



PMI GREAT LAKES

Baseline Newsletter February 2026

From the President's Desk

Wow, January went by so fast and we are off and running into 2026. As project leaders, we thrive by finding inspiration in the world around us, and this month offers several key moments to do just that.

First, February is home to Black History Month, a chance to honor the contributions and achievements of Black professionals who have shaped industries, communities, and project outcomes over time. Consider this month an opportunity to learn from our fellow professionals' stories and experiences.

Additionally, it's worth celebrating Valentine's Day on February 14—a reminder of the importance of relationships, whether they're personal or professional. Building strong, trust-based connections with stakeholders, team members, and colleagues is crucial for success in both project management and leadership.

As a friendly reminder, I've asked our project management community to participate in a survey and if you have not yet had a chance to complete it, please do so at your convenience. I want to hear from you.

Though February is brief, it's a dynamic month. Let's channel our energy into sharpening priorities and advancing toward our objectives with purpose and agility.

Thank you,

LeighAnne Martin
President, PMI Great Lakes Chapter
president@pmiglc.net



Volunteer Spotlight

Congratulations to Chelsea Carter – PMI Great Lakes December 2025 Volunteer Spotlight Honoree!

Chelsea Carter serves as Manager, Next-Gen for the Project Management Institute – Great Lakes Chapter, where she focuses on engaging emerging professionals and building meaningful pathways into the project management community.

A recent graduate of Indiana University with a Master’s in Computer Science, Chelsea brings a strong background in software engineering and technical project management. She combines innovation with structured execution in both her professional and volunteer work.

Chelsea has supported Professional Development Day, the Symposium, and other chapter events, contributing to member engagement and community growth. She proudly hosted the chapter’s Project Feud event, a project management-themed experience that created a fun, welcoming space for members and helped attract new participants to PMIGL.

In her role, Chelsea is dedicated to developing the next generation of project leaders through connection, mentorship, and creative programming.

Thank you, Chelsea, for all that you do for PMIGL—we’re lucky to have you!



The 2026 PMI Great Lakes Mentorship Program is open!

The Mentorship Program is designed to connect Project Managers to Mentors who are experienced Project/Program Managers. These mentors will guide their mentees through their career development as well as guide them on how to navigate through difficult situations.

Participants should be a member in the PMI Great Lakes chapter and be willing to meet at least monthly.

2025 Mentorship Program highlights:

- 15 completed mentorships
- 94% Satisfaction overall

Comments from 2025 Mentorship Participants:

- “Having an expert who is intelligent and inquisitive. My mentor helped provide a much clearer understanding on project management as a whole.”
- “Meeting a new lifelong friend. I learned just as much (if not more!) from him as he may have from me!”
- “Networking and talking through not only business goals but also personal goals using the tool of project management.”
- “Great interaction and collaboration”

If you are interested in participating as either a mentee or a mentor, please use the following link to the forms below no later than 2/28/2026.

[Mentor intake form](#)

[Mentee intake form](#)

Key Dates:

- Mentor / Mentee matches confirmed on or before 3/10/26
- 3/17/26 Program kick-off meeting
- 3/18/26 Volunteer Appreciation in-person event – meet with your mentor / mentee there!



Project Management Community Day of Service

What is it?

The Project Management Community Day of Service (PMCDoS) is a service event where experienced project managers provide pro bono project management services to local nonprofits.

This is an extremely high-impact and meaningful way for project managers to give back to the community.

When: Saturday, April 25, 2026

Where: CMU Troy Campus

Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm (breakfast and lunch provided)

How does it work?

Each nonprofit is paired with a team of experienced project managers. The group meets a couple of times prior to the day of the event to discuss the project and get to know one another. On the day of the event, they work through the details to finalize the documents, and the nonprofit leaves with an actionable plan.

What types of nonprofits are eligible to participate?

PMCDoS attracts a wide variety of nonprofits from multiple sectors, including:

- Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
- Youth Development and Agricultural
- Foreign Affairs and National Security
- Art, Culture, Education
- General and Rehabilitative, Community Health Systems
- Veterans Support
- Public & Social Benefit

2026 Community Day of Service



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Join us in Giving Back to the Community
and help create a brighter future!



We are currently talking with two nonprofits for this event:

Black Legacy Advancement Coalition (BLAC) - a movement that builds Black power by providing education and resources to uplift our communities.

Birdies Book Mobile - a non-profit organization committed to ending book deserts and improving children's literacy and book access in Metro Detroit. They are making quality, diverse, and culturally relevant books more accessible and increasing the number of books children have in their home libraries through free book distribution.

What types of nonprofit needs are addressed at PMCDoS?

The nonprofits' needs that are addressed at PMCDoS range from strategic to tactical, operations to administrative, and human to technical. They cover topics such as marketing/branding, volunteer recruitment, fundraising, grant writing, and event planning.

How much time does an event participant need to dedicate to the event? Is there event training?

There is no standard length for a PMCDoS event. Depending on the location of the event, it may be from a few hours to a full business day. This typically includes dedicated time for networking as well as working sessions. Time for meals may also be included as appropriate.

Prior to the event, volunteers and nonprofits may be required to participate in training. Training helps project manager volunteers become familiar with the unique needs and challenges facing nonprofits, and the logistics of the PMCDoS event. Training also helps nonprofit representatives to become familiar with project management concepts, and the logistics of the PMCDoS event. In addition, the local event team may provide coaching to nonprofit participants for selecting and describing their project problem statements.

How are volunteers paired with nonprofits?

The local event team uses each volunteer's event registration information and LinkedIn profile (if available) to create a match with a nonprofit based on how well the volunteer's skills and interests align with the nonprofit's mission and project needs. While matches are made prior to the event, they may need to be adjusted on the day of the event based on event attendance. For that reason, match information may not be made available to participants until the day of the event or if the match information is provided in advance, it may be subject to change.

How are nonprofits prepared for the PMCDoS?

The local event team will coach nonprofit participants on selecting and describing their project problem statements prior to the event. In addition, nonprofit participants may be offered training that familiarizes them with relevant project management concepts, and the logistics of the PMCDoS event.

Have additional questions or want to register?

Contact us at: manager.cdos@pmiglc.net



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Coming Soon

Online Store

PMIGL Online Store – Coming Soon!

We're excited to share that PMIGL will be launching a new online merchandise store, offering members exclusive apparel and event-themed items — including our 2026 Symposium T-shirt, inspired by this year's AI theme. In the coming weeks, you will begin seeing sneak peeks, design reveals, and pre-launch announcements. Stay tuned for your opportunity to support the chapter and represent PMIGL with pride wherever your projects take you.



Invest in Yourself: Explore PMI's 12 Certifications

Have you taken a moment to explore the full range of certifications offered by the Project Management Institute? PMI currently offers 12 globally recognized credentials designed to support professionals at every stage of their career: CAPM®, PMP®, PMI-ACP®, PMI-RMP®, PMI-SP®, PMI-PBA®, PgMP®, PfMP®, PMI-PMOCP™, PMI-CP™, PMI-CP™-I, and PMI-CP™-M. Whether you are just entering the profession or leading enterprise-level portfolios, there is a certification aligned with your experience and career goals.

Earning a PMI certification is more than adding letters after your name. It signals credibility, validates your knowledge, demonstrates commitment to the profession, and often leads to increased career opportunities and earning potential. Certifications can also strengthen your confidence, expand your professional network, and position you as a leader within your organization. In today's competitive environment, continuous professional development is not optional... it's essential.

As your PMI Great Lakes Chapter Director of Certifications, I encourage you to visit PMI.org and explore which credential might be right for you. Our chapter is actively evaluating how we can better support members through training programs, mentorship opportunities, study groups, or simply answering your certification questions. If you are considering taking the next step in your professional journey, I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to reach out to Ron Papa at director.certifications@pmiglc.org — let's work together to help you achieve your certification goals.



Help Shape the Future of ERP Cloud Migration in Retail

PMIGL member and Academic Outreach Manager Charlene Parks is completing her doctoral research at Walsh College on what drives ERP cloud migration success in large U.S. retail organizations — specifically the roles of change management and cybersecurity.

She needs input from IT leaders, project/program managers, change managers, and cybersecurity professionals who have been directly involved in an ERP cloud migration at a U.S. retail organization with 1,000+ employees within the past five years.

The survey is anonymous, takes about 15–20 minutes, and is IRB-approved (Walsh College #2025-015). **As a thank-you, \$25 will be donated to the Teen Success Blueprint Girls Leadership Camp for each participant who begins the survey.**

Survey link: <https://tinyurl.com/ERPRetailStudy>

Deadline: March 1, 2026

Questions? Contact Charlene at cjohnson6694@mail.walshcollege.edu

PMIGL Outreach Updates

PMIGL Outreach members will be delivering PM Skills for Life to business students at Oakland University in Rochester Hills on March 28th from 9am-1pm. If you are interested in volunteering with us, email outreach for more information



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



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SYMPOSIUM *Spring* 2026



Keynote Speaker

Princess Castelberry

AI-READY LEADERSHIP:
MANAGING PROJECTS IN
THE WORLD OF
GENERATIVE,
PREDICTIVE, AND
AGENTIC AI



Implementing AI In a Project Management World

Breakout Speakers

-  Jason Leinart
-  Susan Gordon-Jackson
-  Jacqueline Rinehart
-  Dwayne Natwick
-  And More!

February pricing

Don't miss your chance to attend at this special rate. Pricing is good through the end of the month.

\$275 members

\$325 non-members

REGISTER NOW





CAREER DAY

2026

Join us for an exciting presentation & an opportunity
to network and grow!

With Guest Speaker: Susan Gordon-Jackson –
Certified AI Consultant, PMP, MSIS

The Future-Ready Project Manager:
Implementing AI, Expanding Careers, and
Leading What's Next

MONDAY MARCH 9, 2026

REGISTER
NOW



ESD – Engineering Society of Detroit
20700 Civic Center Drive
Suite 450
Southfield, MI 48076





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“Understanding PMI Infinity” (AND PMI CERTIFICATIONS)



17
March
2026

Lunch & Learn

- * Introduction of PMI Infinity
- * Highlighting Key Functionality of PMI Infinity (Demo)
- * Strengths and Limitations
- * Separate Topic: PMI Certifications

\$15 - Members
\$20 - Non-Members

**REGISTER
NOW**



NETWORKING NIGHT

18TH MARCH
6PM



Project Management Institute.
Great Lakes



- ✓ Come and network with your peers!
- ✓ Light snacks and a cash bar!
- ✓ Free to chapter volunteers! We appreciate you



\$20 Members \$25 Non-Members



6pm - 8pm



44325 Twelve Mile Road, H-160
Novi, MI, 48377

PM Musings

By William A Moylan, PhD, PMP, FESD, DTM
Professor Emeritus – Eastern Michigan
University



AgriTown from AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School in Southfield Wins 2026 Michigan Future City– Outstanding Project Management Award

Sponsored by the PMI Educational Foundation

ESD Hosts 2026 Michigan Regional – Future City Competition

The Engineering Society of Detroit [ESD] is the sponsor and host of the 2025 Michigan Regional Future City Competition. The 2025 Michigan Regional Future City Competition was held on January 20, 2026, at the Vibe Credit Union Showplace (formerly the “Suburban Collection Showplace”) in Novi, Michigan. In February 2026, the first-place winning team from each region competes at the national finals in Washington, DC.

Michigan's first place winner - the *Tkaranto* team from the **Joseph K. Lumsden Bahwetig Anishnabe Academy**, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, will receive an all-expense-paid trip for the teacher, mentor and three presenting students to Washington, DC, to compete in the finals.

The *AgriTown* team from the AGBU Alex & Marie Manoogian School in Southfield, Michigan, won the ***Outstanding Project Management Award*** sponsored by the PMI Educational Foundation [PMIEF]. Kudos to the AgriTown team for also placing for 4th place in the overall competition.

What is Future City?

Future City is a cross-curricular educational program where students in 6th, 7th and 8th grades imagine, design, and build cities of the future. Over four months, students work as a team with an educator and volunteer mentor to design a virtual city using SimCity software; research and write an essay addressing this year's theme; build a model of their city using recycled materials; write a brief narrative promoting their city; and present their city before a panel of judges at a Regional Competition in January. Regional winners go on to represent their region at the national competition in Washington, DC, in February.

Who participates?

The Michigan Regional Future City Competition is open to Michigan students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th who are from the same school, a home school environment (a Home School Affidavit form will need to be completed), or are members of a nationally, regionally, or state recognized youth-focused organization, such as the Boy or Girl Scouts; Boys and Girls Clubs; 4-H, etc. The competition is team-based, and each team consists of at least three students, an educator, and a volunteer mentor. A team can include an entire class or as few as three students.

At the 2026 FCC-Michigan Regional Competition, thirty-five student teams from multiple middle schools from around the state of Michigan competed.

How Does the Competition Work?

In 2015, DiscoverE restructured their Future City Competition Program Handbook, with a generous grant from the PMIEF. The Future City Competition framework incorporates **project management principles** and the **engineering design process**. Teams will work through the stages of the engineering design process [EDP] and apply specific project management methods to help them complete each of the required competition deliverables. For 2026, there are 4 main competition deliverables with the following point structure:

1. **City Essay:** Students describe the unique attributes of their city and provide their solution to this year's Farm to Table challenge. This 1,500-word essay combines the former Research Essay and City Narrative deliverables. (54 points)
2. **City Model:** Students build a physical model of their future city (to scale) using recycled materials. (65 points)
3. **City Presentation / Q&A:** Students give a 7-minute presentation about their city followed by a short Q&A session. (Note: no change from past years.) (72 points)
4. **Project Plan:** Students complete a project plan to help them plan and organize their project. (10 points)

Special Award for *Outstanding FC Project Plan*

For 2025, more than thirty special awards for some aspects of the competition were sponsored by various engineering companies, technical societies, and higher education institutions. This year, the special award for the **Outstanding Project Management** was funded by a grant from the **PMI Educational Foundation**.

The judging for the **Outstanding Project Management** involved a review of the competing Team's 4-part project plan, submitted electronically, that followed the prescribed PM requirements from the PMI Educational Foundation. This judging involved an in-depth review of the completeness of the Team's overall submittal including their project goals [DEFINE], the quality of the student team's project schedule [PLAN], the tools the students used to keep organized and stay within plan and budget [DO], and then, assessed the students' lessons learned from using project management [REVIEW]. Points were awarded for each of the four parts.

The judging for the 2026 Michigan Regional Outstanding Project Management award was conducted by **Pamela Hartsell**, PMP, the PMIGL Director, Community Day of Service & Social Impact Coordinator, and, **Prof. Bill Moylan**, PhD, PMP, FESD, DTM.

For more information about the Future City Competition sponsored by ESD, contact **Elana Shelef**, Director of Corporate Relations & Education Outreach, The Engineering Society of Detroit, 20700 Civic Center Drive, Suite 450, Southfield, MI 48076, telephone: (248) 353-0735, ext. 119, email: eshelef@esd.org



A banner image showing a magnifying glass over a document with the words "Job Opportunity" and "EMPLOYMENT" visible. The background is blurred, showing other parts of the document like "Inventory" and "Legal Administration".

Job Opportunity

The PMI Job Board has enhanced features, making it easier to connect job seekers and employers in the project management industry. You can access PMIGL's Job Board of local postings at <https://pmiglc.org/job-postings>



What is Disciplined Agile Certification?

As a leader in project management education, we are working with Peak Business Management to offer the official PMI Disciplined Agile workshop and DASM certification program for individuals looking to pass the exam and become a Disciplined Agile Scrum Master (DASM). Learn more at <https://pmiglc.org/peakbusinessmanagement>

Earn Free PDUs!

Peak Business Management, is offering chapter members free PDUs! Please [visit their website](#) for more details. Be sure to use the password PeakPDU0922 to access this offer.

PMIGL is thrilled to shine a light on our partnership with IIL.

Members have access to an incredible array of benefits and amazing opportunities such as discounts on courses, free webinars, and so much more. Please visit the IIL/PMIGL website

What is KICKOFF™?

KICKOFF™ is a free, interactive project management course that only takes 45 minutes to complete. Use it to get up to speed on project management basics. Once you're done, you can share a badge that shows you know the basics of managing projects from start to finish. Please visit <https://www.pmi.org/kickoff/> for more Information.

Stay Up to Date with PMIGL

Help promote PMIGL by following us on [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#) and [LinkedIn](#), and share our upcoming events and volunteer opportunities as you see posted. You never know what door may open!



Project Management
Content Development
Consulting
Private Training

Professional Certifications Offer

As we head into 2026, many professionals are thinking about meaningful goals for the year ahead and earning a **project management certification** is one resolution that can pay dividends well beyond the calendar year. Whether you're looking to advance your career, pivot into a new role, or strengthen your credibility as a project leader, a recognized certification signals commitment, competence, and continuous growth. For many members of the PMI Great Lakes chapter, this is an ideal time to invest in yourself and your professional future.

PMI offers several well-respected certifications to match different career stages and interests, including the **PMP®**, **CAPM®**, **PMI Agile Certified Practitioner (PMI-ACP®)**, and **Professional Scrum Master (PSM)**. Each certification serves a different purpose --whether you're building a foundation in project management, validating years of experience, or deepening your expertise in agile and adaptive approaches. No matter where you are in your career, there is likely a credential that aligns with your goals and the type of work you want to pursue.

To help our members succeed, PMI Great Lakes has partnered with **Peak Business Management**, which offers **exam preparation courses at a discounted rate for PMIGL members**. If earning a certification is on your 2026 roadmap, I encourage you to explore their offerings at <https://peakbusiness.org>. You are also welcome to reach out to me (Ron Papa) directly at director.certifications@pmiglc.org. I am happy to answer questions, discuss certification options, or help you take the next step toward achieving your professional goals.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Amanda Armstead
Arlene Boriel
Benie Bounsana
Evin Brinker
Kenneth Buschel
Gwendolynn Butler
Tony Chrisopoulos
Alexandra Crannell
Vinicius David Crisan
Nicole Deboever
Babak Dehghani
Heiko Erlenkeuser
Olubunmi Fadiora
Bailey Rose Farrell
Julie Fowler
Elizabeth Fratarcangeli
Amy Fredell
Suman Gadwal
Kimika Garrett
Amanda Gill
Alyssa Hoekwater
Marius Iijasllari
Khizar Abbas Jaffry
Gursie Jimerson
Margaret Jones
Blerina Kaja

Patrick Keating
Mr. Lindsay Kittel
Amber Magee
Maximus Mandler
Marcos Hugo Rodriguez Martinez
Raj Divyesh Mehta
Janelle Mitchell
Michael Dante Moyer
Donald Oman
Christopher William Paquin
Matt Paretsky
Anna Paul
Erin M. Paul
Mr. Rogelio Guajardo Perez
Arturo Javier Pina
Gregory Pleysier
Farah Safa
Eren Salcedo
Aarti Sharma
Dawn P Sims
Heather Smith
Kyasha Smith
Mr. Joseph John Szewczyk
Anthony Ventura
Michael Washington
Robin White
Mr. Eric Hoyt Yarbrough
Karim Zeitoun



MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Year 1

Haitham Ali
Emmeline Birchall
Sean Bowden
David Clements
Brian Downey
Leith Fakhouri
Calleigh Fisher
Rachel Fitch
Nelida Flores
Andrew Fylak
Manal Geibig
Bryan Harris
Katharine Harrow
Cameron Hedges
Lane Henderson-Mainor
Anna Hojdila
Ricardo Jackson
Shannon Jett
Priya Johnson

Krista Koors
Cory Labombarbe
Joshua Leteff
Morgan Levitas
Mostafa Makke
Maryjane Mbugua
Annette Mclane
Jennifer Morikawa
Dominique Muse
Daniela Alejandra Ornelas
Canchola
Krithika Rajaraman
Kent Simpson
David Strong
Michael Tembreull
David Ziemer



MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Year 3

Supraja Anchala
Chad Andrews
Naveed Ashraf
David Belian
Christina Colletti
Julie Donnellon
Ismael A Garcia Irene
Lewis Gardella
Todd Hare
Candice Hatfield
Teri Hunter
Travis Johnson
Jason Jordan
Jason Lafreniere
Sara Martin
Greg Mercier
Patrick Miller
Kevin Regan

Elizabeth Rizzo
Doug Rupp
Ivy Siaw

Year 5

Fernando Grajales
Eric Griffin
Austin Mccarty
Sulove Patel
David Shulkin

Year 10

Laymon Bates
Lekalvin Harris
Michael Lane
Stefano Morandotti
Danielle Phillips
Robert Richard
Stephen Webster



Year 15

Jennifer Avery
Mary Barrett
Sonya Moore
Leon Williams
Bryan Young



MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Year 20

Shiraz Bhagwagar

Year 25

Diane Marie Armijo
Kim Chunsil Cole
Crystal Cotton
Mary Theresa Ermers
Lisa Ferrari
Lisa Marie Foster
Andrew Francis
Suresh Gajula
Ronni Gillenwater
Denise Guptil
Cheryl Laemmel
Kevin Mccarron
John Riess
Penny Denise Roberts

David Tate
Kathy Thompson
Margaret Villalobos

Year 30

Neil Goldman
Melissa Ksar



thank you SPONSORS

Sustained Annual Sponsorship Opportunities for 2026

Sponsors and recruiters are invited to connect with the PMIGL marketing team (director.marketing@pmiglc.net) to participate in PMIGL events

GOLD LEVEL



COPPER LEVEL

Your LOGO could be here too! Reach out for more Info today