



Menominee - Delta - Schoolcraft

**Community
Action**

Helping People. Changing Lives. Agency

ANNUAL REPORT

2022/2023



CAA/HRA GOVERNING BOARD

At A Glance

Officers

CHAIRPERSON
Craig Reiter
Schoolcraft County

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Myra Croasdell
Delta County

SECRETARY
John Stapleton
Schoolcraft County

TREASURER
John Malnar
Delta County

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Julie Moberg

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Robin Double	Fran Majestic	Craig Reiter
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Menominee Delta Schoolcraft Community Action Agency – HRA Inc.’s mission is to “Empower, advocate for, and assist people in need to improve and sustain their quality of life and independence through education, housing, nutrition, volunteerism, and in-home support.” MDSCAA remains focused upon providing support to the people of our communities who are struggling with poverty and trying to meet their basic needs. Over the past year, MDSCAA has experienced the end of the pandemic as we knew it, and is now responding to the needs left behind from COVID as well as the effects of poverty in our area.

Even though the pandemic was a life changing event for many people, MDSCAA has learned from this period of time and has adjusted its services to meet the needs of people where they are at. The public can access our services through any means they find comfortable. Applications for assistance can be found on our website at www.mdscaa.org, or one can call us and our staff will work with them over the telephone through text and pictures, or staff will still meet with anyone face to face if that works best.

All of the MDSCAA Senior Center sites and Head Start centers throughout Menominee, Delta, and Schoolcraft counties are now fully open for people to visit, and kids to go to classes. All of the senior centers are offering fun activities, noon meals, and health classes. This year, the MDSCAA Senior Services has been working on opening four new food pantries at four different sites throughout Menominee and Delta counties. These food pantries will allow any senior or any member of the public experiencing food insecurities access to food. MDSCAA is working alongside St. Vincent de Paul, and Salvation Army to assure no one in our community is going hungry.

During the past year, our agency provided additional support to people of low income through utility assistance, heat assistance, emergency housing, and in home supports. A new effort was begun to provide people in need, with help on their water bills. During COVID, it became apparent how important it was to have access to water for better health and hygiene. The State of Michigan came out with a new assistance program for water bills. MDSCAA applied for the grant and was awarded funds to help low income families meet these bills. The grant was funded again for 2024-2026. MDSCAA will continue this program as long as funds are available.

MDSCAA remains committed to serving the basic needs of our communities and addressing the issues of poverty. MDSCAA is an agency that won’t stop working to support the people of Menominee, Delta, and Schoolcraft counties. MDSCAA continues to listen to our stakeholders and adjust to the changing needs that arise and are identified by individuals, families, and community partners.

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. 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
4,076 hours of
adult day care
services provided to
13 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. We continue this service providing carry out meals.

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
18,045 congregate meals served to **950** seniors
19,787 carry out meals
151,329 home delivered meals were served to **1100** homebound seniors

At A Glance

4,126 hours of homemaker aide services were provided to **145** senior citizens

5,436 hours home care assist provided to **46** senior citizens

1,355 hours of respite care services were provided to **16** senior citizens

41 hours of medication management to

IN-HOME SERVICES

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, **5,466** rides were provided, covering **58,569** 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

211 Head Start students served by the program

100 percent of Head Start children received medical exams

86 Early Head Start students served by the program

26 percent of Early Head Start children received dental exams

198 Head Start families served by the program

40 percent of Head Start children received dental exams

79 Early Head Start families served by the program

\$4,361,664 of funding from federal government

81 percent average monthly enrollment

\$775,707 of funding from state government

94 percent eligible Early Head Start children served

\$689,774 comes from in-kind donations

90 percent eligible Head Start children served

100 percent of Early Head Start children received medical exams

\$144,451 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
- ▶ Mindful Parenting Series – 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. All enrolled families benefit from a Diaper Program that is available through the State of Michigan which supplies families with diapers for all members of the family that have a need.

Financial Report: Fiscal Year 2023

Category	HS NOA FY23	HS FY23	HS NOA FY24	EHS NOA FY23	EHS FY23	EHS NOA FY24
Personnel	\$2,057,041	\$1,947,987	\$2,065,001	\$676,709	\$650,904	\$665,578
Fringe Benefits	\$375,292	\$428,265	\$456,469	\$138,518	\$159,248	\$173,124
Travel	\$65,000	\$74,173	\$53,386	\$16,760	\$25,777	\$15,000
Supplies	\$87,623	\$98,645	\$73,724	\$31,335	\$29,844	\$23,724
Contractual	\$251,975	\$226,382	\$236,500	\$77,699	\$58,335	\$70,500
Other	\$358,266	\$419,745	\$310,117	\$104,108	\$121,021	\$97,203

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; 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 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 transitioning 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 PROGRAM



At A Glance
23 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 possible replacement of windows or doors



PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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The Chip Lead Grant Abatement Program provided **\$216,051** in lead removal services to 5 households, concentrating on children with elevated blood lead levels.

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.
- ▶ Water Assistance Program

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

At A Glance
281 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 2023 fundraisers raised \$42,738 (\$9,050 in Menominee County, \$31,504 in Delta County, and \$2,184 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 2022/2023: Menominee - \$5,404; Delta - \$16,175; Schoolcraft - \$1,495.

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



Walk for Warmth

Warm a Heart. Heat a Home.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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

At A Glance

Menominee, Delta and Schoolcraft Counties

77 served by emergency shelter

14 served by Rapid Rehousing

89 Delta, **84** Menominee and

4 Schoolcraft households were provided with housing resources via Out Reach

\$87,712 spent on homeless services



HOMELESS SERVICES PROGRAM MANAGER

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HOMELESS OUTREACH WORKER

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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. 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

30,755 hours of volunteer service provided to residents

417 frail elderly served by Senior Companions



AmeriCorps Seniors

RETIRED & SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

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

When you volunteer, you're not just helping others, you're helping yourself. Volunteering leads to new discoveries and new friends. Plus studies show volunteering

helps you live longer and promotes a positive outlook on life.

RSVP is funded by the AmeriCorps Seniors, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services/Aging and Adult Services Agency, and local grants and donations.

At A Glance
19,996 of
volunteer service
hours provided
by **217**
Volunteers

Volunteer
services provided at
30 different sites



PROGRAM DIRECTOR

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AmeriCorps



FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM

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

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



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

At A Glance

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

28,234 hours served

118 Special Needs Children were served

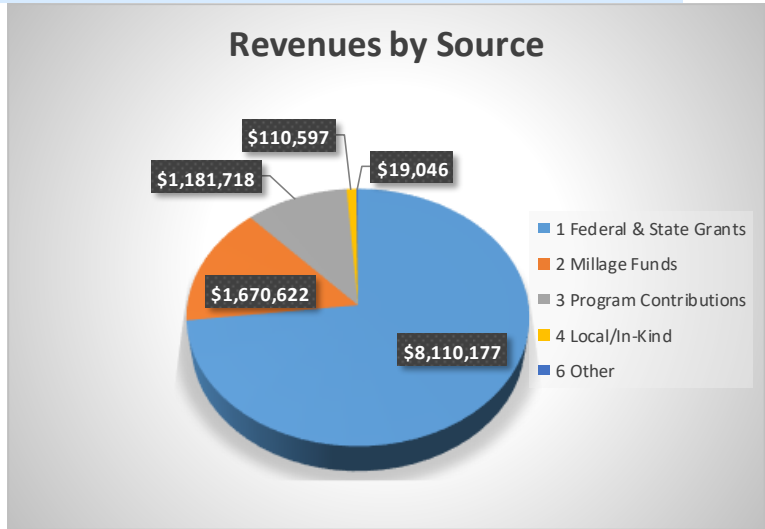


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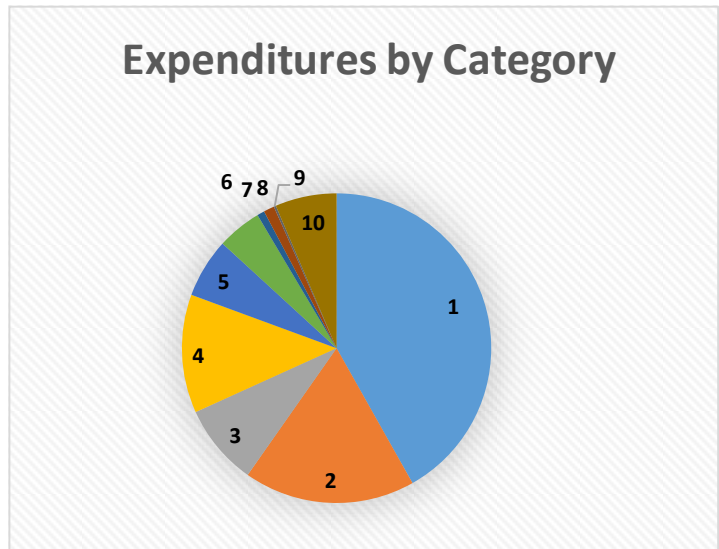


FINANCIAL DIGEST

1	Federal & State Grants	\$8,110,177
2	Millage Funds	\$1,670,622
3	Program Contributions	\$1,181,718
4	Local/In-Kind	\$110,597
5	Other	\$19,046
	Total Revenue	\$11,092,160



1	Child Education	\$4,672,016
2	Food & Nutrition	\$2,000,672
3	Community Services	\$947,482
4	Senior Services	\$1,381,953
5	Volunteer Programs	\$693,013
6	Weatherization & Housing	\$519,840
7	Transportation	\$86,149
8	Discretionary	\$124,980
9	Fundraising	\$25,125
10	Management & General	\$717,353
	Total Expenditures	\$11,168,583



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**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

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Anderson



Aug 24, 2023 © by Bud Lemire

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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT

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

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).

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