

EightCAP

INCORPORATED

2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT

governing board

2005

PUBLIC SECTOR

Larry McGillis, Gratiot County Commissioners

Linda Bussell, Montcalm County
Commissioners

Mary Cusack, Ionia County Commissioners

John Riley, Jr., Isabella County Commissioners

Richard McClintic, Gratiot County
Commissioners

CONSUMER SECTOR

Teresa Davaloz-Cervantes, Ithaca Head
Start Center

Nancy Haga, Consumer Sector

Jim Sharp, The ARC Montcalm

Gary Tegge, Head Start Parent Policy
Council

PRIVATE SECTOR

Bertha Davidson, Gratiot Co. Farm Bureau

Janet Thomas, Lakewood Community Schools

Margaret Heintz, Sacred Heart Parish

James Mullendore, Mullendore and Thrall

President's message

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

As President of EightCAP, Inc., it is with the warm feeling of being welcomed that I write my first letter for the agency's annual report. I am happy to report that the agency is strong; filled with hard-working, purposeful people; and progressing every day to work with you and your communities to solve problems, improve lives, and target the elimination of poverty. It is an uphill battle.



Most of the funding for our efforts comes from state and federal grants. In a time when jobs are leaving our states in huge numbers, wages are decreasing, retirement and health costs are rising sharply; and the amount of funding available to fight poverty is threatened regularly. Wars and natural disasters play a role also, as funds can be diverted to those areas.

While this is an annual report for 2004-2005, it is fitting to mention that the challenge for this organization for the future is to research and identify a vision and action plan for the next several years that will continue the good work we do and meet the challenges of new problems and issues as they arise.

As you read this report, I know you will join us in being impressed with the number, size, and depth of the programs that fall under the EightCAP umbrella. Some will be familiar, while others will be new to you. If you have questions or would like to become involved in one or more of our programs, please do not hesitate to call or drop in at our office at Turk Lake near Greenville.

So, in return for your fine welcome to me, I welcome you to the world of EightCAP, Inc. I propose that we get to know each other better through these pages and through our efforts, TOGETHER, to solve the poverty, disability, and work problems of the counties we serve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "John Van Nieuwenhuyzen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Van Nieuwenhuyzen
President

community services

Community Services provides basic needs and advocacy programs for low-income persons in Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, and Montcalm counties.

An elderly woman came to the Community Services office requesting help with her utility bills. She was recently widowed, and because of the reduced income, was falling behind in her bills. Community Services staff helped her with her back bills, but also investigated other fuel suppliers to find someone less expensive. That effort was successful, and she was able to be placed on a budget she could afford. Sometime later she contacted the office to let them know that she was able to stay current on her bills and, in fact, now had a credit balance on her fuel account.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided assistance to **13,883** low-income persons.
- Assisted **5,832 families** with emergency services including utility and shelter payments.
- Provided tax return assistance to **424 families**, who received **\$236,051** in refunds or credits.
- The annual Montcalm County Food Drive, sponsored by EightCAP in partnership with business and industry, raised over **\$14,000** and **50,000 food items** for area food pantries.
- Distributed **233,244 lbs.** of food to needy families.

Office Locations

904 Oak Drive, Turk Lake
P.O. Box 368
Greenville, MI 48838
Phone: 616-754-9315
Fax: 616-225-8761

300 W. Michigan
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Phone: 989-772-0110
Fax: 989-775-3907

315 Prospect
Alma, MI 48801
Phone: 989-463-5693
Fax: 989-463-6872

413 W. Main
Ionia, MI 48846
Phone: 616-527-5507
Fax: 616-527-1196



camp wah-wah-tay-see

Camp Wah-Wah-Tay-See, located near Baldwin Lake in Greenville, provides a rustic, outdoor camping experience for at-risk children and handicapped children and adults.

Funding for Camp Wah-Wah-Tay-See is provided by EightCAP, community donations, United Way of Montcalm County, Tri-County Electric, We Care for Kids Council, Montcalm Human Services Coalition, the Montcalm/Ionia DHS, and Michigan DHS. Community partners include the Greenville Optimist Club and the City of Greenville.



HIGHLIGHTS

- **220 campers** ages 5 to 69 from Ionia, Kent, and Montcalm counties took part in swimming, boating, arts and crafts, nature walks, and recreational activities.
- Greenville Optimist Club completed remodeling of the arts & crafts building including a handicap accessible ramp.
- Campers took a field trip to Cereal City in Battle Creek.
- **80 students** from the Seiter Education Center for the mentally disabled were new to this year's camp.
- Received a Ronald McDonald House Charities **grant for \$2,000**.



special olympics

Special Olympics gives children and adults with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to compete in 32 weeks of sports training and competition in over 11 sports.



HIGHLIGHTS

- More than **600 Area Six athletes** in Ionia and Montcalm counties participated in local, regional, and state summer and winter games.
- The David Hansen Bowl-A-Thon raised **\$5,700** for Area Six Olympians.
- Unified Golf and Cycling were added to this year's training.
- Montcalm and Ionia Torch Runs were held September 12 & 13, 2005, raising much needed dollars for Area Six Special Olympics.

Community Corrections is a statewide program managed by EightCAP, Inc. in Montcalm County. Offenders are sentenced to community service work, video breath monitors, or treatment programs as an alternative to incarceration.

community corrections

Non-violent offenders perform community service in lieu of jail time, giving the offender a chance to give back to the community and seek treatment.

Cognitive behavioral programs teach offenders new ways of thinking and help reduce the number of people returning to jail. Community Corrections also manages over \$120,000 of Residential Treatment Center money which pays for serious felony offenders to be placed at in-patient treatment facilities rather than jail or prison.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Savings of approximately **\$3,000 per month** in free labor to the community is measured by minimum wage labor performed by workers placed at non-profit organizations in their communities.
- Approximately **50 people** each year are placed in community, city, township, or county work sites.
- Approximately **\$80,000** is returned to Montcalm County each year from the state for housing offenders in local jails rather than prison.

senior volunteer services

Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs provide one-on-one services to persons with exceptional or special needs. Foster Grandparents provide volunteer services to children in local schools and Head Start Centers; Senior Companions help adults with disabilities and provide respite services for caregivers both in-home and at respite centers.

This year Helen Chappell was chosen for the Senior Volunteer Award of Excellence and nominated for the Governor's Service Award. The Governor's Service Award was established in 1993 to honor extraordinary volunteers who go above and beyond while mentoring and tutoring children, serving hungry and homeless, assisting the elderly, caring for our environment, and more.



Helen Chappell enrolled, reluctantly, in the Senior Companion Program October of 2001. Reluctantly, because she was not one to venture out much and has told us that she had little confidence in herself. As long as she can remember, she has been self-conscious and preferred to stay in the background. A friend and a program staff person convinced her to "just give it a try for a few hours a week."

Helen serves 20 hours a week as a Senior Companion volunteer. Some of her clients are homebound and have little or no family in the area. Her visits are eagerly anticipated and clients claim they feel less isolated, less lonely, because Helen is a part of their week. "I could not imagine a more caring visitor – she's very helpful... thoughtful... & caring – I can not imagine anyone more thoughtful or dedicated to her work," said one client.

Not only has she proven to be an excellent Senior Companion, she has gained the confidence and self-assurance to volunteer in her community. Helen assisted the Mecosta County Commission on Aging with the annual yard sale and organized the 2004 Euchre Tournament that raised \$1,800 in much needed funds to benefit the Senior Center. Helen is a Senior Representative on the Mid-Michigan Community Action Governing Board and recently assumed the office of secretary to this board. She regularly assists at the monthly commodity distribution and delivers commodities to the homebound.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **93 foster grandparents** provided services to over **500 children** at **42** separate **sites** in Ionia, Mecosta, and Montcalm counties.
- **40 senior companions** provided services to **143 elderly adults**.

weatherization

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) is a federally funded, low-income residential energy conservation program. The program provides free home energy conservation services to low-income homeowners and renters.

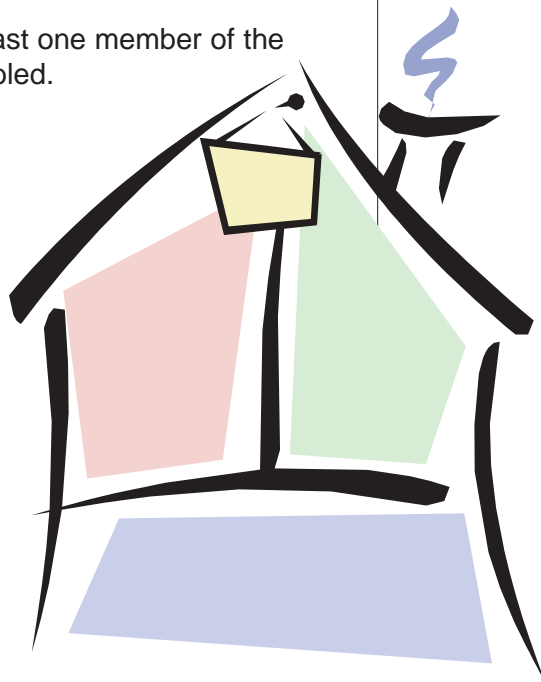
PROGRAM FACTS:

86% of families whose homes were weatherized had household incomes less than **125%** of poverty level.

23% of families had at least one household member who was 60 years of age or older.

26% of families had one or more children under the age of five.

54% of families had at least one member of the household who was disabled.



HIGHLIGHTS

- **206 homes** were weatherized, exceeding the number of planned units by 65%.
- **61 families** in Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, and Montcalm counties received energy conservation classes.
- Approximately **46 additional homes** were weatherized because of Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds.
- **35** faulty, inoperable, or inefficient **refrigerators** were replaced.
- **9 furnaces** and **1 water heater** were replaced.

threshold academy

Threshold Academy is a Michigan public elementary school chartered under the authority of Central Michigan University. Since 1997, professional staff has structured educational pathways for children who traditionally faced difficulties in regular classroom settings, including the low-income and those with challenging behaviors. Special education services were provided to 43 students.

Two major grants received during the 2002-2003 school year, the Reading First grant and the Comprehensive School Reform grant, continue to provide hundreds of hours of professional development for staff. In addition, the grants allowed Threshold Academy to purchase 24 new computers for the classrooms, provide technology training and consultant resources for teachers, and to acquire educational software. Students are able to access the Internet through safe sites and to use technology to gather information and construct reports and other research projects. Student videos and software help students learn about social studies and science topics beyond the classroom. Funding has provided opportunities for curriculum-based field trips to various museums and educational venues.

Threshold Academy Board Members

Connie Borton

Michael Goldman

John Kroneck

Amy DeBerg

Betty Knapp

HIGHLIGHTS

- **160 students** attended the school during the 2004-05 school year.
- Implementation of Houghton Mifflin reading program K-6.
- Implementation of Math and Technology programs K-6.
- Purchased science and math manipulative resources.
- New computers and software.
- Both library and classroom resources purchased - books, videos, audio-visual equipment, games, etc.



early childhood programs

Head Start is a comprehensive child development program for children 0-5 years who either live in poverty or have a certified special need. With the goal of school success and family self-sufficiency, Head Start, Early Head Start, and the Michigan School Readiness Program combine local, state, and federal resources to deliver an array of individually tailored educational and social support services.

Weaving fathers into the fabric of EightCAP Inc.'s Head Start program has had amazing results and has been a major focus this past year. Men are feeling more accepted in their child's early education centers and are volunteering more in the program. Staff are more comfortable with men around the centers and see the value that they bring to early childhood education. And the community is enriched as Dads take an active role in the growing lives of their children.

EightCAP Inc.'s 0-5 Head Start program instituted a variety of activities intended to involve fathers in the lives of their children through participation in the Head Start program. In particular, four new programs were implemented:

- Dads' Day at the Center
- Fatherhood Factor Conference
- Fathers' Leadership Retreat
- Nurturing Fathers Class

In addition, previous successful male involvement activities such as the newsletter, DADS class, Advisory Council, Home Counseling, and participation in the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition continued.

HIGHLIGHTS

Early Head Start

- **279 prenatals to three year-olds** were served.
- **25%** were determined to have a disability.
- **165 families** developed Individual Family Service Plans.
- Fathers of **57 children** participated in father/father-figure planned activities.
- **182 families** requested and received supportive services.

Head Start

- **1046 preschoolers** were served in literacy-rich child development centers.
- **13.8% of children** were determined to have a disability.
- **833 families**, including non-custodial parents, developed Family Partnership Agreements.
- **179 fathers** participated in father/father-figure planned activities.
- **833 families** requested and received supportive services.



early childhood programs

Dads Making a Difference

Larry is a single father of an Early Head Start child. He took the Exploring Parenting class and resolved to be the best dad he could be. He connected with the Male Involvement Coordinator to get some advice on custody issues and the direction his life should take. He currently is enrolled at Ferris State University majoring in communications and is juggling his time between studying and being a good father to his daughter, Naveah, who is one.

Jason is a married father of three children, which includes a set of twins. Three years ago Jason was an angry young man with a failing marriage and numerous scrapes with the law. He and his wife have utilized both Early and regular Head Start services for their young family. Jason took a chance and attended two fatherhood classes, a statewide Fatherhood Involvement Conference, and participated in the Dads' Retreat, designed to promote responsible fatherhood. Today, Jason is a member of the EightCAP, Inc. Parent Policy Council, recently having completed intense training on the principles of shared governance. Working harder on his role as a husband and a father, Jason has come a long way toward his goal of being a committed, involved, and responsible father.

Joe is a single father of six boys, ranging in age from 2 to 15 years. One child is enrolled in Head Start, while another is on a waiting list for Early Head Start. When his wife left him, Joe was in dire straits. He had lost his job about the same time and was struggling to keep his family intact. Workers from EightCAP's community services department helped out, stabilizing the family finances. Head Start family support staff helped Joe with parenting advice and opportunities for respite care. Today, Joe is working at a casino and is managing very well on his own. He still puts his children first and has overcome great obstacles to maintain a stable home for his family.



central area michigan works! consortium

The *Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium* (CAMWC), originally formed in 1982 under the Central Area Partnership Consortium, provides workforce development services in Gratiot, Ionia, Isabella, and Montcalm counties. CAMWC is a local government consortium, funded by state and federal grants, and is designated as a Michigan Works! Agency to provide public employment services for job seekers and employers.

Community oversight for CAMWC programs is provided by the local CAMWC Board, composed of local elected officials, and the Workforce Investment Board, composed of private business representatives and other community leaders. The Boards set overall policies and goals for workforce development services and coordinate services with work-to-work, unemployment-to-work, welfare-to-work, education-to-work, and economic development.

New Greenville Service Center Opens

The Greenville Service Center moved on October 24, 2005, to its new home at 114 S. Greenville West Drive, Greenville.

This larger facility will better accommodate and provide services to the substantial number of people who were dislocated in 2005 along with the many people and businesses impacted by these closures and layoffs.



The new office will provide all employment training services; WIA Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker Services; Work First; MDLEG Rehabilitation Services; Veterans Services, and Agricultural Worker Services.

Michigan Works! Service Centers

Michigan Works! Service Centers throughout the state offer job referral, training, and employment services to the job seeker and employer. Numerous federal and state-funded programs exist to prepare people for jobs and careers so employers have the skilled workers they need to be competitive in the global economy. The CAMWC Michigan Works! centers are located in Alma, Ionia, Mt. Pleasant, and Greenville.

Each service center is fully equipped with state-of-the-art computers and resources. Center staff assists with job search preparation and job postings through the web-based Michigan Talent Bank and Michigan Job Bank.

Service Center locations:

Gratiot Service Center

327 East Center St.
Alma, MI 48801
Phone: 989-466-4832 / TTY:711

Ionia Service Center

307 West Adams St.
Ionia, MI 48846
Phone: 616-527-1360 / TTY:711

Isabella Service Center

1803 South Mission St.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Phone: 989-772-5304 / TTY:711

Montcalm Service Center

114 South Greenville West Drive #
Greenville, MI 48838
Phone: 616-754-3611 / TTY:711

camwc services

2005 CAMWC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GRATIOT COUNTY

Comm. Linton Chapin
Comm. Roland Merignac

IONIA COUNTY

Don Benjamin (rep. of
Comm. James Banks)
Comm. Larry Tiejema

ISABELLA COUNTY

Comm. George Green
Comm. John Haupt

MONTCALM COUNTY

Comm. Patrick Q. Carr
Comm. Ronald Retzlaff

2004-2005 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Lou Adams
Michigan Rehabilitation Services

Thomas Batchelder
*Mid-Michigan Family Consultation
Center*

Jan Baszler
Department of Human Services

Dr. Donald Burns
Montcalm Community College

Scott Crosby
Montabella Community Schools

Mary Cusack
Muir Hardware

Dennis Dunlap
Gratiot-Isabella RESD

Steve Foster
Greenville Tool and Die Company

Dale Howard
Extruded Metals

Dorothy Howard
Gaertner & Howard, CPA's, P.C.
Nancy Lorenzen
Electrolux

Kathy Methner
*Middle Michigan Development
Corporation*

Franz Mogdis
Montcalm Alliance

Tim Oeschger
*Brown Corporation of America,
Inc.*

Don Schurr
Greater Gratiot Development, Inc.

Sheral Simon
Maxfield's Restaurant

Diane Smith
Ionia County Economic Alliance

Ralph Ward
Ward Creative

David Westlake
Alma Products Company

Robin Whitmore
Gratiot Community Hospital

Philip Wilson
*American Educational
Associates*

George Yost
*Mid-Michigan Central Labor
Council*

Congratulations Alumnus of the Year

Beth Moore of Alma was chosen to represent the Central Area Michigan Works! Consortium at the Statewide Alumni Celebration in Lansing for her outstanding accomplishments in the Workforce Investment Act program. Moore was one of 25 Michigan Works! participants honored at a special awards ceremony held at the Michigan State Capital.



Beth had lost her job, was going through a divorce, and needed help. She wanted to find stable work where she would receive good money and benefits. She attended a WIA Orientation, Reemployment Services Initiative (RSI), and a job readiness workshop. The WIA Dislocated Worker program provided Certified Nurses Aid (CENA) training at the GTEC Center. Upon completing the CENA program, she passed her state test in January and was hired in February at Masonic Pathways.

Juan Garza, Gratiot County; Roxanne Dorland, Montcalm County; and Valerie Stiles, Ionia County, were also recognized locally for their accomplishments as graduates of workforce development programs in a January celebration in Sidney.

financial report

EIGHTCAP, INC.

Camp Wah-Wah-Tay-See	\$51,623
Care Management - MI Choice Medicaid Waiver Program	3,143
Commodities (Value of commodities distributed)	146,915
Community Corrections	228,540
Community Services Block Grant	545,664
Community Services Block Grant - Discretionary (Tax Prep.)	10,000
Community Services Emergency Fund	12,365
Court Appointed Special Advocate	23,559
Early Head Start	1,338,543
Early Head Start - State Collaboration	130,518
Foster Grandparents - Corporation for National Service	200,545
Foster Grandparents - Office of Services to the Aging	222,690
Head Start	4,685,141
Head Start - Child Care Food Program	248,365
Head Start - Evening Child Care	21,732
Head Start - School Readiness - Michigan Dept. of Education	518,100
LIHEAP - Crisis Assistance	193,345
MDHS Emergency Needs	16,000
Michigan Enrolls Project	45,117
Montcalm County Food Drive	12,477
Montcalm County Love in Action	8,542
MPSC/MCAAAA CAA Energy Assistance Program	32,970
MPSC/MCAAAA CAA Heating Assistance	67,120
MSHDA Emergency Shelter Grant	24,549
MSHDA Rural Homeless Initiative	15,000
Senior Companion Program - Corporation for National Service	84,600
Senior Companion Program - Office of Services to the Aging	99,872
Supportive Housing Program	113,375
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	62,024
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families – EITC	16,500
The Emergency Food Assistance Program	40,328
Tri-County Electric People Fund	2,000
United Way – FEMA	60,323
Weatherization	355,531
Weatherization – LIHEAP	226,100
Weatherization - Reynolds Township	25,000
Weatherization and Client Education – MPSC	118,629

FUNDING SOURCES:

Central Michigan University – Corporation for National & Community Service – Donations from Area Businesses & Individuals – Ionia Area Council Church Women United – Ionia/Montcalm District Department of Human Services – Isabella County Ministerial Association – Michigan Community Action Association – Michigan Department of Community Health – Michigan Department of Education – Michigan Department of Human Services – Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth – Michigan Head Start Association – Michigan Office of Community Corrections – Michigan State Housing Development Authority – Montcalm County We Care for Kids Council – Reynolds Township – Shepherd Public Schools – Tri-County Electric People Fund – U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development – United Way of Ionia County – United Way of Isabella County – United Way of Montcalm County

financial report

CENTRAL AREA MICHIGAN WORKS! CONSORTIUM (EightCAP, Inc. is the admin. entity)

Food Stamp Employment and Training Program	\$90,049
Food Stamp Employment and Training Program (Supportive Services)	2,025
Reed Act Service Center Operation	91,723
Reemployment Services	27,207
Trade Act	120,917
Wagner-Peyser Employment Services	366,869
WIA Adult	844,246
WIA Dislocated Worker	802,274
WIA Dislocated Worker - National Reserve	22,210
WIA Dislocated Worker - Rapid Response	8,206
WIA Incumbent Worker	97,502
WIA Local Administration	367,715
WIA Statewide Activities - Capacity Building	24,000
WIA Statewide Activities – Incentive	20,422
WIA Youth	782,633
Work First (GF/GP)	302,548
Work First (Reed Act)	277,314
Work First (TANF Supportive Services)	79,000
Work First (TANF)	1,194,274
Youth Statewide Activities	26,028

THRESHOLD ACADEMY (EightCAP, Inc. is the management company)

At Risk Funds	\$75,669
Comprehensive School Reform Grant	84,250
Food Service	89,932
Local Revenue	5,492
Reading First	112,500
Special Education	44,793
State Aid	1,055,183
Title I School Improvement	5,000
Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs	124,831
Title II, Part A: Teacher/Principal Training & Recruiting	21,017
Title II, Part D: Enhancing Education Through Technology	2,551
Title V, Part A: Innovative Programs	2,622
Title VI, Part B: Rural and Low-Income Grant	4,189

TOTAL

\$ 17,182,036

CAA - Community Action Agency

EITC - Earned Income Tax Credit

MCAAA - Michigan Community Action Agency Association

MDHS - Michigan Department of Human Services

MSHDA - Michigan State Housing Development Authority

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency

LIHEAP - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

GF/GP - General Fund/General Purpose

WIA - Workforce Investment Act

TANF - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families



**EightCAP, Inc. / 904 Oak Drive, Box 368 / Greenville, MI 48838
Phone (616) 754-9315, TTY:711 / Fax (616) 754-9310**

EightCAP, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request for individuals with disabilities.