

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



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**THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION**

**Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.**

**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. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Grandview, 2300 S. Edgewood Road, Bloomington, IN 47403  
Jacks Defeat Creek, 5015 W St Rd 46, Bloomington 47404  
Lakeview, 9090 Strain Ridge Road, Bloomington, IN 47401  
Lindbergh, 1502 W. 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Bloomington, IN 47404  
Templeton, 1400 Brenda Lane, Bloomington, IN 47401  
St. Paul United Methodist, West 3rd Street, Bloomington, 47404  
Walnut Woods, 1790 S. Park Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47401

**Visit SCCAP**

**[www.insccap.org](http://www.insccap.org)**



**Empowering Lives**



**2010 Annual Report**

**South Central  
Community Action Program**

## SCCAP Empowering Independence



Last year we wrote, "The hardships and pain of this economic depression grab your attention every day at the South Central Community Action Program." We would like to report that this year that was no longer true, but the economic outlook for many families we serve has not improved, mirroring the trends of the national economy. Our work empowering people to reach their potential continues. So do the efforts of people striving to create a stable, comfortable future for themselves and their families.

In 2010, like 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.

As the need for our services has grown, we've fortunately also seen an increase in resources to help those in need, thanks primarily to the American Recovery and

Reinvestment Act (ARRA). SCCAP was awarded ARRA funding to expand our Head Start program, and to open Early Head Start classrooms in Monroe County for the first time, serving children birth to three years old, to complement Head Start for three to five year olds. We also received funding to weatherize nearly 500 homes and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding to create an Employment and Training Program to help local residents obtain new skills and careers, fund an Operation Back to School program to provide for clothing, shoes and supplies for low-income children returning to school, provide \$50,000 for food to the Hoosier Hills Food Bank and several local food pantries, and \$22,000 in transportation services for

families to get back and forth to work. Many of these investments will change lives and hopefully reduce the need for future public expenditures after families have been able to stabilize their lives.

In addition to expansion of services during 2010, SCCAP also revised our logo to be more recognizable and to better reflect the services we provide, built a new website to better showcase the services we provide, upgraded the training room in our Lindbergh facility, built 15 much-needed additional parking spaces at our Lindbergh facility, upgraded the security system of our main office, and worked through a strategic planning process and approved the new three-year strategic plan.

The SCCAP three year strategic plan includes initiatives to decrease costs by reducing energy consumption and managing health care costs, exploring opportunities for mergers and shared services, increasing our emphasis on private sector grants and donations, expansion of our weatherization efforts into fee-for-service opportunities, and exploring additional ways of reducing the transportation barriers our clients face and increased emphasis on affordable housing development. In doing so, the SCCAP Board and staff is 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, and, as our tagline suggests, to continue to empower people to reach their potential.

*Todd Love*  
Executive Director

- Early & Head Start Volunteer Hours -7,616
- 26 new allies recruited and trained for the Circles® Initiative
- Heating & Cooling Individuals helped by EAP—12,042

### 2010 SCCAP Program Highlights

- 784 Houses Weatherized
- Assets saved through IDA - \$501,421
- Individuals Family Development helped - 406
- Section 8 Vouchers - 352
- Community Organizations Partnered - 1,038

## SCCAP Awarded Hardest Hit Funds in 2010

The South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) has been awarded the Hardest Hit Service Fund grant, under the Indiana Foreclosure Prevention Network, that provides mortgage assistance to people receiving unemployment benefits in Monroe, Owen, Brown, Lawrence, Orange, Martin, Greene, and Davies counties. For those who qualify, mortgage assistance will be provided for 12-18 months depending on the county of residence. Once approved, the recipients will volunteer forty hours per month in their county. The Regional Administrator of the grant at SCCAP, Taine Watkins, who will match with volunteers with agencies while providing support and training in all eight counties says, "This is a

great way for people that are unemployed to network with others, develop or improve skills needed in the workplace, and give back to their local community."

**If you are interested in learning more or would like to see if you qualify, please call 1-877-Get-Hope.**



### Mission

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

## Head Start 2010 Program Highlights

### Health Services:

- 100% have a medical physician
- 69% received a physical exam and up to date
- 98% of the children are up to date on a schedule of Preventive and Primary Health Care.
- 1,301 health screenings for vision, hearing, height, and weight were performed.
- 100% of the children have a dental physician
- 100% pregnant mothers have health insurance

### 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 1000 home visits for Head Start.

### 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.

### Creative Curriculum Goals and Objectives

**Social & Emotional** indicators show 92% of children beginning the year at Step 1 or less; ending the program year with 47% of children in these early stages of development and 53% of Head Start children now at Step 2 or 3.

**Language and Literacy** showed 94% of children beginning the year with entry level or emerging skills. At year's end 30% of Head Start children had progressed to Step 2 and 2% to Step 3.

Children demonstrate similar growth in **Logic & Reasoning/Cognitive Development**, starting the year with 91% at Step 1 or in Forerunner stages, ending the year with 40% in the higher ranges.

74% of children began the year in beginning stages of **Physical Development**. The year ended with 69% of our children demonstrating skills at the higher levels, Step 2 and Step 3.

### Creative Curriculum Guide

- Step 1: Beginning stage of achieving a goal
- Step 2: A point along the progression of emerging skills
- Step 3: When a child has achieved a firm foundational skill for their age, based on widely held expectations for their age-group.

*Indicators show growth in all areas. Greatest advances were made in Physical and Social Emotional Domains, with over 50% of children advancing to Step 2 or Step 3.*

## SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM 2010 Expenses by Program

Energy Assistance Program (EAP)	\$1,611,866
Head Start & Early Head Start & CACFP	\$3,152,397
Head Start Extended Day	\$ 63,650
Head Start Expansion	\$ 372,602
Section 8 - Housing Vouchers	\$2,228,334
Weatherization	\$ 363,568
Department of Energy (DOE)	\$ 172,758
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	\$1,070,772
Affordable Housing	\$ 151,390
Individual Development Account	\$ 32,190

### Other

Reading is Fundamental	\$ 396
Head Start American Recovery	\$ 46,357
Head Start Body Start Grant	\$ 4,410
Bloomington Township Trustee	\$ 974
Morgan County Board of Realtors	\$ 500
Jack Hopkins	\$ 16,521
Vectren - Share the Warmth	\$ 1,219
Private Citizens	\$ 3,604
Monroe County Council	\$ 4,000
Wheels to Work	\$ 106
Monroe County Community Grant—Circles	\$ 4,000
Samaritan House - Morgan County	\$ 12,000
Demand Side Management (DSM)	\$ 33,113
JPMorgan Chase Foundation - Circles Grant	\$ 57,000
United Way - Morgan County CERF 2010	\$ 22,864
Church Anti-Poverty Project	\$ 281
United Way - Morgan County CERF 2011	\$ 17,161
Community Action Program General Funds	\$ 29,442

**TOTAL \$11,037,035**

## Wal-Mart Grant for SCCAP



*Wal-Mart Good Works Grant for \$3,000*

## 2010 Volunteer Hours

*9,632*

## Head Start Volunteer Hours Exceed 7,600

SCCAP Head Start has grown leaps and bounds over the past year after being awarded funds to expand its existing program and successfully launched the Early Head Start Program.

SCCAP's Head Start program received Stimulus Funds totaling \$262,327 for three to five-year olds in Monroe County. This allowed 32 more children into the program in 2010.

With the expansion of the Early Head Start program it will allow SCCAP to serve children from birth to three. This will allow SCCAP Head Start to help grow children mentally, socially, and physically by the time they are ready to start Kindergarten. Even though the program only began in June of 2010, SCCAP Head Start has been able to start center-based options in homes and at schools for expectant mothers and children by

supporting developmental skills and school readiness. The Early Head Start program is 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.

"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," said Shirley Stumpner, Head Start Coordinator. "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."

Stumpner said the Early Head Start Program is addressing a long-standing shortage of low-cost, high-quality care for children under three years old. SCCAP Head Start will be expounding on this by being able to offer high quality childhood education by supporting development and school readiness.

At SCCAP we promote community and volunteerism, and Head Start exemplifies how families and the community come together to help advance the mission of SCCAP. SCCAP Head Start & Early Head Start parents, community volunteers, and board of directors have volunteered over 7,616 hours in 2010. That outstanding volunteer number only includes a partial year for our new program Early Head Start. "Volunteers are a vital part of our organization, and we greatly appreciate the dedication and expertise of our volunteers" stated Bethany Terry Parent Involvement Coordinator.

**Currently SCCAP Head Start has a total of 17 Classrooms at 11 different sites throughout Monroe County.**



### 2010 Program Highlights

#### 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.
- Center-based focuses on the child in a classroom setting, promoting peer group interactions.

#### Parent Involvement:

- Provided socialization opportunities for children ages 0-3 with the support of the Banneker Community Center, Monroe County Public Library, Mother Hubbard's Cupboard and other community partners. The Crisis Pregnancy Center is working with us to provide Baby Buck Vouchers as an incentive for parent engagement in EHS activities. Baby Buck Vouchers are redeemable for clothes, diapers, and other household needs.
- In 2010 we worked with SCI Kiwanis to support the 4th annual Children's Health and Safety FUN Fair. This community event provided families with a wide variety of free screenings, interactive and health education materials. It also supported the Ronald McDonald Pop Tab Drop which raises money for the Ronald McDonald House of Indiana
- Vouchers are used as an incentive for parent engagement in the new Early Head Start activities. Baby Buck Vouchers are redeemable for clothes, diapers, and other household needs through Crisis Pregnancy Care Center.
- Offered over 50 events for families including literacy, nutrition and behavior workshops, First Aid/CPR training, and family fun events.

#### Special Needs:

- 17% of enrolled children were identified as needing special services.
- Speech Therapy, Cognitive Delays, Autism Spectrum, developmental delay services were offered through multiple strong partnerships with our local educational agencies and our early intervention program to support the needs of children with suspected or diagnosed disabilities

**57 Students in Early Head Start (0-3) & 267 Students in Head Start (3-5).  
24 of the children speak a language other than English in the home.  
Served 38% of eligible 3 to 5 year olds in Monroe County through Head Start.**

## Weatherization expands services to Owen and Brown Counties

### 288 Homes Weatherized

SCCAP's Weatherization Program is still going strong during round two of the ARRA Stimulus Funding. In 2010 SCCAP was able to expand our territory, with recovery act funding, to include Owen and Brown Counties. The grant amount exceeded \$1.7 million to help reduce energy consumption in low-income households and will ensure a safe operating heating source. Weatherization auditors and contractors have been able to exceed each benchmark proposed in our agreement, and help families save on average as much as 50% on a home's winter heating bill.

#### 2010 Program Highlights

SCCAP By County	Homes Weatherized
Brown	15
Monroe	259
Owen	14

In November 2010, SCCAP applied and received a grant from DOE named Sustainable Energy Resources for Consumers (SERC). This grant is designed to pair with the second round of ARRA funding, an additional \$396,000.00. It allows the agency to expand their energy saving retrofits to include things such as heat pumps, tank less water heaters, and passive solar heating systems. SCCAP was only one of five agencies statewide that applied and received this grant.

Weatherization auditors perform a comprehensive energy audit on client homes. The energy audit ensures the health and safety of clients by making sure all heat sources and gas powered appliances have been evaluated for safety and efficiency. Energy auditors also use blower doors and pressure diagnostics to determine which retrofit measures will be the most effective in saving clients' money on their energy bills.



Solar Panel Placed on a Weatherization Clients Home

**Jason Hickman became the new Weatherization Manager due to his experience as an energy auditor, and we welcome his knowledge and expertise to SCCAP.**

## IDA Program 3rd Largest in Indiana & savings in 2010 over \$138,400

Individual Development Accounts program at SCCAP is one of the largest in the state, and we want to thank Kelly Walter, IDA coordinator for her dedication and hard work with her individuals account holders.

The program helps candidates create accounts and practice a monthly savings plan. It then uses the saved and matched funds 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 before they can make any withdrawal, attend a financial literacy class, and a one-on-one planning session.

Kelly Walter, IDA coordinator for SCCAP, said she has some of the best numbers and saving percentages by participants in the state. In 2010, a total of 174 managed IDA bank accounts comprised of 87 active members and 55 inactive participants, meaning they have completed saving but are no longer receiving matches but have a budgeted plan to spend their funds. The program has a waitlist, but is always taking names, especially for residents of Owen, Brown and Morgan counties.



#### 2010 Program Highlights

- All 87 active participants qualified for state/federal matching funds.
- 6 individuals made 12 withdrawals for business capitalization.
- 55 participants that are no longer able to match, but are still using their funds for the four approved purposes.
- Assets in Individual Developmental Accounts being saved \$501,421

## Energy Assistance Program Summer Cool Hits Record

SCCAP provided assistance in paying winter heating bills to 5,083 households during its 2010 winter Energy Assistance Program totally over \$2.5 million.

In record numbers, SCCAP's Summer Cool Program, assisted 5,117 households through energy assistance.

"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 of clients, and are needing assistance for the first time."

*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, it contained three compact fluorescent light bulbs, and a furnace filter whistle that tells you when your filter is dirty and needs to be changed.*



## Monroe County Circles Initiative Hosted 1st State Conference

The Monroe County Circles® Initiative continues to improve on its solid foundation as it moves into an exciting future. Circles® is a community building model which has a national goal of ending poverty through relationships. It partners a family working to move out of poverty with several middle or upper income "Allies", who offer support, friendship, and connections. The "Circle Leader" sets the direction for activities as the families work on goals unique to their own needs.

Oversight comes from the Guiding Coalition, a group of people from all walks of life and income levels. With information from these relationships the community is moved to change the systemic barriers and policies that lock individuals in poverty. Circles® has grown to 60 sites in the US, and a recent addition in Canada.

Monroe County Circles® local staff, along with representatives from other sites, has been involved in the national Guiding Coalition and attended national conferences to learn to facilitate the model in training sites around the country. We were also picked as the site

of the first ever statewide conference of Circles® sites, and are one of two sites chosen to host a Hands On Training (HOT) for communities, agencies, and groups who have recently begun or are interested in starting a Circles® Initiative in their area.

Monroe County Circles® exemplary national presence results from the strength of the local initiative. During 2010, 22 graduated the Leader preparation training called 'Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World.' These new leaders will be matched with allies in early 2011.

One of the goals of Circles® is to increase community involvement of people who live in poverty and provide opportunities to give back. During 2010, a Leader served on Bloomington Housing Authority's housing panel designed to recruit Section 8 Landlords, five Leaders were active on the Guiding Coalition, and seven participated in Big Brother Big Sister's fund raiser, Bowl for Kids Sake, and many more.

Circles® is volunteer driven and partners with many local groups, agencies, and individuals who provide food, youth and adult programming, resources and other support. Indiana University Residential Programs and Services Office's "Adopt a Non-Profit" in which Circles® and Head Start were partnered with Eigenmann Hall. The opportunity for IU students and Circles®/Head Start parents and children to get to know each other through reciprocal activities such as 'Welcome to Bloomington', cookie baking for finals, the "Walk of Fang" Halloween celebration, and fund raising for holiday gifts and programming supplies has been very meaningful for both groups. Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Marks United Methodist Church, Exodus Church and other faith groups

have helped in many ways. To show their thanks, Circle Leaders planned and hosted a volunteer appreciation event for the nearly 300 volunteers who have served almost 4000 hours with Circles® in the last two years.

As well, the Guiding Coalition of the Circles® Initiative created and raised money for a Barrier Reduction Fund Loan to provide a source of emergency cash assistance when other community resources are not appropriate uses. Circles® is largely funded by SCCAP Community Resources Block Grant.



Non-Profit" in which Circles® and Head Start were partnered with Eigenmann Hall. The opportunity for IU students and Circles®/Head Start parents and children to get to know each other through reciprocal activities such as 'Welcome to Bloomington', cookie baking for finals, the "Walk of Fang" Halloween celebration, and fund raising for holiday gifts and programming supplies has been very meaningful for both groups. Trinity Episcopal Church, St. Marks United Methodist Church, Exodus Church and other faith groups

- 12 new graduates of Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' By World training
- 26 new allies recruited and trained
- 220 Community Volunteers
- 2850 documented hours volunteered

### 2010 Program Highlights

- 187 hours volunteered in the community by Circle Leaders "to give back"
- 235 people trained in Bridges Out of Poverty
- 81% of those employed obtained an increase in employment income and/or benefits

## Section 8 Brown, Monroe, Morgan, and Owen counties

The Housing Choice Voucher Section 8 Program is a housing assistance program funded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) via the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA). It was authorized under an amendment to the Housing Act of 1937. The objective of tenant-based Section 8 is to provide direct rental assistance to property owners on behalf of very low-income families so that they may secure decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the marketplace. Assistance payments vary based on family income, the amount of rent charged, and utility costs for the unit; families share is generally calculated to be between 30 to 40 percent of their monthly adjusted gross income. This assistance can continue once the family is employed and can ease the transition from welfare to self-sufficiency. An annual inspection is conducted annually also to certify that the unit meets guideline standards.



### South Central Community Action Program 2010 Program Highlights

**SCCAP**  
Empowering people to reach their potential

- Brown County: 55 households served; 31 households on waiting list.
- Monroe County: 100 households served; 12 households on waiting list.
- Morgan County: 153 households served; 146 households on waiting list.
- Owen County: 39 households served; 24 households on waiting list.

## SCCAP Affordable Housing Program offers 18 rental units

During 2010, SCCAP owned a total of 18 affordable rental units; 6 in Brown County, 4 in Monroe County, and 8 of which were in Owen County. The units owned by SCCAP, four of them 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. Regular health and safety inspections ensure that these homes are clean, well-maintained and in good operating condition.



The units are rented to qualified households whose income is less than 50% of the median income in their area.

SCCAP's Rental Duplex Property on 14th Street in Bloomington.

## 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 2010, SCCAP's Family Development Coordinator served 182 families from households with single adults, to households within our 4 county region. 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.*

## Wheels To Work Program

The Wheels To Work Program is designed to further assist families who have taken the steps to work toward self-sufficiency but are unable to obtain reliable transportation. The program accepts donated vehicles in good working order and provides families with dependable transportation.

"SCCAP saw a large need of families needing assistance with transportation, and we wanted to be able to help by revitalizing the program this year" stated Christine Combs, EAP Coordinator & Wheels to Work Coordinator.

## Back to School Program

**Operation Back to School program that helped about 3,400 K-12 students by providing \$100 of school supplies and clothing.**

"This is a huge relief," one parent said. "I've been worried for weeks about how we'd pay for everything. You can tell right here today how many families are needing help. We really appreciate this."

SCCAP wants to express a big thanks to everyone at Target for giving a 10 percent discount! Also, thank you to Wal-Mart in Bloomington, Spencer, and Martinsville.