

Mid Central Community Action, Inc.

Annual Report
July 2008–June 2009



Our **Mission:**

To promote safe and stable families, neighborhoods and communities



Our **Vision:**

To be a leading resource for:
comprehensive home ownership services,
advocacy for the safety and healing of domestic violence victims,
and the provision of community services to disadvantaged people.

A Letter from the **Board President**

R&B singer Vivian Green stated that, "Life's not about waiting for the storms to pass...It's about learning to dance in the rain."

We had some rain and a few storms in 2009. As a country we faced high unemployment rates, record foreclosures, and military conflicts. It was a challenging year at MCCA as we helped more clients and handled increased workloads. But it was a satisfying and successful year too because we looked at the challenges as opportunities. As a result, we helped more people than ever before.

Because of MCCA's solid foundation, we were able to stay true to our mission to "Promote safe and stable families, neighborhoods and communities" while continuing to build for the future. While a financially strong organization is critical to achieving our mission, our success won't be measured in revenue earned or income statements. Rather, our true success will be measured in the hope we've provided and the lives we've helped improve. While we can't stop the economic realities of today's world, we can give our clients the tools they need to help manage through them.

As we move into a new year and a new decade, we will continue to work hard to build success that comes from creating your own destiny--as an organization, a family, a neighborhood, or a community--and staying true to your own core beliefs or missions.

And if we're faced with more storms along the way, we'll take Vivian's advice and learn to dance in the rain while teaching others to do the same. I have no doubt the storms will pass. And I know that we're poised and ready for the clear skies that will follow.

Lori Manning

President, 2009 Board of Directors

Dear Readers:

I am pleased to again have the opportunity to thank our friends, supporters, volunteers and staff for another successful year in the work of Mid Central Community Action, Inc. Everyone's participation contributes to our success in *building community by helping people move to self sufficiency*. In this report we provide statistics from our work in each of our main program groups during the program year which ended in June 2009.

These areas are the Countering Domestic Violence group of programs; the broad group of Community Services programs; and the Housing programs. In each of these areas, we have focused on providing services that meet our mission and maintain the long term stability of the organization.

In Countering Domestic Violence we constantly seek better ways to protect our clients and educate them in understanding the cycle of domestic violence and in improving safety for themselves, their children, and their pets. We advocate for victims and assist them in going through the legal and court process when indicated. Programs exist to help children caught up in domestic violence, and we provide counseling to help adult victims recover and regain self respect, self sufficiency, and stability in their lives. We faced a serious challenge in the Spring of 2009, when State funding cuts

to the program were threatened. Eventually the funding was reinstated at a level 10% below the previous year. The community also responded generously to the need with donations recognizing the situation.

The Community Services programs continue to connect what we do with surfacing needs in the communities we serve. In both Mclean and Livingston Counties we served several thousand families in our traditional energy assistance, weatherization, crisis assistance, and case management programs. We continued to bring financial literacy education to high school students in Pontiac. Early in the Spring of 2009 we also learned of federal stimulus funding which would begin in our next fiscal year (the current year as we prepare this Annual Report). This challenged the agency to ramp up capacity significantly in Community Services programs including weatherization, energy programs, crisis assistance, education and a new program addressing homelessness. Much of this "ramp up" was achieved in fiscal year 2009.

The Housing area continues to challenge us due to housing market conditions. We constructed seven homes in 2008, and continue to have six in our "unsold" inventory. These homes represent wonderful opportunities for first time home buyers in particular, with monthly payments much lower than would be expected for the size and quality of home. Our projects

for NeighborWorks® Week 2009 involved work in both Pontiac and Bloomington, focusing on neighborhood beautification. Staff and community members volunteered many hours and achieved noticeable results. Our home buyer education classes were reduced in number, again because of market conditions, though our foreclosure prevention counseling has increased significantly.

Our Nation's economy seems to have turned a corner as we end calendar year 2009 and our hope is that the increased stability many families have achieved with our assistance and services will continue, and that the communities we serve will be stronger and healthier. There is no question, however, that we will always have plenty of challenges and much to do. Fiscal year 2010 will see more changes and new successes in all areas. Our ability to communicate through our web site is improved, and new "social media" techniques are being used to keep our stakeholders informed.

Please stay in touch with us, give us feedback, and continue your valued support and interest.

Thank you!

John Burrill

Executive Director

Affordable **Housing Services**

19 individuals participated in the 2nd Chance Renters Program

34 individuals were provided with permanent supportive housing

48 foreclosures were prevented


49 individuals benefitted from transitional housing

81 families received Down Payment Assistance

106 families graduated from Homebuyer Education

191 families participated in Housing Counseling





Most Americans living in poverty work,
but still cannot afford to make ends meet.

Community **Services**

1 small business benefitted from assistance with economic development funds

10 individuals hold MCCA-sponsored Individual Development Accounts

63 homes were weatherized

189 households were assisted with crisis services

228 individuals were assisted with education needs

813 seniors in Livingston County received information and/or referrals

1,415 non-senior households were served with information and/or referrals

5,792 households received assistance in paying heating and cooling costs

Countering Domestic Violence

69 adult victims were provided with emergency shelter

73 child victims were served

149 children attended individual or group counseling

173 children were provided with emergency shelter

529 victims were assisted with law enforcement advocacy

616 victims were assisted with court advocacy

634 adult victims attended individual or group counseling/therapy

690 adult victims were served

3,071 hotline calls were received

Countering
Domestic
Violence

..... from victim to victor



Resource Development

The Resource Development Plan continues to provide a road map for us to increase awareness of the work we do in the community and to diversify our sources of income. We have increased our online visibility through a website redesign, as well as creating Facebook and Twitter accounts to give our friends and supporters instant updates on programs, events, and news pertaining to the communities we serve.

The agency's 7th Annual Awards Ceremony and Banquet was held at the Parke Hotel and Conference Center, highlighting the stories of individuals who have overcome great personal obstacles to make a better life for themselves and their families. Dinner guests were moved by stories from survivors of domestic violence, from the formerly homeless, and from those whose life events had caused them to be in a seemingly hopeless place.

The work we do at MCCA helps to turn lives around - lives have been saved, and lives have been permanently changed for the better through education and advocacy, through financial assistance and through personal support, solidifying the human infrastructure of the community.

If you have not had a chance to hear the testimonies of the people we have assisted, please visit our website at www.MCCAinc.org, and look for the "stories" link under the "About" heading. The range of programs we offer at MCCA is as diverse as the individuals and families whose stories are found here, and through the generosity of our funders and our supporters, we will continue to make our community - YOUR community - a safe and stable place to live, work and worship.

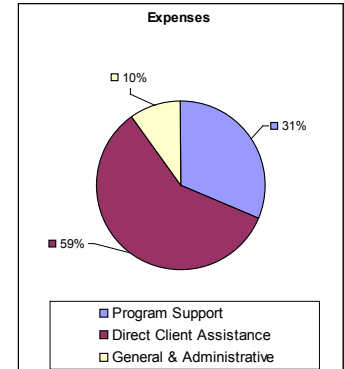
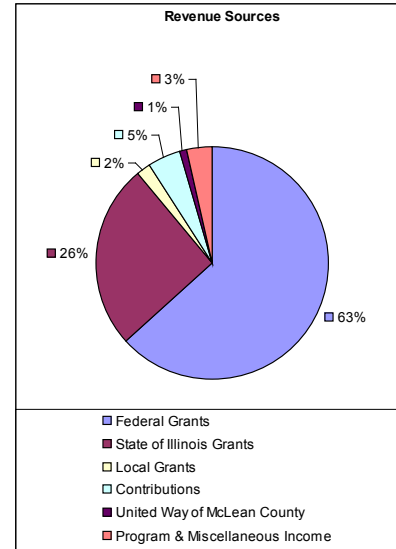
To reiterate John Burrill's message earlier in this report, we sincerely thank our friends, supporters, funders and staff for caring about MCCA's mission and for making the 2009 financial year a success.

Revenue

Federal Grants	4,233,618	63.09%
State of Illinois Grants	1,720,386	25.64%
Local Grants	125,690	1.87%
Contributions	314,143	4.68%
In-kind	1,612	0.02%
United Way of McLean County	69,400	1.03%
United Way of Pontiac	7,215	0.11%
Program & Misc. Income	232,508	3.46%
Dividend and Interest Income	5,801	0.09%
Total Revenue	6,710,373	100.00%

Expenses

Program Support	2,103,647	31.45%
Direct Client Assistance	3,921,150	58.63%
General & Administrative	663,703	9.92%
Total Expenses	6,688,500	100.00%



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Mid Central Community Action, Inc. programs are made possible by donations from local area businesses, individuals, community-minded organizations, and by the Community Services Block Grant as well as grants through the East Central Illinois Area Agency on Aging, Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois Office of the Attorney General, McLean County Circuit Clerk's Office, NeighborWorks® America, State Farm Insurance Company, United Way, U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development and other funders.