mary,

I am thrilled to announce as of July 1st, I have officially begun my term as your President. It is with great excitement and enthusiasm I step into this role, eager to bring my past experiences and fresh ideas to continue moving our organization forward.

Throughout my career, I have always been passionate about our mission and the impact we can make together. I am committed to fostering an environment where innovation and collaboration thrive, ensuring we achieve our goals and set new standards of excellence.

I want to emphasize my email is always open for any questions, concerns, or comments you may have. Your feedback is invaluable, and I am here to listen and support you in any way I can.

I couldn't be happier with the board members who serve alongside me. Their dedication, expertise, and shared vision are truly inspiring, and I am confident together, we will accomplish great things.

As we embark on this journey, I am reminded of a quote by Abraham Lincoln that resonates deeply with me, "The best way to predict your future is to create it." Let us embrace this spirit of proactive leadership and work together to shape a bright and successful future for our organization.

Thank you for your continued support and trust. I look forward to the incredible journey ahead.

Warm regards,

Nick Stratton, GMS



President

Michigan Chapter of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals



 **MEETING TO REMEMBER?**  
**LANSING'S MY CHOICE**

Choose   
**LANSING**™

**Let Us Help!**

## Sponsorship Opportunities



### Sponsorship Opportunities Are Now Available!

Are you looking for an easy, cost-effective way to promote your facility, program, or services? Sponsoring and advertising with MiSGMP is very affordable! Your MiSGMP Board has continued offering unique options including a “Build Your Own Bundle Package” and many a-la-carte opportunities for FY24-25. And remember, purchasing a package saves money up front and, if you commit by November 1, 2024, you will get another 10% discount off the published pricing. MiSGMP offers payment plans too!

Please visit our [website](#) for the most updated availability or contact Dorothy Mott, GMS, at [sponsorship@misgmp.org](mailto:sponsorship@misgmp.org) for more information.

Attention Suppliers

Stay tuned! The new 2024/2025 Sponsorship Catalog will hit your inbox in late August.

Sponsoring and advertising with MiSGMP is an affordable and effective way to promote your hotel, destination, or product. Don't miss out on this opportunity!

Thank you all!



## Membership Report

Log into your [SGMP member account](#), update your profile, and check your membership expiration date.

As of July 31, 2024, MiSGMP 159 members: 85 Planners, 70 Suppliers and 4 Others. The planner/supplier ratio is at 55%. Overall SGMP membership is up at 1,424.



**WE HAVE MET OUR THE STRATEGIC FOCUS #1 BY INCREASING THE MISGMP MEMBERSHIP TO 150 MEMBERS.**

The SGMP [FY24-28 SGMP Strategic Plan](#) offers many membership capacity building initiatives. Our member value is delivered through education, resources, and networking. [Read more...](#)

## Education

### Streamline Your MiSGMP Registration & Meeting Check-In

- **Registration = Important!** No one wants to be stuck in a line when they could be networking and catching up with colleagues. Let's speed things up and get everyone networking faster!
- **New Rule Alert:** Starting in August, credit card payments need to be made online *before* the event. If you forget, you'll need to step aside, pay on your phone, and show proof of payment to get your name badge. Cash and checks will still be accepted onsite.
- **Onsite Registration:** MiSGMP strongly discourages onsite/walk-in registrations. Members who choose to register at the door will incur the standard monthly meeting registration fee for their member type, the standard \$20 late registration fee, and an extra \$25 walk-in fee. Please note that meal availability cannot be guaranteed for walk-in registrants.
- **Need Help?** If you're unsure how to pay online, reach out for a quick tutorial. Once you

do it, the StarChapter system saves your info, making future registrations a breeze!

Let's make registration smooth and fun, so you can get back to the conversations, friendships, and work that make our meetings great! Find the new policy on the MiSGMP website [HERE](#).

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## Upcoming MiSGMP Education Meeting



### The Power of Inclusive Benefits (Segment 3 of 3) | August 21

*Speaker: Valada Sargent*

*Competency: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging*

If your organization's benefit offerings are not perceived as inclusive, you may be missing out on talent or failing when it comes to retention. Join us at the [Holiday Inn & Suites Mount Pleasant](#).

[REGISTER HERE](#)



### Creating an Ethics Legacy | September 18

*Speaker: Paul White, The Answer Discovery Inc.*

*Competency: Ethics*

*EIC Domain: Domain A – Strategic Planning*

Each of us leaves an ETHICS LEGACY with every co-worker and customer we interact with. Attendees will learn how trust, personal character, and consistency play a vital role in determining the ethics of their decision-making. We will discuss the importance of applying ethical *boundaries* in decision-making to protect the meeting professional and their agency or organization. Join us at the [DoubleTree by Hilton Bay City-Riverfront](#)

[REGISTRATION OPEN SOON](#)

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## Meeting Dates & Locations for 2024-25

We are delighted to share the [following dates and venues](#) for the monthly meetings - please mark your calendars!

Additionally, for your budgeting needs and to ensure the continued quality of resources and education, effective July 1, 2024, the Board has approved an increase in the monthly meeting registration fee by \$5 for all membership categories and non-membership categories. We appreciate your understanding and support as MiSGMP strives to provide excellent services to its members. Updated pricing may be found on the [chapter's website](#).

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## Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP)



## CERTIFIED GOVERNMENT MEETING PROFESSIONAL

The highest designation available to government meeting professionals



The Certified Government Meeting Professional (CGMP) is designed for planners and suppliers whose work is governed by the rules and regulations of federal government. Individuals who have earned their CGMP have obtained the highest designation that is specifically for government meeting professionals.

**SOME  
THING  
NEW**

The CGMP course is now offered in **3 formats** – Live (in person), Virtual Synchronous (via Zoom webinar), and On-Demand. You may select your preferred form for the course following registration. To earn your CGMP, you must complete ALL required components of your selected format AND examination.

Sign up today! [Read more....](#)

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### Government Meeting Specialist (GMS)

**GMS  
CERTIFICATION**

- LETTER TO LEADERSHIP
- DIGITAL BADGE
- CREDENTIALS
- CERTIFICATE

SHOW OFF YOUR EXPERTISE! [LEARN MORE](#)

**NOTE:** Item #4 under the GMS Process has been modified. If you are renewing or achieving your GMS, please be sure to [review](#) the updated process.

**\*Friendly reminder to GMS holders to wear your GMS pin at all MiSGMP events.**

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### Community Service

The Care Store's mission is to provide essential personal and household items to people in need with care and kindness. And their vision is reducing the impact of poverty by helping people and helping homes. [Click here](#) to see how you can help!



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