



## **Trailing Spouse Services Upper Peninsula Trailing Spouse Network**

Today, many American couples simultaneously pursue their careers and share in their family's financial responsibilities. This multiplies the challenge of relocating a family to a new community because it requires consideration of the employment needs of both partners.

In response, a consortium of businesses, educational institutions and agencies in the Upper Peninsula have created a Trailing Spouse Network. This network provides the critical connectivity for a successful relocation to our region. Founding member organizations include Northern Michigan University, Marquette General Health System, Michigan Works!, Manpower, U.P. Healthcare Network and Lake Superior Community Partnership. The network began its work in December of 2007 and is in the process of recruiting participating companies.

To address employment opportunities for spouses, our network provides speedy access to hiring decision makers throughout counties and commuting pattern areas via an email protocol. This network also allows access to a web-based listing of participating organizations in order to allow for one-on-one conversations between job candidates and potential employers or service providers.

The Trailing Spouse Network is closely affiliated with active groups such as: The Superiorland Chapter of Human Resource Professionals; The Upper Peninsula Human Resources Association; the Upper Peninsula Chapter of the American Society for Training and Development and all of the Regional Skills Alliances in the UP allowing for connection to a wide range of employment opportunities and further research.

Representatives from Region One Michigan Small Business Technology and Development Center are available to council trailing spouses on resources and services available to support entrepreneurial activities as well.

For trailing spouses who are already residing in the central six county region, job search services can be accessed at any of six Michigan Works! Service Centers.

For more information or to access the Trailing Spouse Network contact Holly Peoples, Michigan Works! The Job Force Board at 906-280-2441 or via email at [hpeoples@jobforce.org](mailto:hpeoples@jobforce.org).