

# BACK *to* BASICS

2021-2022 Annual Report



Macomb  
Community  
Action



# BACK *to* BASICS

## MISSION

Persistent action to diminish poverty and promote independence

## VISION

All Macomb County residents achieve their fullest potential and maintain personal stability and security

## VALUES & BELIEFS

**People** - We are a community where no one should have to walk alone.

**Diversity & Inclusion** - Embracing diversity and ensuring inclusion strengthens and enriches our community.

**Person-Centered Services** - Maximum feasible participation and all persons are treated with dignity and respect.

**Accessibility, Equity and Parity** - Barriers to independence exist in our community. Persistent action is required to ensure all persons have opportunities to work toward reaching their fullest potential.

**Advocacy** - To meet our Mission, we encourage collaboration, we inform policy, we impact change.

## COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.



**Macomb  
Community  
Action**







## Macomb Community Action Advisory Board (MCAAB) Officers:

### **MCAAB Officers**

Chair: Justin Al-Igoe

First Vice Chair: Tanya Blatz

Second Vice Chair: Carmen Bordea

### **Representatives from the Public Sector**

Joan Flynn, City of Warren

Mark Hackel, Macomb County Executive, Ex-Officio

Honorable William Hackel III, 42nd District Court - Division II,  
New Baltimore

Matthew Wallace, Clinton Township

Matthew Micinski, Department of Health and Human Services

### **Representatives from the Consumer Sector**

Monica Bihar-Natzke, Community Member

Michael Bruci, Community Member

Beba Ross, Head Start Policy Council

Robert Combs, Macomb Food Program 501(c)(3)

### **Representatives from the Private Sector**

Justin Al-Igoe, Macomb St. Clair Workforce Development Board

Tanya Blatz, U.S. Army Garrison, Detroit Arsenal

Carmen Bordea, Office of Global Michigan

Sara Gold, United Way for Southeastern Michigan

Krista Willette, R.N., M.S.A., Macomb County Health Department



# ACTION

## HEAD START

Head Start is an early childhood development and education program for income-eligible families. The program provides a range of services for pregnant women and families with children ages 0 - 5. We partner with each family to promote high-quality school readiness at no cost.

## FOOD PROGRAM

The Macomb Food Program provides immediate relief to those in need of food through a network of more than 70 pantries and hunger relief organizations. The program supplies food at no cost to ensure pantry shelves are stocked.

## ACTION CENTERS

Our Action Centers offer services to income-eligible Macomb County residents to diminish poverty and promote independence through rent/mortgage and utility assistance, and other programs.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Community Services division offers a wide variety of programs to residents and municipalities ranging from transportation services, housing services, such as weatherization and rehabilitation, and community development programs. Funding for the various programs includes but is not limited to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the US Department of Energy (DOE) and the US and Michigan Departments of Transportation (DOT and MDOT).





The foundation of our success at Community Action is built on relationships with both our residents and communities. MCA works to build trusted relationships with community members and organizational partners to make our residents more successful and our communities more prosperous.”

ERNEST CAWVEY | DIRECTOR, MACOMB COMMUNITY ACTION



# JAN 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 <small>NEW YEAR'S DAY</small>	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 <small>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</small>	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4



Macomb  
Community  
Action



# THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

*The Community Services division offers a wide variety of programs to residents and municipalities ranging from transportation services, housing services such as, weatherization and rehabilitation, and community development programs. Funding for the various programs includes but is not limited to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the US Department of Energy (DOE) and the US and Michigan Departments of Transportation (DOT and MDOT).*

## ACTION CENTERS (586) 469-6999

Our Action Centers offer services to income-eligible Macomb County residents to diminish poverty and promote independence through rent/mortgage and utility assistance, and other programs.

## TRANSPORTATION (586) 469-5225

This department provides transportation to essential medical appointments and other specific locations for eligible Macomb County residents.

## HOUSING REHABILITATION (586) 466-6256

The Housing Rehabilitation Program provides assistance to eligible homeowners to repair their homes to achieve decent, safe and sanitary housing. Assistance is provided in the form of a no-interest loan.

## WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE (586) 469-6329

The Weatherization Assistance Program performs the installation of energy efficient items to conserve energy in Macomb County homes. These improvements reduce energy use and can save an average of 30 percent on heat and utility bills. A home energy audit determines which items will be installed.

## MINOR HOME REPAIR (586) 466-6256

The Minor Home Repair Program is a grant-funded program that provides assistance to eligible homeowners to address minor home repairs.







Working in Community Action has been a very rewarding experience. The lives of our most vulnerable residents that have been touched and changed through the work of our dedicated staff and impactful programming is something that I am very proud to be a part of Community Action changes lives!”



JOSEPH COOKE | DIVISION DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES

# FEB 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <small>PRESIDENTS' DAY</small>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4



**Macomb  
Community  
Action**



# ACTION CENTERS

## **Covid Emergency Rental Assistance (CERA) - Keep Macomb Your Home**

CERA helped thousands of Macomb County residents who faced COVID-related hardships with rent assistance, utility assistance and other assistance to avoid eviction and provide financial relief. MCA worked in coordination with Michigan State Housing Development Authority to implement multiple rounds of funding provided by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

### HOMEOWNER/RENTER ASSISTANCE

## **Community Services Black Grant (CSBG) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)**

CSBG CARES provided assistance with rent, mortgage, utilities and burial expenses for eligible households who were seeking assistance due to the COVID pandemic.

## **Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity (BCAEO)MEAP (Michigan Energy Assistance Program)**

Assists eligible households with electric and gas utilities, such as DTE, Consumers Energy and SEMCO to prevent utility service disconnection.

## **Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP)**

Provided households with water bill assistance and minor plumbing repairs and conservation to reduce water usage.

## **Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)**

Provides eligible veteran households who are homeless or at risk of homelessness with services to obtain or maintain housing stability.

## **United Way for Southeastern Michigan Basic Needs and Winter Relief**

UWSEM Winter Relief funding provided funds to assist with emergency housing during the winter months.

## **Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (BCAEO LIHWAP)**

Low Income Household Water Assistance Program is limited funding available through September 2023 to assist eligible households with water and wastewater bills. The program started in FY 22 and provides Macomb County residents in participating communities with financial assistance toward their water/sewer bill arrears.

## **Show Me the Money Day**

The Fourth Annual SMTMD was held virtually again this year. SMTMD had 106 participants register with over 11 different workshops to choose from. MCA collaborated with five community partners to cover timely topics, including:

- Bitcoin
- Accessing Social Security benefits
- Job training
- Growing your own vegetable garden
- Budgeting tips

## **Tax Preparation**

Our partnership with Macomb County Veterans Services was another success.

A total of 2,002 returns were completed.

- Federal refunds totalled: \$2,041,355
- Michigan refunds totalled: \$1,432,593
- Credits received:
- Child Tax Credit: 191 filers
- Earned Income Tax Credit: 382 filers

Over 100 filers received information on financial education topics:

- **Creating a savings plan**
- **Which bill do I pay first?**
- **Tips on budgeting during the pandemic**

## HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

CSBG (CARES) : 254

CSBG ("regular" non-CARES) : 100

BCAEO MEAP: 65

WRAP: 776

SSVF: 64

Winter Relief: 134

CERA: 7887 applications processed

BCAEO LIHWAP: 244

(water bill assistance - NEW in FY 22):





Macomb Community Action continues to strive to collaborate and coordinate with other organizations in the community. Special programs and events such as Walk for Warmth, Show Me the Money Day, and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance are just a few examples of how MCA braids funding with human capital and builds capacity of services.”

MARY FRONTIERO | PROGRAM MANAGER, ACTION CENTERS





# MAR 2023

March is Reading Month

 March 4 - Walk 4 Warmth

 March 25 - Show Me the Money Day

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	1	2	3	4 
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

RAMADAN STARTS



Macomb  
Community  
Action



# ACTION CENTERS

WRAP increased the number of assisted households in FY 22. MCA also took on the implementation of the WRAP plumbing repairs and conservation work. Great Lakes Water Authority, the funder and grant administrator, has continued to implement changes to WRAP to streamline the program for residents applying for assistance and the communities served by GLWA. Call 586-469-6464 for more information about WRAP.

In addition to WRAP, MCA received LIHWAP funding through BCAEO to provide help with water bill arrears for eligible households. When possible, Action Center staff are bundling these water assistance programs to maximize assistance to people who may have experienced difficulty maintaining water bill payments.

## HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES UPDATES

In FY 22, Macomb Community Action expanded our work in the area of housing and homelessness services. Macomb Community Action now serves as the Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (HARA), a role designated by the Macomb County Continuum of Care and Michigan State Housing Development Authority. A HARA serves the community in multiple ways:

- Facilitates the prioritization and referral of households experiencing homelessness through the coordinated entry process
- Provides homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance for people at risk of homelessness or who are currently experiencing homelessness
- Maintains Housing Choice Voucher Homeless Preference waiting list in coordination with MSHDA

Call 586-469-5656 or email [housing@macombgov.org](mailto:housing@macombgov.org) for HARA questions.

Macomb Community Action was also selected by the Macomb County Continuum of Care (CoC) to serve in the role of the CoC Collaborative Applicant. The Collaborative Applicant agency completes and submits required Housing and Urban Development CoC components to obtain HUD funding for agencies serving people through housing and homeless services programs.







The Community Action Centers have grown and expanded tremendously since the start of the pandemic and through it all, staff continue to serve the community with essential services to maintain stability. We are proud to assist people in so many diverse ways that align with our mission to diminish poverty and promote independence.”



JULIE HINTZ | PROGRAM MANAGER, ACTION CENTERS

# APR 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7 <small>GOOD FRIDAY</small>	8
9 <small>EASTER</small>	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6



Macomb  
Community  
Action

# COMMUNITY SERVICES - TRANSPORTATION

Through a long standing partnership with SMART, Macomb Community Action's Transportation program operates a fleet of wheelchair equipped buses. These vehicles can accommodate almost all individuals with disabilities. We are very proud of this long standing partnership with SMART which allows us to serve Macomb County's most vulnerable populations.

TRANSPORT

IN FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 MCA  
TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED:

Veterans transport (CARES) : 977 riders

Essential Medical ("regular" non-CARES) : 1059 riders

Adult Day: 790 riders

Meals on Wheels: 134,981 meals delivered







Transportation barriers can affect a person’s access to health care services. These barriers may result in missed or delayed health care appointments, increased health expenditures and overall poorer health outcomes. MCA works to minimize transportation barriers for residents to positively impact their overall health.”

STEVE HARRELL | PROGRAM SUPERVISOR, COMMUNITY SERVICES - TRANSPORTATION



# MAY 2023


May is Community Action Month

 **May 13** - Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

**March 25** - Show Me the Money Day



**Macomb  
Community  
Action**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30	31	1	2	3

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) & CDBG CARES ACT (CDBG-CV):**



The following projects utilizing CDBG and/or CDBG-CV funds were completed during the 2021-2022 program year. For a full list of projects completed during this time, please refer to the 2021 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) found at the QR code to the right.

### Highlights:

- Provided 49 people with job training through Macomb Community College
- Made improvements to Roxana Park and aided in the reconstruction of Roxana Street in the City of Eastpointe
- Installed sidewalks in the Village of New Haven and Shelby Township

## **EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT (ESG):**

During the 2021-2022, Macomb County's ESG and ESG-CV programs provided funding to MCREST, the Community Housing Network and Turning Point for rapid re-housing, shelter operations and homelessness prevention activities.

## **HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (HOME):**

During the 2021-2022 program year, Macomb Community Action completed the following projects utilizing HOME funds:

- In cooperation with the Community Housing Network, provided tenant based rental assistance to ten (10) households
- In cooperation with the Community Housing Network assisted two first-time homebuyers to acquire new homes







The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides local municipalities with funding to make improvements to public facilities that serve low-income persons. These projects promote the overall sustainability of our neighborhoods and can generate jobs.”



STEPHANIE BURGESS | PROGRAM MANAGER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

# JUN 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 <small>JUNETEENTH</small>	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1



Macomb  
Community  
Action





# COMMUNITY SERVICES - **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

## **HOUSING REHABILITATION (CDBG & HOME)**

- 18 Comprehensive jobs completed
- 9 Limited jobs completed

## **WEATHERIZATION**

- 219 Households Weatherized
- 548 Persons assisted

## **ENERGY WASTE REDUCTION (EWR)**

- 141 Households assisted
- 353 Persons assisted
- 96 Furnaces replaced
- 88 Water heaters replaced
- 40 Refrigerators replaced
- \$419,248 in Rebates invested in Macomb County from utility companies

## **MINOR HOME REPAIR (MHR)**

- 140 Households assisted

## **GRASS & SNOW:**

- 330 Households assisted

## **HOME INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM (HIP)**

- 389 Households assisted
- 1,784 Safety devices installed
- 24 Modular ramp systems installed

## **WATER RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (WRAP)**

- 126 Households assisted





Our team has dedicated their professional lives to serving the community. Seeing the difference our programming makes in the homes of our residents, whether it be making a home more accessible for a disabled resident, helping a homeowner to afford necessary improvements, or keeping a family warm in their home, is truly the greatest reward we can ask for.



STEVE SCHUSTER | PROGRAM MANAGER, COMMUNITY SERVICES - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

# JUL 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 <small>INDEPENDENCE DAY</small>	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5



Macomb  
Community  
Action

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION

*The Children and Family Services division consists of Head Start 0 - 5 and the Macomb Food Program. The focus areas of the division include school readiness and food insecurity among the County's most vulnerable populations. Funding sources include but are not limited to: The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and Head Start/Early Head Start/Child Care Partnership federal grants.*

## HEAD START 0-5 (586) 469-5215

Head Start is an early childhood development and education program for income-eligible families. The program provides a range of services for pregnant women and families with children ages 0 - 5. We partner with each family to promote high-quality school readiness at no cost.



Applications are accepted year round

## MACOMB FOOD PROGRAM (586) 469-6004

The Macomb Food Program provides immediate relief to those in need of food through a network of more than 70 pantries and hunger relief organizations. The program supplies food at no cost to ensure pantry shelves are stocked throughout Macomb County.

For emergency food, call the United Way at 2-1-1







I am proud of my team and the great work they do. Not only to protect the right of our community to be free from hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition but to support our vulnerable children and families with a proactive, holistic approach to quality early childhood education!”

LINDA AZAR | DIVISION DIRECTOR, CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES



# AUG 2023

August is LIHEAP Action Month -  
Low-Income Home  
Energy Assistance Program

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2



Macomb  
Community  
Action

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION - HEAD START 0-5

## MAIN FEDERAL GRANTS

### HEAD START (HS) - \$ PER CHILD = \$9,302 <sup>(A)</sup>

Fed - \$7,661,054

COLA - \$93,465

T/TA - \$78,175

Total \$7,832,694

### EARLY HEAD START (EHS) \$ PER CHILD = \$14,169<sup>(A)</sup>

Fed - \$1,260,497

COLA - \$15,378

T/TA - \$27,649

Total \$1,303,524

### EARLY HEAD START-CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIPS (EHS CCP) \$ PER CHILD = \$22,735.00<sup>(A)</sup>

Fed - \$1,854,178

COLA - \$105,474

T/TA - \$41,075

Total: \$2,000,727

(A) The total amount of public and private funds received and the amount from each source.

## OTHER AWARDS

**COVID CARES - \$806,821** for Head Start, Early Head Start and CCP

**CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (2021) (CRRSA) - \$307,590**  
for Head Start, Early Head Start and CCP

**AMERICAN RESCUE - \$1,222,823** for Head Start, Early Head Start and CCP

**GREAT START READINESS PROGRAM (GSRP) - \$874,400** for Head Start Only

**POSITIVE EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LEARNING SKILLS (PEDALS) - \$18,000**







MCA Head Start 0-5 has been a part of my professional life since it began over 35 years ago. Head Start 0-5 is an important “Hand Up” for income eligible families with small children in Macomb County. It is an honor to support the work of our staff as they assist families with the everyday challenges of preparing their children for school readiness success.”

MARALYN MCNALLY | PROGRAM MANAGER, HEAD START 0-5



# SEP 2023

Head Start 0-5  
Classes resume tentatively  
Sept 6

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 LABOR DAY	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS	16
17 ROSH HASHANAH ENDS	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Macomb  
Community  
Action

# CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES DIVISION - HEAD START 0-5

	Cumulative Enrollment	Actual Enrollment
Head Start	909	842
Early Head Start	127	92
Early Head Start - Child Care Partnerships	122	88

## DENTALS & PHYSICALS FROM PIR 2021-2022 (Cumulative Enrollment)

Head Start		Early Head Start		Child Care Partnerships	
Dental	307	Dental	28	Dental	16
Physical	899	Physical	58	Physical	64

## HEAD START SCHOOL READINESS GOALS/ SCORES 2020-2021

	% Met Expectations		% Exceed Expectations	
	Head Start 3-5	Head Start 0-3	Head Start 3-5	Head Start 0-3
Social/Emotional	64%	65%	13%	18%
Physical-Gross & Fine Motor	74%	66%	11%	19%
Language & Literacy	67%	59%	8%	11%
Cognitive	69%	71%	9%	12%
Math	56%	72%	12%	5%



*Plante & Moran, PLLC conducted the 2020 Single Audit. The auditors found no material weaknesses nor any deficiencies in the federal Head Start program. At the time of publication, the 2021 Plante & Moran Audit had not been completed.*





Our Early Head Start program provides high quality care, learning and resources to our community’s most vulnerable pregnant women, infants, and toddlers. We provide children the foundation and tools needed to be successful throughout their education journey.”

SARAH BISSA | PROGRAM MANAGER, HEAD START 0-5



# OCT 2023

October is National Head Start  
Awareness Month

Weatherization Month

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <small>COLUMBUS DAY INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY</small>	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4



Macomb  
Community  
Action







Food-insecurity has risen dramatically throughout Macomb County following the COVID-19 pandemic. The Macomb County Food Program has expanded storage, sought additional partnerships and expanded grant opportunities, to ensure we can keep pace with the growing needs of our community.”

SHANNON MALLORY | PROGRAM MANAGER, MACOMB FOOD PROGRAM



# NOV 2023

Scouting for Food Drive - Date TBD

November is

Homelessness Awareness Month

Homeless Awareness Month

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 <small>VETERANS DAY</small>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 <small>THANKSGIVING</small>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2



Macomb  
Community  
Action

# THE MACOMB COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD

The Macomb Community Action Advisory Board (MCAAB) is the advisory board for Macomb Community Action. MCAAB members are representatives from the public, consumer and private sectors.

One third of the Board members, appointed by the County Executive, are elected public officials currently holding office, or their representative(s). Appointed representatives shall have responsibilities which require them to deal with poverty-related issues.

One-third of the members represent the consumer sector. Representatives may be selected to represent the community or a specific area or neighborhood served by Macomb Community Action, or to represent a particular organization designated by the Advisory Board, whose membership is composed predominantly of economically disadvantaged persons, including youth organizations. One seat is reserved for a Head Start Policy Council member.

Finally, the last third, belong to the private sector as representatives of business, industry, labor, faith-based, law enforcement, education or other major groups and interests in the community served.

The Advisory Board members shall come from diverse backgrounds and life experiences in order to elicit a broad spectrum of knowledge, values and attitudes necessary for comprehensive consideration of issues affecting low-income individuals. Further, Advisory Board members will be selected in such a manner as to assure that they speak on behalf of the group or organization which they represent.



**Macomb  
Community  
Action**







As Macomb County emerges from the Pandemic, Macomb Community Action continues to show its importance to the community. Throughout the pandemic, their programs and staff were vital to helping people get through that difficult time. Now, Macomb Community Action continues to show its value through its innovative programs, service delivery and outstanding staff.



JUSTIN AL-IGOE | MCAAB, CHAIR

# DEC 2023

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7 HANUKKAH BEGINS	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 HANUKKAH ENDS	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 CHRISTMAS EVE	25 CHRISTMAS	26 KWANZAA	27	28	29	30
31 NEW YEAR'S EVE	1	2	3	4	5	6



Macomb  
Community  
Action



**Macomb  
Community  
Action**

**21885 Dunham Road, Suite 10  
Clinton Township, MI 48036  
(586) 469-6999  
[macombgov.org/mca](http://macombgov.org/mca)**

**[facebook.com/MacombCommunityAction](https://facebook.com/MacombCommunityAction)  
[twitter.com/\\_mcaction](https://twitter.com/_mcaction)**