**Disability Network Southwest Michigan  
2009-2010 Annual Report**

Take Action

**Our Mission:** To educate and connect people with disabilities to resources while advocating social change.

# Letter from the President

We continued in 2010 to ensure that services for people with disabilities were available permanently in our expansion in Berrien and Cass Counties. This “*Take Action*” initiative of expanding our mission to citizens living in these communities became a reality with the approval of a State of Michigan Core Funding Grant through Michigan Rehabilitation Services. It also involved receiving approval from a federally funded U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration grant for fiscal year 2011 and 2012. Our expansion included the hiring of four new employees to provide Independent Living Services, Information and Referral, Advocacy and Community Education. These new efforts joined with our existing programs resulted in providing services to over 6,400 people in all of our eight counties.

In a joint effort between the Board of Directors and Staff, we initiated a new Strategic Thinking process that involved the creation of a new Mission and Vision for the organization, which were publicly announced at the 2010 Annual Meeting. The work of the board and staff on this strategic “*Take Action*” approach will breathe new life into our combined efforts and move toward greater ability to achieve our mission by showing us where the best path ahead lies.

Our board, staff and volunteers continue to build a fund development program that has resulted in many positive new relationships with donors and funders. We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our donors and the impact their gifts have been in sustaining our capacity to ensure our ability to provide services to people with disabilities at a time of great need in our communities. We want all our citizens and partners to know that Disability Network will continue to “*Take Action*” in the year ahead to educate and connect people with disabilities to resources while advocating for social change.

(signed) Joel W. Cooper  
President & CEO

# Annual Report

2009-2010 Financial Report

**Revenue**

Federal Grants $712,714

State Grants $ 18,989

Contributions $228,526

Interest Income $ 3,899

Fundraising Revenue $16,434

Less direct cost of $9,163

Change in beneficial interest $277

Donated Materials $1,150

Donated Services $99,798

Program services fees $618,559

Other revenue $3,108

**Total $1,694,291**

**Expenses**

Program Services $1,234,995

Administration $120,358

Fund Development $176,643

**Total $1,531,996**

**Beginning Assets $381,211**

**Ending Assets $569,448**

2009-2010 Performance Statistics

Disability Network Southwest Michigan staff took action by:

* Providing services to more than 6,400 individuals in 8 counties
* Answering over 2,700 requests for disability-related information in 8 counties
* Transitioning 32 individuals from nursing facilities to community living
* Facilitating 9 workshops focused on disability in the workplace in 6 counties
* Supporting 958 individuals with disabilities reach their independent living goals
* Mentoring youth with disabilities through a statewide leadership program

Disability Network Southwest Michigan volunteers took action by:

* Donating more than 5,100 hours
* Building 9 ramps in Kalamazoo County
* Advocating for improved public transit & accessibility

# Get Involved

Whether it’s through your time, talents or generous donations, Disability Network Southwest Michigan appreciates what you are able and willing to give.   
  
To learn more about our services, please visit our website at **[www.dnswm.org](http://www.dnswm.org)** or find us on Facebook and Twitter!

Our service area includes:Barry, Berrien, Branch, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph and Van Buren Counties.

## You Can Take Action By . . .

* Learning more about people who have lived the disability experience.
* Using person-first language that acknowledges disability as simply a characteristic of diversity.
* Never using the “H” word – Handicapped – and instead saying accessible restroom or accessible parking.
* Creating a welcoming environment for people with disabilities in my workplace and place of worship

## Disability Network Southwest Michigan volunteers took action by:

* Donating more than 5,100 hours
* Building 9 ramps in Kalamazoo County
* Advocating for improved public transit & accessibility

# Contact Info:

**Kalamazoo Office**

517 E. Crosstown Pkwy, Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
(269) 345-1516

**St. Joseph Office**

2900 Lakeview Avenue, St. Joseph, MI 49085  
(269) 985-0111

www.dnswm.org

# 2009-2010 Donors

\*indicates Membership

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