

OUR MISSION

SERVING COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES IN MICHIGAN,
STRENGTHENING THEIR CAPACITY TO ALLEVIATE
THE CAUSES AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF POVERTY.



SERVICE

Empowering member agencies



RESOLVE

Never veering from the quest to reduce poverty



COMMUNICATION

Leading the discussion about issues that matter

YEAR IN REVIEW

A letter from our Executive Director



Governor Rick Snyder congratulates Washtenaw County volunteer Hildegard Lindstrom at MCA's 50th Anniversary Dinner in Lansing.

What a year it has been! In 2014, we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Economic Opportunity Act, President Lyndon Johnson's landmark "War on Poverty" legislative package that created Community Action Agencies to be the people's boots on the ground, fighting poverty in their local areas. We were honored to have as our guests Governor Rick Snyder (pictured left) and Mark Kennedy Shriver, son of Sargent Shiver, the legendary public servant chosen by President Johnson to lead the war on poverty, at our 50th Anniversary Dinner in Lansing last April.

Our golden anniversary year was further highlighted by our member agencies' leading role as engines of community economic development. Every city, town, and township in Michigan benefited from the presence of its local CAA—administering statewide energy assistance programs, providing early childhood education through Head Start, getting food to seniors

at congregate meals or home delivery, linking residents to other agencies for employment and training, and signing up eligible clients for health insurance.



Kate White
MCA Executive Director

2014 was also the year MCA updated its corporate brand as reflected in this report. We created a vibrant new logo, shortened our name, and tightened up our mission statement: "Helping member agencies change lives," establishing our role in promoting our member agencies and supporting their mission of reducing poverty in Michigan. We are proud to be associated with the work they do and we look forward to a bright future for Community Action Agencies in Michigan and the thousands of clients they have helped take control of their lives.

MCA's financial statements are available for review at Guiderstar.org. Enter "Michigan Community Action" into the search field.



ECONOMIC IMPACT OF MICHIGAN COMMUNITY ACTION

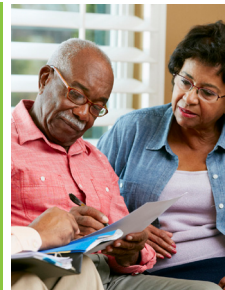
4,843

CHILDREN IMPROVED
HEALTH AND PHYSICAL
DEVELOPMENT THROUGH
CAA NUTRITION
PROGRAMS



15,963

CLIENTS RECEIVED FREE TAX
PREP HELP AND APPLIED FOR
APPROPRIATE CREDITS AND
REFUNDS



75,623

MICHIGAN RESIDENTS SERVED BY
THEIR LOCAL CAA IN FY14

7,907

MICHIGAN SENIORS
MAINTAINED INDEPENDENT
LIVING WITH HELP FROM
THEIR CAA



19,927

REFERRALS LINKING CLIENTS
TO OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS
AND PROGRAMS



29

COMMUNITY ACTION
AGENCIES SERVE ALL 83
MICHIGAN COUNTIES

DATA HELPS TELL CAA's STORY

All Michigan Community Action Agencies and their partners in the Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity use a proprietary statewide database to record services and programs accessed by clients and their families, and to track their progress and outcomes. DBA Technologies' FACSPRO database software was selected after a period of competitive bidding and product evaluations. Our member CAAs are mastering the program and are finding variety of ways to create reports that show the depth and breadth of the impact their programs are having on individual families and their communities—the numbers reflected in graphic above are the result of inquiries to the database. The use of the database helps agencies determine client eligibility, create individual client action plans, and prevent duplication of services, while fulfilling the reporting requirements of the state and federal agencies that oversee our programs. Michigan's Community Action network is a leader at the state and national level in the use of a unified statewide database.



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

In 2014, MCA and its member agencies shared our support for these programs with federal and state legislators:

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

The CSBG is the seedbed of Community Action funding and has been due for reauthorization since 2003. In 2014, Michigan's CAAs and the Department of Human Services, leveraged our federal CSBG allocation of **\$26 million** to generate an additional **\$334 million** in other federal, state, local, and private funding. We advocated with our Congressional delegation for the reauthorization of this critical source of funding for our anti-poverty programs.

Energy Programs for Low Income Households

The federal Weatherization Assistance Program and Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program are core services that enable low income families to remain safe and warm in their homes. MCA continued to advocate for a change in Michigan law to permit use of LIHEAP funds for weatherization. We were awarded a grant from the Michigan Public Services Commission to coordinate the distribution of Michigan Energy Assistance Program funds through our member agencies.

Early Childhood Education

We supported President Obama's and Governor Snyder's initiatives to expand early childhood education opportunities for low income families through Head Start, Early Head Start, and Michigan's Great Start Readiness Program.

Home Care for Seniors

MCA joined the Silver Key Coalition to lend its support for increased funding for programs that help keep seniors in their homes as long as possible. In addition to being the preference of most Michigan seniors, home care is also a much more cost effective approach than nursing homes and assisted living sites.

Food and Nutrition

MCA supported increased and/or continued funding of a variety of food programs, such as Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP), Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP), among others.

