

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance

2013 Annual Report



Strengthening Families
Through Community Involvement

Mission: To strengthen youth and families and to prevent and reduce delinquency, neglect, and abuse through community involvement.

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FROM YOUR CHAIRPERSON

2013 has been a very successful year for Clarkston Area Youth Assistance.

We are settled into our new offices at Sashabaw Middle School and are very grateful to the school staff for all the help they provided. The location is ideal for the youth and for the families that are served by CAYA.

Our court appointed caseworker, Elissa Fogel, has seen an increase in referrals from parents, schools and police. Her case load numbers have risen. CAYA's major emphasis is on prevention and this year we have seen an increase in the number of referrals for prevention.

We are grateful for our many volunteers who develop and implement the programs offered by CAYA. Our programs include Mentors Plus, After School Tutoring, Camp, Youth Recognition, Skill Building and Family Education. Again this year because of our dedicated volunteers, CAYA has been able to offer the youth of Clarkston, scholarships for skill building, camperships, mentoring and tutoring services and relevant information on topics of concern.

Our sponsors work hand in hand with us to accomplish our goal of strengthening Clarkston youth and their families. We are indebted to these organizations that support us as we bring beneficial programs and quality casework services to the youth.

A sincere thank you goes to Kathryn McVean, our office administrator, who works so quietly and efficiently to keep the office and volunteers running smoothly. We could not operate without her.

As we close 2013, our fifty second year of service to the youth and families of the Clarkston community, we are proud of our accomplishments and we are excited about the possibilities that 2014 will bring. In reading the Annual Report, if you can identify anyone who would benefit from our services, please let us know. Also if you are interested in volunteering we can find the perfect spot for you. At Clarkston Area Youth Assistance our philosophy is best stated by Dr. Seuss who said. "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." Come and join us, we are doing good work.

Anita Demster
President, CAYA

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**Clarkston Area Youth Assistance
Annual Report 2013
Clarkston Area Youth Assistance
5565 Pine Knob Lane, Clarkston, MI 48346
(248) 248-623-4319 or (248) 623-4313
clarkstonya.org**

MESSAGE FROM OUR CASEWORKER

CAYA is committed to promoting the health and well-being of the youth and families of the Clarkston Area. I 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 violations.

CAYA achieves this goal through the combined efforts and support of the many people who have made us an outstanding community program for 50 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.

I am happy to welcome Detective Kim Potts to our Executive Committee as she begins her term as the Vice President of CAYA. Detective Potts comes to CAYA with extensive experience working with youth and families. She volunteered with the Huron Valley Youth Assistance and held the position of Vice President of the D.A.R.E. Officers Association of Michigan. Her previous experience, and her position at the Oakland County Sheriff's Dept. as a Detective, along with being the school liaison for Clarkston Community Schools, make her an excellent fit for this program.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to recognize Kathryn McVean, our office administrator. She continues to go above and beyond what is asked of her. I feel fortunate to work with her.

Elissa Fogel, M.S.W.

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Monitoring, Referral for Additional Services, Letters of Apology, and Essays, and Donations.

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

October 3, 2013

Dear CAYA,

I wanted to write to tell you how thankful we are for your Casework Service. When we moved to Clarkston from out of State, my daughter was referred to you by her elementary school after having trouble adjusting.

The clear goals you set with her have given her direction. We could see a change in her self confidence as she reached her goals.

I'm so happy to see her make a successful transition to Sashabaw Middle School. She has made friends, is involved, and has made huge improvements in her grades.

Thank you, Thank You, Thank You!

Sincerely

Scott and Jeniffer ~~██████████~~

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MENTORS PLUS

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 and the process is overseen by Oakland County Youth Assistance Mentors PLUS Program representatives.

Children are referred to this program through schools, parents, teachers, and local police officers. Mentoring is fun, creates new friendships, and allows volunteers the opportunity to share their lives with a child who could benefit from 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 Mentors PLUS office at **248-858-0050**.

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING PROGRAM

The After School Tutoring Program at Bridgewater Park Apartments has completed its ninth year. "The Homework Club" offered a tutoring and homework help program on Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45 pm to 4:45 pm for students in grades 3-12. "Camp B," a reading program for grades 1 and 2 was offered on Wednesday from 3:45 pm- 5:00 pm. The students in the program live in Bridgewater Park Apartments and attend Clarkston Community Schools.

During the 2012/2013 school year, ninety one (91) sessions were held. Thirty one (31) students were enrolled and twenty nine (29) tutors were involved in tutoring the students. Each session included a nutritious snack.

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 **1523** hours of tutoring to our students. Clarkston Free Methodist Church and Oakland Woods Baptist Church each provided snacks for the students once a month. Clarkston United Methodist Church provided lunches for the students during Spring Break. This year we received a generous grant from the Optimist Club.

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 12 students enrolled. A breakfast and lunch were served. Esther's Children donated money to finance the summer students' breakfasts and lunches.

This After School Tutoring program would not exist without the generous contributions of Bridgewater Park Apartments, local churches and organizations, and the dedicated tutors that teach and mentor our students during the year. This is a program that succeeds because of the Clarkston community's involvement with the youth in the area.

The 2013/2014 program begins September 17, 2013. This year "Camp B" will be offered on Monday for Kindergarten and first graders, "Camp B Plus" on Wednesday for second and third

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graders, and "Homework Club" on Tuesday and Thursday for fourth through twelfth graders. We are looking forward to another great year.

Anita Demster, Chairperson

Joyce Bleim, Volunteer



Three generations attended the 2013 CAYA Youth Recognition Ceremony, grandmother Mary Flynn, mother Noreen McKillop, and nominee Mary Kate McKillop. Mary was nominated for her volunteer service to Clarkston SCAMP. Photo provided

CAYA honors kids

Clarkston Area Youth Assistance honored over 100 Clarkston students at its 2013 Youth Recognition Ceremony at Clarkston United Methodist Church, April 24.

Each year, CAYA contacts Clarkston area organizations and schools requesting nominations of youth who support their

community through outstanding behavior and service.

"We commend these students for their willingness, achievements, and for stepping forward in positive ways without ever wondering, 'what's in it for me,'" said Kathryn McVean, CAYA office administrator.

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 24, 2013, we recognized 101 Clarkston students. These students were nominated by various organizations including Scamp, Team Rush Robotics, CHS Octagon Club, St. Daniel's Catholic Church, Clarkston United Methodist Church, Tail Waggers K9 4H Club, Clarkston Junior High School, Sashabaw Middle School, North Sashabaw Elementary, Clarkston High School, Bailey Lake Elementary School, Independence Elementary, Oxford Addison Youth Assistance, Springfield Plains Elementary, CAYA "Homework Club", 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 2014 CAYA Youth Recognition Ceremony is currently being planned for spring, 2014.

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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.

SUMMER CAMP

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 50 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.



R■■■■ had an amazing time in Canada. He was scholarshiped thru C.A.Y.A. to be able to go. He was a bit hesitant at first to it being so far away. ME TOO! ☺ He had a Blast. He said their food was FAB! They were on top of giving R■■■■ his Allergy meds every day. The Counslars were very friendly & shared the same sports intrests as my son! I was e-mailed back very quickly when I had a few questions. All in All it was a great experience for my son - to grow and show his maturity flying alone. He loved it so much they asked R■■■■ to come back next year & do their Counslar program! Thank you so very much for choosing & sending R■■■■!

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This year CAYA was fortunate to receive 4 scholarships to camp through the Tim Horton's Children's Foundation. These 4 children had a unique experience at Tatamagoche Camp in Nova Scotia, Canada and were given a once in a life time opportunity. We thank Tim Horton's and hope to make this an ongoing partnership in the years to come.

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, and school and community activities. This year, CAYA offered skill building scholarships to over 50 Clarkston Area students.

FAMILY EDUCATION

CAYA offers a variety of programs all aimed at improving communication between parents and their children, understanding child development, and enhancing parenting skills. Specific programming that meets community needs can be requested. These programs are frequently co-sponsored by other community groups, libraries, P.T.O.'s, and/or the local schools.

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.

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%

Follow us on Twitter!! @clarkstonareaya

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20th ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER



Our 20th Annual Golf Outing was held on Friday, June 7, 2013, 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 included 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 John Bowman Chevrolet, our tournament sponsor, 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 13, 2014**, for another great outing. Thanks to all the golfers for coming out and giving us your support.

Sam McVean, Chairperson

BENEFIT PLAY

On May 2, 2013, "Hallelujah Girls" 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.

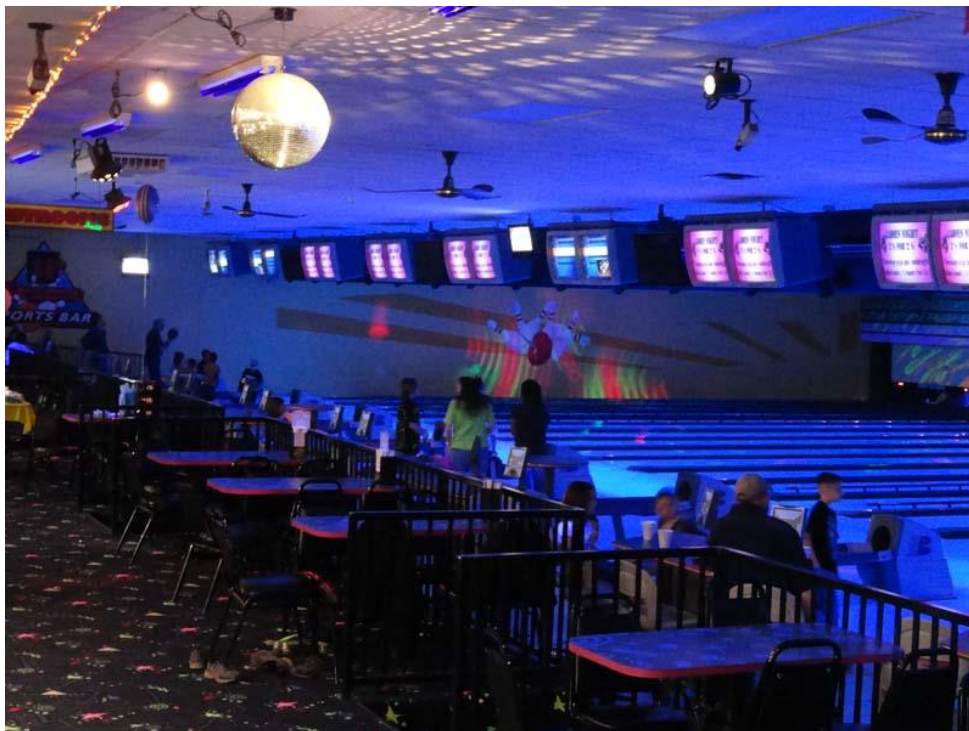
We extend our gratitude to The Print Shop for donating the printing of the tickets and offer our thanks to the many volunteers who made this an outstanding evening enjoyed by all.

Jackie Fromm, Chairperson



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BOWL-A-THON



The 2013 Bowl-a-Thon was a great success this year. We would like to thank The Clarkston High School National Honor Society for raising almost \$1,000.00 for CAYA! CAYA is hopeful to expand the 2014 Bowl-A-Thon to include other community organizations.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS

In 2013, 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!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteer Recruitment
Youth Recognition Ceremony
Family Education Committee
Fund Raising/Grant Writing

Mentors PLUS Program
Media Relations
After School Tutoring Club
Program Development

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2013 and 2014 Officers for the Board of Directors

Anita Demster, President
Jackie Fromm, Secretary

Kim Potts, Vice President
Carole Meyers, Treasurer

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Chuck Young
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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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Hon. Elizabeth Pezzetti
Hon. Joan E. Young
Hon. Lisa Gorcyca
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Pat Breen, Supervisor

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Pine Knob Golf Course
King Par
Sams Club

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.
