

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance

2012 Annual Report



Clarkston Area

Strengthening Families
Through Community Involvement

Mission: To strengthen youth and families with prevention based services and community involvement through volunteer participation.

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FROM YOUR CHAIRPERSON

2012 has been a year of change and growth for Clarkston Area Youth Assistance (CAYA). In August, our offices moved from the Renaissance High School Office to Sashabaw Middle School, Office 4A. We are excited about the move. We will be surrounded by 6th and 7th grade Clarkston students and will be able to implement change through prevention even more effectively.

Our casework load has continued to increase over the past several years. This increase is due to Clarkston Community School's continued awareness of CAYA and the efforts of our volunteers and our Caseworker, Elissa Fogel. We have recruited new board members and have scheduled meetings with school representatives to discuss our professional case work services and programs. Our programs include Mentors Plus, After School Tutoring, Family Education, Camp, Youth Recognition and Skill Building. We are looking forward to another great year for CAYA.

Our volunteers and sponsors *are* this organization. Without our volunteers to run our committees and programs, we would not be here. Our volunteers need to know that they have made CAYA what it is today and that we appreciate their endless devotion and hard work.

We also need to recognize our caseworker, Elissa Fogel. She is working hard to build community awareness of casework services and our programs. Thank you also to our office assistant, Kathryn McVean, who keeps the CAYA office running efficiently and effectively.

Our Annual Meeting today is about understanding what we have done this past year and what is coming up for CAYA in the new year. I encourage our volunteers and the community members here today to meet each other and discuss what we can do together this year to continue to strengthen and support the youth and families in our community!

Nicole Cronmiller
Board President
Clarkston Area Youth Assistance

**Clarkston Area Youth Assistance
Annual Report 2012
Clarkston Area Youth Assistance
5565 Pine Knob Lane, Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 248-623-4319 or (248) 623-4313
clarkstonya.org**

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MESSAGE FROM OUR CASEWORKER

Every day continues to bring new and exciting challenges. CAYA is committed to promoting the health and well-being of the youth and families of the Clarkston Area. I

June 30, 2012

*Dear Clarkston Area Youth Assistance,
I am writing today to thank you
my son, who was involved in your casework
services in the 9th grade, is now a High School
graduate!*

*I have to say, before we received counseling
and direction from CAYA, I wasn't sure that
we would see graduation day. My son
had fallen in with a rough crowd, was
trying to fit in, and began to find himself
in trouble at school numerous times.*

*A teacher at CTS referred him to your
organization and, through counseling and
your programs, my son seemed to find his
way. He has a wonderful group of friends
and is looking forward to college at
Oakland University. We are so happy for him!*

We can't thank you enough!

Cathy [REDACTED]

strive to meet this goal by providing quality casework services and assisting volunteers in developing programs for local youth and families. During this past program year over 100 youth were referred to CAYA for casework services. Reasons for referrals include prevention, home and school incorrigibility, alcohol and drug related offenses, retail fraud, and municipal ordinance violation.

CAYA achieves this goal through the combined efforts and support of the many people who have made us an outstanding community program for 51 years.

I would like to thank our local program sponsors, the Clarkston Community School District, The City of the Village of Clarkston, Independence Township, Springfield Township, and the Oakland County Circuit Court/Family Division judges and staff who have a strong belief in our program.

I would especially like to thank the dedicated CAYA Board of Directors who work so hard to create and maintain our programs. Every volunteer is greatly valued, from those who have been with CAYA for numerous years to those that joined recently.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to recognize Kathryn McVean our office administrator. On a daily basis she goes above and beyond what is asked of her and always has a smile on her face. I'm so fortunate to work with her and have come to count on her for her guidance, advice, sense of humor, and friendship.

Elissa Fogel, M.S.W.

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MENTORS PLUS

When my daughter and I were approached with the opportunity that she could have a mentor, I was immediately in favor of it. I had one as a child. I knew that with the help of a mentor I could expose my child to more opportunities and things that she may not otherwise experience.

Sure enough, my daughter has a new friend, Renee. Renee is now an important part of our life. My daughter sees her every week. My daughter looks forward to seeing her even if all they are going to do is run errands and go grocery shopping!! She roller blades with her. She rides her bike with her, goes to the mall, go on picnics, trips to the zoo and numerous other activities.

My daughter looks to Renee as an adult friend, not as a parent or authority figure. I look to Renee as someone my daughter and I trust to be an extra pair of hands, helping my daughter see her potential for being successful.

Laura

friendships and allows volunteers the opportunity to share their lives with a child who needs their attention and support.

We continue to seek qualified volunteers, willing to spend time with a child. If interested in joining the Mentors PLUS Program as a Mentor, or to refer someone known to have an interest in mentoring, please contact the CAYA office at [248-623-4313](tel:248-623-4313).

The Mentors PLUS Program matches pre-screened volunteers with area children who need a positive adult figure in their lives. Children are referred to the program through a variety of venues. The process is overseen by our caseworker, Elissa Fogel. She is a significant and invaluable asset in counseling the Mentor/Mentee relationship and the parents as well.

Children are referred to this program through schools, parents, teachers, and local police officers. Mentoring is fun, creates new

Hanging out with Renee is
SO MUCH FUN!!!
we have been hanging
out at independence park
and riding bikes. And this
weekend we are going to
A haunted house! I enjoy
hanging out with Renee
Amy!!!

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AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM

The After School Tutoring Program at Bridgewater Park Apartments has completed its eighth year. This year “the Homework Club” offered a tutoring program on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45pm to 4:45pm for students in grades 3-12. A reading program, called “Camp B,” was offered on Wednesday from 3:45pm- 5:00pm for grades 1-2. The students in the program live in Bridgewater Park Apartments.

During the 2011/2012 school year *93 sessions* were held. **Thirty two** (32) students were enrolled and **twenty nine** (29) tutors were involved in tutoring students in the first through twelfth grades. Each session included a nutritious snack. During the year, two trips were held as a reward for achieving academic goals. One was to McDonalds and one to Cherry Hill Lanes for bowling and pizza. We were also visited by Carolyn Place and Star, the reader dog.

Pine Knob Elementary and Sashabaw Middle School helped identify the students from Bridgewater and supported the program throughout the year with materials and ideas that helped make the students' efforts productive. Bridgewater Park Apartments donated a three-bedroom apartment with electricity and water. We went to the community to obtain our volunteer tutors. Our dedicated tutors delivered 1553 hours of tutoring to our wonderful group of students. Clarkston Free Methodist Church and Oakland Woods Baptist Church provided meals for the students once a month. Clarkston United Methodist Church provided lunches for the students during Spring Break.

This summer, in conjunction with the reading aides and teachers at Pine Knob Elementary, a three week language arts and math program was offered to the students from Pine Knob. This program was three days a week for two hours each day with 16 children enrolled. A breakfast and lunch were served. Esther's Children donated money to finance the summer students' breakfasts and lunches. The 2012/2013 program began September 25, 2012.

Joyce Bleim and Anita Demster, Co-Chair



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YOUTH RECOGNITION CEREMONY

Our annual Youth Recognition Ceremony recognizes the youth of our community who have given of themselves with commendable acts. At our event this year, held at the Clarkston United Methodist Church on April 25, 2012, we recognized 110 Clarkston students. These students were nominated by various organizations including Scamp, Team Rush Robotics, St. Daniel's Catholic Church, Clarkston Junior High School, Sashabaw Middle School, Andersonville Elementary, Clarkston High School, Bailey Lake Elementary School, Renaissance High School, Pine Knob Elementary, Springfield Plains Elementary, Clarkston Relay for life, Parents and community members. These young people took the time to help others in many different ways and have enriched our community with their acts of kindness and outstanding behavior. The 2013 CAYA Youth Recognition Ceremony is currently being planned for spring, 2013.

If you know of a deserving student you would like to nominate, please contact the CAYA office for the official nomination form, or visit our website, clarkstonya.org, for a printable version. We hope to increase the awareness of our event in the schools, especially at the Elementary and Middle School level.

Nicole Cronmiller, Chairperson

SUMMER CAMP

CAMP
IS fun CAMP
made me realize
I can do any thing
I want I just
have to try.
Zoe

CAYA sent 18 youths to overnight camp, consisting of six days at Camp Copneconic located in Fenton Michigan. Due to the generosity of the Independence Township Parks and Rec Department, we sent 40 children to Summer Day Camp at Clintonwood Park. The camp committee would like to thank our community that so willingly supported the efforts that enabled these children to attend camp this summer.

VIRGINIA WALTER SKILL BUILDING FUND

The Virginia Walter Children's Fund was established in honor of our long time friend and volunteer, Mrs. Virginia Walter. Through this fund, scholarships are made available to youth who are in financial need to enable them to participate in areas of supportive educational services, sports, music, and arts, school and communities activities.

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FAMILY EDUCATION

The purpose of Youth Assistance is to strengthen youth and families through community involvement. We addressed these concerns by focusing our efforts on creating individuals, families, and communities of character. With this goal in mind, Clarkston Area Youth Assistance offered educational events throughout the year with topics addressing bullying, substance use/abuse, the use of social media, and parenting children with ADD/ADHD. During the upcoming year we're hoping to bring the national program Challenge Day to the Clarkston School District.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH CAYA

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance is always looking for new volunteers. If you can spare an hour per week, a few hours per month, or at certain times of the year, we need you. If you would like to be a member of our board or get involved in one of our committees, please give our office a call at (248) 623-4313 or check out our web site at:

www.clarkstonya.org.y

Did you know?: Studies conducted by Oakland County Youth Assistance have shown that family focused counseling services have a 92% success rate. Counseling includes Family Assessment, Short-Term Counseling, Behavior Contracting, Accountability, Community Service, Monitoring, Referral for Additional Services, Letters of Apology, Essays, and Donations,

Did you know?: There is a Youth Assistance office in every school district in Oakland County

Did you know?: Who refers to Youth Assistance.

School Personal	51%
Police	34%
Parents	12%
Other	3%



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17th ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER

Our 19th Annual Golf Outing was held on Friday, June 15, 2012, at Fountains Golf and Banquet Center in Clarkston. A beautiful day on a beautiful course ensured that each of our golfers enjoyed a wonderful day on the links! The outing includes a continental breakfast, golf, lunch, door prizes, and an auction. There was an option to come in to support CAYA for lunch only for our non-golfing friends. The event netted nearly \$8,000, which constitutes a large portion of our annual budget



We would like to thank the Clarkston Women's Club, area businesses and individuals who donated auction items and door prizes. A special appreciation is extended to our Golf Committee, which organized this event, and to all the other volunteers who gave their time and energy to staff it. We can't do it without all of you. Planning is underway for next year's outing, which will be held at The Fountain's Banquet and Golf Course. Please mark your calendar for **Friday, June 14, 2013**, for another great outing. Thanks to all the golfers for coming out and giving us your support.

Sam McVean & Joe Wauldron, Co-Chairpersons



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BENEFIT PLAY



On March 22, 2012, At the Sign of the crippled Harlequin was staged by the Clarkston Village Players. This performance was for the benefit of Clarkston Area Youth Assistance and played to a “sell out” audience. As usual, The Clarkston Village Players did a stupendous job and have our sincerest appreciation. We are currently planning the 2013 Benefit Play and anticipate a date in May, 2013. Please contact the CAYA office for further information

We extend our gratitude to The Print Shop for donating the printing of the tickets and informational cards and offer our thanks to the many volunteers who made this an outstanding Evening enjoyed by all.

Marian Emery-Chairperson

BOWL-A-THON



The 2012 Bowl-a-Thon was a great success this year. We would like to thank The Clarkston High School National Honor Society for raising almost \$900.00 for CAYA! CAYA is hopeful to expand the 2013 Bowl-A-Thon to include other community organizations.

VOLUNTEER

In 2012, our volunteers donated thousands of hours of their time and service to the youth and families of Clarkston and the various programs offered through Clarkston Area Youth Assistance. This program would be lost without their hard work and dedication. Thank you CAYA volunteers!

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MEMORIAL



A special note of appreciation goes to **John Bowman**, of Bowman Chevrolet, who sadly passed away just weeks before our golf outing. Mr. Bowman was our largest single benefactor, each and every year, and made all of our golf outings possible. Not only did he contribute financially to the CAYA Golf Outing, but he showed support personally by attending and golfing with his family and friends. We will miss Mr. Bowman and everything he did to offer prevention and assistance to the youth and families of Clarkston.

John Bowman Chevrolet continues to be committed to servicing the Clarkston community and surrounding areas. Their new and used vehicle sales, service, parts and body shop departments are always available to help you with your vehicle needs.

2012 and 2013 Officers for the Board of Directors

Anita Demster, President
Karen Dickey, Vice President
Jackie Fromm, Secretary
Carole Meyers, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Joyce Bleim	Sam McVean
Nicole Cronmiller	Barb Pallotta
Anita Demster	Carole Meyers
Steve Demster	Carol Scheil
Karen Dickey	Joe Wauldron
Marian Emery	Joan Patterson
Jackie Fromm	Kim Potts

Staff

Elissa Fogel, Caseworker
Kathryn McVean, Administrative Assistant

Youth Assistance is administered under the auspices of the Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division. One of 26 such county programs, Clarkston Area Youth Assistance operates with the sponsorship of the Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division, Clarkston School District, Independence Township, Springfield Township, and the City of the Village of Clarkston. Oakland County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access of programs, activities, or services as required by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Oakland County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

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OAKLAND COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION

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Hon. Martha D. Anderson
Hon. Mary Ellen Brennan
Hon. Linda S. Hallmark
Hon. Cheryl A. Matthews
Hon. Eugene Arthur
Moore
Hon. Elizabeth Pezzetti
Hon. Joan E. Young

OAKLAND COUNTY YOUTH ASSISTANCE

Mary Schusterbauer,
Chief of Youth Assistance
Liz Csizmadia, Supervisor

INDEPENDENCE TOWNSHIP

Dave Wagner, Supervisor

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

Colin Walls, Supervisor

CITY OF THE VILLAGE OF CLARKSTON

Joseph Luginski, Mayor
Dennis Ritter, City Manager

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Bill Bullard Jr.
Brad Jacobsen
Tom Middleton

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The Clarkston Community
Women's Club
Oakland Woods Baptist
Church
Clarkston Brandon Credit
Union
Clarkston Free Methodist
CHS National Honor Society
The Print Shop
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Education
Independence Township
Parks and Rec.
Independence Township
Library
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GOLF CART SPONSOR: Clarkston Community Woman's Club

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Snow
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Fountains Golf and Banquet
The Detroit Red Wings
The Print Shop
Marian Emery
Barry H. Fogel,

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If you're interested in volunteering or learning about our volunteer opportunities please contact Clarkston Area Youth Assistance at (248) 623-4313 or contact Elissa Fogel at fogele@oakgov.com.
