



# South Central



## Community Action Program

1500 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, IN 47404 (812) 339-3447

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# 2008 Annual Report

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*As a vital part of our community, the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) strives to improve the lives of our clients. In 2008, we continued our progress as an agency by identifying problems, creating solutions and changing our operations to meet community needs. Our ability to do more with the same or less funding, and continue to serve a record number of clients in many programs is a true testament to the dedicated SCCAP staff.*

*In 2008, we strengthened our ability to help families move out of poverty by successfully launching the Monroe County Circles™ Initiative designed to match low income families with middle income allies to build relationships and resources to help them move out of poverty. This initiative allows SCCAP to get back to the roots of community action, by actively engaging our community to help win this fight against poverty. We hope to help expand this approach beyond Monroe County in 2009 and beyond.*

*SCCAP also provided essential support to our communities during extreme flooding in June 2008. This work ranged saving agency property and files from a water-soaked Morgan County office, to delivering relief supplies to clients without water in the aftermath of the storm, and to helping to lead the social service response in each community. We are also proud that we could be leaders in the long-term recovery process, providing guidance and resources as the most vulnerable are able to fully recover. Although it sounds cliché, I believe that out of disaster came strength for our agency.*

*All the hard work we do could not be accomplished without the support of the community, the city and county governments we work with, the staff, and the board committed to helping our clients achieve success. We thank everyone for the hard work in 2008 and we know that with this continued support, 2009 is sure to be one of the finest yet for the SCCAP community.*

*David Reingold*  
Board President

*Todd Lare*  
Executive Director

### MISSION STATEMENT

*We exist to provide opportunities for low-income citizens to move toward personal and economic independence.*

## Energy Assistance Program (EAP)

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federally funded block grant through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The LIHEAP Block Grant provides funds to individual states to assist low-income families with the high costs of home energy. Community Action Agencies are designed by federal regulation as the local agencies administering the Energy Assistance Program. Households meeting the poverty guidelines (150% of poverty for 2008) can apply for assistance. The winter heating program assists households with their heating bill or bulk fuel delivery. Crisis assistance helps with families that need additional assistance who are in danger of disconnection or have no fuel. The Summer Cool Program assists clients with fans and electric bills. In some instances with medical documentation, the program can provide a window air conditioner. Summer Fill allows households heating with bulk fuel to purchase fuel in the summer when prices are lower.

- EAP served **2,227** households through its Energy Education workshops. Households that received energy education were also eligible to participate in the Family Development Program if additional case-management was needed. We provided **662** hours of case management.
- During the Summer Cool program, **70** fans were distributed as well as **21** air conditioners. A total of **2,116** households received Summer Cool benefits.
- The Channel 6 Fan Club donated over **80** fans to help families as well.
- We served a total of **4,710** households with Energy Assistance in 2008:
  - Brown County served **479** households
  - Owen County served **864** households
  - Monroe County served **2,028** households
  - Morgan County served **1,185** households
- EAP provided benefits for **154** additional clients after the traditional heating season ended.
- During the 2007-08 winter season, funds provided by the Department of Child Services were used to assist **93** households with **\$14,408** in heating assistance. In addition, the Duke Helping Hand Foundation provided funds in the amount of **\$35,000** that were used to help **355** households with heating assistance.

## Affordable Rental Housing

During 2008, SCCAP owned a total of 19 affordable rental units; 8 of which were in Owen County, 8 in Brown County, and 3 in Monroe County. SCCAP sold one unit in Brown County to a flood survivor household. Six of these units provide homes for Section 8 clients. These homes were purchased and rehabilitated by SCCAP years ago with funding from a variety of sources, including the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Federal Home Loan Bank, and City of Bloomington HAND. The units are rented to qualified households whose income is less than 50% of the median income in their area. Regular health and safety inspections ensure that these homes are clean, well-maintained and in good operating condition.

## Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation

The SCCAP Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program assists low-income homeowners in making needed repairs to their homes. These repairs may include roof repairs or replacements; plumbing and electrical upgrades; furnace repairs or replacement; replacement of doors and windows; and structural repairs.

The Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation Program is funded by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA.) In 2008, SCCAP received \$108,990 to rehabilitate 5 homes. Each home may receive up to \$25,000 in home repairs. Homeowners in Brown, Morgan, Monroe (outside the city limits), and Owen counties must meet income guidelines, have someone elderly (62 or above), disabled, or pre-school age living in the home, the home must be "stick-built" and the homeowners must have owned the home for at least 2 years.

## Family Development

The Family Development Program, which is funded as part of the Energy Assistance Program and the Community Services Block Grant, assists clients with setting goals and formulating steps to achieve those goals, and connects clients with local resources to make this possible.

In 2008, Family Development served **158** families from households with single adults, to households as large as 13 members. The Family Development Program Coordinator assisted many of those families network with other agencies in the community including Bloomington Hospital, Centerstone, Shalom Center, City of Bloomington, Purdue Extension, Township Trustees, United Way Wraparound, and many of our faith based organizations.

## Head Start Program – Monroe County

The Head Start Program is funded through the Department of Health and Human Services. Services are provided to low-income children ages three through five years of age and their families. Many services beyond education are provided to Head Start children and their families such as health and nutrition, special needs services, family services, parent involvement, social services, and transportation. Head Start operates 15 preschool classrooms throughout Monroe County with an enrollment goal of 235 children.

- Overall:
  - We served **281** children from **262** families last year.
  - **78** children were in full day/full year classes; **48** in 6 hour per day classes; **109** in school year, part day classes.
  - **43** of the children speak a language other than English in the home.
  - **145** children were 3 years old when enrolled; **136** children were 4 years old.
- Education:
  - All children received a developmental screenings looking at their gross motor, fine motor, developmental levels and social-emotional skills.
  - Our Head Start children scored higher than the national average on the National Reporting System assessment.
  - Lead teachers completed over **900** home visits.
- Family Services:
  - Enrolls, tracks attendance, recruits new families for the turnover (maintaining a wait list) and provided services to all the families as needed.
  - Last year Family Services provided Emergency/Crisis referrals to **6** families, housing assistance to **10** and mental health referrals to **58** families.
  - Initiated a “Safe Touch” Curriculum in 4 classrooms to **66** children.
- Health Services:
  - **1,093** health screenings for vision, hearing, height, and weight were performed.
  - **100%** of the children were up to date on immunizations or on a “date correction” program.
  - **89%** of the children are up to date on a schedule of Preventive and Primary Health Care.
  - **93.12%** of the children completed dental exams.
- Parent Involvement:
  - Offered over **35** events for families including literacy workshops, fatherhood programs, open houses and a health fair.
  - Hosted a Kindergarten Transition Night with **50** families and provided transition information to all children moving on to public school; arrange “field trips” so that all those who transition to public school visit a kindergarten class and tour the elementary school.
  - Provided on-site registration for kindergarten at MCCSC for **45** families.
  - Partnered with Crestmont Community gardens to create a Head Start garden for children and families to promote nutrition and healthy eating.
  - Received the Reading is Fundamental grant allowing us to purchase **670** books that went directly to families for ownership.
- Special Needs:
  - **49** enrolled children were identified as needing special services.
  - **39** children received on-site Speech Therapy from MCCSC.
- Transportation:
  - Provided services to **73%** of the children in the school year program traveling **48,268** miles on daily routes, field trips and transporting to health screenings.
  - Our drivers and monitors practiced, with the children, **131** bus evacuations drills, **56** severe weather drills, **88** railroad crossing safety drills, and distributed **67** safety handouts to the parents and children.
  - From March to June provided transportation for MCCSC Fairview Title I preschool for **14** children totaling **2,222** miles.



## Weatherization Assistance

The SCCAP Weatherization Program is an energy efficiency program federally funded through the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Low Income Housing and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grants. Funding is also provided from the State of Indiana through the SWEEP grant. The program addresses two major areas. The first area is health and safety related items such as high carbon monoxide levels, gas leaks and mold and moisture problems in a client's home. Extensive testing is done on the client's heating system and other combustible appliances to ensure they are operating in a safe and efficient manner. The second area is that of energy conservation. Energy reduction is achieved through client education and extensive diagnostic testing. This testing helps pinpoint areas of energy loss. The scope of work done can include putting in compact fluorescent light bulbs, cleaning and tuning the furnace, replacing the furnace, insulating attics and side walls, and other measures.

- In 2008, the following list details the number of homes that were weatherized:
  - Brown County: **12** homes weatherized; **3** furnaces replaced
  - Monroe County: **38** homes weatherized, **11** furnaces replaced
  - Morgan County: **37** homes weatherized, **27** furnaces replaced
  - Owen County: **4** homes weatherized, **1** furnace replaced

SCCAP Weatherization Energy Auditors are highly trained and are certified through INCAA and BPI as Building Analysts and Heating Technicians. Our contractors are also trained through INCAA and are certified BPI Building Technicians.



**Insulating an Attic in a client's home**

### Weatherization Success Story

This success story is based on a mobile home located in Morgan County.

In December of 2008, one of SCCAP's Weatherization Energy Auditors did an initial health and safety inspection on a client's home. The furnace inspection results showed extremely high levels of carbon monoxide were being released into the home. The furnace was disconnected because of this dangerous situation. The client did have some space heaters to help keep the house warm. Two days after the initial inspection, a new safe and efficient gas furnace was installed. After the installation of the new furnace, weatherization contractors proceeded with installing energy saving measures such as insulating the crawlspace and floor, air sealing the duct work, installing compact fluorescent light bulbs and other measures to help lower the client's energy costs.

### Owen County Success Story

A client who was on Section 8 for three years and who was also an IDA client, used her FSS and IDS funds to pursue her college education at Ivy Tech. She obtained her degree in nursing and found gainful employment in her field. She is no longer residing in Section 8 housing or in need of Energy Assistance and is financially able to make a better life for herself and her two children.

## Section 8 Housing Assistance

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), through the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), funds the SCCAP Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program. This program helps families live in safe, decent housing. Eligibility for the Housing Choice Voucher program is based on a family's household income. The voucher covers a portion of the rent and the tenant is expected to pay the balance. The tenants' share is an affordable percentage of their income and is generally calculated to be between 30 to 40 percent of their monthly-adjusted gross income for rent and utilities.

In 2008, SCCAP served the following numbers of households with the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher:

- Brown County: 33 households served; 15 households on waiting list.
- Monroe County: 100 households served; 54 households on waiting list.
- Morgan County: 118 households served; 168 households on waiting list.
- Owen County: 31 households served; 24 households on waiting list.

## Individual Development Account (IDA)

The Individual Development Account Program (IDA) is designed to assist qualifying individuals to accumulate savings and develop personal finance skills. The accumulated funds are deposited with a financial institution and the accounts receive matching funds from state and federal sources. The yearly savings goal for individuals is \$400. The State of Indiana then matches those funds with a 3:1 ration, giving the participant no more than \$1200. If, and when, there is a federal match, it can be a 3:1 match which would give the participant up to another \$1200. These funds are then monitored by SCCAP and the participant and can be used to purchase a primary residence, post secondary education costs for the participant or a dependant, or the purchase, startup, or expansion of a business. To qualify for this program, the individual's household must fall up to the 175% income level, attend required financial classes and commit to monthly savings. Achievements in IDA for 2008 were:

- All 55 active participants qualified for state/federal matching funds.
- 41 participants that are no longer able to match, but are still using their funds for the three approved purposes.
- 2 individuals made 4 withdrawals for business capitalization.
- 33 individuals made 72 withdrawals for post secondary education.
- 4 individuals made 22 withdrawals for the purchase of their primary residence, principle payments and/or rehabilitation on their home.

## Monroe County Circles™ Initiative

The Monroe County Circles™ Initiative is a high-impact, community-owned strategy to build intentional friendships across race and class lines and aid vulnerable families in achieving self-sufficiency. Low-income participants attend a 15-week training, *"Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World,"* designed to increase their educational, financial, social and spiritual resources. Those who successfully complete the training are offered the option of participating in the Circles™ Initiative, which matches each participant, called a "Circle Leader," with trained "Circle Allies" who offer continued support. Weekly meetings help grow community, identify and address barriers to self-sufficiency and give back by offering information to the community about poverty in Monroe County.



Monroe County Circles Initiative Graduation Class 2008



**Staff Tea Party 2008**



**Morgan County Office  
Flood Damage, June 2008**



**SCCAP Board Members  
Iris Kiesling and David Reingold**

## County offices

- In Monroe County, the City of Bloomington allows SCCAP to provide qualified low-income citizens with trash stickers and the County assists with trash bags. The City Utilities also assist clients with water/sewage bills.
- Our Brown County office continues to provide referral services and client advocacy when needed, networking with the Department of Family Resources, Township Trustees, Salvation Army, St. Vincent/DePaul Society, Habitat for Humanity, the We Care Gang, Community Closet and local churches.
- Brown County received \$436,000 grant from Lily Indiana Disaster funds. These funds were made available for 2008 disaster victims and are helping families to become whole again. Many are low-income households and they have been helped with replacement of furniture and appliances and repairs on their homes. During the flood disaster, eight Section 8 households were assisted with FEMA funds to replace items and relocate to their new units. Two SCCAP staff members serve on the Long Term Recovery Committee in Brown County.
- Brown County received \$6,181 from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program which was used to assist 25 families with utilities, and food items were purchased by 4 food pantries and 1 soup kitchen which provided 1,750 meals. Each client served with this assistance is also a client served by SCCAP. The Brown County Coordinator is Chair of the local EFSP Board and this office also serves as a referral site.
- Access Brown County Public Transit service begin in April 2008 and continues to provide much needed transportation to residents, many which are SCCAP clients. Received the 2<sup>nd</sup> year \$70,000 matching INDOT grant. 2,344 passenger trips were taken between April 2008 and December 2008. Over 600 rides were for employment. Aging and Community Services of South Central Indiana is the new administrator of this service.
- Utilizing the \$150,000 IHEDA housing repair grant, 12 Brown County homes were completed in 2008. Five of these jobs were septic system replacements. SCCAP was the fiscal agent for the \$30,000 matching funds applied for from the Brown County Community Foundation to make this program possible.
- Brown County 2020/A Vision for the future was completed after many months of strategic workshops and over 100 community members attended. The top 5 priorities were selected to complete projects within the next 3 years. Affordable housing still remains a top priority in the Brown County community. Several of these projects will affect low-income residents such as affordable housing and better educational opportunities.
- The Brown County Coordinator serves on the Habitat for Humanity Board, Brown County Partnership, Brown County Community Foundation, Domestic Violence Task Force, Community Network, Transit Advisory Committee Chair and Long Term Recovery Executive Committee.
- The Brown County SCCAP office serves as a National Able job site for low-income individuals 55 and older.
- Our Morgan County office staff was instrumental in responding to the June 2008 flood and developing the community's Long-Term Recovery Committee.
- The Morgan County office partners with the Coalition for Literacy, Morgan County Connect (transportation), HIRE, area Churches, and social service agencies to address client's needs.
- The Owen County office networks with the Township Trustees, Department of Human Services, Experience Works, SOCS, Head Start, Owen County Habitat for Humanity, Alternative School, and local churches.
- The Owen County Coordinator sits on the board of Habitat for Humanity, Rebuild Owen County Committee's Affordable Housing Committee and HSAC/DSAC.
- Our Owen County office serves as a Salvation Army site to assist clients with multiple needs. The Owen County office also serves as a training site for National Able.

*~ On a thank you card that was given to us by an SCCAP Client ~*

*God Bless you. Thank you so much for your assistance. You're in my prayers. I got a job, \$7 an hour, but its paying the bad buys (insurance, utilities, and taxes). The women I work with are lovely and I've got benefits. Got my notice from the gas company, I was so scared to open it. Every year I've owed them over \$300. Well, thanks to you I've got a credit! I did really conserve and it got pretty cold but its spring, rebirth, and you helped make it joyful. The month my electric bill was so high your assistance kicked in I sold some "stuff" on E-bay and kept my lights on. Keep up your wonderful work and thanks so much again.*

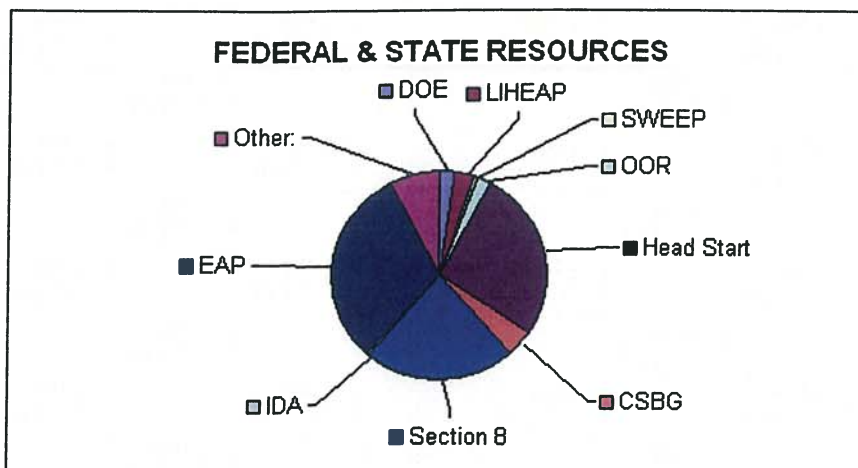
## SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

### 2008 Financial Information

Energy Assistance Program (EAP)	\$	2,588,928
Head Start	\$	1,951,948
Section 8 – Housing Vouchers	\$	1,776,945
Community Service Block Grant (CSBG)	\$	418,791
Department of Energy (DOE)	\$	297,660
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	\$	225,075
Owner Occupied Rehab (OOR)	\$	83,013
State Weatherization EEP (SWEEP)	\$	31,371
Individual Development Account (IDA)	\$	26,856
<b>Other:</b>		
Kappa Kappa Kappa	\$	100
City of Bloomington	\$	200
Strauser Construction	\$	200
Kiwanis	\$	207
Community Foundation	\$	435
Unity Church	\$	500
Bloomington Board of Realtors	\$	500
Private Citizens	\$	677
Indiana Youth Institute	\$	750
Bloomington Township Trustee	\$	1,000
Reading Is Fundamental	\$	2,161
Vectren - Weatherization	\$	2,393
Demand Side Management	\$	4,504
Old National Bank	\$	5,000
Mary Elizabeth Ober Foundation	\$	10,000
United Way - Morgan County	\$	10,000
Jack Hopkins – City of Bloomington	\$	18,000
Rental Receipts	\$	84,016
Child Care Fees	\$	95,762
Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP)	\$	129,881
*In-Kind (Includes 7,023 Volunteer Hours)	\$	<u>471,229</u>

**Total**

**8,238,102**



## SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

### Board of Directors & Head Start Council of Involved Families 2008 - 2009

#### Board of Directors

##### Brown County

Anita Gess  
Gail Hyde  
Jack Slaybaugh  
Joe Wray

##### Monroe County

Lola Debro  
Queen Hill  
Iris Kiesling  
Kennedy Marshall  
Rachel McCarty  
Christine McKenna  
David Reingold  
Susan Sandberg  
Kristina Simmonds  
Jonathon Williams, Jr.  
Jackie Yenna

##### Morgan County

Bettie R. Fletcher  
Diane Poteet

##### Owen County

Barron Barnett  
Jerry Cross  
Laurie-Ann Curry

#### Council of Involved Families

##### Arlington Site

Tony Dugan

##### EECC Site

Jessica Hawkins \*

##### Lindbergh Site

Israel Jiminez  
Veronica Richardson\*  
Isis Saavedra  
Tia Walker

##### Fairview Site

Amanda Smith  
Julia Sowders

##### Broadview Site

April Payne  
Erin Stacey

##### Lakeview Site

Solange Marcum

##### Summit Site

Kalia Seacat

##### Templeton

Rachel Williams

##### Tulip Tree Site

Ashely Perkins

##### Walnut Woods Site

Ryan Ridgon

##### Community Representatives

Vanessa McClary  
Sheryl Mitchell

##### CAP Board Representative

Jonathon Williams, Jr.

\* Council Officers

#### SCCAP County Offices

Brown County, 168 Jefferson Street, Nashville, IN 47448 (812) 988-6636  
Morgan County, 133 West Washington Street, Martinsville, IN 46151 (765) 342-1518  
Owen County, 145 N Harrison Street, Spencer, IN 47460 (812) 829-2279

#### SCCAP Head Start Locations

Arlington, 1320 Arlington Park Drive, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Broadview, 705 W. Coolidge Drive, Bloomington, IN 47403  
EECC, 8045 W. St. Rd 46, Ellettsville, IN 47429  
Fairview, 627 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Lakeview, 9090 Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, IN 47401  
Lindbergh, 1502 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Summit, 1450 West Countryside Lane, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Templeton, 1400 Brenda Lane, Bloomington, IN 47401  
Tulip Tree, #102 Tulip Tree Apartments, Bloomington, IN 47401  
Walnut Woods, 1790 S. Park Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47401