



## Legislative Updates

January 14th kicked off the 2025 legislative session for Minnesota. This year's session was set to be a unique year with the 2024 election resulting in both the House and the Senate having a tie between Republican and Democratic legislators.

As session began, several special elections were needed due to a Senator passing away and challenges to two House members due to missing ballots and a question on residency of an elected House member within the district elected. Also, the Governor's budget was released with major concerns to the direction of Health and Human Services.

The House of Representatives had its own share of concerns and issues with members boycotting the session due to a shared power agreement no longer being recognized, the two special elections and the uncertainty of when those special elections would take place and Minnesotans frustrated with delaying progress. As of now, all are back to work at the capitol and hearing are taking place.

To view the Governor's budget, please click [here](#). While the Governor's budget is a recommendation and a guide for the state legislature not all items are definite. You can take action and connect with your legislators to share concerns or support. Here is how you find your legislator by checking out [Who Represents Me](#). The website, *Who Represents Me* is a great tool to view both your local and federal legislators just by entering your zip code. You will be able to connect with your legislators, find their contact information and the committees they serve in.

Another option for staying involved is to view both [House and Senate hearings](#) from your own home since it is not always easy to travel up to the capitol. Each day a schedule is put out with the committee hearings, the bills that will be heard and the time the hearing will take place.

MRCI is keeping a close eye on this year's legislative session and bills being proposed to make sure the families we serve are well informed and you or your loved ones services are not affected. MRCI will continue to keep everyone up to date with newsletter updates, Action Alerts for items that could pose a risk to services, and ways you can assist to avoid program changes, waiver reimagine, or cuts to health and human services.

A reminder to those who are eligible for Sick and Safe leave as part of Minnesota State Statute. Sick and Safe time can be used for multiple reasons including:

- **Employees or employee’s family members mental or physical illness, treatment or preventive care;**
- **If injury of employee or employee’s immediate family\* occurs;**
- **Absence due to domestic abuse, sexual assault or stalking of the employee or a family member;**
- **If public emergency arises.**

**Sick and Safe leave cannot be cashed out.** Sick and Safe accumulated balances are included on your pay statement.

\*Immediate family is defined as: child, adult child, foster child, spouse, sibling, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, grandchild, grandparent, or stepparent.

## Disability Day at the Capital



MRCI invites you to join us for Disability Services Day at the Capital on March 18th, 2025. There will be a rally in the rotunda starting at 10am - arrive early for a good spot!

[more information](#)



MRCI is looking forward to attending the Minnesota Social Service Association's annual conference in March. This provides a great opportunity to learn and grow in how we serve Minnesota.

MRCI Payroll Calendar 2025

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Due Dates for Payroll Information

Payroll

MRCI Closed

https://www.mnhs.net/employees

Work week is Sunday through Saturday. More than 40 hours per work week = Overtime.

Jan	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## 2025 Payroll Calendar

Visit our website to view the dates and download a PDF copy.

[Visit our Website](#)

Are you receiving payroll due date email reminders? Click below to ensure you don't miss a pay date!

weekly reminder signup

Would you rather...

be able to time travel

be able to teleport

Last month we asked if you'd rather only ever be able to text or talk on the phone, and the results are in...**72.7% chose texting** while only **27.3% chose phone calls**. Stay tuned for the results of the next 'would you rather'!

# EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

## Traci Windschitl

— CDS PROGRAM COORDINATOR —



**Duration at MRCI:**  
9.5 years

**Fun fact:**  
I've completed a puzzle with 13,500 pieces!

**What's #1 on your bucket list?**  
Traveling to Australia!

*"Hi! I'm Traci, and I live in New Ulm with my husband Lee and our two boys, Austin (12) and Jace (9). We have two dogs, Zoey (a Yellow Lab) and Millie (a Pomsky), as well as a cat named Camila. In my free time, I enjoy glamping, working on puzzles, watching Netflix, spending time with friends, and playing with our dogs. My career journey began after I discovered my passion for working at a group home. Following college, I worked as a Support Planner and PCA Manager for a local non-profit before transitioning to MRCI. I initially joined MRCI as a Team Leader at the New Ulm workshop, and during*

COVID-19, I helped launch a Day Service program before moving to the CDS team in the summer of 2023. This past year I have enjoyed getting to know all of our families!"

## Thank you for all you do, Traci!

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### 2025 Training Schedule

Each year MRCI is required to assign training to all workers under the 245D programs of **Individualized Home Supports (IHS), Respite, Host Home, Night Supervision, and Homemaker**. Below is the calendar of when the training will be assigned.

Training is assigned in the beginning of the month and is due by the last day of the month. If your worker does not complete the training they will be temporarily suspended and **not able to clock in or out** through the app, or be paid for the time worked until complete.

If you have questions regarding the completion of the training you can connect with our program staff at 800-829-7110.

<b>Month:</b>	<b>Subjects:</b>
<b>March</b>	Minimizing the risk of sexual violence
<b>April</b>	CSSP-A/IAPP Annual Review
<b>June</b>	HIPAA/Data Privacy, First Aid
<b>June</b> Homemaker Only	8 Hour Core
<b>August</b>	Client Rights
<b>September</b>	Positive Supports Rule
<b>October</b>	CSSP-A Review, Person-Centered Planning
<b>Once per year</b>	CSSP-A/IAPP Annual Review

**Homemaker Staff Under the 245D Programs:** MRCI is now including the Positive Support Rule training annually. The training has been assigned, please log in and complete by the end of November.

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### Follow us on Facebook

Every Wednesday, we share photos sent to us by clients and families that define what self-direction means to them.

You'll also find important updates, helpful articles, announcements, and more.

Like [our page](#) so you don't miss out!



## Connect with Us!

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Share Your Story



Visit us on Facebook

Share your Story



MRCI is one of Minnesota's largest human service non-profit organizations. We are dedicated to providing meaningful opportunities for individuals with disabilities and special needs.

[www.MRCICDS.org](http://www.MRCICDS.org)



With your help, we can continue to expand our service offerings and areas.

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# MRCI

1750 Energy Drive  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(800) 829-7110

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MRCI | 1750 Energy Drive | Mankato, MN 56001 US

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