

2010 Annual Report to Ottawa County Commissioners

Bill Raymond, Director

Ottawa County



Selected Highlights

- Sponsored a 4 county event in October on ***"The Suburbanization of Poverty"*** with Elizabeth Kneebone, Senior Policy Analyst with the Brookings Institution, Washington DC
- Event held at Grand Haven Community Center drew over 100 people from Kent, Ottawa, Allegan and Muskegon Counties (and 1 from MA)

Selected Highlights

- Became fiscal agent for the **Essential Solutions Grant** from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.
- Funds are utilized by OCCAA, Good Samaritan Ministries, Community Action House, Center for Women in Transition and Salvation Army – Grand Haven for a variety of housing related programs

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Selected Highlights

- **Ottawa County Housing Commission (OCHC).** Worked with Ottawa County Commissioners to revise ordinance and bylaws and to position OCHC for recognition by the US Department of Housing & Urban Development so that housing related projects can be implemented in the future

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Weatherization

- Weatherized 130 homes in Ottawa County through 12/31/10
- Utilizing 18 private contractors & crews for inspections and work – contributing to the creation/retention of over 40 jobs in Ottawa County
- Over 400 homes still on the waiting list

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Utility Assistance

2009/2010 Totals	
Total Expenses	\$197,674
# of Households <small>(unduplicated)</small>	534
Average Amount/household	\$370

2008/2009 Totals	
Total Expenses	\$176,774
# of Households <small>(unduplicated)</small>	759
Average Amount/household	\$233

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Housing Choice Vouchers

Area Served	# of Households (Vouchers)	
Southwest Ottawa	323	74.4%
Northwest Ottawa	63	14.5%
Northeast Ottawa	25	5.8%
Southeast Ottawa	23	5.3%
Total:	434	100%

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Migrant Services

Service	June	July	August	Total
Food Assistance	45	38		83
Gasoline	39	40	2	81
Car Repair	1	2		3
Other	30	38		68
Total Services Provided:				235
Total Families Served:				95

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Other Services

- **Tax Assistance**
 - Helped over 860 low-income households realize \$2.5 million in federal & state tax refunds and credits in Ottawa and Allegan Counties
- **Walk for Warmth**
 - Typically raise \$20,000 to \$25,000 – these funds are at risk due to projected cuts in CSBG
- **Food Assistance**
 - 402 people/month receive food assistance

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Risks/Opportunities

- Projected cuts to Community Services Block Grant
- Puts other services at risk due to loss of leveraged funds
- May have utility funds to distribute, but no delivery system to determine eligibility

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- Partnered with Lakeshore Advantage and Grand Rapids Community College:
 - **Advanced Energy Storage (AES) Sectoral Skill Alliance**
 - \$250,000 grant to build capacity in AES sector
 - Assisting Johnson Controls/SAFT and LG Chem MI in hiring over 500 workers
 - Assisting JCS and LG Chem in worker training (Each received \$300,000 each for AES Incumbent Worker projects)
 - **Wind energy initiative by Tiara/Energetx** – assisted company to find qualified trainees/workers for Wind Energy Composite Technician positions

Selected Highlights

- **Adult Learner Professionals Group of West Michigan:**
 - Took a lead role in building collaborative effort regarding streamlining funding and programming for adult learners in Kent, Ottawa and Allegan counties. Focus is on GED, ESL, Basic Adult Literacy
 - Cooperating organizations: Literacy Council of West MI, West MI Strategic Alliance/Wal-Mart Foundation, OAISD, Allegan Area ESA, et.al.

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Selected Highlights

- Reorganized staffing configuration by moving contracted “Business Services” representatives in-house and added 1.5 new positions: Workforce Intelligence Analyst and Contract Coordinator (went from part-time to full-time)
- Developed a new regional “Career Guide” to assist subcontract staff, workforce board and OCMWA administrative staff in assisting local businesses and job seekers
- Implemented new software – G-Stars & EMSI – better & faster information for strategic & regional decision-making

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Selected Highlights

- Unduplicated customers/month: 1500 average
- Training provided to over **1000** people
- **380** people placed directly into employment
 - MI Works helped many others with job search, but they aren't included in official, direct placement
- Average wage for those placed into employment is around **\$30,000** per year

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OCMWA Assisted over 100 Companies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Energetx Composites | 16. GHSP |
| 2. Engine Power Components | 17. Global Technologies |
| 3. Grand Rapids Building Services | 18. Grand Haven Board of Light & Power |
| 4. Hortech Inc | 19. Grand Haven Plastics |
| 5. ITW Drawform | 20. Harbor Humane Society |
| 6. John Queen Agency | 21. Harbor Industries |
| 7. L&W Engineering | 22. Hemco Gage |
| 8. Parkway Electric | 23. Holland Board of Public Works |
| 9. NOVO 1 | 24. Home Depot- Grand Haven |
| 10. Quincy Street | 25. Iso-trude, Inc |
| 11. Trendway | 26. Kenowa Industries |
| 12. Great Lakes Castings | 27. LC Studios and Consulting, LLC |
| 13. Haworth | 28. Leprino Foods |
| 14. Johnson Controls, INC | 29. MS Tube Slotting |
| 15. Perrigo | 30. Manpower – Grand Haven, Muskegon |

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Top Ten Training Providers

	Providers	Students
1	Thompson M Tec	232
2	Baker College	80
3	Grand Rapids Community College	80
4	Muskegon Community College	71
5	Davenport University	54
6	Grand Valley State University	50
7	The Employers Association	45
8	New Horizons	34
9	Grand Valley – Continuing Education	29
10	Walker Medical	26

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Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative

- Responsible for administrative oversight for 3 county region: Ottawa, Muskegon, Oceana – focus on those leaving state prison in Muskegon
- Services provided through a regional network of 12 public and private organizations
- Received a major “2nd Chance” grant through US Department of Justice
 - \$2.7 million over 3 years
 - Focus on family reunification & reducing recidivism
 - Allows us to also work with inmates leaving Ottawa Co. Jail

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Share Network: 11 locations in Ottawa County

- Holland/Zeeland
 1. Community Action House
 2. Macatawa Resource Center
 3. Holland Rescue Mission (2 locations)
 4. Good Samaritan Ministries
 5. Maplewood Church
 6. Holland Public Schools/VR Tech
 7. City on a Hill – Zeeland
- Grand Haven
 8. St. Patrick's Church
- Hudsonville
 9. Georgetown CRC
 10. Hudsonville Library
- Jamestown
 11. Patmos Library

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Risks/Opportunities

- Funding cuts
 - Risk of over 700 individuals losing funds in the midst of their training
 - All Workforce Investment Act services potentially at-risk
- Generating more “non-formula” funds – diversify
- Assisting business with hiring/growth
- Developing “sectoral” and “cluster” initiatives
- Regional Collaboration & Efficiency

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