

## Meet the Team

### NMCAA's Business Office



Back Row (L-R) Tina Mannor, Deb Julian, Tessa Teuscher, Marie Grant, Val Housour  
Front Row (L-R) Sharon Porter, Diane Bucco, Meredith Gafill (Controller)

The Business Office team works hard to ensure all financial aspects of the agency are accounted for. Among many other things, they process payroll, juggle receipt after receipt, and support all programs to operate within their allotted budgets.

Let's get to know this team a little better!

## Meredith Gafill

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Anywhere with friends and family: boat, beach, camping, bbq, bowling, biking, festivals, etc. I try to be happy and grateful for every day.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

My children occupy my hobbies at current day – I love reading with them every night, listening to music, and playing games together. We also bird watch and star gaze when we can.

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

I love to dance.

## Tina Mannor

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

A great musical performance (which includes many at Interlochen Center for the Arts) or playing my own keyboard at home with my cat asleep nearby (at least he appreciates my music!).

### WHAT IS THE MOST DARING THING YOU'VE EVER DONE?

I don't like traveling over bridges, so for me, completing the Labor Day Mackinaw Bridge walk one year was pretty daring.

### WHAT IS PLAYING ON YOUR MUSIC PLAYLIST?

Since COVID hit, I've been drawn back to the moody, husky voice of Neil Diamond. The album "Classic Diamonds" came out where he sings his classics along with the London Symphony Orchestra – it gives the "oldies" a whole new dimension.

## Marie Grant

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Spending quality time with my four sons, getting extra sleep, and spending time with close family/friends. One of my favorite happy places is being at Lake Michigan with my children, and watching the waves roll in. Something about the power and awesomeness of the water is so relaxing and makes me feel closer to God.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I don't actively pursue any of my hobbies right now, but I like to design, draw, and read. I love to use Excel as graph paper and design/draw up my kitchen, garden or other plans. I also enjoyed playing soccer back in the day.

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

While in college, I was assistant director for three years and director for one year of A.U. out-R.E.A.C.H (Andrews University out-Reviving, Empowering and Changing Hearts, a fully student led outreach ministry in Benton Harbor, MI. We put on children's programs, a nursing home program, and did street ministry (going door-to-door to pray with people, find out their needs, and do Bible studies with those interested). I think at one point, we had over 150 volunteers each Saturday afternoon and 13 programs going at the same time, mostly children's programs.

A unique experience for us was getting to present a seminar at the C.O.O.L (Campus Outreach Opportunity League) conference at Harvard University and meet one of the founders, Wayne Meisel. He appreciated our help setting up before the event.

Helping with A.U. out-R.E.A.C.H was a wonderful experience, where I gained lifelong friendships with those that served, as well as some we served. (The children of a family that my friend and I did Bible studies with were in my wedding. I am blessed to still have their family and them as friends on Facebook.) The ministry is no longer active, but there is a new ministry in Benton Harbor that has more permanent presence, called Harbor of Hope.

Doing service helps to adjust our self-focus to the needs of others, and can bring a lot of joy and purpose into our lives.

## Valerie Housour

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Anywhere in nature.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Reading, gardening, going fishing with my spouse.

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

I am always early for everything.

## Deb Julian

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Walking my dog out in nature.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Scrapbooking, genealogy, sewing & crafts

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

I am pretty funny and love to laugh and make others laugh.

## Tessa Teuscher

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Anywhere by water without bugs. It can be a boat, a beach, or just a house on the water.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

I don't have many hobbies anymore. Years ago, I enjoyed travelling to different sporting venues. I don't have much time for that anymore with an active 12-year-old. Now my hobbies include travelling the state watching him play sports and finding fun things to do along the way.

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

Every year I build an ice rink in my yard. It's a ton of work keeping all the snow off and making the ice skateable for how much time we use it. Each year I say this is the last year, but then the temps drop below freezing and I am ready to go get the hose out and start flooding again.

## Diane Bucco

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Summer activities with my family like camping, going to a zoo, and swimming.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Camping

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

I am an open book.

## Sharon Porter

### WHERE IS YOUR HAPPY PLACE?

Snuggling/playing with my puppy, Marley.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Organic gardening

### WHAT IS A FUN FACT ABOUT YOURSELF?

I am one of nine children but the only girl! I am a proud mom of two daughters.

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