



Menominee - Delta - Schoolcraft

**community
Action**

Helping People. Changing Lives.

Agency

ANNUAL REPORT

2024/2025



At A Glance

Officers

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Craig Reiter
Schoolcraft County

VICE CHAIRPERSON

Myra Croasdell
Delta County

SECRETARY

John Stapleton
Schoolcraft County

TREASURER

John Malnar
Delta County

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Gary Willoughby

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Menominee Delta Schoolcraft Community Action Agency (MDSCAA) celebrated its 60th year of service this past year, highlighted last summer with appearances in 4th of July parades and in other community events like the UP State Fair in Delta County and Folk Fest in Schoolcraft County.

We were honored to be asked to talk about our programs and services many times throughout the year. This included a variety of audiences from County Councils to Rotary groups, Women's Clubs, and just about anywhere else community-minded folks gather. We welcome the opportunity to share our message and are always looking for new people to inform about the work we do.

In this report, you will see information about the variety of programs and services we offer, helping people of all ages throughout our 3-county service area. Our service area is large in land mass, accounting for 6% of Michigan's total area, but only 0.7% of the state population.

Providing care for seniors and families throughout this large area (the 4th, 5th, and 8th largest counties by land size in the state) can be challenging, but our dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners make this work possible and rewarding to us all.

The year also saw some new program expansions in our Homeless Services programs, along with Welcome Newborns and our ramp building program now operating in all three counties. Our agency's first 60 years have brought about a lot of positive support for those who need it. We are excited about the future and the positive impact the agency can have through the continued great work provided by our staff, board of directors, volunteers, funders, and community partners.



Gary Willoughby
Executive Director

SENIOR SERVICES: SENIOR CENTERS

The MDS CAA Senior Services Department offers several programs to assist Senior Citizens in Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties. We promote living a healthier, more independent life for Seniors offering a variety of services. The Department is divided into six main areas— Senior Centers, Food Distribution, Adult Day Services, Nutrition, In-Home Services and Transportation.

The Senior Centers are in Escanaba, Gladstone, Rock and Rapid River in Delta County and Menominee, Daggett and Hermansville in Menominee County. The centers serve as community focal points, providing a wide range of activities and services for individuals 60 years of age and older. Services include Congregate Meals, a variety of activities including but not limited to dancing, games, birthday and holiday parties, and informational presentations. We promote living a healthy lifestyle offering exercise, foot care and musical activities. We also have food pantries located at the Centers. Some Centers offer MMAP (Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program) Counseling. Transportation is also provided in Menominee County.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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SENIOR SERVICES: NUTRITION

Our Nutrition Program offers Congregate, Carry Out, Home Delivered, Head Start and Contracted Meals to individuals in the community. The Congregate Meal Program is designed for individuals 60 years of age and older. It provides an opportunity for people to come together for lunch in a group setting at one of our Senior Centers. The Senior Centers are also where individuals go to pick up a Carry Out Meal.

The Home Delivered Meal Program provides meals to those Seniors in the community who are homebound to help meet their nutritional needs. All meals are a blend of good taste and balanced nutrition. Meals are delivered to the homes of Seniors who are unable to obtain or prepare nutritious meals.

During Fiscal Year 2025, hot meals were delivered Monday through Friday, with frozen meals being offered over the weekend. Meals are delivered to the home of eligible participants by trained staff. Congregate and Home Delivered Meals are available in Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties.

At A Glance

15,736 congregate meals served to
506 seniors.

21,171 carry out meals provided to

473 seniors.

143,633 home delivered meals were served to
971 homebound seniors.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Throughout the year Senior Services offered two food distribution programs -- the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) and the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Eligibility for both programs is based on household income.

TEFAP supplements the diets of low-income residents, including the elderly, by providing both food and nutrition assistance at no cost. CSFP improves the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets monthly with nutritious USDA foods.

At A Glance

Delta County

12,352 congregate meals provided to **266** seniors.

12,050 Carry-Out meals provided to **309** Seniors.

92,572 Home-Delivered meals provided to **627** Seniors.

Menominee County

2,100 congregate meals served to **185** seniors.

12,050 Carry-Out meals provided to **135** seniors.

29,807 home-delivered meals provided to **209** seniors.

Schoolcraft County

1,284 congregate meals provided to **55** seniors.

2,222 Carry-Out meals provided to **29** seniors.

21,254 home-delivered meals provided to **135** seniors.

ADULT DAY SERVICES

Adult Day Services is now located at 225 N. 21st street located in the Escanaba Senior Center - (906) 789-2886. The Adult Day Services Program offers a program for those participants with Alzheimer's and other related dementias. We have staff who are patient and caring, striving to enhance the abilities of our participants and encourage their independence in all areas of daily activity. Staff continuously receive training throughout the year. We offer an opportunity for positive interaction and socialization for all participants. Activities include singing, reminiscence therapy, baking, game day, puzzle/word searches, arts and crafts, painting, light exercise, birthday and holiday celebrations. Field trips are offered, going to the Bonifas Arts Center on a routine schedule, to museums and the library. Guest speakers and musicians from the community come in to share their talents. Special visitors come for visits, for example, like the Delta County Animal Shelter.

At A Glance

4,874 hours of adult day care services provided to **16** families in Delta County.

IN-HOME SERVICES

At A Glance

16,538 service hours were provided to **205** clients across all In-Home Services in our service area.

11,538 hours of service were provided to **124** clients across all In-Home Services, in Delta County.

In Menominee County, **5,000** hours of service were provided to **81** clients.

In-Home Services includes homemaker aide services (light house-keeping), respite care (provides companionship and supervision in relief of the primary caregiver) and personal care (assistance with activities of daily living).

Personal Care Services improves the quality of life for people of all ages throughout Menominee and Delta Counties. Personal Care Services hires certified or experienced nurses aides who receive ongoing training and are knowledgeable in working with persons who need assistance taking part in various activities of daily living.

Your Personal Care provider can help with various tasks like bathing, dressing, hair care, meal preparation, ambulation, range of motion, medicine reminders, household chores and allow for caregiver relief.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Senior Services Department offers a Transportation Program in Menominee County. During Fiscal Year 2025, services were offered from 8:00am to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.



At A Glance

In 2025, **4,752** rides were given in Menominee County, covering **47,228** miles

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Program is dedicated to providing comprehensive services that support the healthy development of young children and their families. The program primarily serves low-income families with children from birth to age 5 and pregnant women within Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties.

Menominee County has two busses, Schoolcraft County has two busses, Escanaba and Gladstone currently have five busses. The Early Childhood Program has a maintenance vehicle and another work vehicle to take to various sites and for training. Delta County has three bus drivers, Menominee and Schoolcraft County each have one driver. The bus drivers receive bi-annual continuing education for Bus Driver Safety Program through NMU and receive in-house training whenever necessary.

All of the busses have 15-20 child safety seats that expire after six years and need to be replaced with new ones upon expiration.

All of our sites perform two lock down drills and two tornado drills each school year, one in the spring and one in the fall. Our sites perform fire drills monthly. Our bus drivers conduct monthly safety drill as well. The Emergency Preparedness Plan is gone over twice a year with staff.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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At A Glance

376 Head Start students served by the program

151 Early Head Start students served by the program

355 Head Start families served by the program

135 Early Head Start families served by the program

84% percent average monthly attendance

94% percent eligible Early Head Start children served

93% percent eligible Head Start children served

100 percent of Early Head Start children received medical exams

100 percent of Head Start children received medical exams

29% percent of Early Head Start children received dental exams

45% percent of Head Start children received dental exams

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Family Support and Parental Involvement

Our program is based on the belief that parents are the first and most important teacher in their child's life.

All enrolled families had the opportunity to set and receive support in working on goals for their child's health and development and for personal and/or family goals. Personal and family goal areas included housing, adult education, parent/child interaction, employment, budgeting/income, knowledge of child development, parenting support, transportation, child care, health and safety, food and nutrition, parent involvement in Head Start, and other general personal goals. All enrolled families benefit from a Diaper Program that is available through the State of Michigan which supplies families with diapers for all members of the family that have a need.

At A Glance

Delta County

242 HS Families Served
99 EHS Families Served
66 Employees, **6** Substitutes
\$160,975.26 spent on food services

Menominee County

47 HS Families Served
14 EHS Families Served
7 Employees, **1** Substitute
\$254,207.46 spent on food services

Schoolcraft County

66 HS Families Served
22 EHS Families Served
12 Employees, **2** Substitutes
\$35,078.22 spent on food services



EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2025

Category	HS NOA FY25	HS FY25	HS NOA FY26	EHS NOA FY25	EHS FY25	EHS NOA FY26
Personnel	\$2,090,974	\$1,980,179	\$1,908,861	\$684,937	\$653,509	\$592,032
Fringe Benefits	\$480,062	\$464,894	\$481,791	\$179,138	\$165,218	\$149,438
Travel	\$58,000	\$61,053	\$60,000	\$15,000	\$28,765	\$28,000
Supplies	\$76,000	\$63,902	\$103,947	\$16,000	\$16,648	\$36,000
Contractual	\$339,426	\$378,124	\$324,100	\$103,600	\$132,132	\$113,100
Other	\$377,827	\$446,683	\$361,200	\$111,605	\$127,737	\$130,974

Welcome Newborns



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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At A Glance

\$45,000 in total funding.

\$30,000 in funding for Delta County.

\$7,500 in funding for Menominee County.

\$7,500 in funding for Schoolcraft County.

Welcome Newborns is a program funded through Children Trust Michigan (CTM). This program was established in Delta County in 1996 and acquired Schoolcraft County in 2024 and Menominee County in 2025. Our mission is to promote the wellbeing of children, improve parent-child relations, and prevent child abuse and neglect. Our services include providing tote bags with information and resources to hospitals, pediatricians, and family doctors, providing home visits to families of newborns, providing child development information through digital newsletters, offering sleep sacks to families, providing SID prevention workshops, and providing potty training kits to families.



EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

Kindergarten Preparation

Efforts to prepare children for kindergarten are initiated and maintained throughout the school year by establishing ongoing communication with families, using a national and state approved curriculum for early childhood education and assessment, Creative Curriculum, and by partnering with local school districts to promote a smooth transition process.

The program helps to prepare parents and children for kindergarten by including discussions about transition throughout the year. Teachers also implement some kindergarten practices in their classrooms during the last quarter of the school year. Materials relating to kindergarten transition are handed out at each quarterly meeting with the parent.

They are also given information about kindergarten registration and screening. Family Service Workers facilitate the transition of child development information to the schools as approved by the parent(s).

Additional transition activities may include field trips to a kindergarten classroom, kindergarten teachers visiting Head Start classrooms, kindergarten informational meetings for parents and Head Start teachers assisting with the kindergarten screenings.

They also coordinate with school districts to support families of children with special needs. Staff join parents at special education planning session(s) to support transitioning plans for children with special needs.

At A Glance

\$4,569,528 of funding from the federal government

\$424,300 of funding from the state government

\$592,709 comes from in-kind donations

\$151,273 from USDA reimbursement

At A Glance

The Early Childhood Program spent **\$53,727.75** to provide diapers to **202** children across our service area.

Children are assessed at enrollment to find out if they have an established medical and dental home. If they do not, staff work with families to identify a source of ongoing medical and dental care. Throughout the program year, staff partner with families to keep their child up to date on a regular schedule of preventative medical and dental care and provide education to families regarding the importance of health and a child's readiness to learn.

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM



At A Glance

46 total homes received energy improvements. By County-

26 in **Delta**

1 in **Alger**

5 in **Marquette**

4 in **Schoolcraft**

10 in **Menominee**

The low-income Home Weatherization Program is a free service funded by the Federal Department of Energy (DOE). The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) contracts with MDS CAA/HRA to operate the program. Service area includes Menominee, Delta, Schoolcraft, Marquette and Alger Counties.

The Weatherization Program provides free energy conservation services for eligible low-income households. The local agency determines applicant eligibility, performs the necessary inspections and contracts with qualified, licensed and insured private contractors to complete the work. These services reduce energy use and lower utility bills, thus creating more self-sufficient households.

Energy conservation services may include:

- ▶ Gas appliance testing
- ▶ Installing attic insulation/ventilation
- ▶ Sidewall and floor insulation
- ▶ Interior sealing of major cold-air infiltration areas, utilizing blower door technology
- ▶ Repair, seal, or possible replacement of windows or doors



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Client Services



PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

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Client Service Centers are available in Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties to assist people who are struggling financially due to unexpected circumstances. Services available include:

- ▶ Heat & limited utility assistance when there is a shut-off notice or low fuel tank.
- ▶ Information and referral to other sources.
- ▶ Self sufficiency services, including budgeting and energy optimization education.
- ▶ Water Assistance Program

The Community Action Agency is part of an important network of local services to help residents who are facing short or long-term financial difficulties.

At A Glance

847 total families received heat and/or utility assistance.

229 families in Delta County received

\$64,460 in assistance.

86 families in Menominee County received **\$30,129** in assistance.

532 families in Schoolcraft County received

\$159,970 in assistance..

WALK FOR WARMTH

Since 1992, the Community Action Agency's Walk for Warmth has raised funds to help residents of Delta, Schoolcraft and Menominee Counties facing a heating emergency. The 2024 fundraisers raised \$25,757.24 (\$4,230.73 in Menominee County, \$19,922.51 in Delta County, and \$1,604 in Schoolcraft County). Every dollar raised is used in the county in which it is raised.

Helping Menominee, Delta, Schoolcraft County Community Action Agency to sponsor and promote the Walk for Warmth were WJMN Local 3 TV and Radio Results Network.



Walk for Warmth

Warm a Heart. Heat a Home.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MDS Community Action Agency began the Homeless Assistance Program during the 2016/2017 program year. The Homeless Assistance Program is funded through grants from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. The various grants provide funding to support the work of the Homeless program Staff.

The housing staff work with any individuals or families who are literally homeless at the time of entry and help people stabilize their housing needs by providing them with resources and access to housing programs. In addition, the housing staff are able to set up emergency shelter providing people with an immediate and safe place to sleep at night.

October 2024, MDSCAA took on the responsibility of being the Housing Resource Assessment Agency for Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties. Homeless Staff complete all necessary assessments for individuals experiencing homelessness in the area and make the appropriate referrals.

At A Glance

95 total served by emergency shelter. **92** in Delta County and **3** in Schoolcraft County.

15 total served by Rapid Rehousing. **10** in Delta County, **4** in Menominee County and **1** in Schoolcraft County.

183 total households were provided Outreach. **125** in Delta County, **53** in Menominee County and **5** in Schoolcraft County.



HOMELESS SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGER

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SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

Senior Companion volunteers provide companionship and assistance to older adults, mental health clients, assisted living home residents, nursing home residents, foster care residents and adult day centers.

Senior Companion's efforts are aimed at helping others live as fully and independently as possible. They are focused on easing the loneliness by visiting and talking about old times, playing a game of cards, or just everyday living things that older adults might need some help with or just being a friend. Senior Companion volunteers add richness to the lives of their clients, while providing access to the community, including grocery shopping, transportation to medical appointments and opportunities for socialization. In addition to improving the lives of their clients, Senior Companions find their lives enriched through service to others.

Senior Companions are 55 years of age and older. Senior Companion volunteers provide 15-20 hours a week of companionship to the older adults. Prior to receiving their assignments, companions receive 30 hours of training and attend regular, monthly in-service trainings.

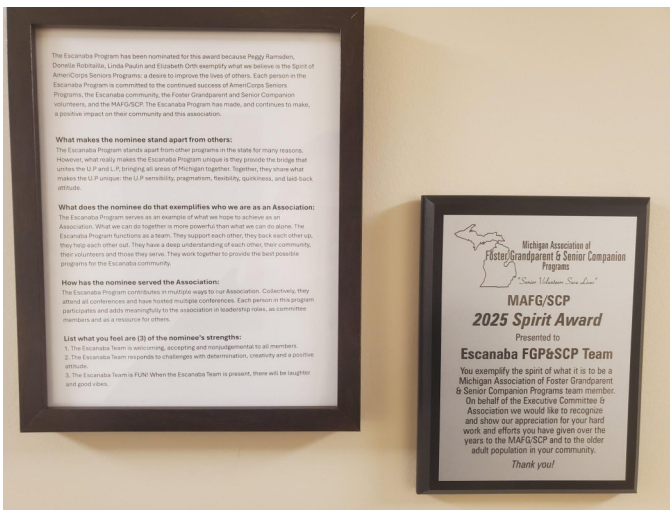
Companions are paid a non-taxable stipend and transportation reimbursement. They receive a meal each workday and insurance coverage. Volunteers are also honored at the Annual Recognition Banquet.



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At A Glance

32 Senior Companions served throughout the year.
19 in Delta County,
6 in Menominee County and **7** in Schoolcraft County.
33,720 hours of volunteer service provided to residents.
445 older adults served by Senior Companions. **256** in Delta County, **109** in Menominee County and **80** in Schoolcraft County.



RETIRED & SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

RSVP is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and over. You can use the skills and talents you've learned over the years, or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities within your community. The program offers maximum flexibility and choice to its volunteers while matching personal interests and skills of older Americans with opportunities to serve their communities. RSVP volunteers provide hundreds of community services across Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties in Michigan.

When you volunteer, you're not just helping others, you're helping yourself. Volunteering leads to new discoveries and new friends. Plus studies show volunteering helps you live longer and promotes a positive outlook on life. RSVP is funded by the AmeriCorps Seniors, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services/Aging and Adult Services Agency, and local grants and donations.



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AmeriCorps



At A Glance

20,768 hours of volunteer service was provided by **179** volunteers.

147 volunteers in Delta County, providing

17,157.50 hours.

26 volunteers in Menominee County, providing

3,188.50 hours.

6 volunteers in Schoolcraft County, providing **422** hours.

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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Foster Grandparents help guide students to higher academic achievement. Mentor Children who need a little help. The Foster Grandparent program connects role models like you with young people with exceptional needs.

Enrich your life while enriching the lives of others. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who serve in the Foster Grandparent program provide the kind of comfort and love that sets a child on a path to a successful future. Ameri-

Corps Seniors volunteers report better health and longevity having served their community.

Benefits

- **Health and wellness.** AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers experience decreased anxiety, depression, and loneliness. 84% of volunteer report stable or improving health after one year of service.
- **Self-improvement.** See the daily impact of your service as you build on the skills you already have and develop new ones.
- **Stipend.** Some programs offer a modest stipend to qualified, low-income volunteers.
- **Community.** Connect with others and be part of something bigger. 88% of volunteers who felt a lack of companionship reported fewer feelings of isolation after becoming an AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer.
- **New skills.** AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers often tap their wealth of experience and wisdom and channel it in new directions.
- **Insurance.** Most programs offer accident, personal liability, and excess automobile liability insurance.
- A TAX-FREE STIPEND (income eligible only)
- A FREE MEAL EACH WORKING DAY
- TRANSPORTATION ALLOWANCE
- PAID HOLIDAYS, (PTO) Paid Time Off
- ON-GOING TRAINING

At A Glance

21 Grandparents served **15** elementary schools, **1** faith-based school and in **1** summer childcare group throughout the year.

25,356 hours served in total.

Delta County

13 volunteers spent **15,988** hours volunteering at **10** different sites.

Menominee County

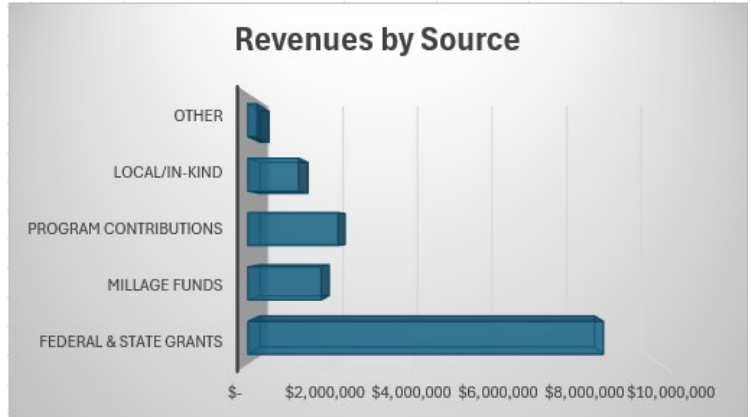
4 volunteers spent **4,268** hours volunteering at **4** different sites.

Schoolcraft County

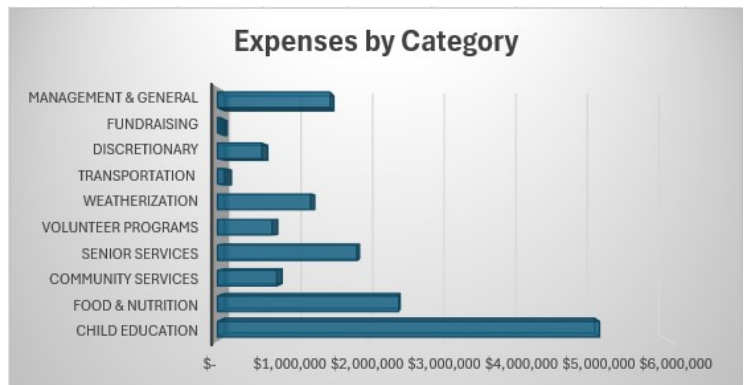
4 volunteers spent **5,100** hours volunteering at **1** site.

FINANCIAL DIGEST

1	Federal & State Grants	\$8,587,482
2	Millage Funds	\$1,773,508
3	Program Contributions	\$2,183,367
4	Local/In-Kind	\$1,230,468
5	Other	\$227,512
	Total Revenue	\$14,002,337



1	Child Education	\$5,052,395
2	Food & Nutrition	\$2,398,933
3	Community Services	\$784,855
4	Senior Services	\$1,842,283
5	Volunteer Programs	\$723,726
6	Weatherization & Housing	\$1,230,373
7	Transportation	\$92,273
8	Discretionary	\$588,484
9	Fundraising	\$33,580
10	Management & General	\$1,491,757
	Total Expenditures	\$14,238,208



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Helping People. Changing Lives.



COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT

Empower, advocate for, and assist people in need to improve and sustain their quality of life and independence through education, housing, nutrition, volunteerism, and in-home support.

WWW.MDSCAA.ORG

Search for many of our sites and services on Facebook!
MDS Community Action Agency



NON-DISCRIMINATION

MDSCAA adheres to Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title VI provides that “no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance” (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d).