

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

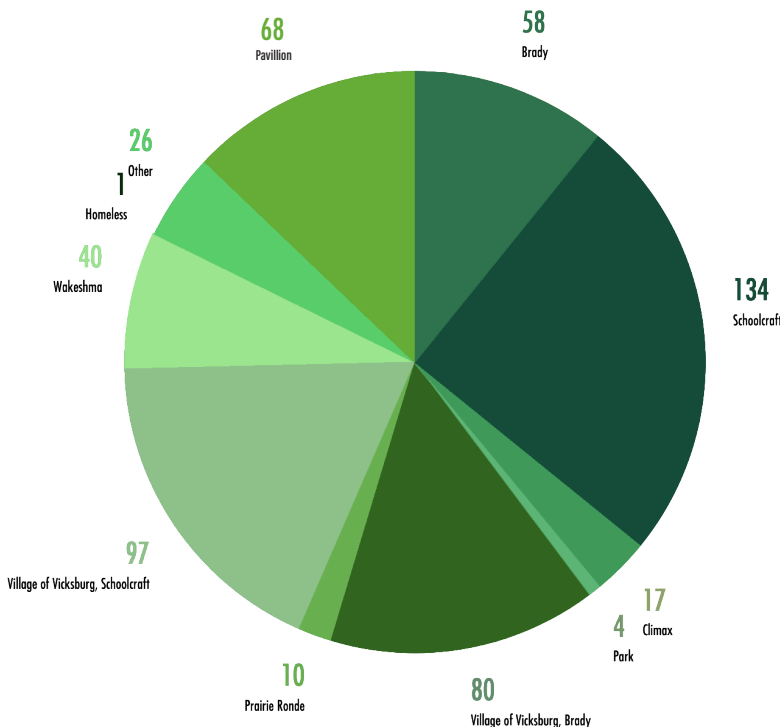
Letter From The Director

What a year it has been! 2020 was certainly a unique year for South County Community Services, and a difficult one for our clients. We saw a decrease in need early in the year as unemployment insurance and stimulus payments helped stabilize vulnerable residents of our service area. After late spring, we saw increases in need each month and ended up with similar housing and utility assistance numbers to 2019, which is remarkable considering how slow things were early on. Changes have not been even and they have affected some households more than others. Our role throughout 2020 was to help connect people with services that sometimes felt like moving targets and to fill in the inevitable gaps in those services with meaningful assistance. We closed our doors but remained available for all essential services throughout the pandemic, either via drop in hours or by phone. Throughout it all we came away with some important changes that will help us moving forward and many things that we will be glad to be rid of!

I would like to extend sincere gratitude to everyone who helped us this year: Metro drivers who continued to bring clients to essential medical appointments, pantry and front desk volunteers who helped with mailings, staff who juggled their safety and their childcare in order to make sure that we were able to continue offering important assistance, the Tree of Life team who managed our annual fundraiser, the volunteers who helped us step up to make sure that families did not lose assistance over the holidays, and everyone else who we have worked with in 2020. We needed all of your help this year!

Improving Life for South County Families

Most visitors to SCCS begin with the SCCS Emergency Assistance Coordinator to determine their needs and make a plan. In 2020, the agency completed 384 emergency assistance sessions with 558 individuals, across all ages and locations, in the service area. The chart below provides additional details on the breakdown of individuals served by township.



Our Key Partners Make It All Possible

Area Agency on Aging IIIA
Area Faith Leaders, School Districts and Libraries
CCTA – Central County Transportation Authority & METRO Transit
Family Fare of Vicksburg
Generous Hands
Grossman, Horne & Cannizzaro PC
Housing Resources, Inc.
Individual and Family Donors
Kalamazoo Community Foundation
Kalamazoo County Department of Health & Human Services
Kalamazoo County State Bank
Kalamazoo County Veteran Service Office

Kalamazoo Loaves & Fishes
Lions Clubs of Schoolcraft & Vicksburg
Meijer, Shaver Road
Prairie Ronde Township
Schoolcraft Township
Senior Services, Inc
United Way of Battle Creek & Kalamazoo Region
Vicksburg Farmers' Market
Vicksburg Foundation
Vicksburg Rotary
Vicksburg United Way
Village of Schoolcraft
Wakeshma Township

Note: SCCS reports regularly to outside funders such as Area Agency of Aging IIIA and United Way to verify use of funding as requested. SCCS complies with best practices in accounting and completes an independent financial review or audit annually.

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How SCCS Served Area Families in 2020

Senior Outreach

Pandemic Outreach
Calls

206

Care Calls
(Started in November)

22

Quarantine Boxes

100



Transportation



527 Volunteer Hours

Holidays



Total Holiday Expenses \$32,317

Emergency Assistance

Disconnections Prevented

130



600

Fuel Vouchers
Provided

Evictions Prevented

18

Direct Financial Assistance from SCCS \$47,192

Leveraged State Aid for Utilities \$19,646

Total Assistance for South County Families \$66,838



We also provided assistance with medication, phone bills, Kinship Caregivers (grandparents raising grandchildren), school supplies (annual Backpack Bonanza with Generous Hands) and much more!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Advocate
- Joining the SCCS Membership Circle
- Donate
- Volunteer
- Spread the Word

Visit the SCCS Website
SouthCountyCS.com



PO Box 263
Vicksburg, MI 49097
269-649-2901