

## 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!

“Disability Network Southwest Michigan has impacted my life in many ways. Volunteering as a receptionist has opened many doors as far as networking. I've met a lot of nice people.”

— Karlissia Munn

### Who We Serve

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



## 2009 Annual Report



# Count On Us

## Our Mission

Disability Network Southwest Michigan's mission is to educate and empower people with disabilities to create change in their own lives and to advocate for social change to create inclusive communities.

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Kalamazoo, MI 49001  
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(877) 674-5209 (toll free)  
(269) 288-0047 (Battle Creek)  
(269) 345-0229 (fax)

# Thank You Donors!

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# Letter From the President

Thank you for taking the time to read Disability Network’s 2009 Annual Report. This past year has once again been a time for continued growth in the delivery of new services, as well as expansion of some existing services. With the challenging economic environment in Michigan, it is very evident that no matter what the situation, we know that persons with disabilities are “counting on us”. We have made sure that happens by developing a Ramp Up Program in Van Buren County with the help of a new partnership with Red Arrow Ministries and Van Buren County United Way; providing a new ‘in-house’ Independent Living program to Michigan Career and Technical Institute students; enhancing our partnership with the Department of Veteran Affairs by expanding services for veterans throughout all of Southwest Michigan; and expanding our Information and Referral services with the support of the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

Our advocacy efforts were successful in the passage of two public transit millages with the partnership of Friends of Transit Coalition members. Other advocacy and education efforts reached out to business’s human resource staff by providing valuable workshops about ‘What to Do When an Employee Discloses a Disability’ focusing on rights and responsibilities under the ADA, and we published the first edition of ‘The Business & Disability Bulletin’, a bi-annual electronic newsletter for the business community. We also advocated for improved accessibility with many of our parks and recreation areas in Southwest Michigan.

In the later part of Fiscal Year 2009, we were asked by the State to support people with disabilities living in Berrien and Cass Counties. We responded positively to the request and began working closely with key stakeholders in forming new partnerships. This included Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Region IV Area Agency on Aging, and Michigan Works! Berrien, Cass, Van Buren. We are looking forward to providing our services to the people living in the communities of these counties in the months ahead.

We are so grateful to our donors and supporters–without your commitment of giving we would not be able to be successful with the important work of our mission. We look forward to continuing the many new collaborations we have formed this year. Just as the upcoming 2010 Census will be very important to the future of Michigan, to ensure all of us are counted, we want all our citizens and partners to know that Disability Network can be counted on in educating and empowering people with disabilities to create change in their lives. We will be counting on one another, including our volunteers, partners and donors to accomplish our mutual goal that communities include, empower and support all person with disabilities, ensuring inclusive communities for all.

*John W. Cooper*



**In 2009:  
Disability Network Southwest  
Michigan served more than  
3,800 individuals.**

**Over 1,950 disability-related  
Information and Referral calls  
were received.**

**Independent Living  
Specialists worked with  
over 600 people.**

**Disability Network Southwest  
Michigan helped 30  
individuals transition from  
nursing facilities to  
community living.**

**Over 150 people received  
employment support.**

**Community members  
volunteered over 4,100  
hours at Disability Network  
Southwest Michigan.**



Revenues	2009	2008
Federal Grants	\$425,524	420,889
State Portion/Federal Grants	155,721	162,444
Other Grants	81,95	116,886
Contributions	140,157	154,373
Interest Income	3,952	3,833
Fundraising: \$13,462 Less		
Direct costs of \$9,527	3,935	20,741
Change in Beneficial Interest	50	(572)
Donated Materials	540	1,167
Donated Services	86,304	73,197
Program Service Fees	297,568	240,904
Total Revenues & Support	1,197,716	1,193,862

Expenses		
Program Services	946,455	935,872
Management & General	232,917	249,311
Fundraising	9,463	10,173
Total Expenses	1,188,835	1,195,356
Change in Net Assets	6,881	(1,494)
Beginning Net Assets	374,330	375,824
Ending Net Assets	381,211	374,300

James Dollahan  
Tyler Little Family Foundation  
Dr. Craig Mohney, Southwest Michigan Dermatology  
Douglas & Son, Inc.  
John & Beth denHartigh  
Mike Williams, SignArt, Inc.  
Bruce & Betty Kocher  
Levi Morehouse, Caremore, Inc.  
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Michigan Works! Berrien, Cass, Van Buren  
Kalamazoo Community Foundation  
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Sign Center  
Encore Publishing – Rick Briscoe  
Strategic Solutions – Raquel Wells  
Harding’s Friendly Market  
Klooster Greenhouse - Steve Klooster  
Wenke Greenhouses -Lisa Wenke  
The Prairies Golf Course - Tyler Eddy  
Metro Bar & Diner - Marty Spaulding  
First United Methodist Church  
Bob Davis Memorial Fund  
River Street Flowerland  
Western Michigan University Design Center

# We appreciate you!

(Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy.  
Please contact our office in the event of an error.)