

community foundationSM

Alliance of Calhoun County

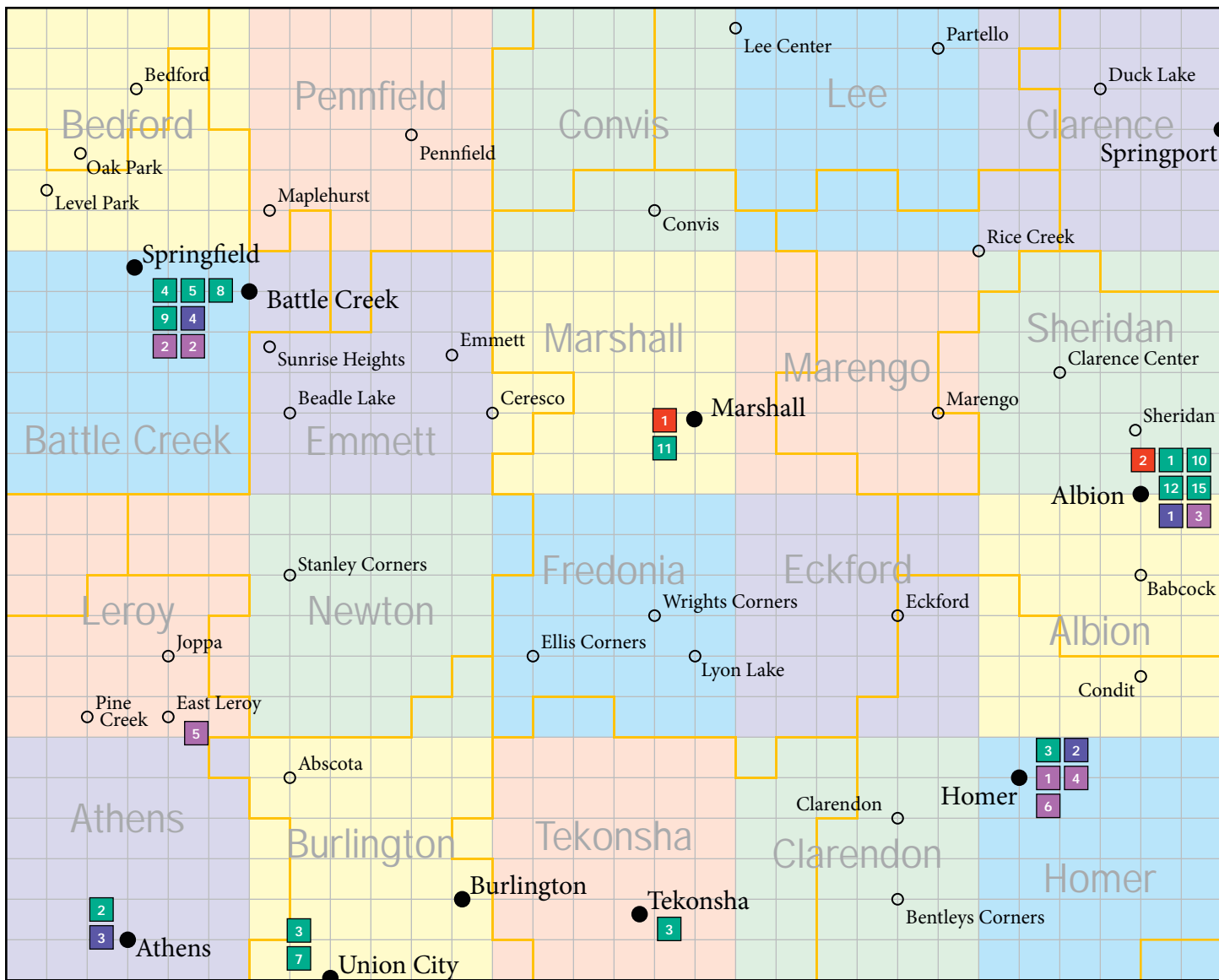
Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2006 – MARCH 31, 2007



Connecting Calhoun County

Mission: To improve the quality of life and access to opportunity in Calhoun County, with an emphasis on youth.



Arts & Cultural Community Project Fund

This fund was established to promote stability in the arts and culture sector, and stimulate local support and involvement in the sector including volunteer participation, audience development, financial contributions, and economic synergy.

Calhoun County Parks & Recreation Community Project Fund

This fund was established to provide for current county parks and recreation needs.

Calhoun County Parks & Recreation Endowment Fund

This fund was established to provide for future county parks and recreation needs.

Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Endowment Fund

The Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Fund was established in 2000 with proceeds from the National Tobacco Settlement to support charitable community programs that improve the health of youth and/or seniors. Eligible charitable programs are those that would improve the health of youth and/or seniors and may include but are not limited to health and nutrition programs, family counseling, early childhood development, smoking prevention and cessation, day care, preschool care, and after-school care.

Positive Youth Development Fund

In 2004, the Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County received a grant from the Council of Michigan Foundations to support Positive Youth Development programs throughout Calhoun County. Funding will be granted to youth-serving organizations that collaborate to provide or coordinate gap period programs. "Gap period programs" serve youth between the ages of five and eighteen and target before school, after school, weekend, summer, and/or holiday timeframes. This grant was made possible by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Tax-deductible donations can be made by mailing a donation to: Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County, 104 S. Hillsdale Street, P O Box 101, Homer, MI 49245.

For more information on additional

ways to contribute such as through stock, life insurance, IRAS, Charitable Gift Annuities, or bequests, please call our office at 517-568-5222.

The funds of the Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County are not eligible for the Michigan Income Tax Credit.

A Vehicle for Good

2006-07
Grant Awards

For the Fiscal Year April 1, 2006 – March 31, 2007

Positive Youth Development Fund Grants (Gap Period Programming) \$304,460

Grantee	Area
1 Albion Recreation Department	Albion
2 Athens Area Schools	Athens
3 BLAST (Homer, Tekonsha, Union City Schools)	Homer, Tekonsha, Union City
4 Cereal City Hoopsters	Battle Creek
5 Community Action Agency of South Central Michigan	Battle Creek
6 Community Inclusive Recreation	Calhoun County
7 Community Unlimited, Inc.	Union City
8 Foster Adoptive Family Resource & Support Center	Battle Creek
9 Haven of Rest Ministries of Battle Creek	Battle Creek
10 Kids 'N' Stuff	Albion
11 Marshall Public Schools	Marshall
12 Minority Program Services	Albion
13 Music Center of South Central Michigan	Calhoun County
14 New Level Sports, Inc.	Calhoun County
15 Washington Gardner Middle School	Albion

Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Grants \$7,400

Grantee	Area
1 Albion Recreation Department	Albion
2 Homer Community Schools Coordinated School Health Team	Homer
3 EXPAND	Athens

Calhoun County Scholarship Fund \$1,850

Grantee	Area
1 Clayton College of Natural Health – Shelly Clark	Homer
2 Kellogg Community College – Belinda Scott, Dawn Haywood	Battle Creek
3 MSU Extension – Natalie Morse	Albion

Swine Club Scholarship Fund \$600

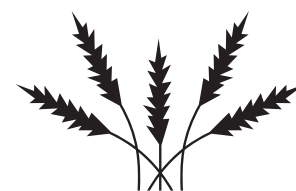
4 Michigan School of Canine Cosmetology – Danielle Swafford	Homer
5 Spring Arbor University – Kristin Loew	East Leroy

Republican Scholarship \$500

6 Baker College – Wendy O'Dell	Homer
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Arts & Culture Fund \$25,000

Grantee	Area
1 Franke Center for the Arts	Marshall
2 Kids 'N' Stuff	Albion



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Alliance of Calhoun County

is uniquely **positioned** to serve countywide donors and support countywide projects.

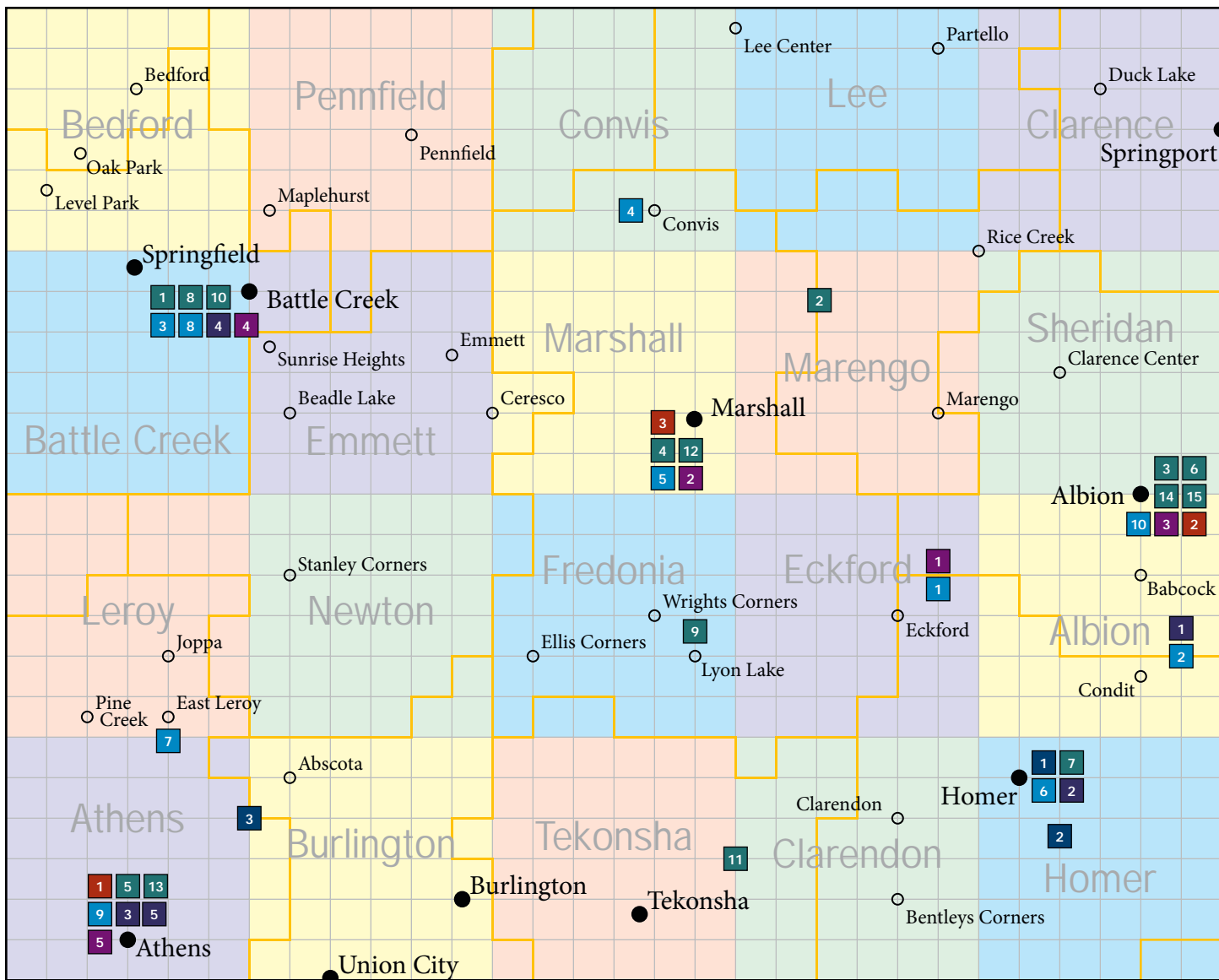
is **governed** by a board of directors representative of the Calhoun County Community.

a **conduit** for ongoing collaboration between local community foundations.

a **voice** for community foundation awareness and visibility.

a **hub** for community foundation networking opportunities.

an **advocate** for engaging youth in creating a better Calhoun County.



A Vehicle for Good

CFACC Officers & Board Members		Positive Youth Development Grant Review Committee		CFACC Scholarship Committee	
1	Rachael Maksimchuk, President	1	John Hallacy	1	Rachel Maksimchuk
2	David Farley, Vice-President	2	Chris Wigent	2	Susan Collins
3	Betsy Briere, Secretary	3	Joyce Spicer	3	Miriam Daly
4	Lynne Haley, Treasurer	4	Sherry Anderson	4	Jim Hazel
5	Sherry Anderson	5	David Ganther	5	Randy Davis
6	Holly Blashfield	6	Karen Dobbins	Healthy Youth, Healthy Seniors	
7	Paul Frederick	7	Jennifer Johnson	1	David Farley
8	Brenda Jackson	8	Judith Kamm	2	Drew Heath
9	Carol Sybesma	9	Genie Rogstad	3	Rachel Swartz
10	Karen Yankie	10	Kathy Rizor	4	Carol Meyer-Niedzwiecki
CFACC Staff		11	Drew Heath	5	Robert Moore
1	Carol Petredean-Di Salvio	12	Caitlin Wills	Arts & Culture Committee	
2	Amy Richardson	13	Rachael Swartz	1	Kathy Alverson
3	Cindy Leach	14	Andrew Franklin	2	Donna Stohl
		15	Caroline Dobbins	3	Sherry Anderson

a **conduit** for ongoing collaboration between local community foundations.

The Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County provides a countywide platform for philanthropy. Established in 1998, and first known as the Supporting Organization of Calhoun County, we are a 501(c)(3) organization serving the interest of area residents and donors. We serve as a repository of funds and a grantmaking organization for projects that have a countywide focus.

We have a special interest in youth programming. We were initially funded and are currently supported in part by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Our Board of Directors includes representatives from the Albion Community Foundation, Athens Area Community Foundation, Battle Creek Community Foundation, Homer Area Community Foundation, and the Marshall Community Foundation.



CFACC Board Members (from left): Sherry Anderson (MCF), Betsy Briere (BCCF), Rachel Maksimchuk (HACF), Paul Frederick (AACF), Karen Yankie (ACF), Brenda Jackson (BCCF), David Farley (ACF); Not pictured: Lynne Haley (MCF), Holly Blashfield (HACF), Carol Sybesma (AACF)



Albion

community foundation

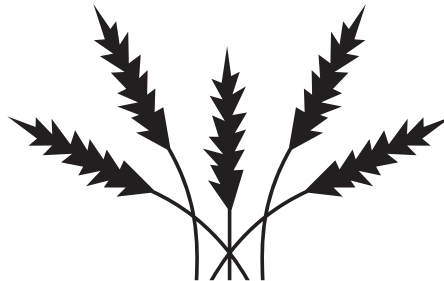
Jeff Bell, Joyce Spicer, Karen Yankie, Tom Pitt, Morris Arvoy, Karen Dobbins, Mandy Dubiel, Marilyn Hennon, Andy Kooi, Bernie Konkle, Jr., Dan Ohmer, John C. Shedd, Paulene Story, William Wheaton, David Farley (Executive Director)



Athens Area

community foundation

Woody Alverson, Randy Davis, Dale Dittmer, Paul Frederick, Kelly Hulce, Cindy Leach, Daniel Loew, David Mackaluso, Monty Rubley, Laura Murphy (YAC), Elsie Simmons, Laurie Swanson, Carol Sybesma



community foundation

Alliance of Calhoun County



Marshall

community foundation

Sherry Anderson (Executive Director), Charles Cook, Sandra Dobbins, Dr. Lynne Haley, Mark F. Stuart, Frank E. Boley, CPA, Mary Jo Byrne, Adam DeWolf, Tom Franke, Pastor Richard Gerten, Matthew Glaser, Mike Kinter, Dr. Jay Larson, Darlene Neidlinger, Jim Pardoe, Dr. Joyce Phillips, Ron Smith, Morris Stulberg, Kathy Tarr



Battle Creek

community foundation

David L. Schweitzer, Betsy L. Briere, Brenda Jackson, Mahesh Karamchandani, MD, Robert G. Byelich, Denise Little, Carolyn Ballard, Charles A. Cooper, Jr., B. Scott Durham, David H. Eddy, Tim Kool, David P. Lucas, Victor R. Sanchez, James K. Sholl, Colleen Starring, Morgan Steely, Terris Eugene Todd, Brenda Hunt (President and CEO)



Homer Area

community foundation

An affiliate fund of the Battle Creek Community Foundation

Carol Petredean-Di Salvio, Brent Holcomb, Gary Crist, Rachel Maksimchuk, Sally Anderson, Holly Blashfield, Meredith Fogel, Richard Folk, Jeanne George, Jill Grant, Cindy Kirkbride, Joe Miller, Luanna Miller, Daphne Stonebraker



Calhoun County Adult Scholarship Fund

To help build a local workforce that is educated, trained, and prepared for the 21st century, the Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County has created a specialized scholarship fund.

It serves adults who have not been enrolled in any full-time educational program for at least six months and who require additional education or technical training to advance their employment.



Scholarship Review Committee Members: (left to right) Randy Davis, Miriam Daly, Susan Collins, Jim Hazel, and Rachel Maksimchuk (not pictured)

I was honored to receive one of the Swine Club Scholarships in 2006. The scholarship helped me purchase extra supplies and books my first semester. I enjoy attending Spring Arbor University, I enjoy children, and I look forward to someday teaching kindergarten through 3rd graders here in Calhoun County.

— Kristin Loew



Calhoun County Republican Party Scholarship Fund

This scholarship has been established to provide one \$500 scholarship to individuals who reside within Calhoun County. It serves adults who seek education or technical training opportunities to advance their careers.



Calhoun County Swine Club Scholarship Fund

A scholarship committee has been established to select two \$300 scholarship recipients.

The applicants are judged on livestock participations, leadership, citizenship, and scholastic standing. Applications are due July 1st.



Arts & Cultural Grants

Kids 'N' Stuff: An Interactive Experience for Kids

Kids 'N' Stuff is a private non-profit children's museum dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for children and families by providing creative and enriching experiences through interactive exhibits and programs in the arts, humanities, sciences, and technology. Kids 'N' Stuff has made it a priority to assist, partner, collaborate, and offer resources to other youth-serving organizations throughout Albion, so that as many opportunities as possible will be made available to area youth.



Franke Center for the Arts

The Franke Center for the Arts is a recognized leader in South Central Michigan for high quality, diverse arts and cultural programming. It is a community gathering place that engages people via creative and artistic programming and fosters collaborative efforts that enrich the community. It provides lifelong learning opportunities and educational experiences for all generations. In addition, it encourages diversity in all of its forms and aids economic growth for the area.



Healthy Youth/Healthy Seniors Grants

Albion Recreation: Senior Water Aerobics

This program provided healthy exercise for seniors in an environment that is created for low impact activity on the joints and muscles, while achieving the full affects of a physical exercise regiment. This has been accomplished by providing a one-hour water aerobics workout twice each week, incorporating weightlifting, lunges, and twists.

Homer Community Schools Coordinated School Health Team

The Coordinated School Health Team (CSHT), held at Homer Community Schools, has created an after-school hour workout program that can be utilized by students, staff and community members. To fully create a total wellness program, this grant provided partial funding to hire a professional nutritionist to evaluate initial users of the fitness center for possible diets, food plans, weight loss management, healthy nutrition options, and other weight maintenance issues.



Homer Community Schools Fitness Center



EXPAND's "Too Smart to Start" Program

EXPAND

The "Too Smart to Start" program assists children in making a decision – before they turn 13 years of age – to never use tobacco. The program is a summer camping experience tailored for 1st through 6th grades offered at Wesley Woods Campground in Bedford, MI. Campers are educated about the dangers of tobacco with fun and interactive games, art projects, and other activities provided by trained staff. Campers have produced original masks, posters, paintings, skits, songs, commercials, and letters to tobacco companies. Children are taught both by adult and teen tobacco educators, as well as by their peers. The focus was on "Second Hand Smoke Will Make You Choke!"

Positive Youth Development Grants

Athens Area Schools

The “After-School Storyteller Program” served an average of 16 students per session, grades 2nd through 4th, with 17 storyteller dates throughout the year. Storytellers were chronicled with photographs that students used to create a personal scrapbook of their favorite experiences. A video of students “acting out” two different stories complete with costumes was produced and a copy presented to students and their parents. One of the highlights was having Harriet Tubman perform about the underground railroad and the connection Michigan and the Battle Creek area has to this part of our American history.

The after-school choir at the middle school (Choir in Motion), had 15 to 25 student members participate in practices and performances during the school year. Students choreograph all their own material and plan their own costumes. Parent volunteers and students work to put their costumes together. One important aspect of the program is the emphasis on service learning. Relationships are cultivated with residents of assisted-living facilities and other groups through their performances. Forty-four students in 3rd and 4th grades participated in the elementary segment of the after-school choir program. The students were involved in Christmas caroling, made three visits to area nursing homes, and performed Cinderella for a packed house at the high school gym.

The after-school tutoring was provided on Monday through Thursday from 2:30 until 4:00 P.M. at the high school multi-media center. Overall, 163 students from grades 5 through 12 participated during the year. Students have access to the computer lab and on-line learning, Web-based resources, and Live Homework Help from [www.tutor.com], and one-on-one tutoring from a certified teacher on staff at the high school.



East Leroy Elementary Storyteller Program



Athens Middle School “Choir in Motion”

Minority Program Services

The Minority Program Services “Youth Power” mentoring program was designed to provide Albion elementary youth the opportunity to have a college-aged mentor, provided by Albion College. The program provided 30 Albion elementary young people with research-based life skills, career development, and leadership opportunities that taught them how to think, make decisions, solve problems, resolve conflicts, and avoid drugs, alcohol and tobacco use. The project was hands on and challenged its participants to think globally and act locally.



Minority Program Services “Youth Power”



Community Action Agency LASSE Program

Community Action Agency

The Latino After-School and Summer Enrichment (LASSE) Program strives to meet the needs of the area’s steadily increasing Hispanic and Latino families, many of whom lack solid English language skills. Twenty-two students were enrolled in the After School program in the 2006-07 school year, and 42 students participated in the Summer 2007 program. Children completed homework as assigned each day of attendance. Regular conferences with school personnel suggest overall improvement on both academic and social levels for students who have participated in the LASSE program. Parents continue to attend field trips and family activities, which encourage the use of English through diverse cultural experiences and educational programs.



Community Action Agency LASSE Program

Positive Youth Development Grants

Haven of Rest

One of the newest programs at the Haven is a children's program called the Gain Access Program, which was funded for the past year by the Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County. The Gain Access Program focuses on working with homeless children in Calhoun County, as it is the only program in the county to assist homeless children in their transition and growth.

The Gain Access Program concentrates on three things:

- 1) Providing sheltered homeless children in Calhoun County with the opportunity to obtain life skills they may not have been exposed to consistently.
- 2) Providing a safe, fun environment rich with nurturance and acceptance for the sheltered homeless children in Calhoun County.
- 3) Increasing the self-confidence and comfort level in a learning environment to learn positive coping mechanisms for dealing with family crisis.

The Gain Access Program addresses these issues through after-school activities, including tutoring, self-esteem activities, games, racism awareness, drug and alcohol awareness, educational opportunities, social skills, reading and academic worksheets. The program teaches life-skill activities, including: honesty, integrity, responsibility, self-control, time management, and self-empowerment through one-on-one case management. The program also provides coordination between parent, school, and other agencies, which is a key to getting parents re-involved in their child's future and utilizing every resource available to benefit the child.

Kids 'N' Stuff

The Kids 'N' Stuff grant provided a continuum of enrichment opportunities for youth in grades K-5, which occurred after school, on weekends, and during school breaks. Primary programming areas served over 2,500 youth and families in the areas of dance; extended day kindergarten; science, music, art, and literacy classes; and a summer camp series (including the Twist camp).



Gain Access Program participants "Pay it Forward" with H.O.P.E. Day Giveaway to other needy families living on the street.

Marshall Public Schools

The Shamrock Center After School Gap-Time Program has addressed the needs of middle school youth, in grades K-6 but more specifically those in fifth and sixth grades, to have a place to 'hang out' when not involved in after-school sports and/or private lessons. As a part of planning and program supervision, the Marshall City Recreation Department, in chorus with both Olivet and Albion Colleges, have provided key personnel to the program delivery staff.

Washington Gardner Middle School

Gap programming for Albion middle school children ages 10-15 provided structured, creative activities for these students, engaging them in service learning, leadership development, and primary prevention for high-risk behaviors. Activities are student driven and focus on exposing students to a variety of new leadership and cultural opportunities and experiences and the development of social skills necessary for success in school and the community.

Music Center of South Central Michigan

Although the Music Center has offered programming for a number of years at KCC, Hastings, and the IMPACT sites, this gap-period grant was for expansion beyond these three sites to other locations in Calhoun County – specifically for the Community Music School services for K-12 students. This grant allowed start-up research and planning to open possible additional sites in Albion and Marshall.

MSU 4-H Exploration Days

MSU 4-H Exploration Days is an annual MSU pre-college program that attracts approximately 2500 youth participants and chaperones who represent all 83 Michigan counties. This event is held the third week in June. This youth development conference helps youth ages 11 to 19 learn new ideas, techniques and skills they can use personally and in their 4-H groups and communities. Participation in 4-H Exploration Days enhances participants' sense of personal and social responsibility through an environment that fosters independence, accountability, decision-making and time management. Personal growth is increased by giving youth opportunities to develop teamwork, cooperation and collaboration skills and the chance to meet new people from different places and with different backgrounds from across Michigan. Participants attend one or two instructional sessions throughout their three-day stay. They are housed in university residence halls. The Albion delegation consisted of 55 young people in attendance at MSU 4-H Exploration Days. The Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County helped several of the youth to attend this event by defraying the cost of the MSU 4-H Exploration Days registration.



MSU – 4-H Exploration Days

Positive Youth Development Grants

BLAST

Bringing Learning Achievement and Success Together is what BLAST is about for the communities of Tekonsha, Homer and Union City. The school districts of Homer and Tekonsha collaborate with Union City's Community Unlimited to provide a multitude of gap period programming for children and families in the rural communities. Each individual community has a site director and is based in the schools, creating mostly after school activities for elementary and middle school age students during the school year. Programs range from academic enrichment and assistance (tutoring, math club, science games, foreign language classes) to hands-on activities (cooking, woodworking, quilting, ceramics, drama club) to athletic/health opportunities (swimming, soccer, asthma workshops, floor hockey tournaments, fitness club, cheerleaders in training) to field trips (professional sporting events, live theater, educational movies, museums). Each site strives to strike the delicate balance of celebrating the many attributes of the rural community while at the same time exposing participants to the broad, diverse world in which they live. Wherever possible and appropriate, the three communities collaborate on large activities. This shares the workload and expense while at the same time creating bonds of friendship among participating students in different schools.

The program regularly services over 400 students and families during the course of the school year and summer months.



TWIST, Jump into Kindergarten

The three main goals of TWIST, Jump into Kindergarten, is to help children ages five through nine get physically ready to learn, help children acquire the social/character skills associated with learning, and address obesity and health concerns. Summer programs were held in Battle Creek, Marshall, and Olivet, serving 463 children. The program focus areas are improvements in the developmental areas of children's physical skills, motor skills, social/character skills, academic skills, and healthy, lifelong behaviors.



Each site strives to strike the delicate balance of celebrating the many attributes of the rural community while at the same time exposing participants to the broad, diverse world in which they live. Wherever possible and appropriate, the three communities collaborate on large activities. This shares the workload and expense while at the same time creating bonds of friendship among participating students in different schools.

Foster Adoptive Family Resource & Support Center

This gap-period grant provided funding for activities and experiences for foster, special need adoptive, and kinship children to help them develop into mature, self-sufficient adults. The goal of providing healthy family and social relationships was accomplished through a number of field trips, a kinship campference, and social activities involving both the children and their parents.



Elementary BLAST attending Maple Lawn Medical Care Facility – Creating an art project with the elderly.



BLAST High School Youth Board giving back to the Community by providing free games...with over 50 middle and high school students running the event.

Positive Youth Development Grants

Cereal City Hoopsters

Cereal City Hoopsters strives to provide opportunities for personal growth and development of student athletes, while also reinforcing positive influences, self-confidence, self-esteem, and the ability to excel on and off the court. Through participation, Cereal City Hoopsters is dedicated to educate and motivate each member, while encouraging teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun through the spirit of basketball.

135 elementary and middle school students participated in an eight-week Triple Threat winter basketball league.

The 2007 summer basketball camp enrolled 485 students beginning the week of June 4 for 10 weeks.

Employment opportunities were provided for 50 students.

15–20 adults are serving as mentors for youth in the program; 80% of youth volunteered in the community.

43 parents completed the first annual parent survey.

Community Unlimited

The goal of the High School After-School Program was to continue to provide high interest, regularly scheduled after-school activities and clubs open to all students at Union City High School. Ten clubs/activities operated: drama club and two drama productions, “Medium Rare” and “Nothing but the Truth”; Three on Three basketball; Art Club; tutoring; weightlifting; open gym; cooking; jazz band; photography; choir; and crafts. Three field trips were also offered. Each club/activity was offered for no cost, and field trips had a nominal cost. An advisory group was interviewed to formulate activity suggestions and provide on-going evaluation of the program.

A talent show, sponsored by Community Unlimited’s Youth Board on Union City’s Heritage Day, offered high school youth the opportunity to display a variety of talents. High school students also assisted with service projects such as games for children at Union City’s Heritage Day, Haunted Hallway on Halloween, the Community Christmas Basket Project, Easter Egg Hunt, Habitat for Humanity, and Senior Bingo.



Albion Recreation Department

The Albion Recreation Department provided gap-time recreational programming for youth during after school hours, weekends, and summers. Summer recreational activities included youth football for those in 2nd through 6th grades, in which 80 young men and one young lady participated. In the fall, basketball leagues were formed, with over 100 children in grades one through six from the entire Albion area participating. Beginning as young as five years of age, children are invited to play baseball and t-ball starting in the spring and continuing into July. Also during the summer, a variety of recreational activities, including bowling and swimming, are offered from 4–7 PM to children in 2nd through 6th grades. Several field trips were also taken.

In all the recreational programs, the children learn to work together and to problem solve as a team. They learn to respect each other’s opinions and each other’s differences. They are taught the fundamentals of their sport and good sportsmanship even if the score is not on their side. During the school year, the children are required to study one hour prior to practice and must also maintain a C average or better in order to participate. All of the programs are manned with volunteers and mentors, who help with the children’s studies and serve as role models.

Community Integrated Recreation

The CIR’s newest recreation program, “Fun on the Run” mobile recreation unit, offers free supervised recreational activities in neighborhood parks in Battle Creek and Calhoun County rural areas. “Fun on the Run” provides a variety of activities such as team sports, art projects, cultural and interactive games, and physical fitness activities. Nontraditional games which emphasize cultural diversity, such as Alaskan Kick-ball, Mexican baseball, and others, are offered at no cost. This program has provided positive opportunities for youth to gain recreation, social, art-based, and entrepreneurial skills.

New Level Sports

The New Level Sports Enterprise Program teaches a business curriculum to inner city youth in grades 6–10. Students have experienced the process of learning the fundamentals of operating a business and then exercising what they have learned. Participating student-athletes created, developed, operated, and maintained a screen printing and concessions business. Students have also started an investment club with a percentage of their earnings and established a line of credit with a major supplier.

a voice for community foundation awareness and visibility.

Community Foundation Alliance of Calhoun County Annual Event “Connecting Calhoun County”

Highlighting Programs, Accomplishments and Visions for our County.

January 25, 2007 Ismon House Albion MI. This event was held for the board members of the Albion, Athens Area, Battle Creek, Homer Area and Marshall Community Foundations.

The Ismon House is one of Albion’s most elegant and architectural and historical treasures that has been renovated by the Friends of the Ismon House.



Carmilla Hawkins and Sandra Langston and students – Positive Youth Development Grant Recipients for Washington Gardner Middle School After School Programming



Kristin McIlhagga and Students – Kids ‘N’ Stuff-Kindermusik Demonstration, 2006 Healthy Youth, Healthy Seniors Grant Recipients



Hope Rowan and Chris Sizemore – Positive Youth Development Grant Recipients for the Haven of Rest Gain Access Program



2007 Healthy Youth, Healthy Seniors Grant Recipients – Left to right: Kim Tanner from Athens/EXPAND, presenter Cindy Leach, Joni Pinkham/Albion Parks and Recreation, Tammie Calhoun and Gary Tompkins/Homer Community Schools