

September 5, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Administrative Vice President of MOMS Club of Grand Haven, MI, it is my pleasure to offer this letter of support for the Grand Haven Children's Museum. I believe this new institution will be a tremendous addition to our Lakeshore community and it's my hope that the momentum for the project will continue to grow. Having a children's museum in our community is a statement that the community acknowledges and supports the deeply important work of caring for children.

The MOMS (MOMS Offering Moms Support®) Club of Grand Haven is a non-profit chapter of the International MOMS Club® Organization. With 101 local member families, we seek to bring community, socialization, and support to all moms in and around the Tri-Cities area (Grand Haven, Ferrysburg, Nunica, and Spring Lake) through a full calendar of free or low-cost events.

Visiting environments that keep our children engaged in fun learning activities that stimulate their imaginations is incredibly valuable for our members. Activities done alongside parents and caregivers can create a love for learning and can have a profound impact on children's educational outcomes and overall wellbeing. A local children's museum will be a wonderful resource to help us do just that.

Children's museums are also full of parent-child bonding opportunities, which are crucial for healthy child development and critical for positive parent-child relationships. In places like children's museums, parents are able to intentionally take the time to be a part of a child's learning and play – to experience what their children are capable of doing and to celebrate that with them.

These museums are also places of connection between families and the larger community. The transition to parenthood and caregiving is a profound one that is deeply meaningful and rewarding but it can also be overwhelming, difficult, and isolating. During this important time of life, a children's museum offers opportunity for parents to seek social connection not only for their children but also for themselves, to care for their mental health and social wellbeing.

Our members are always looking for rich and engaging educational experiences to experience with their children. Having a new, local children's museum right here in our community will do just that and be an extraordinary benefit to our member families.

Sincerely,

Alex Gornowicz

Administrative Vice President, MOMs Club of Grand Haven, MI

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