



PO Box 141605, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 • Phone: (616) 723-2763

E-mail: [majorproject@mielks.org](mailto:majorproject@mielks.org)

**Diane Dusendang**

*Executive Director, Major Project Commission*

*A Fraternal Organization*

The Major Project Commission was formed in 1957 as a non-profit, tax exempt organization with the goal of helping special needs children. We are 60 years strong, as advocates, and help-mates to families with special needs children.

We are reaching out to you, to make you aware of our program. The Major Project Commission works on a fiscal year of April 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> each year. The Commissioners set a budget to help individual children with therapy, equipment, attendance at therapy camps, technology, hearing aids, dietary supplements and more. Each child/family, can apply to the Major Project Commission one time per fiscal year. All children must be a resident of the State of Michigan, and under the age of 18 years old at the time of application.

Each child needing help is dealt with on a one-on-one basis. The family needs to contact their local Elks Lodge, meet with the Major Project Lodge Chairman, fill out our Application for Assistance, provide medical documentation, tax return information, Doctor or Therapist recommendations, and submit (through the Lodge Chairman) this information.

The State Commissioners, by District, receive this information from the Lodge Chairmen, review the application, and make a recommendation to the Major Project office. If the application is approved, the Major Project office "authorizes" a payment amount and works with the vendor, doctor, therapist or camp, paying them directly.

If you know of a family in need, please consider referring them to the Michigan Elks Association Major Project and the local Lodge. If you need help in determining which Lodge, the office can help.

It is our goal to help special needs children to be all that they can be. We do this in a private and respectful way, as we have been doing for 60 years.

We thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please direct them to our Major Project Executive Director, Diane Dusendang – email: [majorproject@mielks.org](mailto:majorproject@mielks.org) phone: 616-723-2763.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Diane Dusendang".

Diane Dusendang

Executive Director

Michigan Elks Association Major Project Commission