



Quarterly Report to United Way of Monroe County and Steering Committee April 2008

Upon completion of the three-year Active Balanced Community grant approval from the State Bureau of Juvenile Justice, the United Way of Monroe County provided \$18,000 in community impact dollars to sustain the work through five goal areas in the approved work plan:

- I. **Empowerment:** Continue to develop and empower organizations in creating and implementing a restorative community
 - Maintain the Steering Committee oversight role
- II. **Awareness:** Enhance the awareness of the restorative practices among service personnel and the general community.
 - Present on BARJ to community groups / produce on-line training on philosophy
 - Present at Making Connections event
 - Maintain the Active Balanced Community website
 - Participate at community events
 - Conduct annual awareness survey
 - Conduct the "I Pledged" campaign among graduating seniors
- III. **Program Development:** Enhance the services available to youth involved in the juvenile justice system, victims, those with substance abuse issues, and the general community.
 - Victims services material continues to be distributed through Prosecutor's office.
 - Mediation services continue through Michigan Dispute Resolution Services.
 - Monroe County Mentors continues through Big Brothers Big Sisters
 - Re-Entry (Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee) continues to meet
 - Substance Abuse Coalition continues to meet / provide education programs
- IV. **Civic Engagement:** Enhance the opportunities for youth to be involved in the community.
 - Develop civic engagement opportunities
 - Pursue a grant to fund a coordinator for youth opportunities
 - Continue to conduct Girls Circles'
 - Develop other venues to provide Girls Circles'
 - Provide opportunities through which youth develop self-awareness / life skills
- V. **Data Collection:** Continue the database of available community statistics that measure the identified risk factors

Progress through March 31, 2008:

- I. **Empowerment:** Continue to develop and empower organizations in creating and implementing a restorative community

Meetings of the Steering Committee will be held quarterly, with one scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2008 at noon. Holcim, Inc. has agreed to sponsor the lunch for this meeting. Pam Moskwa will continue as Co-Chair, and Connie Carroll, has assumed the Co-Chair position, upon Mike Hoydic's retirement.

II. Awareness: Enhance the awareness of the restorative practices among service personnel and the general community.

The Active Balanced Community Website continues to be maintained and updated by Wendy Harless, through a sub-contract under the community impact funding. The number of unique visitors for the quarter include:

Number of Unique Website Visitors Per Month								
	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>		<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
January	102	77	141	189	July	85	84	96
February	91	83	85	181	August	60	89	124
March	89	103	127	276	September	64	79	215
April	105	107	126		October	74	83	247
May	95	68	45		November	63	114	216
June	125	61	91		December	68	104	142
YTD Total	607	499	615	646	Total	1,021	1,052	1,655

Community Events. The Monroe County Prosecutor coordinated with Law Enforcement to at the Bedford Trade Fair to provide educational materials regarding victims services, drug identification, and misuse of prescription drugs..

“I Pledged” Campaign. Cheryl Beck is chairing this committee. An initial planning meeting was held on April 4, 2008, for the annual campaign to area seniors regarding responsible driving. The Monroe County ISD is partnering with the 2008 project.

Restorative Justice Training. An initial outline for the training has been developed. April Corie will oversee the development through the community impact award. The project will be a partnership with the Mark Hall from the Monroe County Community College and the Center for Community Growth. The training will be web-based and include both interactive instruction and comprehension testing. The web-based approach will allow employees, professionals, students, and community members to complete the training at times that are convenient to their schedules. It will also be more efficient and affordable than hosting multiple face-to-face trainings.

III. Program Development: Enhance the services available to youth involved in the juvenile justice system, victims, those with substance abuse issues, and the general community.

Mediation services continue through Michigan Dispute Resolution Services (MDRS). Mediation continues to be offered; however, only two mediations were held in Monroe County during the quarter; another is scheduled for April 23. MDRS has met with the Friend of the Court to see if any assistance could be provided with their caseload.

Monroe County Mentors is operating through Big Brothers Big Sisters. Currently, there are three mentors working with three youth referred through the court system. Big Brothers Big Sisters is also establishing a Lunch Buddy Program at Lincoln Elementary School that will be held through the current school year, and then again in the Fall.

The Monroe County Re-Entry Team, now known as the Juvenile Services Oversight Committee, continues to meet on a regular basis to monitor the implementation of the Juvenile Re-Entry planning. Jeff Dusseau coordinates re-entry for the Monroe County Youth Center.

Substance Abuse Coalition. Funding to support the Coalition through 2008 has been received through the Prosecutor's Office from the Drug Forfeiture Funds (\$10,000) and from OMNI (\$12,000). The work plan will be monitored by the Coalition, and the United Way of Monroe County serves as the fiduciary agency.

The Substance Abuse Coalition has developed a monthly meeting schedule – first Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. April Corie continues to serve as the Co-Chair, and Robert Kasprzak was recently elected to Co-Chair, replacing Michigan State Police Trooper Jim Jarrett, who has been transferred to an afternoon shift and other duties.

Three sub-committees have been created to work on educational programs: Parenting, Youth, and Awareness. The Parenting group met with the Superintendents to discuss the need for programs and will be working with the area PTOs to provide material at conferences and other events. The Awareness committee developed the Town Hall meeting that was held in conjunction with the Making Connections in-service on March 6, 2008. \$500 in funding for the Town Hall meeting was received from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration).

The Drug Free Communities' grant application for \$125,000 was submitted on March 19, 2008. The mission, goals, and strategies outlined in the grant include:

Mission: "The Coalition will ensure a 'HIP' Community through collaborative planning, program development, community action, and public education that results in decreased substance use and abuse among youth."

Goals:

1. Strengthen the collaboration within Monroe County in support of the Coalition and its goals in reducing substance abuse among youth.
2. Develop an environment and prevention programs that will decrease substance use and abuse among youth.
3. Increase the protective factors in our community that will result in decreased substance abuse among youth.
4. Positively impact the community norms in Monroe County so that both youth and adults believe that substance abuse is unacceptable.

Strategies:

1. Recruit additional members to strengthen the base of the Coalition.
2. Collaborate with local law enforcement to strengthen enforcement efforts.
3. Increase awareness and education among youth regarding substance abuse risks and impacts on health and well being.
4. Increase youth opportunities for civic engagement as added protective factors.
5. Increase community awareness about the liability issues and legal consequences Regarding substance abuse.

These goals and objectives were developed based on a review of data obtained through the Western Survey Data administered in Monroe County schools, as well as through a community survey. Drug abuse is a serious problem for youth in Monroe County. The five most frequently used drugs were alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, stimulants, and inhalants. These five were also the "favorites" nationally, however, it should be noted that the rates of use in all drug categories for Grade 12 students were higher in Monroe County than national averages (except for lifetime use of alcohol). It should be noted, however that the rates of past 30 day use were significantly higher than the national averages. Rates of usage among Grade 8 students are also alarming.

Lifetime Use of Various Drugs —						
	2005			2007		
	Monroe County		Nationally	Monroe County		Nationally
	Grade 8	Grade 12	Grade 12	Grade 8	Grade 12	Grade 12
Alcohol	47.7%	79.2 %	76.6 %	46.6%	75.5%	76.8%
Cigarettes	33.8%	57.4 %	53.7 %	30.0%	57.2%	52.8%
Marijuana	20.3%	47.6 %	46.1 %	18.9%	50.8%	45.7%
Stimulants	11.7%	20.3 %	14.4 %	10.6%	18.9%	15.0%
Inhalants	22.9%	10.3%	14.4 %	20.4%	17.7%	10.9%

Past 30 Day Use of Various Drugs						
	2005			2007		
	Monroe County		Nationally	Monroe County		Nationally
	Grade 8	Grade 12	Grade 12	Grade 8	Grade 12	Grade 12
Alcohol	23.4%	51.4 %	47.5 %	23.8%	50.5%	48.0%
Cigarettes	14.7%	28.0 %	24.4 %	12.4%	32.7%	25.0%
Marijuana	11.2%	21.5 %	21.2 %	9.0%	26.8%	19.9%
Stimulants (Amphetamines)	5.9%	10.2 %	5.0 %	4.5%	9.1%	4.6%
Inhalants	9.8%	3.5%	1.5%	8.7%	3.4%	1.5%

IV. Civic Engagement: Enhance the opportunities for youth to be involved in the community.

Develop Civic Engagement Opportunities. A grant for \$600 that was written to the Community Foundation of Monroe County was awarded in January 2008. The purpose of the grant was to provide a ceramic art project for the youth at the Monroe County Youth Center. On March 20, 2008, Michaleen Karry from Paint Your Masterpiece provided technical assistance as the youth painted 40 coffee mugs, which will be given to the residents of Fairview. Their creations were amazing, were captured on film, and will be posted on the website.

Under the guidance of Marge Waltz, the youth at the Youth Center participated in the 2008 Big Read, and on March 16, 2008, six youth attended the play, To Kill A Mockingbird. On April 16, 2008, 12 youth attended the Wayne State University one-act play at the La-Z-Boy Center.

Several youth from the Youth Center participated in Elder Beerman’s community days coupon sale to raise activity funds for the youth.

A Civic Engagement workgroup has been formed to develop regular opportunities and to plan the quarterly projects. Donna Cherba, Youth Enrichment Coordinator, through the Court will follow up with approvals and details for the projects. Referrals of youth through the Probation Department will be requested. An initial project was held April 18, 2008 at Creekside Village to help with their outdoor clean-up project. Four youth participated.

A grant was submitted to the Community Foundation of Monroe County for \$625 to provide scholarships to the summer creativity camps at Paint Your Masterpiece. If funded, five to 10 youth who come from families who have low incomes will be provided this opportunity.

Grant to fund a Youth Opportunities Coordinator. A Robert Wood Johnson grant opportunity was reviewed; however, 50% match is required, and their program goals did not appear to match our community’s needs. A grant to Hamburger Helper for \$15,000 was submitted to develop youth opportunities.

Continue Girls Circles' Judy Thomas and Cheryl Beck are conducting an eight-week session that began in February. The United Way of Monroe County is providing the facility.

Develop Other Venues to Provide Girls Circles' The Soroptimist International Club of Monroe County has written a grant to purchase materials and is sending two of its members to training in April 2008. A staff from Big Brothers Big Sisters is also attending the training.

Opportunities for Developing Self-Awareness / Life Skills. An initiative that began in June 2007 designed to improve self-awareness within youth was an eight-week yoga class at the Monroe County Youth Center. Since then, Kimberly and Nick Searl have continued to volunteer their time to conduct classes on Sunday evenings. While flexibility and conditioning are important aspects of the program, an emphasis on self-awareness and self-control is included. Each session is ended with a share circle during which the youth review a handout that includes such topics as emotional and social intelligence, choices, and values.

On March 6, 2008, a youth from the Youth Center attended the American Red Cross' Everyday Hero celebration, as a representative of their nominations for the soup bowl project. The youth was provided an opportunity to eat dinner at a community event –a new learning experience for the youth.

V. Data Collection: Continue the database of available community statistics that measure the identified risk factors

This Committee continues to chaired by Laura Schultz, Director of the American Red Cross. The Data Collection Committee met on January 16, 2008 and reviewed the current statistics list in the charts below.

A project with the Center for Community Growth is also being pursued to develop outcome measures for service agencies in the community. Once developed, the system will be web based to allow for tracking of program outcomes and measuring community impact.

Economic Deprivation

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Unemployment Rates (MI Department of Labor and Economic Growth)	3.1%	4.4%	5.6%	6.1%	6.2%	6.1%	6.6%	6.8%*
Free and Reduced Lunches (MCISD Business Office)	17.3%	17.3 %	18.2%	22%	22%	23.9%	21.6%	22.8%
Homelessness (Homeless Network)	NOT AVAILABLE			320	288	157	162	142
FIP Recipients (Department of Human Services)	561	543	527	580	585	612	699	699
Food Benefit Recipients (Dept. of Human Services)	2,146	1,896	2,013	2,731	3,182	3,560	5,170	5,700
Female Head of Household (2000 CENSUS)	10.1%	12.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.9%	10.3%	N/A
Number of Children under 18 in Single Parent Households	5,048 12.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4.213 11.3%	N/A	N/A

* 11 month average

Family Conflict

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Domestic Violence / Seeking Shelter (FCSS)	77	162	167	178	168	154	136	134
Divorces (MI Dept. of Community Health)	560	676	581	641	601	566	572	Available in Sept.
Marriages (MI Dept. of Comm. Health)	873	894	827	820	847	858	871	Available in Sept.
Domestic Violence Authorized Charges – Adult (Monroe Co. Prosecutor)	612	665	746	609	443	535	471	424
Domestic Violence Authorized Charges – Juvenile	53	63	61	51	56	70	41	91
Children in investigated families	1,418	1,426	1,430	1,317	1,731	1,340	1,393	
Confirmed victims of abuse or neglect	224	223	216	150	223	222	257	
Children in out of home care for abuse or neglect	137	106	79	63	97	118	95	159
Children in out of home placement for delinquency	416	453	435	405	374	384	340	16

Academic Failure Beginning in Late Elementary

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Drop Out Rate / Kids Count Data Book	6.5%	4.1%	3.7%		4.1%	(No longer included in Kids Count data)		
MEAP Math – 3 rd grade	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	88.8%	89%	
MEAP Math – 4 th grade	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0	88%	
MEAP Reading – 3 rd grade	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	87.7%	89%	
MEAP Reading – 4 th grade							86%	
MEAP Reading – 5 th grade							86%	
MEAP Math – 5 th grade							77%	
MEAP Reading – 6 th grade							86%	
MEAP Math – 6 th grade							70%	
MEAP Reading – 7 th grade							84%	
MEAP Math – 7 th grade							71%	
MEAP Reading – 8 th grade							76%	
MEAP Math – 8 th grade							70%	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Expulsions – Drugs – Elementary						0	0	
Number of Expulsions – Drugs – Middle						11	19	
Number of Expulsions – Drugs – High School						16	55	
Expulsions – Violence / Weapons – Elem.						9	9	
Expulsions – Violence / Weapons – Middle						81	85	

Expulsions – Violence / Weapons – High						101	100	
Truancy							345	
Truancy – Elementary						5	37	
Truancy – Middle School						9	78	
Truancy – High School						67	230	

Early Onset of Alcohol and Drug Abuse

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Alcohol and Drug Related ER Visits (Mercy Memorial Hospital)					1,500	1,200	307	287
Persons 65+							7	
Persons Under 18							19	
All Others							281	

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Juvenile Justice Contacts (tickets / complaints)	1,523F 724A	1,425F 665A	1,439F 746A	1,395F 652A	1,356F 623A	1,230F 623A	1,257F 553A	1,139F 532A
Authorizations/ Petitions	47.5%	46.7%	51.8%	46.7%	45.9%	50.1%	43.9%	46.7%
SAP / ATOD & Anger Management	N/A	150	134	174	209	153	138	
Past month use of marijuana - seniors	N/A	27.7%	N/A	23.5%	N/A	21.5%	26%	26.8%
Past month use of alcohol -- seniors	N/A	45.2%	N/A	57.3%	N/A	51.4%	50%	50.5%
Past month use of tobacco -- seniors	N/A	34.6%	N/A	29.5%	N/A	24.4%	N/A	32.7%
Past month use of inhalants -- seniors	N/A	2.0%	N/A	1.7%	N/A	1.5%	N/A	3.4%
Past month use of inhalants -- 8 th grade	N/A	9.1%	N/A	5.9%	N/A	9.8%	N/A	8.7%
	1993 - 1995			2003 - 2005				
Smoked during pregnancy	378	21.8%		332	19.1%			

The community impact budget for 2008 was approved at \$18,000. Expenditures through April 21, 2008 are as follows:

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Personnel	\$ 9,100	\$ 3,767.75
Office Supplies	1,000	0.00
I Pledged Campaign	1,500	0.00
Contractual – On-Line Training	4,500	1,500.00
Contractual – Webmaster	1,900	110.00
Total	\$ 18,000	\$ 5,377.75

Respectfully submitted,

Sandie Pierce

Sandie Pierce, ABC Coordinator