



Menominee - Delta - Schoolcraft

**community
Action**

Helping People. Changing Lives.

Agency

ANNUAL REPORT

2021/2022



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At A Glance

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Delta County

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Julie Moberg

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

MDSCAA's mission is to empower, advocate for, and assist to improve and sustain quality of life. MDSCAA remains focused upon providing support to the people of our communities who are struggling with poverty and trying to meet their basic needs. MDSCAA has worked to refine its processes to effectively meet the basic needs of our low income families and individuals in our communities over the past two years.

MDSCAA homeless services worked with the Delta County Homeless Coalition to assure people were safe and sheltered. MDSCAA works in collaboration with many local agencies assuring there is a safety net for housing in the community. MDSCAA works with landlords and community agencies to find and provide safe and affordable housing for people not able to find housing.

MDSCAA Senior Services continues to provide nutritional services to home bound seniors. More seniors have signed up for home delivered meals. The ones that were able, came to the senior centers for meal pick up or dining at the Centers. All of the senior centers opened up to meals and activities for seniors bringing people together again. In home personal care and homemaker aide services also continued in a COVID safe manner.

The MDSCAA Head Start/Early Head Start program worked with young families providing needed support for their children's development, and at the same time allowing parents to return to work. It has been a challenge keeping classrooms open with COVID related illness, RSV and the flu, but Head Start/Early Head Start is committed to providing the best care and development of children 0-5 years old.

MDSCAA Senior Volunteer Programs have worked to return to their volunteer sites over the last year. They worked to make sure people were not feeling isolated and alone with no one to check on them. The Foster Grandparents returned to the classrooms to assist with the children who were struggling. The Senior Companion program returned to visiting homebound seniors, and RSVP went back to volunteering at community organizations.

MDSCAA is committed to serving the basic needs of our communities and addressing the issue of poverty. MDSCAA is an agency that won't stop working to support the people who live in our area. MDSCAA will continue to listen to our stakeholders and adjust to the needs that arise and are identified by our community leaders, families, agencies, and individuals.



Julie Moberg
Executive Director

SENIOR SERVICES: SENIOR CENTERS

The Senior Services Program assists senior citizens in living a healthier, more independent life. The program is divided into four main areas - Senior Centers, Nutrition, In-Home Services and Adult Day Services.

The Centers are located in: Escanaba, Gladstone and Rock 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 60+ population, including congregate meals, games, dancing, exercise and informational presentations. Transportation services are also provided in Menominee County.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Throughout the year Senior Services provides 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 four times a year. CSFP improves the health of low-income persons at least 60 years of age by supplementing their diets monthly with nutritious USDA foods.

ADULT DAY SERVICES

At A Glance

1,177 hours of
adult day care
services provided to
11 families

Adult Day Services (2635 1st Ave S, Escanaba, 789-2886) is geared to meet the needs of those with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. We have a fully trained, patient, caring and loving staff who strive to enhance the abilities of the Alzheimer's participant and encourage their independence in activities. We offer an opportunity for positive interaction and socialization for all our participants. Activities include singing, reminiscence therapy, baking, game day, puzzles/word searches, arts and crafts, painting, light exercises, birthday and holiday celebrations, trips to Bonifas Arts Center, museums, library and fishing at the Pocket Park at the Fairgrounds. Guest speakers and musicians come in from the community.

SENIOR SERVICES: NUTRITION

The Congregate Meals Program is designed for the 60+ population. It provides an opportunity for people to come together for lunch in a group setting at one of our senior centers. During the Covid-19 pandemic, congregate meal participants were able to pick up nutritious meals curbside.

The Home Delivered Meal Program assists homebound seniors with their dietary needs. The meals are a blend of good taste and balanced nutrition. They are delivered to the homes of seniors who are unable to obtain or prepare nutritious meals.

Hot meals are delivered Monday through Friday with frozen dinners available for the weekend. Meals are delivered to the homes of eligible participants by trained staff. Congregate and home delivered meals are available in Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties.

At A Glance

41,793

congregate meals
served to **940**
seniors

161,369 home
delivered meals were
served to **1075**
homebound seniors

IN-HOME SERVICES

At A Glance

3,167 hours of
homemaker aide
services were
provided to **116**
senior citizens

5,726 hours
personal care services
provided to **38** senior
citizens

1,542 hours of
respite care services
were provided to **17**
senior citizens

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 care giver relief, bathing, dressing, hair care, meals, walking, medicine reminders, household chores and range of motion.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Senior Services provides Transportation Services in Menominee County. In FY2022, **4,752** rides were provided, 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 through Head Start, Early Head Start and Michigan Department of Education funding. Included in this program are:

► Early childhood education ► Health and nutrition services ► Family support services

At A Glance

220 Head Start students served by the program

81 Early Head Start students served by the program

211 Head Start families served by the program

77 Early Head Start families served by the program

80 percent average monthly enrollment

91 percent eligible Early Head Start children served

90 percent eligible Head Start children served

94 percent of Early Head Start children received medical exams

98 percent of Head Start children received medical exams

38 percent of Early Head Start children received dental exams

63 percent of Head Start children received dental exams

\$4,130,834 of funding from federal government

\$236,118 of funding from state government

MDSCAA received a waiver from the Office of Head Start for FY 2021/2022 for in-kind donations

\$102,528 from USDA reimbursement

The Early Childhood Program supports coordinated care partnerships throughout the three county area.

Eligibility is based on a number of criteria, including age, income, special needs, risk, referral and location.

The Early Childhood Program utilizes numerous high quality resources to promote the optimal development of children. Staff receive ongoing training and support in providing rich educational environments and opportunities for all children. Parents receive individualized information about their child as well as general information about child health and development through home visits, parent teacher conferences, newsletters, center parent committee meetings and family fun nights. Teachers work together with parents in identifying and meeting the goals they have for their child's health and development.

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. We invite them to participate in the program in a variety of ways, including:

- ▶ Monthly Center Parent Committee meetings
- ▶ Home to School Learning Link activities in the areas of Language and Literacy, Safety, Math, Science, Social-Emotional Development, and Health and Wellness.
- ▶ Lending Libraries in each classroom
- ▶ Family Fun Nights
- ▶ 0 -3 Early Head Start Playgroups
- ▶ Policy Council
- ▶ Parent Cafe's – Conscious Discipline Groups
- ▶ Parent Enrichment Opportunities offered at all centers
- ▶ Parent support in getting GED
- ▶ Classroom volunteers



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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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.

Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2022

Category	HS Budget FY22	HS FY22	HS Budget FY23	EHS Budget FY22	EHS FY22	EHS Budget FY23
Personnel	\$1,981,042	\$1,717,370	\$1,946,747	\$635,410	\$567,286	\$640,157
Fringe Benefits	\$378,836	\$362,650	\$355,835	\$125,093	\$126,014	\$134,041
Travel	\$57,000	\$51,966	\$55,000	\$15,000	\$13,888	\$14,760
Supplies	\$78,803	\$109,544	\$81,000	\$35,410	\$43,894	\$25,600
Contractual	\$181,000	\$204,042	\$194,250	\$48,802	\$57,270	\$50,942
Other	\$284,717	\$490,604	\$328,566	\$99,888	\$112,674	\$94,103

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, through the use of a nationally and state approved curriculum for early childhood education and assessment, and by partnering with local school districts to promote a smooth transition process.

Our Head Start program implements the researched-based Creative Curriculum and Early Head Start implements Partners for a Healthy Baby. Children are assessed over time using the Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment which has been aligned with the mandated 0-5 Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework and State of Michigan standards to provide for a comprehensive approach to early childhood education. Supporting curriculums are used in order to meet all Head Start Program Performance Standards as well as child outcomes. These include: Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum; Talking about Touch Personal Safety Curriculum; S.P.A.R.K Physical Development Curriculum; I Am Moving I am Learning materials; Zoo Phonics; Creative Curriculum Literacy Curriculum; Creative Curriculum Mathematics Curriculum; My Plate nutrition; and Conscious Discipline-Social/Emotional Development Measure.

The program helps to prepare parents and children for kindergarten by including discussions about transition throughout the year. Teachers also implement some of the 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, on-site kindergarten screenings, and Head Start teachers assisting with the kindergarten screenings.

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

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/LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM



At A Glance

18 homes received energy improvements

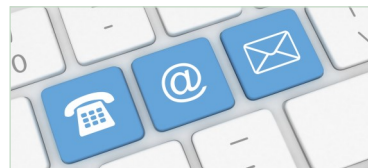
The low-income Home Weatherization Program is a free service funded by the Federal Department of Energy (DOE). The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) contracts with MDS CAA/HRA to operate the program. Service area includes Menominee, Delta, Schoolcraft, Marquette and Alger Counties.

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 replace windows or doors

The Chip Lead Grant Abatement Program provided \$191,475 in lead removal services to 3 households, concentrating on children with elevated blood lead levels.



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EMERGENCY SERVICES PROGRAM



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.
- ▶ Rental Assistance Program (CERA)

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
133 families
received heat and/or
utility 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 2022 fundraisers raised \$37,750 (\$10,321 in Menominee County, \$26,131 in Delta County, and \$1,298 in Schoolcraft County). Every dollar raised is used in the county in which it is raised. Funds disbursed for helping households in each county in 2021/2022: Menominee - \$17,385; Delta - \$33,342; Schoolcraft - \$5,740.

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.

EMERGENCY SERVICES COVID RESPONSE

MDS Community Action Agency and Human Resources Authority, Inc has serviced hundreds of clients, many of whom have, or have had family members who have experienced COVID illnesses. The following details the assistance provided by our agency staff.

Services provided since 10/1/2021 included:

- Deliverable Fuel (Wood)
- Housing
- Utilities

WATER ARREARAGES PROGRAM

Number of households served: **81**
Total amount of assistance: **\$23,575**

CSBG-D ASSISTANCE

Provided the following assistance:

Number of households served: **60**
Deliverable Fuel Assistance: **\$8,196**

COVID EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Provided the following assistance:

Number of households served: **283**
Emergency Rental & Utility Assistance: **\$1,881,591**

TOTAL EXPENDED IN ALL DIRECT SERVICES

\$1,913,362

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 in partnership with Community Action Agency Alger-Marquette.

The various grants provide funding for the Homeless Services Program Manager and the Homeless Outreach Worker. The Outreach position was added during the 2020/2021 program year. The housing staff work with any individuals or families who are literally homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness 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.



HOMELESS SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGER

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HOMELESS OUTREACH WORKER

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At A Glance

Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties

64 served by Outreach

86 served by Rapid Rehousing

41 served by prevention

229 served by emergency shelter

\$82,932 spent on homeless services

SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

Senior Companion volunteers provide companionship and assistance to frail elderly, 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 a senior 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. During the COVID-19 pandemic the volunteers continued socialization by phone contacts, pen pal letters to the clients they served and face to face visits. This eased the loneliness during the pandemic difficult times. 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 above. Senior Companion volunteers provide 15-20 hours a week of companionship to the elderly. 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.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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At A Glance

34 Senior Companions served throughout the year

26,956 hours of volunteer service provided to residents

321 frail elderly served by Senior Companions



AmeriCorps Seniors

FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

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. AmeriCorps 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

27 Grandparents served 12 elementary schools, one faith-based school and in a faith based recovery group throughout the year

33,166 hours served

122 Special Needs Children were served



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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

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 United Way of Delta County.

At A Glance
15,842.50 of volunteer service hours provided by **192** volunteers

Volunteer services provided at **27**



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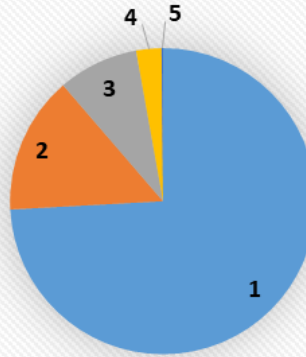


The RSVP volunteers and the Bark River-Harris 1st and 2nd grade classes celebrated the end of another successful year with their Reading Buddies Program in May 2022. They had a field trip to the Escanaba Public Library, where Pat Fittante, the Children's Librarian, read to them and took them on a tour of the facility.

FINANCIAL DIGEST

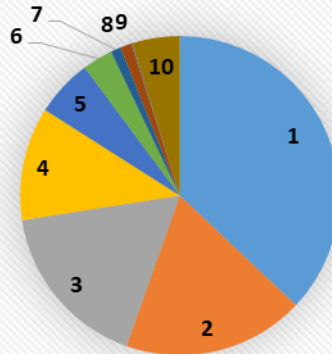
1	Federal & State Grants	\$8,367,007
2	Millage Funds	\$1,640,824
3	Program Contributions	\$959,265
4	Local/In-Kind	\$301,677
5	Other	\$16,905
	Total Revenue	\$11,285,678

Revenues by Source



1	Child Education	\$4,045,259
2	Food & Nutrition	\$2,007,778
3	Community Services	\$1,868,265
4	Senior Services	\$1,253,994
5	Volunteer Programs	\$635,480
6	Weatherization & Housing	\$334,236
7	Transportation	\$113,504
8	Discretionary	\$124,479
9	Fundraising	\$13,768
10	Management & General	\$523,779
	Total Expenditures	\$10,920,542

Expenditures by Category



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Helping People. Changing Lives.



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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT

Empower, advocate for, and assist people 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).