MPI-WISCONSIN CHAPTER CONTINUE OF THE CONTINU

SEP OCT VOL 42/NUM 5 2020





"MPI-WI Chapter is the bridge to knowledge, compelling ideas, and relationships to create a voice in the meetings and events industry."

THIS IS REIMAGINED



- Taking this time to retool in order to reopen.
- Collaborating with events based on new protocols.
- Streamlining processes to ensure positive connections.

* **Alliant** Energy **Center**

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New Members & Anniversaries

Calendar

Facebook: facebook.com/mpiwi
Twitter: twitter.com/mpiwisconsin

LinkedIn: MPI-WI Chapter

Instagram: https://instagram.com/mpi_wi_chapter



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EDITOR'S NOTE



We typically focus this issue of our beloved Agenda on "New Inspiration and Unconventional Meetings." All of our 2020 meetings right now are "unconventional."

Throughout this 2020 challenge, our MPI-WI members are continuing to adapt and rise to new challenges. Whether you are COVID-furloughed, pushed into new roles, or working miracles with less support, we're all supporting each other to build for whatever is next.

As a supplier member, I have had unfiltered views of venues and planners. I'm grateful to serve our members adapting to new needs with safety shields, signage, face shields, and more. It has been a fast-tempo, high-spirited dance of pivoting, stretching, and stepping up.

Simultaneously, those who have been COVID-released from employment are kicking it in with volunteering and expert training. Without exception, I've seen our members rise to this COVID19 challenge. You are all making it work!

Whatever position you're in, I suggest a daily break from your email and spreadsheets. Step away for a minute or two. Take a deep breath. Think about what you have done. Give yourself a big-o-pat on the back.

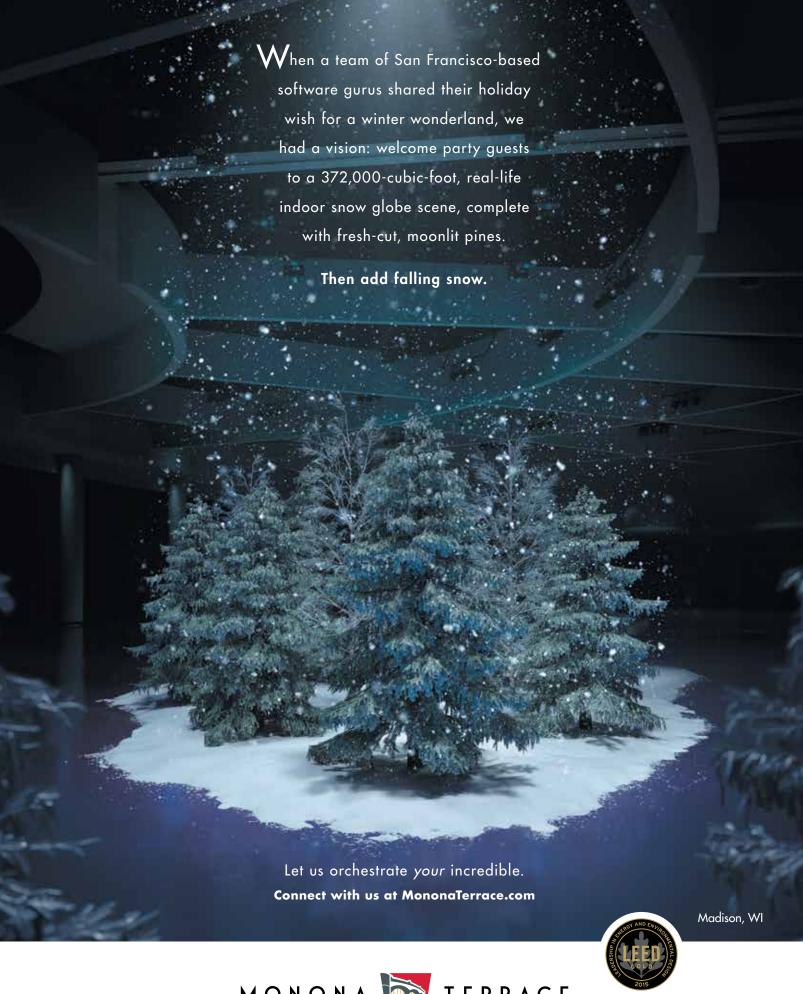
My favorite recent inspiration comes from a well-loved MPI-WI member, Michelle Tyo-Johnson, who suggested that we:

> Normalize telling your friends you love them. Tell them a lot. Make it weird.

I love MPI, our industry, and each of you. Our group is uniquely prepared for weird!



Kathy Reading



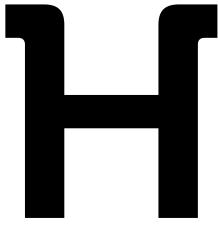
PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



ALISON HUTCHINSON 2020-2021 President, MPI-WI Chapter

As we roll into the last quarter of the year, let's look forward to brighter days ahead. Let's

find inspiration in the next normal. Also, let's continue to lift each other up during this significant time.



istorically, this edition of the *Agenda* highlights unconventional meetings and new inspirations. Well, for many

of us, the past six months have been nothing but unconventional. Most have worked from home. Many have been on numerous video calls. All of us have had to read the *Agenda* in a digital format.

So, what kind of new inspirations can we share from the past six months? We have all been a little more vulnerable in our professional lives. Many shared a view of the new workspaces and co-workers. We have become more flexible as future plans are a constantly moving target. Some have become more authentic and honest as we don't have all the answers.

Even when the days of uncertainty drone on and on, we can look for the positive. What have you been doing with the extra time you have at home? Many of you have shared photos with us. My summer evenings have been free, so I have been learning to play pickleball. I also have had more time to work on my golf game. My favorite is evening walks with my daughter.

As we roll into the last quarter of the year, let's look forward to brighter days ahead. Let's find inspiration in the next normal. Also, let's continue to lift each other up during this significant time.

Make sure to mark your calendars to celebrate at the annual Gala. It will be held on October 7 at the new Brookfield Conference Center. We will celebrate the wonderful volunteers of this chapter and make some new memories. Then, the following day, October 8, will be our long-awaited Education Day. I can't wait to see you all in person!



We're Back!

MPI Wisconsin to Host Live Events in October!

MPI Wisconsin leadership is excited to announce our live Gala and Education Events coming on October 7th and 8th at the Brookfield Conference Center. We feel it is our responsibility to lead during this time and show how to safely hold a hybrid and in person event. We will approach this program very openly and share our learnings so we have tools to safely execute events moving forward. We will follow state, county and local government mandates. Currently, they are allowing events of our size in this area. The event will be held in an oversized space with additional attendee care and conduct policies.

Schedule

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 Brookfield Conference Center, Brookfield, WI

1:00 - 3:00 Board of Directors Meeting

5:00 Registration

5:00 - 6:00 Past President's Reception

6:00 - 7:00 Cocktail Reception & Silent Auction

7:00 - 9:00 Dinner & Awards Gala 9:00 - Midnight Afterglow, Whirly Ball

Location & Lodging

GALA LOCATION Brookfield Conference Center

325 South Moorland Rd Brookfield, WI 53005

HOST HOTEL

Hilton Garden Inn Milwaukee Brookfield Conference Center

265 South Moorland Rd Brookfield, WI 53005



ANNUAL AWARDS GALA OCTOBER 7TH

The MPI-WI Awards Gala is always a special time for our members to come together and not only celebrate the accomplishments of a few, but also the accomplishments of our industry. Now more than ever, during these compelling times we look forward to seeing our industry partners, to celebrate and to start the process of bringing our industry back.

This year's gala will be held on Wednesday, October 7 at the brand new state-of-the-art Brookfield Conference Center. A building designed by Kahler Slater and built by the City of Brookfield and is the centerpiece for holding your next big event in an amazing city with so much to offer.

This year's theme is the Kentucky Derby, so ladies put on your best hat and gentlemen put on your bow-ties as we celebrate and raise funds in support of our amazing chapter!

Schedule

Thursday, October 8, 2020 Brookfield Conference Center, Brookfield, WI

	,
8:00	Strategic Partner & Sponsor Set Up
9:00	Registration
9:00 - 10:00	Breakfast & Bloody Mary Bar
	(Post Gala Wakeup)
10:00 - 11:15	Morning Keynote & Announcements
	Successful Contract Negotiations in an
	Unchartered Landscape - Terri Woodin (1 CE)
11:15 - 11:45	Break and Networking with Partners
11:45 - 1:00	Lunch and Board Installation

1:00 - 2:30 Chapter Member Panel - Industry Leaders from our own membership share their experiences on what has been learned in the last six months and their outlook for the future!

Panelists include:

- · Nancy Justman, Visit Brookfield
- Kathryn Gleesing, CMP, MBA, DMCP DM Connection & Events
- Alison Huber, CMP, Fox World Travel
- Marin Medema, CMP, The Osthoff Resort
- Ed Buchner, Majic Productions
- Tamara Jesswein, CMP, HID Global
- Patrick Cavanaugh, Green Bay Packers

2:30 - 2:45	Break and Networking with Partners
	Afternoon Keynote

2:45 - 3:45 Meeting Budgets & Cost Saving Strategies in

Unprecedented Times - Terri Woodin (1 CE)

3:45 - 5:00 Community Outreach

Location & Lodging

Brookfield Conference Center

325 South Moorland Rd Brookfield, WI 53005

HOST HOTEL

Hilton Garden Inn Milwaukee Brookfield Conference Center

265 South Moorland Rd Brookfield, WI 53005

REMEMBER

FREE Registration for Planners!



EDUCATION DAY 2020 OCTOBER 8TH

Get your education, fun and networking all in one place! Join us for the new date of October 8th at the new Brookfield Conference Center! We are excited to announce we will again be offering complimentary planner member registration for the third year in a row! Thanks to the support of our chapter's Strategic Partner program, our Education Day will be more accessible to our planner members.

Thursday will feature a full day of education with speakers on event design, negotiation, leadership and tools for a positive outlook to tackle the decade ahead. We promise a day of education that is full of vision and inspiration.

WISCONSIN PLANNER AND SUPPLIER PANEL

Industry Leaders from our own membership share their experiences on what has been learned in the last six months and their outlook for the future!

September Recap

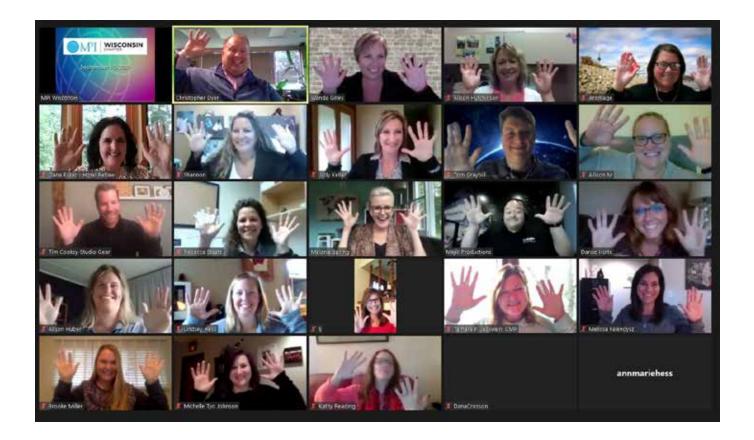
September Program Focus: Speaking With Confidence

n Thursday, September 10, 53 chapter members gathered via Zoom to hear from *Approachable Badass* Melanie Spring as we learned to Rock Your Talk! The program emphasized the importance of storytelling to convey your message and confidently share your ideas with stakeholders. Melanie spoke to the importance of practicing your speech overall. In particular, she suggested committing the first 10 words to memory to get you thru any initial stage fright. She also told attendees about her tool, the D.I.S.H. approach to purposeful speaking; Data, Impact, Story, Humans.

Our event was made a success by Team Leader Judy Keller with Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association and our Tech Avenger team of Tom Graybill, Tri-Marq Communications, Michelle Tyo-Johnson with NorthCoast Productions, Ed Buchner with Majic Productions and Tim Cooksy with Studio Gear.

Our chapter is fortunate to have the Tech Avengers ready and able to answer the call with help on virtual events!







What I Did Last Summer – an MPI-WI Photo Contest

Created and curated by Tamara Jesswein, CMP
Judging by Ron Jesswein, BS, MA, 30+ year elementary student teaching
Article by Tamara Jesswein

remember a grade school tradition fondly. On our first day back to school, our teacher would ask us to write/draw about what we did last summer. It was a great way to get us working immediately, engage our brains, share,

During this trying time, we thought that bringing back this exercise as a PHOTO CONTEST would be a great way to help us do what we do best at MPI-WI, sharing ourselves and having fun. Our membership did not disappoint!

My husband, Ron agreed to judge this competition. As a 30+ year teacher, and a big fan of MPI-WI, he was perfect for this role.

As usual, our membership did not disappoint. We're sharing and applauding all entrants. Stepping up is a core quality of MPI-Wisconsin members. Thank you!

To the winners: KUDOS! In place of a gold star next to your name, a small gift card will be sent your way.

Thanks to all. Keep enjoying your adventures and inspiring others! **▶**



Photo contest judge & curator: Ron & Tamara Jesswein adventuring at Adams canyon Waterfall in Utah

COVID Safety Winner

Beth Schnabel, CED, CUDE







This summer we added a new addition to our family that was three parts; getaway, family time, and project! We're excited for all the adventures in our new camper, while also having a safe space to escape and explore our beautiful state. It's been a great break from work/home life and I've been having a lot of fun spending WAY too much money on cute camping decorations.

We follow the rules! Well, almost everyone...



Best View Winner

DANA ECKER



▲ What a view!!





Best Contest Rule Follower

DEANA HEINISCH



▲ The Heinisch family welcomed a new member to our little family, his is the furry four-legged kind. His name is Vinny.

The Happiest Big Brother Ever!! Winner

SARAH BANACH

► We had a baby! Del Robert Banach Born Aug 5th Bennett and baby Del are all doing well!





▼ He doesn't look TOO excited, does he?



Most Interesting Summer Discover Winner

SHAUNA BARANSZYK



- ▲ The initial, incredible find!
- ▼ Me at the Mokashika museum near a display about Bison antiquus



I was camping with some friends at Makoshika State Park in Glendive, MT and we decided to go to the Yellowstone river to look for ammonites or cool looking rocks. We barely walked 30 feet along the riverbank when I noticed what I thought maybe looked like a piece of driftwood, but there was something about the shape of it that made me think it looked more like a bone. A GIANT bone. I picked it up and the first thing I noticed how heavy it was and that the ends of it were porous. I showed my friends the find and we all agreed that it must be a bone but we couldn't agree what kind of bone or how old it was.

The visitor center at Makoshika just happened to have a student studying paleontology at the building that day and he was able to identify it as the humerus bone from a bison antiquus that lived during the Pleistocene epoch which has been extinct for at least 10,000 years. Because the bone did not completely fossilize and because I found it at the river, I was able to keep it.

▼ Michael at Mokashika holding up another Bison antiquus humerus from their archive.



ALISON HUBER, CMP



■ Golf... Lots of it!

▼ Hiking at Devil's Lake



▼ Bayfield/Apostle Islands getaway



ALISON HUTCHINSON



▲ Waiting to drive in the Road America Sunset Cruise



▲ Whose idea was it to have the 16-year-old drive?

▼ Check out the new Corvette pace car!



BROOKE MILLER, BS, CMP



▲ Tartortot's first time boating on Lake Wisconsin!



► Tartortot's first time swimming!

CHARLENE MARSALLI



■ Door County, Sisters Bay, Al Johnson's goats on the roof

▼ Door County, Sisters Bay sunset



SHANNON TIMMERMAN, CMP



▲ On the lake with my three grandsons!



- Meeting my newest grandson, Grayson Arthur.
 - ▼ Our fur-baby, Sampson, loved the boat, but wasn't so thrilled with the swim!





TOP 10 REASONS TO CHOOSE

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- 2 Modern meeting space We recently finished a total-property renovation with numerous upgrades.
- 3 21st century technology Enjoy high-speed wifi throughout the hotel & modern meeting tech.
- 4 Award-winning service We embody Wisconsin's spirit of welcoming hospitality.
- **5** Mouth-watering catering Choose from an extensive menu and customizable options.

- 6 Planning expertise Our Event Specialists will work with you to make every detail perfect.
- 7 Upscale accommodations We offer premium guest rooms and suites for your out-of-town guests.
- 8 Special room rates Enjoy special group rates on blocks of rooms to accommodate your guests.
- **9** Top-notch dining Grab a post-event bite at our on-site restaurant Urban 80 Kitchen + Bar.
- 10 Plenty of perks Our hotel features a large fitness center, Starbucks, water park, and more.

Contact us to get started planning: 920.499.0631 or jmandich@nhshotels.com



You Have Your CMP, but What About Your CMM?

By: Cheryl Oswald, CMP, CMM

You have your CMP, but have you given any thought to your CMM? You might be thinking a few things:

- 1. I have my CMP, I don't need my CMM.
- No way! The CMP was hard enough, I am not getting mv CMM.
- 3. I just don't have the time, money, etc.

The CMM has always been on my goal list and I had a lot of the same thoughts prior and kept pushing that goal to the bottom of the list. After hearing more about the CMM program at WEC in Toronto, I began exploring it and finally said 2020 is the year I am going to complete it!

SO, WHAT IS THE CMM ALL ABOUT?

In total it takes about 10-15 weeks (with breaks built-in) to complete and it's a combination of in-class instruction and individual instruction.

Here's the process:

- 1. Week-long in-class instruction at the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University with your cohort group.
- Four weeks of self-instruction. Each week an instructor will have a course for you to learn from on your own, without your cohort.
- 3. Complete your persuasive presentation.
- 4. Four weeks to complete the capstone project.
- 5. CMM!

WHAT WAS MY EXPERIENCE LIKE?

I was really nervous about starting it as I have heard its daunting, especially the capstone project, but kept an open mind. Then COVID-19 hit just as we were supposed to head to IN for the start of the program. Fortunately, MPI and the Kelley school came together quickly and offered all CMM students the option to defer our program to December or take the program virtually (for the first time!).

I was committed to my goal and opted in to take the program virtually. While the first week was LOOONNGGG, (8 am-4 pm in front of my computer, listening to instructors), I learned a lot, had a great cohort group and since the pandemic had just hit and states were closing down, it was great to be able to hear from fellow planners on the state of our industry and what the future would hold.

Turns out I was nervous for nothing, the whole program from start to finish was AMAZING! What I thought would be a daunting capstone project, it was actually a great experience and I now have a project to pitch to my employer.

If you are thinking about it, I HIGHLY recommend applying to the MPI Foundation for a scholarship. In some cases, you can have a portion or your full CMM program covered by the Foundation!

WHY THE "FOOT OF THE LAKE" SHOULD NOW BE AT THE TOP OF YOUR LIST.



Fond du Lac and the Lake Winnebago Region Featuring Legendary Wisconsin Hospitality!

The fact is, there's no more convenient meeting location in Wisconsin than Fond du Lac — within an hour of 70% of the state's major population centers. That means less time on the road, and more time for work and play (or is it play and work?).





Hotel Retlaw Lobby I thehotelretlaw.com

Dedicated to meeting excellence and exceeding expectations.

DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

 Now open! The elegant and welcoming Hotel Retlaw—one of the Midwest's finest urban boutique properties in Downtown Fond du Lac. This historic hotel features 121 well-appointed guest rooms including 11 Specialty Suites. Flexible meeting space and upscale boardrooms coupled with modern technology, provides an exceptional setting for corporate meetings, conferences, and social events.

CONFERENCE DISTRICT

With over 24,000 square feet of total event space featuring a 14,000 square foot conference center with flexible and dedicated space, multiple concurrent break-out rooms, pre-function area, and a 10,000 square foot reception venue and 440 lodging rooms in the immediate vicinity (or walking distance).

Thinking (and meeting) outside the box.

Beyond the traditional, Fond du Lac and the Lake Winnebago Region offers meeting planners a variety of creative (and memorable) event venues.

- Most prominent among these venues is the world-class Thelma Sadoff Center for the Arts (just one block from the new Hotel Retlaw).
- Check out our website for more unexpected venues! If you dream it, Fond du Lac can make it happen.

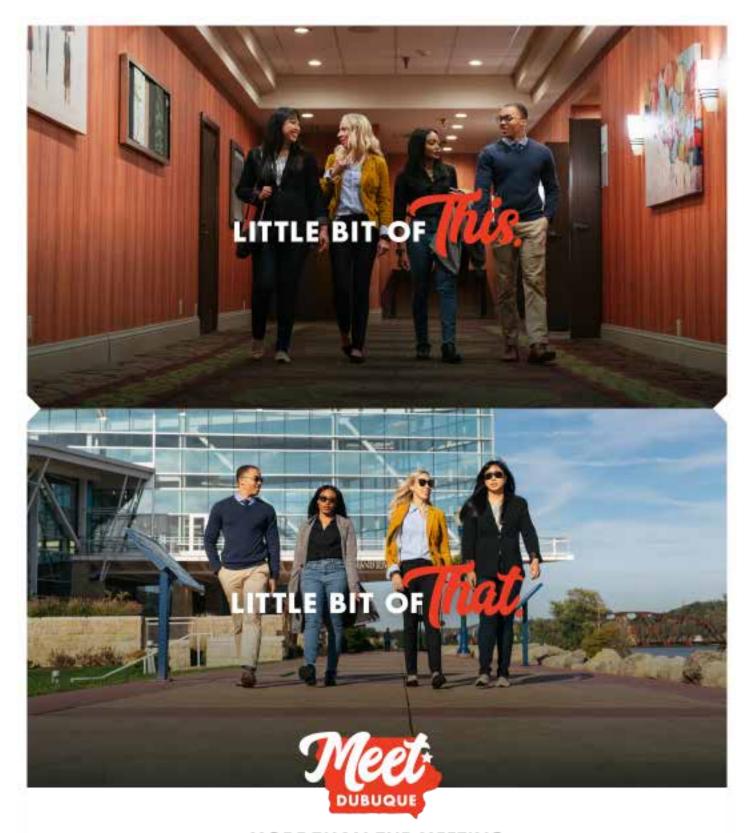
And that thing about all work and no play?

That concept doesn't exist in Fond du Lac and the Lake Winnebago Region. We know that the success of business events is often just as much a function of the fun attendees have after hours — fun they take home with them, and share with their peers.

- Fond du Lac doesn't disappoint with one of the largest fresh water lakes in America for fishing, boating, sailing and other water sports.
- There's also the natural beauty of Kettle Moraine State Forest and Horicon Marsh.
- Spectacular golfing, scenic biking and hiking trails, boutique shopping, adventurous dining.
- A downtown that lights it up with arts, entertainment and nightlife.

Enjoy a FAM tour of the Region, take a tour of our new luxury hotel, hear about the \$5 million in new construction and remodeling in our Conference District and enjoy all that'll put Fond du Lac and the Lake Winnebago Region at the top of your meeting destination list.

FDLmeetings.com | 800.937.9123 x104



MORE THAN THE MEETING.

MEETDUBUQUE.com

Dubuque knows safety is key during this unprecedented time. Ask us about our area's COVID-19 safety protocols.

WHO'S NEWS

Compiled by Kathy Reading



■ ANGELA JELLUM is the new Event Operations Lead at AriensCo Hospitality in Brillion, WI. Angela will be managing events and leading daily operations for Round Lake Farms, Stone Prairie, AriensCo Museum and other AriensCo affiliated properties.

Enjoy your new role, Angela!

▼ REBECCA ROGERS has joined the Sentry Marketing leadership team as Director of Meetings and Events. She is responsible for planning, staffing, directing and overseeing all activities for corporate events, business meetings, special events and incentive trips.

Kudos on your exciting new role, Rebecca!

► REBECCA STAATS has accepted a new role as Sales & Marketing Manager at Eau Clarie's Fairfield Inn & Suites. Guests will gain Becca's experience with meetings, events, travel planning, and hotel sales.

Becca knows Eau Claire and more!





➤ SARAH AND GREG BANACH, along with son (BabyBennyBoo) welcomed the newest family member: (#deerdell). This family is complete.....ly adorable!

Welcome #DeerDel!









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Financial Assistance for Food, Health Care, Child Care, Utility Bills, and Job Search

By: Jason Kauffeld, CMP

arlier this year, the pandemic came between my employer and me, and I was furloughed. My family of four lost healthcare coverage and the majority of our income. After several days of phone calls and login attempts, it was clear that the unemployment insurance (UI) and the pandemic unemployment assistance (PUA) programs were overwhelmed. It might take months to receive aid from UI or PUA (it took 14 weeks for our first PUA payment). In researching options for more timely assistance, I landed on ACCESS (access. wisconsin.gov/access/), Wisconsin's one-stop-shop for food, health care, child care, and job search assistance.

The application process is comprehensive, yet the well-designed website leads you through the simple steps. Filling out this one application will determine eligibility for multiple programs. For preparation, you'll need your income, housing, utility, and other monthly budget categories figured out and ready.

Within 24 hours of hitting 'submit' on my own application, I received a phone call from an ACCESS customer advocate, and just like that, I began receiving \$646 a month (the maximum amount for a family of four) in FoodShare benefits and was enrolled in health care insurance for my family and me. All of my subsequent phone calls to ACCESS were answered on my first attempt. Once I applied, a personalized dashboard provides a snapshot of my household's eligibility and benefits for multiple programs.

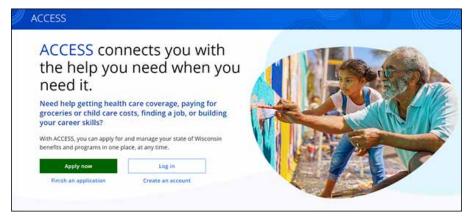
This page is also a jumping off point for dozens of other programs, which I encourage you to explore.

For instance, the WI Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) is listed under 'Other Programs'. This program provided over \$1,000 of assistance with my utility bills, brought a crew of weatherization specialists to my home to super-insulate our house and replace my electric hot water heater with a new gas unit. Both homeowners and renters are eligible for this program.



▲ Personalized Dashboard Screen

▼ Log-on Screen



Please understand you are not alone. Your MPI colleagues are here for you; so don't be timid about reaching out. Feel free to contact me at jasonkauffeld@hotmail.com, either just to visit or to work through some applications. Also, if you are aware of other programs you would like to share with MPI members, let us know. Looking forward to the next time we are all together.

MPI WISCONSIN

NEW MEMBER

JUSTINE ALEXANDER

Sales Manager Holiday Inn Madison at the American Center

CHANTAL BONCHER

Director of Sales & Marketing Concord Hotels

ANN BURKARDT

Director of Sales Delta Hotels by Marriott Green Bay

MEGAN JANSSEN

Senior Meeting & Events Specialist CUNA Mutual

JON PELTONEN

Student jonpeltonen@icloud.com

ANNIVERSARIES

1 YEAR

ED BUCHNER

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ANNIE SPECKETER

Meeting Event Planner Sentry

Refer a friend to MPI.

When a new member joins, tell them to use the **MyFriendMPI** promo code, and to list you on the application as the referring member. The new member will receive \$50 off their membership and you'll receive a \$25 credit to apply toward your next renewal.





There are some things even the best planners just can't plan for.

So in the meantime, take care of yourselves while we plan for better days ahead.

When you're ready to get back to business, we'll be ready for you.

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We have space big enough to accomodate physical distancing in this post-COVID era. 200,00 square feet of Convention Center space to be exact.

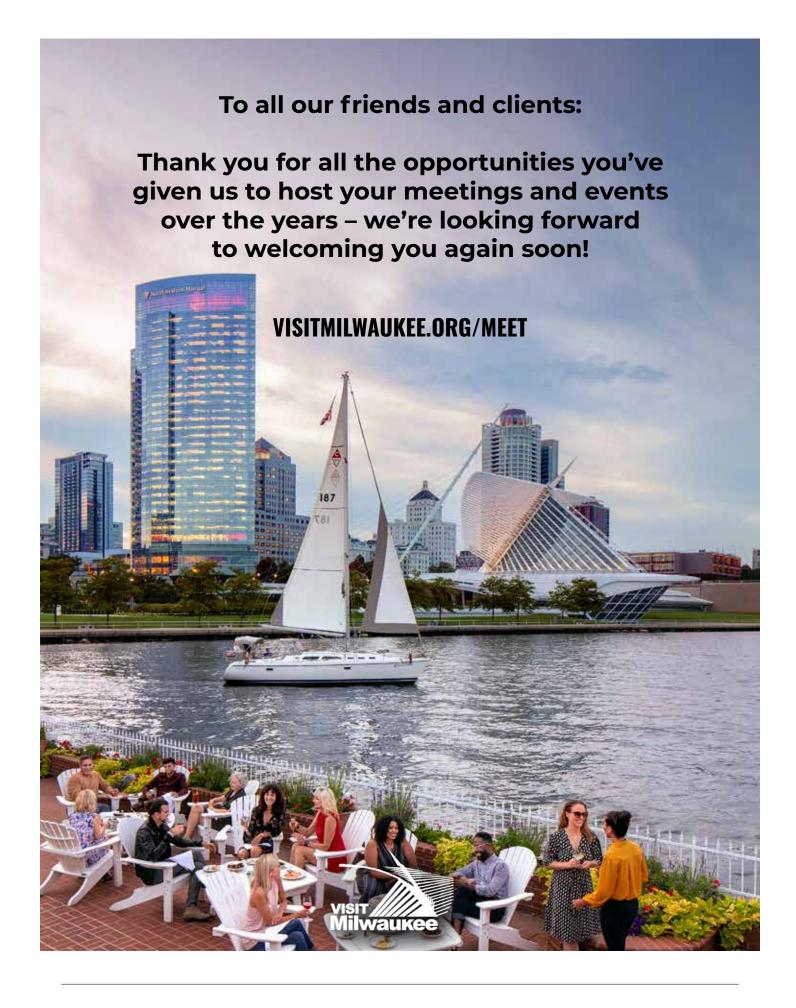
We've got availability through the remainder of 2020 for your last minute event changes. We're here and ready to help.

We are far enough away from the highly-populated, high-risk COVID areas. Yet, close enough that we are still just a quick drive away for your attendees.

We are an industry leader in adjusting to and safely accommodating the post-COVID meeting era. For all the specifics visit Kalahari Meetings.com

We are working with the industry's best minds modeling meeting room sets and best practices for ingress and egress while managing appropriate personal distancing.

We're here to help & available when you're ready





Enhance your meeting planning career with the MPI Academy

With hundreds of hours of free education for MPI members, the MPI Academy is your one-stop shop for meeting planning and event industry skills training, CE credits and certificate courses. Featuring online and in-person classes and webinars, it's the perfect resource for the job you have - or the job you want.

CERTIFICATE COURSES: https://www.mpi.org/education

DATEBOOK: CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Join your MPI Wisconsin friends and bring the week to a happy close with some wine and whine. The struggle is *real* and its always good to see friendly faces that understand.

Schedule - Every other Friday at 4:00pm

OCTOBER 100

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Fri, Oct 16, 4:00 pm Fri, Nov 6, 4:00 pm

Fri, Nov 6, 4:00 pm Fri, Dec 4, 4:00 pm Fri, Nov 20, 4:00 pm Fri, Dec 18, 4:00 pm

Find the full listing with links on our chapter website or bit.ly/ whineandcheese.

(Your member email will give you access). Zoom link will be provided in your confirmation.

2020

CTOBER

Awards Gala

Brookfield Conference Center Brookfield, WI

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Education Day

Brookfield Conference Center Brookfield, WI