

South Central Community Action Program

2009 Annual Report



We rise together

Message from the Board President and Executive Director

The hardships and pain of this economic depression grab your attention every day at the South Central Community Action Program in Bloomington.

So do the efforts of people striving to create a stable, comfortable future for themselves and their families.

In 2009, we saw many new faces of people who never thought they'd be forced to seek public assistance. These include, among others, people who've lost their jobs or had their hours cut, or who got sick and weren't adequately covered by insurance.

Over the past year, the South Central Community Action Program has served more than 13,000 individuals — more people than it did in any previous year in its 45-year history. Our Energy Assistance Program alone served more than 5,200 households in Monroe, Brown, Morgan and Owen counties this winter.

In the fall, when we were able to expand our Section 8 housing program, the demand was so high that we had a line of people waiting outside overnight in the cold to be near the front of the line when our office opened in the morning.

During the winter, the lobby and parking lots of our main office in Bloomington were jammed with more people than they were built to accommodate.

As the need for our services has grown, we've fortunately also seen an increase in resources to help those in need. Most of the increased resources in 2009 have come through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. SCCAP was awarded \$3.3 million in Recovery Act funds. This money has or will allow us to expand our Head Start program for three- to five-year-olds, create an Early Head Start program for infants and toddlers under three, expand our Weatherization Program to provide energy efficiency improvements to more homes and create an Employment and Training Program to help local residents obtain new skills and careers.

These investments will change lives and reduce the need for future public expenditures. With the children in Head Start, for instance, there is a tremendous amount of

evidence demonstrating that if we aren't able to help them get a good start as they begin school, their odds of school dropout and other social problems skyrocket.

Besides helping hundreds of local families with low incomes, these stimulus funds have allowed SCCAP to provide jobs for 35 local residents and to boost the sales of numerous local businesses.

In addition, the Circles Initiative at SCCAP continued to grow in its second year of existence. Part of a national campaign to eliminate poverty, the Circles Initiative aims to increase the emotional and financial stability of participating families and reduce their need for welfare benefits.

The Circles Initiative is unusual among programs that serve the poor in that it is designed to provide all of the necessary resources and support to enable them to escape poverty and not just to be more comfortable while living in poverty.

This initiative puts renewed emphasis on SCCAP truly living its mission to help low-income people become self-sufficient. This will be our focus in the years ahead. Currently, our board of directors and staff are exploring additional program expansions in areas such as child care, Circles, green initiatives, housing, job training and weatherization. These expansions will fill gaps in local resources and allow larger numbers of low-income people to bring stability to their lives and ultimately to escape poverty.

In doing so, we are committed to doing everything we can to reverse the increasing numbers of local people who are struggling to provide for the basic needs of themselves and their families.

Jack Slaybaugh
Board President

Todd Lare
Executive Director



SCCAP Board member Jonathon Williams dies after battle with cancer

The South Central Community Action Program lost an important contributor when board member Jonathon Williams, Jr. died of prostate cancer on Sept. 28, 2009.

Jonathon, who was 58, lived a life full of activities to help others. In addition to his role with SCCAP, Jonathon was also on the board of directors of the American Cancer Society and the Indiana State Department of Health.

He was a member of Second Baptist Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher and was a member of the Men's Group. He was also highly involved in several Ivy Tech Community College programs and many more civic activities.



On the SCCAP board, Jonathon was also very active after being elected in August 2007. He led the recruitment of low-income representatives on the board, for instance, and staffed the election in which those representatives were selected. He was the board's representative on the Head Start Council of Involved Families and he also played a key role in the agency developing and adopting new personnel policies. Jonathon rarely missed a meeting or event and was known for almost always arriving early. He was always happy and would often share that feeling by humming a happy tune.

"He participated in every facet of the board that we asked him to be involved with," SCCAP Executive Director Todd Lare said. "Jonathon worked well with all people because of his friendly, upbeat nature and willingness to be a friend to everyone."

Head Start to expand after success in attracting Recovery Act funds

SCCAP Head Start is ready to grow after being awarded funds to expand its existing program and to launch a new Early Head Start Program.

The Early Head Start program will allow SCCAP to serve children from birth to three for the first time in its 45-year history. This program will begin in June 2010 thanks to a two-year \$1.3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

SCCAP's existing Head Start program for three to five-year olds in Monroe County will be able to add 32 children starting in January 2010. That change will be made possible through a \$262,327 grant that is also from stimulus funds.

The hope is that SCCAP will continue to receive funding for both of these expansions on an ongoing basis. The additional 32 slots will mean that SCCAP provides early childhood education for a total of 267 children from low-income families.

"We will be providing two additional 6-hour per day, full-year classes with bus transportation," said Shirley Stumpner, SCCAP Director of Head Start. "Our current 6-hour per day, full year program at Lindbergh has a large wait list; this will be a great option for families that are working or going to school.

Most of the organization's existing Head Start classes meet only during the school year.

Stumpner said the Early Head Start Program will address a long-standing shortage of low-cost, high-quality care for children under three years old.

"The Early Head Start program will provide comprehensive child development, health and social services at the age that's most crucial for each child's future success," Stumpner said. "It will also provide parents with resources and information to help them in caring for the children themselves, and enable them to work or pursue further education while their children are attending the year-round Early Head Start program."

Head Start also joined forces with SCCAP's Circles Initiative and Family Development program to create a new



Fatherhood Initiative in 2009. This initiative focuses on in-home behavior support, which helps parents learn alternatives to spanking through positive reinforcement. It also helps to teach Head Start fathers the importance of being a "24/7" presence in their child's life.

In addition, SCCAP received two other grants in 2009 to support Head Start. One was a \$55,620 award in Quality Improvement funds for a new Head Start bus that is wheelchair accessible, and the other was a \$5,000 Head Start Body Start grant for a play-place at the Lakeview Elementary site.

2009 Program Highlights

- 48 children were in full day/full year classes; 30 in 6 hour per day classes; 32 in 6 hour school year classes; and 125 in school year part day classes.
- 30 of the children speak a language other than English in the home.
- 124 children were 3 years old when enrolled and 160 children were 4 years old.

Education:

- All children received a developmental screening that looked at their development in the areas of social/emotional, cognition and language. More than 80% of the children progressed in all developmental areas.
- Lead teachers completed over 900 home visits.

Family Services:

- Enrolled families, tracked attendance, recruited families (maintained wait list) and provided services as needed.
- In 2009, Family Services provided Emergency/Crisis referrals to 17 families, housing assistance to 13, help in finding Adult Education program for 1 and Job training for 3, Domestic Violence Services for 3 and Health Education to 263 families. Monthly enrollment was 267 families. SCCAP Head Start was fully enrolled (100%) each month in FY 2009 with substantial wait list for all classes. (Please see Program Highlights continued on page 7)

SCCAP one of Indiana's most successful organizations in weatherizing homes with stimulus funds in 2009

SCCAP's Weatherization Program was successful in applying for \$899,373 in federal stimulus funds and was also one of Indiana's most successful programs in using stimulus funds.

These funds will allow SCCAP to provide energy efficiency improvements to at least 145 homes in Monroe County in 2009-10, an increase from the approximately 90 homes the agency has weatherized in past years. The additional resources and demand for services have enabled SCCAP to hire four new energy auditors, as well as full-time and part-time housing program assistants.

After receiving approval to spend the Recovery Act funds, Weatherization Program employees hustled to meet a state goal of weatherizing 36 homes by Nov. 30. SCCAP staff was able to meet this goal by completing 37 houses. In doing so, SCCAP was one of just four of the 30 Indiana organizations that received Recovery Act weatherization funds to meet its goal.

On each of the homes to be weatherized, SCCAP sends an energy auditor to inspect the house and develop a work plan to correct energy loss issues and save on energy costs. Though the work is not often cosmetically noticeable, it makes a huge difference in saving money for the residents and in reducing energy use, which benefits everyone.



Homes are first inspected for health and safety concerns, such as gas leaks. Auditors then assess where energy is being lost and what needs to be done to conserve energy better, such as adding insulation or fixing duct work.

2009 Program Highlights

- Brown County: 12 homes weatherized
 - Monroe County: 123 homes weatherized*
 - Morgan County: 13 homes weatherized
 - Owen County: 8 homes weatherized
- * Stimulus funds were received only for Monroe County

SCCAP county offices serve many roles and needs

Brown County office

- Provided referrals and client advocacy, 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.
- Received a \$436,000 grant from Lilly Indiana Disaster funds for 2008 disaster victims to help with replacement of furniture and appliances and home repairs. Two SCCAP staff members serve on the Long Term Recovery Committee.
- Received \$6,181 from the Emergency Food and Shelter Program to assist 25 families with utilities, and food items were purchased by 4 food pantries and a soup kitchen which provided 1,750 meals. The Brown County Coordinator is Chair of the local EFSP Board and this office also serves as a referral site.
- Utilizing the \$150,000 IHDA housing repair grant, 12 Brown County homes were completed in 2008. SCCAP was the fiscal agent for the \$30,000 matching funds applied for from the Brown County Community Foundation.
- Served on the Habitat for Humanity Board, Brown County Partnership, Community Foundation, Domestic Violence Task Force, Community Network, Transit Advisory Committee Chair and Long Term Recovery Executive Committee.

Morgan County office

- Was instrumental in responding to the June 2008 flood and developing the community's Long-Term Recovery Committee.
- Partnered with the Coalition for Literacy, Morgan County Connect (transportation), HIRE, United Way, area churches and social service agencies to address client's needs.

Owen County office

- Networked with the Township Trustees, Department of Human Services, Experience Works, SOCS, Head Start, Owen County Habitat for Humanity, Alternative School, and local churches.
- Sat on the board of Habitat for Humanity, Rebuild Owen County Committee Affordable Housing Committee and Human Services Advisory Council / Disability Services Advisory Council.
- Served as a Salvation Army site to assist clients with multiple needs.

Energy Assistance Program serves record number in 2009

SCCAP provided assistance in paying winter heating bills to 5,266 households during its 2009 winter Energy Assistance Program.

That was an all-time high in the 28 years that SCCAP has provided energy assistance.

In addition, 3,160 households received assistance through SCCAP's Summer Cool Program.

Once approved for the Energy Assistance Program, a member of each household was able to watch a short presentation on how to conserve energy and receive a conservation kit at no cost that contained three compact fluorescent light bulbs and

a furnace filter whistle that tells you when your filter is dirty and needs to be changed.

"People who normally could have survived on their own just can't do it," SCCAP Energy Assistance Program Coordinator Mary Zimmerman said. "We've truly seen a different group."

SCCAP has also seen many of the chronically poor who are finding it harder than ever to get jobs and to pay their bills. We've seen elderly people who are forced to choose between paying their heating bill or buying medicine they need because they don't have money for both.

Monroe County Circles Initiative gains momentum in second year



The Monroe County Circles Initiative experienced many accomplishments in 2009 in just its second year of existence.

One of the biggest accomplishments was the graduation of the second Monroe County "Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin'-By World" class. Ten participants in this 18-week training graduated in a moving

ceremony on August 27th, 2009. The new graduates were matched with their Allies in December.

The Circles Initiative centered in Bloomington is one of about 50 Circles sites across the country, some having recently begun operations, and others preparing to begin soon. The Monroe County Initiative is the second in Indiana, following Muncie, and will be followed shortly by two new Indiana sites with others in the planning stages.

The goal of the nationwide Circles Initiative is to end poverty. Circles takes a multi-faceted approach to bring this about. The strategy matches each trained, low-income "Circle Leader" with three trained "Community Allies," financially comfortable people who help Circle Leaders progress through the plan they create themselves to move out of poverty. Allies provide emotional support, assistance with problem-solving, friendship, and connections to the middle-class community.

Second, through outreach efforts, Circles educates Monroe County about the realities of poverty. Poverty simulations, Bridges Out of Poverty trainings, media pieces, and testimonials of Allies and Circle Leaders help the initiative

accomplish this.

This creates understanding and momentum needed to accomplish the third facet of this strategy: working together as a community to break down local, state and national barriers that keep people from getting ahead. "Big View" meetings, in which participants discuss barriers to ending poverty, will take place monthly beginning in 2010, during regular Thursday evening Circles Community meetings.

All Monroe County residents who want to participate are invited. Circle Leaders lead the way and are eager to make changes in their own lives as well as in the community.



2009 Program Highlights

- 2 classes completed the "Getting Ahead" Training in 2009.
- 6 Circle Leaders were added in 2009, for a total of 12.
- 17 Allies were matched with new Circle Leaders for a total of 32 matched Allies.
- 5 Circle Leaders attended Ivy Tech and 1 IU in 2009, 2 graduating May 2010.
- 2 Circle Leaders found or improved employment through Circles™ in 2009.

IDA Program remains one of Indiana's biggest and best

Though it might not be as well known as some of SCCAP's programs, the Individual Development Accounts program at SCCAP is one of the largest in the state.

The program helps candidates create accounts and practice a monthly savings routine. It then uses money from state allocations and federal dollars from the Assets for Independence, or AFI, to give them a minimum of a 3-to-1 match on their funds.

This money can then be used to improve assets through buying or renovating a home, funding post-secondary education for the participant or a dependent, or starting a business.

The program also encourages financial planning. Participants must provide invoices at least 48 hours before they can make any withdrawal and attend a financial literacy class and one-on-one planning sessions.

Kelly Walter, IDA coordinator for SCCAP, said she has some of the best numbers and saving percentages by participants in the state. In late 2009, she managed 244 IDA bank accounts comprised of 80 active members and 42 inactive participants, meaning they have completed saving but are no longer receiving matches and have yet to spend their funds.

The program has a waitlist, but is always taking names, especially for residents of Owen, Brown and Morgan counties.

2009 Program Highlights

- 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.

Section 8 opens wait list for Brown, Monroe and Owen counties

SCCAP was able to add 119 households to its Section 8 program after being able to open its wait lists for the first time in several years.

This program is funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), via the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA). The 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 tenant's 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.

2009 Program Highlights

- Brown County: 41 households served; 32 households on waiting list.
- Monroe County: 96 households served; 24 households on waiting list.
- Morgan County: 146 households served; 148 households on waiting list.
- Owen County: 34 households served; 35 households on waiting list.

Family Development connects clients with local resources

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 2009, SCCAP's Family Development Coordinator served 182 families from households with single adults, to households as large as 13 members. The Coordinator assisted many of those families to 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 faith based organizations. In SCCAP's four-county area, more than 1,200 families received Family Development services.

SCCAP Affordable Housing Program offers 17 rental units

During 2009, SCCAP owned a total of 17 affordable rental units; 8 of which were in Owen County, 6 in Brown County, and 3 in Monroe County. SCCAP sold one unit in Brown County to an adjoining property owner. Eight 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.

**SOUTH CENTRAL
COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM
2009 Financial Information**

Energy Assistance Program (EAP)	\$ 3,404,315
Head Start	\$ 2,048,942
Section 8 - Housing Vouchers	\$ 1,597,391
Low Income Home Energy Assistance Department of Energy (DOE)	\$ 606,193 \$ 577,030
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$ 424,106
Owner Occupied Rehab	\$ 26,283
State Weatherization EEP (SWEEP)	\$ 22,956
Individual Development Account	\$ 15,078
Other	
Lilly Corporation	\$ 15
Bloomington Moose Lodge	\$ 100
Kappa Kappa Kappa	\$ 100
Kiwanis Club	\$ 200
Unity of Bloomington	\$ 225
Duke Foundation	\$ 250
Reading is Fundamental	\$ 350
Kappa Delta Phi	\$ 400
Bloomington Am Vets	\$ 500
Capital Pizza (Papa John's)	\$ 838
Bloomington Township Trustee	\$ 1,000
Morgan County Board of Realtors	\$ 1,500
INCAA	\$ 2,199
Vectren - Weatherization	\$ 2,199
Private Citizens	\$ 3,604
Monroe County Council	\$ 4,000
American Alliance	\$ 5,000
Centerstone—Wheels to Work	\$ 5,545
Community Foundation of Monroe County	\$ 12,000
Samaritan House	\$ 12,000
Demand Side Management (DSM)	\$ 33,551
JPMorgan Chase Foundation	\$ 65,000
United Way - Morgan County	\$ 76,364
Rental Receipts	\$ 84,843
Child Care Fees	\$ 98,091
Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP)	\$ 137,911
*In-Kind (Includes volunteer hours)	\$ 508,369
TOTAL	9,778,448

Head Start 2009 Program Highlights
(continued from page 3)

Health Services:

- 1,203 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.
- 98% of the children are up to date on a schedule of Preventive and Primary Health Care.
- 83.46% of the children completed dental exams (the other 16.54% were children who left the program for Kindergarten or other reasons just before their exam was due).

Parent Involvement:

- Offered over 40 events for families including literacy workshops, First Aid/CPR training, behavior workshops and a health fair.
- Increased participation in the Hoosier Daddies fatherhood program, special events included game night and “Planes, Trains and Daddymobiles.”
- Hosted a Kindergarten Transition Night with 50 families, provided transition information to all children moving into the public schools; arranged “field trips” to visit a kindergarten class and tour the elementary schools. Provided on-site registration for kindergarten at MCCSC for 45 families.
- Partnered with Hoosier Hills Food Bank to provide on-site food distribution at several Head Start sites.
- Received the Reading is Fundamental Grant to purchase 705 books that went directly to families.

Special Needs:

- 41 enrolled children were identified as needing special services.
- 34 children received on-site Speech Therapy from MCCSC.

Transportation:

- Provided service to 76% of the children in the part-day program year.
- Provided bus service for 101 field trips and 22 health screenings.
- Drivers and monitors practiced with the children: 192 bus evacuations drills, 108 severe weather drills, 108 railroad crossing drills. They distributed 58 safety handouts to parents and children.
- Transportation staff completed 81 home visits to new and/or returning families prior to the children starting classes.

Federal Monitoring Review Results:

- SCCAP Head Start received no concerns in the areas of education, transportation, family services, health services, program design and management, special needs or governance. An area of non-compliance was in the depth of mulch on playgrounds, which was soon corrected.

**South Central Community Action Program
Board of Directors and Head Start Council of Involved Families
2009-2010**

Board of Directors

Brown County

Gail Hyde
Jack Slaybaugh
Kathi Smith
Joe Wray

Monroe County

Lola Debro
Queen Hill
Iris Kiesling
Kennedy Marshall
Rachel McCarty
Vanessa McClary
Christine McKenna
Diana Powell
David Reingold
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Jackie Yenna

Morgan County

Don Adams
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Owen County

Barron Barnett
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Laurie-Ann Curry
Angie Lawson

Council of Involved Families

Arlington Site

James Alvarado

Broadview Site

Jennifer Head
Angela Maanaki

EECC Site

Cheryl Allen

Fairview Site

Robert Sutton

Grandview Site

Maegan Goudy

Lakeview Site

Angetta Pearson

Lindbergh Site

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Juyu Chang
Christie Moore *

Templeton Site

Tiffany Josh

Tulip Tree Site

Ashley Perkins *

Walnut Woods Site

Christina Kinser

Community Representative

Theresa Caluag

Representative to CAP Board

Diana Powell *

* Council Officers

SCCAP Main Office

Monroe County, 1500 W. 15th Street, Bloomington, IN 47404 (812) 339-3447

SCCAP County Offices

Brown County, 168 Jefferson Street, Nashville, IN 47448 (812) 988-6636

Morgan County, 133 W. 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. 8th Street, Bloomington, IN 47404

Grandview, 2300 S. Edgewood Road, Bloomington, IN 47403

Lakeview, 9090 Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, IN 47401

Lindbergh, 1502 W. 15th 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