



Community Support Key to Continued Growth at WMFC

A MESSAGE

From Our President

The year of 1996 has been a very busy and productive year for WMFC. As a Board we want to acknowledge the dedication of a devoted staff to the many challenges of this



BOB DOSTAL

most successful year. Without the staff, the many volunteers and our financial supporters, WMFC would never have made another major step forward in the achievement of our Mission: "To enhance the quality of life for the area residents of all ages." The Board is constantly seeking to assist the staff improve the effectiveness of the Center in providing those services and facilities necessary to satisfy the needs of the community.

The closing words of our Mission Statement sum up our reason for being in exist-

See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**, Page B

West Midland Family Center relies heavily on the generous support of donations from our various supporters and sponsors. Whether through United Way donations or direct contributions to the Center, WMFC has always benefited from the kindness of local individuals and private groups. These donations often allow us to introduce new programs or make additions to existing programming.

In 1996, much of our growth has focused on our new child care program. In addition to supporting the program's ongoing operations, donors have helped pay for many of the renovations and equipment needs necessary for the program to operate.

Recent visitors to the Center will note that when the child care was added full time in September, three rooms were renovated to accommodate the program. This has left only the dining room avail-

SEE COMPLETE LISTING OF WMFC CONTRIBUTIONS ON PAGE B

able to accommodate the many community organizations and groups who serve clients through the Center. In addition, the dining room is also home to many of our after school youth programs from Scouts, 4-H, and our "Class Act" after school tutoring program.

To provide us with greater flexibility in using the dining room, plans have been drawn up for a folding wall partition to be added to the west dining room in the new year. The total cost for the wall is \$10,500 and, as in the past, the Midland Foundation has taken a leadership role in supporting the Center with a donation of \$7,500. In addition, many individual donors and service groups have contributed to help the center with this project.

As always we are greatly appreciative of all the wonderful support WMFC receives from the community year round. Donation, volunteer support, United Way contributions, and donated items have all aided the Center in achieving its mission of "strengthening the family."

Winter Programs

The special 6-page insert in this issue contains the complete schedule for Winter Programs. Please remove and retain for future reference.

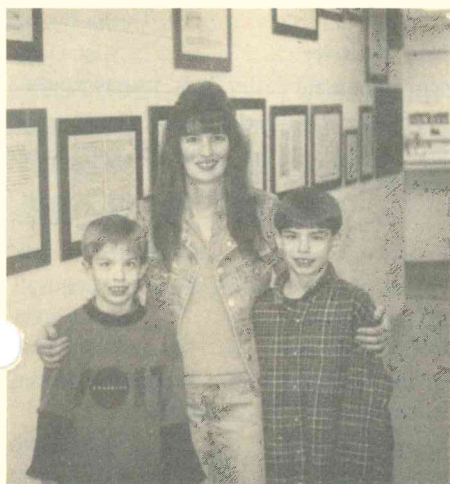
The Third Option . . . West Midland Family Center

Michelle Scribner is the mother of two terrific boys, Randy, age 9 and Chad, age 7. When the school summer break came along, Michelle faced a very difficult decision—find a daycare provider for her sons, or quit her job and take care of the boys herself. Both of these options would have placed a huge finan-

cial burden on her and she was very concerned as summer approached that the decision would jeopardize her family's economic future.

Fortunately, West Midland Family Center was able to offer Michelle a third option, the Center's "Sunsational Summer Program." The program is made available to all area families every summer, and includes a full day of recreational and educational activities for school age children. The program includes: morning tutoring, visits to Floyd School's computer lab, games, sports, crafts, special guests, weekly field trips and the finest staff anywhere. For Michelle the program proved to be a blessing; not only does the program emphasize high quality, but parents can set their own fees. For this past summer, parents paid from \$3.00 to \$15.00 per week for the program.

Michelle's only concern is that the program be made available again next year. We at WMFC are glad to assure Michelle and all area families that they can once again, look forward to another terrific Summer Program in 1997.



Chad and Randy Tripp and Michelle Scribner

To Aaron, Stephanie, & the rest of the WMFC staff: 9-12-96

I wanted to give you my sincere heart-felt thanks for making my sons summer one of the best they ever had.

I thought I would have to quit my job as summer approached. I couldn't afford daycare or a babysitter and I couldn't afford to quit my job. All of you made it possible for me to continue working and continue to stay off of ASD.

I felt guilty having to leave the boys. I wanted so much to be at home with them, but when I saw how much they truly enjoyed going and how well they were supervised, I felt much more at ease. They did so many activities and went to so many places!

I found Stephanie and Aaron to be wonderful leaders. The boys truly liked them. I think they're pretty special myself! I just wanted all of you to know how much the "Summer Program" meant to us, and I hope it will be available again next year. Sincerely,

Randy & Chad Tripp and Michelle M. Scribner

Report from West Midland's Executive Director

The other articles in this issue of Family Focus have dealt with programs we have conducted or thanking people giving us the opportunity to provide those programs. Our user community and our funding community have inspired us to open our hearts and our arms wider than ever before. Fortunately, we are now at the point where we are busting at the seams. At this point last year, expansion of our facility seemed like it would be needed in three to five years. Now, it is needed today!

What happened? --Child care. Once we figured out it was possible to actually direct a full-time child care program within our current facility, it went from being the number one need on our long range plan to being something that we offered on a full time basis.

Some short term solutions have been implemented to ease overcrowding. We are once again at that stage of deciding what is the best way for us to set up to deliver services in the future.

Our long range plan, which was based on focus groups comprised of current users (or their parents) is being revisited. Other needs that were strongly requested by our users include set up of an activity room that caters

specifically for elementary school age children (No high school students allowed), an additional classroom to host a preschool program for three year olds, an auxiliary gym to further allow for age appropriate activities and for youth use when the adult leagues are using the main gym, replacement of the library and the emergency food pantry since they were lost during the child care expansion. Unfortunately, while a swimming pool is high on everyone's wish list, the enormous operating cost of a pool is simply too great to sustain. We do promise to continue the popular field trips to the Midland Community Center pool.

In closing, this is a very exciting time to be at the Center. There is still time for community input but that window of opportunity is closing fast. Community members, other agency peers, school personnel, advocates for youth, at risk families, and seniors, if you have ever thought "wouldn't it be great if..." now is the time to tell us... don't wait.



GREG DORRIEN

President's Message

continued from page 1

tence: "Developing a sense of individual worth and strengthening the family unit." 1996 found the Center taking another step toward "strengthening the family unit" in initiating a "pilot" and then a "permanent" Child Care Program. This program is providing the opportunity for parents in the area to have access to a quality child care program and at the same time is "strengthening the family unit" by allowing Center personnel to become involved at an earlier age. We are all very excited about the difference this program will make in the family unit over the long term.

1997 looks to be another exciting year for WMFC. With the addition of the child care program, our wonderful building is at "capacity plus." This will necessitate looking at possible expansions. This will be a high priority for the Staff and Board in 1997. We welcome your input.

We want to again thank everyone for their past support and ask for your continued participation.

West Midland Family Center

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Bob Dostal
Vice President	Joe Dufort
Secretary	Jim Burlingame
Treasurer	Dick Furlo
Directors:	Jim Anderson, Chuck Infante, Linda Kellogg, Don Koster, Sue Thumma, Joe Vanderkelen, Ralph Wirtz
Advisors:	Gene Dauer, Tom Misner, Chuck Norisez, Roland Weaver, Win Zacharias

STAFF

Executive Director	Greg Dorrien
Program Director	Gail Crosby
Office Manager	Kahren O'Brien
Receptionists	Teri Booth, Diane Dauer, Diane DeMott, Kathy Roberts
Maintenance Director	Gerald Burkett
Maintenance Staff	Barry Lenski, Donna Hackett
New Initiatives	Alan Oman
Youth Programs	Wyndy Johnson
Youth Staff:	Lisa Berlin, Sherry Farison, Rich Little, Tobi Quider, Chris Rowe, Renee Shaugher, Aaron Zook
College Opportunities	Tracy Meister
Preschool Teacher	Elaine Fabinski
Preschool Aides	Missy Finney, Karen Hall, Barb Simons
BSF Coordinator	Lois Burto
Child Care Aides:	Eileen Burch, Bree Burton, Bridget Eveleth, Missy Eveleth
Senior Coordinator	Susan Wells
Intern	Becky Lemere

CONTRIBUTIONS as of DECEMBER 1, 1996

Organization:	Amount:		
United Way of Midland County	\$156,825	Greendale Township	\$ 2,000
State of Michigan Preschool Grant	\$108,000	West Midland Auxiliary	\$ 1,550
West Midland Auxiliary	\$ 29,000	Snow Machines Ltd.	\$ 1,500
Midland Foundation	\$ 28,602	Sunrise Optimists	\$ 1,500
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	\$ 13,003	United Way Summer Grant	\$ 1,200
Dow Chemical	\$ 10,000	Kiwassee Kiwanis	\$ 1,000
Rollin Gerstacker Foundation	\$ 10,000	First United Methodist Church	\$ 750
Vada B. Dow Unitrust	\$ 10,000	Midland Kiwanis Club	\$ 500
Children's Trust Fund	\$ 9,940	Sunrise Optimists	\$ 404
Midland Foundation	\$ 7,500	Floyd Arbor of Gleaners	\$ 400
Midland Co. Child Protection Council	\$ 6,285	Mid-State Substance Abuse	\$ 400
Homer Township	\$ 6,250	Midland Kiwanis	\$ 300
Dow Corning	\$ 5,000	United Way Venture Grant	\$ 300
Allen Foundation	\$ 4,800	Midland Co. Youth Action Comm.	\$ 300
United Way Venture Grant	\$ 4,375	First Baptist Church	\$ 200
St. John's Episcopal Church	\$ 4,000	Floyd Arbor of Gleaners	\$ 178
Lee Township	\$ 4,000	United Way of Isabella County	\$ 120
United Way Venture Grant	\$ 3,875	Chippewa Nature Center	\$ 100
Midland Co. Youth Action Council	\$ 3,700	TOPS	\$ 100
Hudson's	\$ 2,500	Freemont Foundation	\$ 100
C. J. Strosacker Foundation	\$ 2,500	Capital Area United Way	\$ 87
Midland Co. Child Protection Council	\$ 2,283	Chapter EPO Sisterhood	\$ 25
		Delta Child Study Group	\$ 20

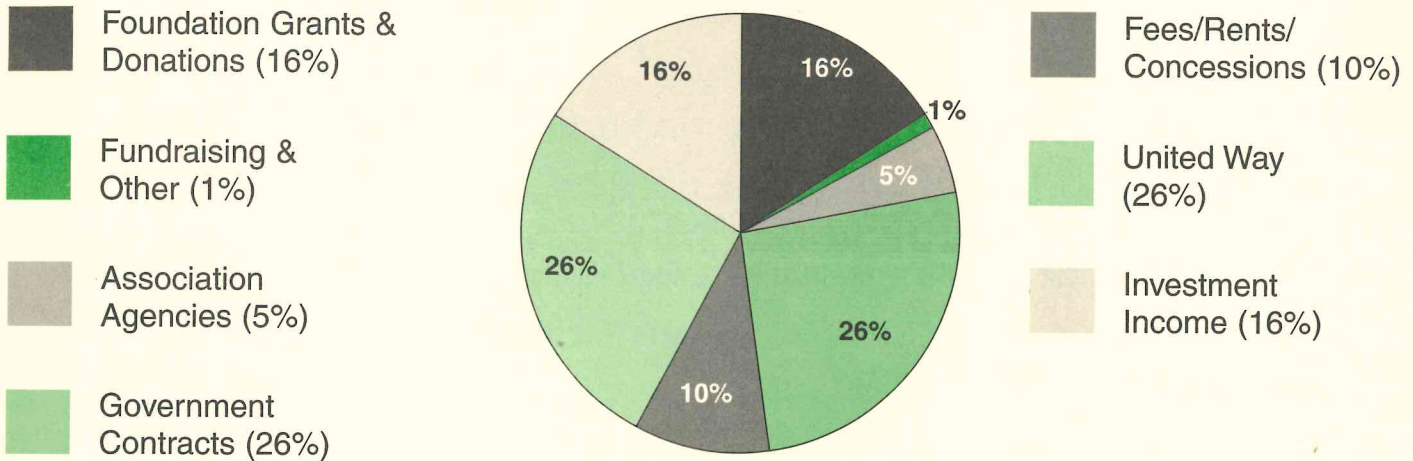
Individuals who have contributed \$25 or more

Mark Burch, Jim & Arlene Burlingame, Ruth & Bill Caldwell, Becky Campbell, Julie Crosby, Wayne Crosby, Joe Dostal, Robert & Mary Ann Dostal, Joe Dufort, Mary Gieselmann, Vernon Harry, Kimberly Henry, John & Mary Hinson, Charles & Victoria Infante, Robert Keil, Eric Lane, Will Maxwell, Elaine McLaren, Philip Meister, Alan & Julie Oman, Paul & Phyllis Pankratz, Frank & Jean Popoff, Larry Sherwood, William Stavropoulos, D. Stevens, Jim Williams, Jeanne & David Yost, Win Zacharias, and many anonymous donors.

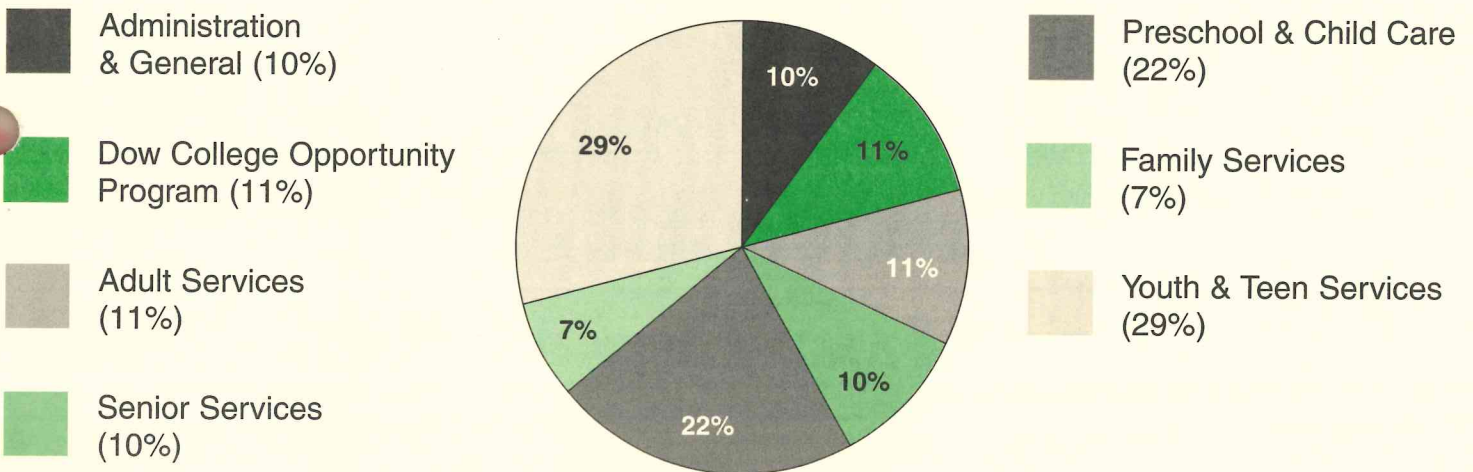
1996 ANNUAL REPORT

Budget Summary (Unaudited)

1996 Income TOTAL: \$606,775



1996 Program Expense Total: \$606,775



% Program Growth in Selected Program Areas 1995-1996 (units of use)

	1995	1996	% increase
Preschool & Child Care: (days of care)	4,320	5,810	34%
Family Services: (individuals served)	102	219	115%
Summer Program: (days of service)	2,299	3,466	51%
Dow College Opportunity Program: (hours of service)	4,712	7,192	53%

1996 Estimated Value of Volunteer Services and Donations

	Market Value
Volunteer Hours	\$190,000
Donated Goods.....	\$ 60,000
TOTAL WORTH	\$250,000

MISSION

The Mission of West Midland Family Center is to enhance the quality of life for area residents of all ages by providing facilities, programs and activities which:

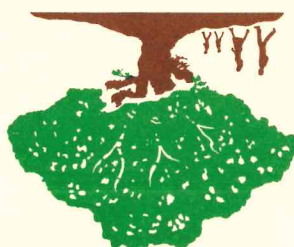
- Stimulate Lifelong Learning
- Encourage Wholesome Social Interaction
- Create Recreational Opportunities

Thereby developing a sense of individual worth . . . and strengthening the family unit.

WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER



VOLUNTEERS MAKE OUR WHEELS TURN!



ADDRESS CORRECTION

If your address has changed (please check right) or you would like to add a name to our mailing list, please print below and return to WMFC.

NAME _____

TITLE _____

COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER
4011 WEST ISABELLA ROAD
SHEPHERD, MICHIGAN 48883

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