



mid michigan
COMMUNITY
Action

"Helping People, Changing Lives."

Annual Report 2017

Leading towards a Bright Future



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Executive Message



Looking back at this past year leaves me with mixed emotions. While trying to remain optimistic, I can see the triumphs of our local communities inviting new industry to the area; enhancing rural downtown buildings and housing options; economic growth continues to rise; and, residents continue to support retail buying. While on the flip side, we have also seen a fractured government that cannot seem to agree; saddened families and communities as a result of shootings in schools, churches, and at special events; residents worried about what could happen next for their health care; and, specifically in our region, low income people still struggle to make ends meet. So how do we find a way to remain positive and move forward?

John Lennon included some enriching thoughts in a song stating, “imagine all the people living for today.” Well, I believe his words remain accurate decades after the song “Imagine” was released. Our customers—people living on limited incomes or those working multiple jobs to pay the way—do have to live for today. They have to find a way to pay their bills, put food on their table, provide clothing for their children or care for extended family while remaining upbeat in a society that is not always supportive.

Furthermore, less people can afford to buy a home so they do not get the opportunity to earn equity for later years. Pay day lending firms require astronomical interest rates so if a person does need to borrow money, they may never get ahead with this liability. Student loan debt has grown to the point that they are in poverty before entering the workforce. Pensions and retirement accounts are most likely out of the question as the focus is on the ability to survive today.

We need to bring hope to their lives so that the positives outweigh the negatives. We need to remind everyone that small victories can have a big impact. We need to find ways to create bright pathways ahead.

So how can we help our customers and communities through this intense time and create potential for upcoming opportunities? We need to ensure that resources remain available for them locally, and at the State and Federal levels. We need to make sure we invest in supporting our neighbors through tough times so they can return to a stable life style. We need to advocate to the stakeholders, leaders and legislators that our country needs to support its own. Most of all, we need to let others know we care. We need to bring hope to their lives so that the positives outweigh the negatives. We need to remind everyone that small victories can have a big impact. We need to find ways to create bright pathways ahead.

“Imagine all people living life in peace.”

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Sutton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Sutton
Executive Director

Outreach

The Outreach Services Department builds a bright future every day with individuals and families. Through our Stability Planning process, households set goals to find strategies out of crisis and shape a future. That future is client-driven and strength-focused.

Utility assistance helps keep homes warm, water running, and the lights on during a crisis. Goal setting, budgeting, and referrals move a household out of crisis and toward a more secure tomorrow.

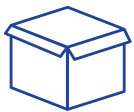
Homelessness is a community problem only solved with pioneering solutions like rapid rehousing. Through progressive engagement, clients determine the amount of case management and financial assistance they need to be successful in stable housing.

Commodity foods fill the cupboards of seniors and low-income households. As a supplement to their regular groceries, it is sustenance that is so important for safe, healthy community.

“There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves.”

– Lyndon B. Johnson

Basic Needs Program Statistics



44,444 food boxes provided



733 months of rental assistance paid to house homeless individuals, veterans and families



101 households obtained safe and affordable housing



1,595 households received emergency heat and utility assistance

FY 2017 Admin Endeavors

Over the course of any given year, our staff, volunteers and families we serve accomplish so much. There is also significant work going on “behind the curtain” as well that supports the mission of serving individuals and families. The following illustrates some of the agency’s administrative accomplishments for FY2017.

- County Councils are a core tenant of Community Action as they represent the grassroots of our programs. Each county has a volunteer panel to provide insight, ideas and oversight to the agency’s programs with one member from each council also serving on the board. Significant gains have been made in creating membership, empowering leadership and formalizing procedures. Having engages country councils will help ensure we are continuing to tailor services based on community need.
- Three managerial roles were added, two in early childhood and one in basic needs in order to enhance efficiency, capacity and service delivery
- The agency maintained its low-risk auditee status by completing the A133 single audit with no questioned costs, deficiencies or material weaknesses.
- The early childhood department added two preschool classrooms and one Early Head Start socialization site. Additionally, the department implemented a coaching model to support best practices and positive outcomes for children and families
- All staff received Mental Health-First aid training, provided by Department of Community Health. This investment in staff development by increasing awareness, knowledge and developing coping mechanisms was part of the agency’s strategic plan.



Early Childhood

The Early Childhood Services Department continues to strive towards innovative and cutting edge practices to ensure child and family success today, tomorrow and into the future.

Staff are committed to continuous improvement and achievement for each child and family. Professional Development is an important part of Early Childhood Services and is critical to moving our programs into the next generation.

Ongoing monitoring, self-reflection, self-assessment, continuous improvement, professional development, skills assessment, a coaching model and a strong sense of team drives the Early Childhood staff toward a bright future for child, family and community success.

Mid Michigan Community Action's Head Start/Early Head Start also provides many opportunities for parent involvement. Parent meetings, trainings, policy council, socialization, community events and family partnership agreements are among the opportunities provided for enrolled families.

Leading the way, every day.

Number of Children Served

Head Start - 258
Early Head Start - 222

Families Served

Head Start - 249
Early Head Start - 145

Pregnant Women Served

Early Head Start - 17

Average Monthly Enrollment

Head Start - 228
Early Head Start - 135

Up-to-date on a schedule of primary and preventative health care:

Head Start - 98%
Early Head Start - 50%

Children completing dental exams and oral health screenings:

Head Start - 98%
Early Head Start - 51%

Children with up-to-date immunizations:

Head Start - 98%
Early Head Start - 51%

Enrolled children with a disability:

Head Start - 17%
Early Head Start - 18%

Family Involvement

Children and their parents attended EHS Socializations - 84
Families participated in EHS Parent Meetings - 53
Families participated in Head Start Family Fun Nights - 171



FY2017 Head Start Expenditures

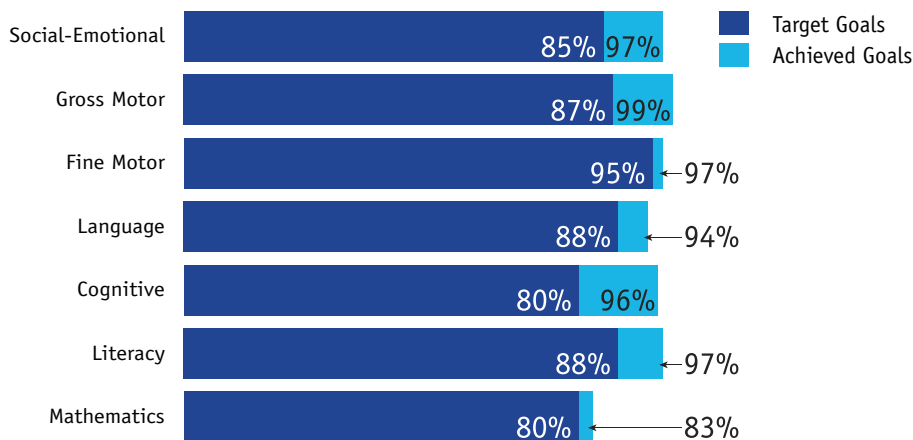
Early Head Start

Head Start

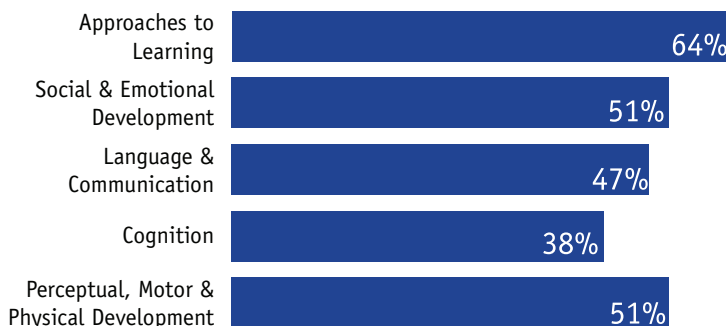
	<u>Budget/Allocation</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>		<u>Budget/Allocation</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>
Personnel	\$896,960	\$826,030	Personnel	\$947,620	\$967,499
Fringe	\$274,718	\$239,869	Fringe	\$274,223	\$230,880
Travel	\$25,857	\$44,170	Travel	\$8,278	\$37,592
Equipment	\$45,000	\$105,755	Equipment	\$0	\$13,197
Supplies	\$81,915	\$82,733	Supplies	\$57,991	\$46,041
Contractual	\$111,127.00	\$98,500	Contractual	\$90,136	\$78,108
Other	\$253,857	\$227,534	Other	\$185,889	\$156,659
Total Expenses	\$1,689,434	\$1,624,591	Total Expenses	\$1,564,137	\$1,529,976

Head Start School Readiness Goals

Percentage of Head Start Children that are Meeting/Exceeding Expectations for School Readiness Target Goals and Achieved Goals



Percentage of all EHS Children Meeting or Exceeding School Readiness Goals Fall Check Point



Home Empowerment & Housing

The goal of the Home Empowerment Program is to work with our customers wherever they are in the homeowner cycle to help them achieve their goals. For a first-time homebuyer this may mean assisting with homebuyer education and down payment assistance; for a homeowner this may mean helping them develop a budget to free up some money for home repairs; for others it may mean providing a groundwork of financial capability that will empower them to keep working toward their goal.

For so many, it can be difficult to look to the future—in the future they may only see obstacles. Not being able to buy a house, falling behind on the mortgage, living paycheck to paycheck. The Home Empowerment Program gives people a place to turn to gain understanding of their situation and more control over their future. We help show them the tools and resources needed to buy that house, stay current with their mortgage or gain control of their budget.

Self Sufficiency Program Statistics



53 increased their financial capabilities through education & coaching



28 Homes gained energy efficiency through weatherization program



9 homes totaling **\$874,000** in asset gains were purchased through the IDA program



\$42,777 gained in savings accounts for participant

“There is a lot that happens around the world we cannot control. We cannot stop earthquakes, we cannot prevent droughts, and we cannot prevent all conflict, but when we know where the hungry, the homeless and the sick exist, then we can help.”

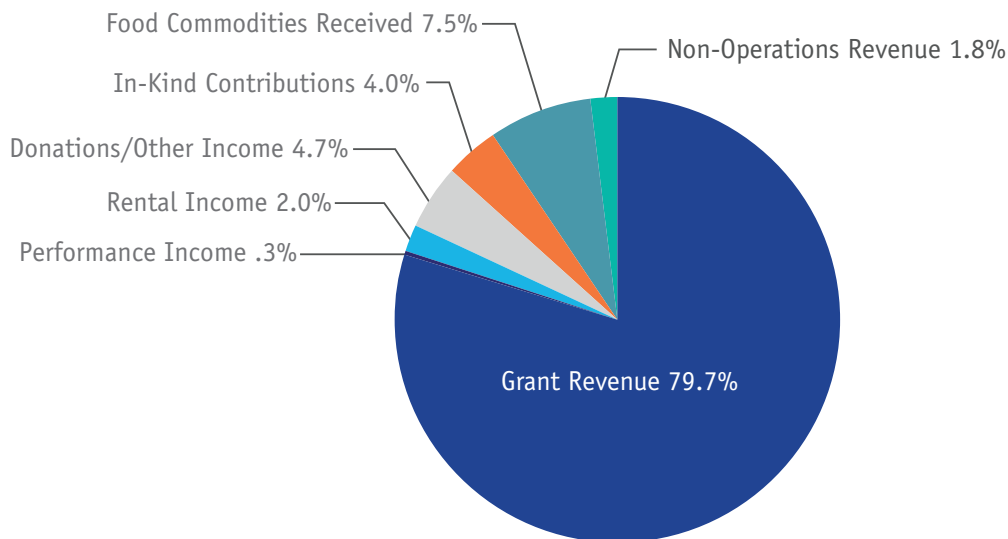
—Jan Schakowsky

FY 2017 Fiscal Information

Each year, Mid Michigan Community Action serves as a steward of federal, state, local and private funds intended to increase self-sufficiency and make a positive impact across the service area. Throughout the year, the agency undergoes dozens of monitorings, data quality reviews and a single audit as required by the federal uniform guidance conducted by Wipfli, LLP.

Grant Revenue	\$9,368,389
Performance Income	34,172
Rental Income	237,544
Donations / Other Income	551,834
In-Kind Contributions	472,507
Food Commodities Received	877,393
Non-Operations Revenue	205,661

Total Revenue **\$11,747,500**



Land & Bldgs – \$3,204,208
Corp Assets – \$50,000
ClareCastle & Garfield Manor – \$2,022,445
FY Chg. Net Assets – \$115,000
End of Year Assets: – \$5,391,653

FY 2017 Expenditures

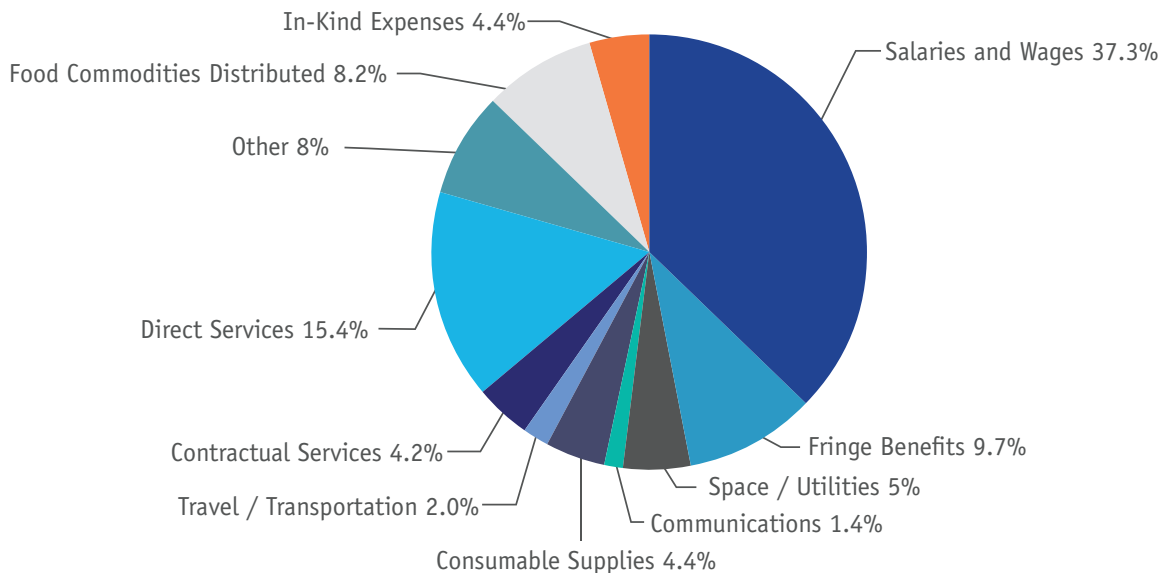
Salaries and Wages	\$4,010,422
Fringe Benefits	1,043,720
Space / Utilities	536,448
Communications	155,479
Consumable Supplies	478,059
Travel / Transportation	211,023
Contractual Services	454,832
Direct Services	1,655,291
Other	860,759
Food Commodities Distributed	877,393
In-Kind Expenses	472,507

Total Expenses \$10,755,933

Total Admin Expenses \$ 568,844

Total Program Expenses \$9,680,168

Total Fundraising Expenses \$ 6,752



Moving Forward

With another successful fiscal year behind us, it's time to move forward to identify new opportunities and challenges. What that truly means to the agency is dependent on several factors such as funding availability, legislative priorities, the results of a community needs assessment, and other influences that will direct our future activities. Taking all of this into consideration, here are some activities anticipated in the next year:

- Launch financial empowerment initiatives that will include rental education/financial capability workshops to customers within the agency's homeless/rehousing programs. Utilizing state and nationally certified staff, customers receiving rehousing assistance will receive budgeting, credit, landlord/tenant relations, renters' rights and other financial empowerment education.
- Support a growing demand and challenge for our customers who are working towards self-sufficiency, the agency will also continue to develop its student loan education/counseling program to assist customers to navigate their student loan repayment status to avoid default and long term consequences. Education will also include implications on credit and home purchase.
- Senior housing remains on the agenda as the agency identifies communities that could benefit from safe and affordable housing aimed towards low to moderate low residents. Research is currently underway to conduct market analysis of the highest need areas where similar projects do not exist.
- The Head Start program will extend the weekly participation for the young preschool through the award of an additional grant adding more days and hours to their classroom experience. The increase in educational hours will allow the children more time for learning in quality settings, increase potential child outcomes, and better align the program with kindergarten.
- Ensure that the agency stays on course with its mission and objectives, the staff and board will initiate and complete a three year strategic plan. The committee, facilitated by a third party consultant, will assess trends, changes, needs, priorities, innovations, capacities and more as they develop a plan that will guide the agency's decision making for the next three years.
- Support the outcome of the strategic plan and meeting the identified needs, the agency will undergo its required triennial community needs assessment. This is accomplished through surveying constituents, partner agencies, stakeholders, and others to identify local needs for local people. This in turn will direct the agency towards needed services and resources.
- Bolster information technology infrastructure for effective services across a six-county rural area, two large projects will be implemented for continued efficient operation. This will include an upgrade to multiple servers (i.e. virtual servers, database servers, print servers, exchange server and file server) and the installation of an emergency generator at the administrative office in Farwell which houses the centralized servers that provide each site necessary connectivity and resources.

OUTREACH

Food Warehouse
2300 Ludington Drive
Clare, MI 48617
989-386-3805

Bay County
111 Washington Ave
Bay City, MI 48708
989-894-9060

Clare County
1574 E. Washington Rd
Farwell, MI 48622
989-386-3805

Gladwin County
1302 Chatterton, Unit 1
Gladwin, MI 48624
989-426-2801

Mecosta County
14330 Northland Dr
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-660-0260

Midland County
1409 Washington St
Midland, MI 48640
989-832-7377

Osceola County
240 E Church Ave
Reed City, MI 49677
231-791-7078

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Beaverton CAPS
106 Tonkin St
Beaverton, MI, 48612
989-246-3272

Clare CAPS
1574 E. Washington Rd
Farwell, MI 48622
989-386-3805

Clare EHS
2050 W Cadillac Dr
Farwell, MI 48622
989-424-5320

Clare HS Preschool
306 Schoolcrest
Clare, MI 48617
989-386-1279

Coleman EHS
4839 Coleman Schools Dr.
Coleman, MI 48618
989-465-1891

Farwell CAPS
2050 W Cadillac Dr
Farwell, MI 48622
989-424-5320

MMCAA Farwell Preschool
268 Ohio St
Farwell, MI 48622
989-588-9916

MMCAA Gladwin Elementary
600 W First St
Gladwin, MI 48642
989-246-5992

Gladwin CAPS/EHS
1302 Chatterton, Unit 1
Gladwin, MI 48624
989-426-2801

Harrison CAPS
579 N Clare Ave
Harrison, MI 48625
989-539-3342

MMCAA Harrison Hillside
201 N. 4th St.
Harrison, MI 48625
989-539-7871

Mecosta EHS
410 N 3rd Ave
Big Rapids, MI 49307
231-592-0490

Midland EHS/WIC
Longview ECC
337 Lemke St
Midland, MI 48642
989-837-6659

Osceola EHS
240 E Church St
Reed City, MI 49677
231-791-7069

**Administrative Office
1574 E. Washington Rd
PO Box 768
Farwell, MI 48622
989-386-3805**