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Upcoming Events

- 2nd Quarter Food Distribution
June 24th & 25th
10 am – 4 pm

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@saginawcac

Our Mission

Saginaw County Community Action Committee, Inc. mission is to fully participate in the development, planning, implementation, and evaluation of programs to serve low income communities. We will serve as a proactive and dedicated community organization striving to mobilize all available local, state, private, and federal resources to help empower economically challenged families and individuals to become self-sufficient citizens, and to substantially improve the standard and quality of community life.

Welcome from the Director

Lillie Williams-Grays, Executive Director



I would like to welcome you to the Saginaw County Community Action Center's first newsletter! We are excited to share with you what's going on with our agency. We hope to provide you with some insight on our agency's programs and what we are doing in the community. We wish to provide you with some news you can use and information you will be excited to share.

I would love to hear your comments and please share our newsletter with interested friends or colleagues.

WHO ARE WE?

Saginaw County Community Action Center, Inc. is a community action agency that provides resources to low-income and elderly residents of Saginaw County. We are one of 30 community action agencies serving the State of Michigan and part of a network of over 1000 community action agencies serving the entire nation. This network affords the Saginaw County Community Action Center access to a helpful network of community action problem solvers.

On August 20, 1964, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Economic Opportunity Act (EOA) establishing the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) in the Executive Office of the President. Community Action Agencies help the underprivileged in the areas of self-sufficiency, employment, housing, education, management, information, and referral.

Because of the Census,
a safe place to sleep
is possible.



When everyone is counted, our communities get their fair share of federal funding to help keep all people safe and healthy. Healthcare, education and emergency planning all depend on getting an accurate Census count. Help your community by responding to the Census today.

Community Partnership Spotlight

Unity in the Community Neighborhood Association



Unity in the Community Neighborhood Association was established in 2016 with Saginaw County Community Action Center. The City of Saginaw Fire & Police Department, faith-based organizations, area businesses, and the Saginaw Community Foundation joined this effort for change. Unity in the Community consist of residents living from E. Genesee Ave. & Perkins St.,

east to 17th St., north to Lapeer Ave., east to 23rd St., south to Holland Ave., west to E. Genesee Ave. and northwest to Perkins St.

The goal of the U.I.T.C. neighborhood association was to improve the neighborhood park so children will have a safe place for recreation. It's goals also included to address the sudden spike in crime, address the unwanted traffic & loitering, improve the conditions of owner-occupied housing, improve accountability of landlords for their rental property upkeep, clear vacant lots of debris & tall grass, and improve safety with frequent police & resident patrols.

The Neighborhood Association would not be a success without the collaboration and commitment of the community. Thank you for all you do!

SCCAC STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Shelly Hardt, Finance Manager
19.5 years of Service

Shelly is passionate about accurate finance management. She is thrilled when there are no errors found on the agency's annual audit.

Saginaw County Community Action Agency Affirms Its Core Values

While COVID-19 has unleashed a threat on the health and economy of our nation, it has also revealed a pre-existing condition that places all of us at greater risk. The hierarchy of human value and to be more specific, **RACISM**

has served as an activator that has accelerated the loss of life and disproportionate losses to important populations in our country. Persons of color, who are in many cases, workers with low incomes and live in places that were already struggling are suffering great physical, economic, and social harm.

During this very trying era, we feel it is important to *put a marker down*, especially given the racially charged events that have played out in recent weeks and months. Murders in the African American community, attacks on Asian American owned businesses, increasing numbers of murdered and missing indigenous women and girls, and the marginalization and displacement of immigrants seeking refuge weigh on our already weakened hearts. Some actions are recorded and shared via social media allowing many to bear witness; while others remain unknown and unseen. While many have engaged in social media activism in response to the atrocities, we are calling for everyone to move beyond the keystrokes of media devices and to do more. It's not enough to feign verbal and distant support for non-racist causes. We must move beyond that into constructive anti-racist action that might even cause us to have to sacrifice the comfort or advantage that some of us have. **RACISM MUST END!**

Currently there is no cure to the health pandemic nor the social pandemic. While we are one human family, both conditions aim to separate us, both aim to weaken us, both aim to dehumanize us and threaten our well-being. During this season of heightened social anxiety, Community Action affirms that our healing as a nation is tied to strengthening our connections as neighbors, family members, co-workers, and communities. Our values assert, "We believe that all people should be treated with dignity and respect and recognize that structural race, gender and other inequities remain barriers that must be addressed."

**National Community Action Partnership Board of Directors
Saginaw County Community Action Agency Board of Directors and Staff**

Senior Outreach

Client: *Drueada W.*

Ms. Drueada came into the office on November 8th, 2019 for re-certification. While in our session, I informed Ms. Drueada that she could apply for DHHS for help with the Medicare Premium, even get some of her money from Social Security benefits.

Ms. Drueada came back on December 12th, 2019 requesting help with a letter she couldn't understand. I read the letter to her and informed her that it was an approval letter for Medicaid. This news made her extremely happy! In addition to being approved, she also got two months of her premium payments reimbursed.

Mary McMath, TEFAP/Senior Outreach Manager

Weatherization

Client: *Lorena S.*

In 2019, the Weatherization program provided Lorena with a new furnace, amongst other standard measures weatherizing her home. Lorena sent us a copy of her consumer bill from February 2019 and February 2020 to compare. She saved 52% on her energy usage with our help.

Client: *Jack S.*

We completed Jack's home in February 2020. Jack is an elderly gentleman who lives alone. He built his own woodstove years ago but was unable to utilize it, and other factors deemed the unit a major health & safety hazard. Jack was using space heaters to heat the home, which caused an increase to his Consumer bill. We worked with his daughter to get the unit removed; and with the help of DOE & Isabella Bank, we were able to provide Jack with a new furnace with heat ducts. Jack and his daughter were eternally grateful for the assistance we provided through our Weatherization program.

Jeffrey Mitchell, Housing/Weatherization Manager

What's Going on at SCCAC!

In the first part of this year to date:

TEFAP Program distributed food to **4,374** households



Senior Outreach served **136** Seniors



MIPPA provided to **16** Seniors

Urban Garden Program provided vegetable seeds to

16 households and **1** Community Garden



Just to name a few...

**11th
Annual**





Thank You
For
Participating!



SCCAC Program List

Dream Catchers for Life

*Stepping into Success Youth Leadership
Afterschool*

Community Housing Development Organization

Commodity Food and Nutrition

Urban Gardening

Weatherization Assistance

Minor Home Repair

Getting Ahead of Your Finances

Back in Stride Again

Case Management

Emergency Support Services

Senior Outreach and Advocacy

Elderly and Disabled Home Repairs

Keep It Moving Senior Fitness

Seniors and Technology (New Tricks)

Deliverable Fuel

Hall Rental



Saginaw County Community Action Center

CARES

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security

**Do you need
financial assistance
due to changes in your income
caused by COVID-19?**

Contact us for prescreening
by phone at **989-282-2000** or go to **saginawcac.cascheduler.com**
to schedule an appointment.

Applicants will need to provide the following:

- ✓ State Identification for all household members 18 years and older
- ✓ Social Security cards for all household members
- ✓ Proof of Household Income for the Past 30 days
- Note: To qualify for CARES Programs, household income will need to fall at or below the 200% Federal Poverty Guideline. Limited funding is available for household income above the 200% FPG.
- ✓ Proof of Requested Need
(utility/medical bill, shut off notice, proof of service cost, etc.)



2824 Perkins St.
Saginaw, MI 48601



The health club for your mind™

**Saginaw County Community Mental
Health Authority's myStrength app** offers a
range of personalized resources to improve
mental health and overall well-being. Each

myStrength homepage is unique, based on each individual user's wellness assessment and personal profile. This online program includes eLearning to help support in the overall wellness with targeted resources for such topic as depression, anxiety, drug & alcohol, chronic pain, sleep disturbance and overall stress reduction. myStrength provides simple tools and exercises, mood tracker and daily inspirational quotes and videos in a safe and confidential environment. myStrength uses proven, evidence-based materials grounded in Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Mindfulness, Positive Psychology and other empirically validated therapeutic approaches. myStrength is designed to be used independently or in conjunction with other care. Referring your clients to myStrength provides them with private resources 24/7 to empower their recovery and extend the impact of your care.



If you would like more information regarding the many services we offer, please feel free to contact us at 989-753-7741. If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email us at info@saginawcac.org with the subject of **Add to Email Distribution List**.