

Jackson County Community Collaboratives Supported by United Way of Jackson County

Central Michigan 2-1-1

A free to the user Information and Referral (I&R) telephone service that links people to the human services they need – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. LifeWays and United Way led development of Central Michigan 2-1-1 to respond to callers who need non-emergency health and/or human service assistance, including such needs as home rehabilitation, utility bills, rent payments, basic shelter, food, furniture, access to health care, and counseling.

Success By 6

A school readiness initiative based on medical and scientific research indicating that a child's environment and experiences, whether positive or negative, by age five, have an irreversible effect on brain function and a lasting impact on later success in school and in life. An exhaustive 24-year study found that every \$1 invested in high-quality preschool education produced a \$17 return.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention

United Way of Jackson County started this community wide collaborative to reduce the teen pregnancy rate in Jackson County in November of 2005. The Health Department leads several coalition members in developing a strategic plan to address teen pregnancy and the issues that contribute to it. This plan includes strategies related to advocacy work, a prevention program targeting high-risk youth, and parent education.

Health Care for All

This collaborative group is working to increase access to health care services for Jackson County's uninsured and underinsured. Its members include the Jackson County Medical Society, Foote Health System, Jackson County Community Foundation, LifeWays, 2-1-1, United Way and many other community partners.

One of its efforts, **Project Access**, provides uninsured residents with comprehensive health care through donated services from physicians and health care organizations.

Community Warmth

Faith-based organizations and human service providers are working together to raise funds to assist residents with their utility bills. They are focused on not only addressing the immediate need for utility assistance, but also addressing the causes that force people to need utility assistance; including advocating to the

Michigan Public Service Commission to make changes in the Winter Protection Program and winterizing individual's homes.

Full Circle

This community group is working to assure that every youth in Jackson County has the opportunity to be a good citizen who positively contributes to their community. Based on a proven national model, Full Circle coordinates and provides increased resources and programs for prevention and intervention of juvenile violence and delinquency.

Healthy Marriage

The Healthy Marriage Initiative has two components, Marriage Matters Jackson and the Michigan Healthy Marriage Coalition. Marriage Matters Jackson provides education, enrichment, and preparation activities in support of marriage, and is fully funded by the Weatherwax Foundation. The Michigan Healthy Marriage Coalition is comprised of organizations from Jackson, Lenawee and Wayne counties, and is fully funded by United States Administration for Children and Families.

Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Activities the Coalition undertakes include: increasing the substance abuse prevention efforts in Jackson County, helping area agencies apply for substance abuse grants, educating the community on substance abuse prevention, and conducting tobacco compliance checks. The coalition is fully funded by the Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission.