**Disability Network Southwest Michigan  
2013-2014 Annual Report**

Be the Change

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

# Letter from the President

During Fiscal Year 2013-2014, Disability Network Southwest Michigan created opportunities so others could realize the benefit to *be the change* in their own life and in their community. Services for the first time in our 33 year history exceeded touching the lives of over 8,000 people across our eight counties, increasing by over 1,000 customers from the previous year. Our staff was busy being the change in supporting customers to the ‘top of their mountain’ as they learned the valuable application of using Motivational Interviewing communication strategies through a series of intensive trainings. Our Board of Directors chose an example to *be the change* by replacing our traditional Annual Meeting with an event for the community to celebrate the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, bringing together over 200 people to learn and recognize the importance of this legislation on July 25, 2014. This event will repeat each year in July with plans for an even larger community event for the 25th Anniversary of the ADA in 2015.

Community members are learning to *be the change* as a result of their participation in our first ever provision of a workshop on Ableism, a learning experience to increase awareness of how discrimination and social prejudice against people with disabilities impacts all of our lives and to commit to work to eliminate it through our words and actions. Community leaders and interested citizens in Kalamazoo were engaged in learning to *be the change* in how best to create walkable and livable communities with the help from Dan Burden, a pioneer of the country’s walkability movement. The walkability audit on August 8, 2014 emphasized the value of redesigning streets and sidewalks to focus on people while also accommodating vehicles. All of these examples of how we collectively can *be the change* would not have been possible without the generous gifts of our donors and the dedication of our staff and volunteers.

(signed) Joel W. Cooper

# Annual Report

* Over **8,170** people were served in eight counties.
* **4,326** Information & Referral requests were answered.
* **1,047** people with disabilities received independent living supports.
* **15** ramps were built.
* **36** Veterans with disabilities received Independent Living supports.
* **63** people with disabilities were transitioned out of nursing facilities and into community based living. This saved Michigan taxpayers over $3,000,000.00.
* **236** people received Social Security Benefits Counseling.
* We participated in **25** informational booths in the community in **8** counties.
* We facilitated **126** workshops and presentations for the community with **2,797** people participating.

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| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  | **2013** | **2014** | | Federal Grants | 262,057 | 279,672 | | State Grants | 658,720 | 458,467 | | Contributions | 250,199 | 205,275 | | Interest Income | 5,175 | 4,466 | | Fundraising Revenue | 11,590 | 11,898 | | less direct cost of | 8,935 | 8,395 | | Change in beneficial interest | 253 | 334 | | Donated Materials | 1,604 | 2,045 | | Donated Services | 111,357 | 120,116 | | Program Service Fees | 1,019,064 | 860,176 | | Contract Services | 183,247 | 132,144 | | Other Revenue | 2,635 | 897 | | Total Revenues | 2,496,966 | 2,067,095 | | Program Services | 1,954,216 | 1,726,133 | | Administration/Fund Dev | 343,930 | 318,812 | | Total Expenses | 2,298,146 | 2,044,945 | | Beginning Assets | 872,927 | 850,777 | | Ending Assets | 1,071,747 | 872,927 | |  |  |

# 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

# 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

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