

community alliance annual report 2010





CEO Message

Steven Weindorf

2010 was a difficult year for Community Alliance; hard choices were made in order to assure our long term sustainability. We are working smarter and creatively to find solutions to operate in a very different and evolving world.

Government budgets are being cut and we anticipate those cuts to accelerate in 2011. In order to maximize our dollars we have restructured our programs to be more cost effective. Our management structure has changed, moving much more responsibility and authority to our site supervisors in our support services program. We believe that management decisions will be more effective when made by those who spend their time working day to day with our consumers. We will continue to make changes as necessary to best serve our customers within the new and changing realities.

In 2010 we worked with a lean management consultant, Doug Fertuck, who donated his services to help us streamline our processes. Through his leadership, Community Living Network determined it needed a custom database to more effectively manage our self-determination initiative. The creation of the custom database was generously donated by Rene Gobeyn, an Data Center Coordinator at the University of Michigan and husband of our Executive Assistant Carol Gobeyn.

We partnered with the Coalition for Oral Health and the Aging and Dr. Elisa Ghezzi to establish a new model of oral health care for our developmentally disabled clients. At our first Dental Day more than \$7,500 of free dental care was provided to our customers who had lost their Medicaid dental benefits.

Community Residence customers had their lives enhanced significantly thanks to our long time staff member Cindy Treharne. Cindy coordinated Arts and Craft Therapy and Music Therapy for the customers and they are enjoying these activities every month.

Another major project that found its way to the Community Alliance Family in late 2009 was the Oaks of Ann Arbor. Throughout 2010 we have been working on closing the project for Community Housing Alternatives which closed in early 2011. This project provides affordable housing for twelve families. This property is a tax credit project in partnership with Key Bank and is managed by KMG Prestige.

In order to continue to provide the highest quality of services to our customers in the face of less and less resources, we will continue thinking "outside the box." You can help us continue to be innovative by volunteering to help or by making a donation in support of our programs and initiatives. Thank you for your past and continued support of Community Alliance.

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*List current as of 12/31/2010 Our apologies if we accidently omitted of misspelled your name.

**Board lists show board of directors from November 2009-December 2010

Enhancing Services

Enriching Lives

Oral Health Day

In May of 2010, Community Alliance collaborated with Michigan dentists and hygienists to provide **free dental cleanings, x-rays and exams** for our adult customers with developmental disabilities who lost their Medicaid Dental coverage.

A replicable model was created that could help both individuals in Washtenaw County and eventually across the state.

When the Medicaid benefit was cut, most of our customers could not afford dental care so they went without.

Three dentists and eleven dental hygienists volunteered from all over the state. Dental professionals traveled from as far as Traverse City and Grand Rapids to help our clients!

Lead by Dr. Elisa Ghezzi, the dental team had a cumulative total of **323 years of dental practice experience!**

The dental office space and x-ray equipment was donated by Dr. John Wehr at Pure Dentistry and the majority of supplies were donated by more than a dozen dental practices and suppliers from across the state.

Twenty-four clients received necessary dental treatment that would have **cost them in excess of \$7,500.**

Potential serious oral health issues were identified and appropriate next steps are being identified by our volunteer dentists and our staff.



The Community Residence initiative is pleased to provide additional services to add value to our customer's lives.

Music Therapy

Every month Community Alliance's clients are offered music therapy sessions coordinated by long time employee Cindy Treharne. The change in Community Alliance clients is marked. Songs like, Journey's "Don't Stop Believing," "Summer Lovin" from Greece and "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" are enthusiastically sung by the group. The music therapist engages Community Alliance's clients with a variety of new instruments, listening to music, singing and improvising. According to the American Music Therapy Association, music education and training has had a demonstrated effect on health, behavior and mental functioning. Music therapy brings positive effects to improve Community Alliance's client's well being. Areas ranging from physical and cognitive skills, moods, quality of life, motor skills, balance and range of motions are all improved through music therapy.

Art Class

The arts have been shown to encourage conflict resolution, build interpersonal skills, reduce stress, and increase self-esteem. All of these very important skills help our clients live successfully in the community. Because of our commitment to providing the best possible care Community Alliance offers monthly art classes to help our clients build these essential skills. At these classes clients from the various supported living sites get together to create art projects. Through the projects, our clients can realize their individual potential, have fun, and often exceed their own expectations.



Director of Finance

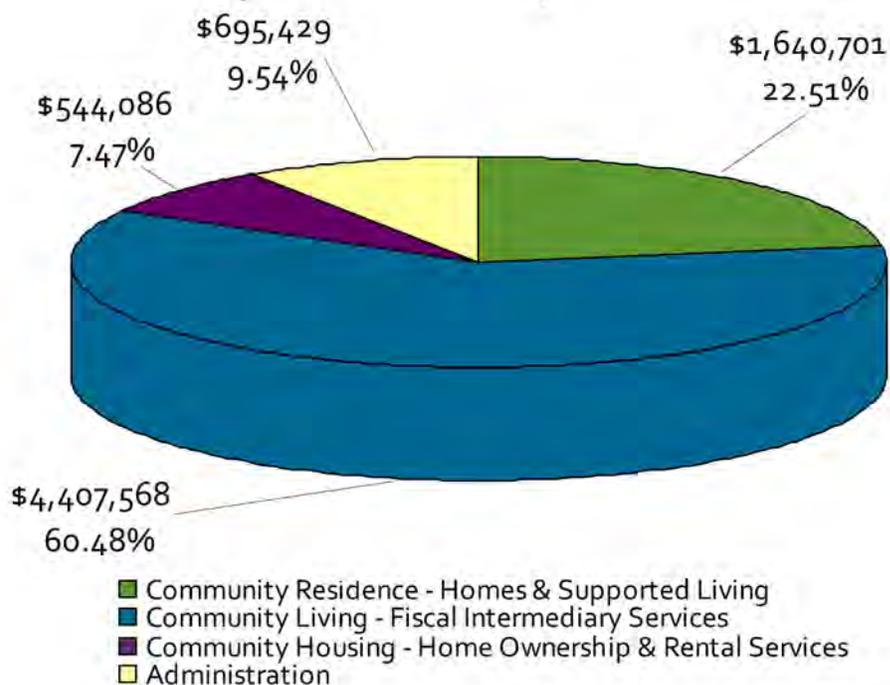
Jason Medeiros



A native of Chelsea Michigan, Jason Medeiros joined the Community Alliance team in September of 2008 as an accounting clerk. In January 2011 Jason was promoted to the position of Director of Finance and Administration. Jason worked more than 50 hours a week at two different jobs so he could attend college. Jason holds an associates degree in business administration from Washtenaw Community College and a bachelors and masters degree from Eastern Michigan University's College of Business in accounting.

As Director of Finance and Administration Jason plays a key role in the overall management and direction of Community Alliance. Jason oversees all aspects of financial management, budgeting and the annual audit. Jason is committed to best practices accounting principles in his work at Community Alliance. "One of the things I am most proud of at Community Alliance is the commitment to our clients. I am pleased that our administrative overhead is exceptionally low, around 9%. That is significantly below the accepted industry standard of 20%. The leaner our agency is on administrative expenses the more money that goes directly to help our clients. Additionally, all of our programs undergo a rigorous audit process to assure that best accounting practices are being maintained."

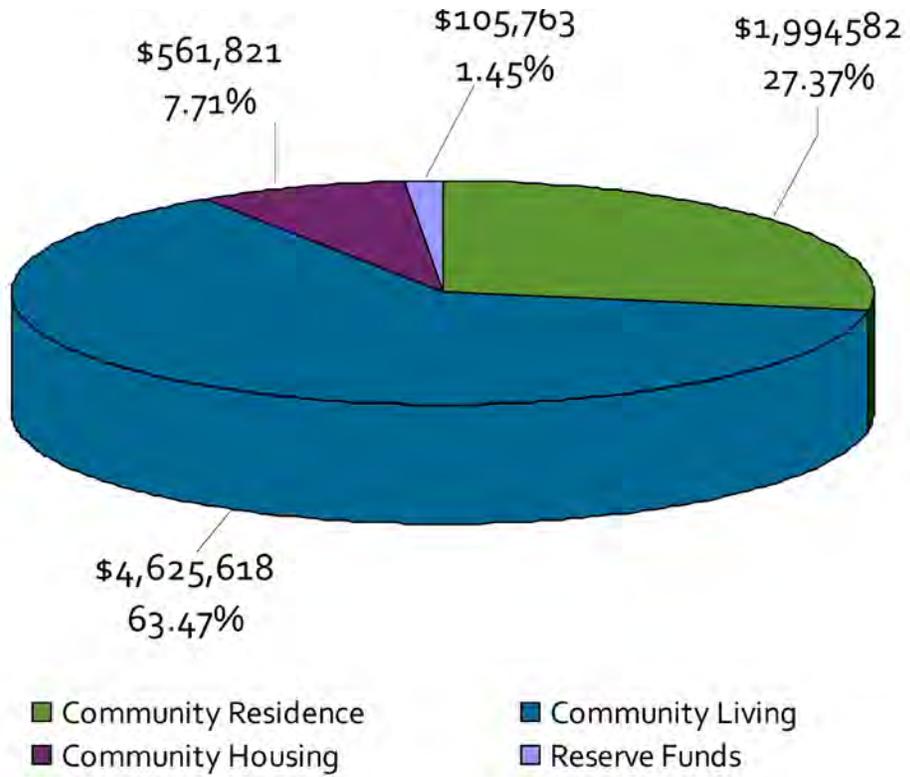
Jason lives in Ann Arbor and is an avid sports fan and athlete. Jason participates on two soccer teams and plays beach volleyball!



Revenue- Total- \$7,287,784

Community Residence	27.37 %	\$ 1,994,582
Community Living	63.47 %	\$ 4,625,618
Community Housing	7.71 %	\$ 561,821
Reserve Funds	1.45 %	\$ 105,763

Total	100.00 %	\$ 7,287,784
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Expenses- Total- \$7,287,784

Community Residence	22.51%	\$ 1,640,701
Community Living	60.48 %	\$ 4,407,568
Community Housing	7.47 %	\$ 544,086
Administration	9.54 %	\$ 695,429

Total	100.00 %	\$ 7,287,784
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From Homelessness

Shiba was living the dream as a high paid business woman until alcohol destroyed everything. In 2005 she found herself homeless living at the Delonis Center in Ann Arbor.

In 2005, much to her disbelief, Shiba found herself homeless and living at the Delonis Center in Ann Arbor. Raised in Detroit in a middle class family, Shiba had been living her dream as a web design consultant for a major IT firm. Having graduated with a bachelor's degree in Information Systems, she often would drink to socialize and feel comfortable with the partners at her company. In 2001, Shiba lost her career, along with all those affected by the "the dot.com bust". The money stopped coming in, but the drinking continued. This led to a downward spiral into addiction and despair, until she had nothing left. Homeless and with no where else to turn, she was directed to the Delonis Center in Ann Arbor, a 12-step program and community resources that helped her achieve sobriety and regain her self-esteem.



After a lot of hard work, prayers and support, Shiba began working again and living a sober life. After leaving the Delonis Center, she rented a room in a house in Ypsilanti, where she lived for over 5 years. Along with her recovery and regained livelihood, Shiba knew that she wanted to achieve the dream of homeownership. With the help of Community Housing Alternatives Shiba has been able to achieve that dream. In

2010, Shiba found a ranch house that had literally been gutted. It was in rough, shape but she saw the potential. Thankfully so did Sam Brown, Community Housing Alternatives' Manager.



It was in but she saw the potential. Thankfully Brown, Housing Operations

As Shiba looks at the finished home, the parallels to the renovation in her own life strike her. "When I got to Ann Arbor, addiction and bad choices left me completely gutted and in rough shape. By the grace of God, the people here saw my potential, and helped to completely prefabricate my life - literally, mentally, emotionally and spiritually. Thank you so much Sam, Rhonda and all those at CHA & MSHDA for believing in this project, and in me. God bless your service".

Shiba's completely renovated three-bedroom ranch in Ann Arbor is truly a home that she can be proud to call her own. Walking into the house it is

To Homeownership

Shiba's Journey

clear quality materials and energy efficiency were key. "See that spot there at the base of the molding?" Sam asks the contractor, "We are going to need to make sure that it is properly sealed and caulked to prevent water leaking in. It is important no detail like that is overlooked because it can cause greater problems down the road," Sam explains.

Since everything in Shiba's house is brand new, it will be exceptionally energy efficient. "All the appliances are energy star rated. My favorite energy efficient part of this house is the tank-less water heater. It is really going to impact the energy bill," Shiba says. "This place, like all of Community Housing Alternatives projects, is really green, and energy efficiency. That is imperative," Brown says, echoing Shiba's sentiments about the importance of energy efficiency in her house.

Looking at this newly remodeled ranch it is impossible to believe it is the same house that only a few months ago was completely gutted. Originally there weren't even rooms; there wasn't a kitchen or appliances, a furnace, plumbing or a bathroom, it was just a shell. Now, the home boasts a new two-car garage, gleaming white kitchen cabinets, stainless steel appliances, brand new floors, a large laundry room, siding, windows, and energy

efficient heating and cooling systems. "Every detail is perfect, I am so excited to move in and start decorating!" Shiba has a plan for every room- "the first bedroom will be my guest room and where I'll put my treadmill, the larger room right here is the master bedroom, and finally this small bedroom is going to be transformed into my walk in closet." As we walk down the hall of the house Shiba points out her large laundry room "I am most excited about this room- I am going to have some needed space to do my laundry and a place to store cleaning supplies in here. The bathroom is a little bit smaller because this room is so large but I think the bathroom is still

big enough." Next to the laundry room is the refinished bathroom with a brand new tub and vanity. "I can't wait to get the shower curtain I bought put up. I've been planning for this for months!"

Without Community Housing Alternatives houses like Shiba's would remain vacant and foreclosed. However, because of the work Community Housing Alternatives does here in Washtenaw County homes that were empty and abandoned are owner occupied by deserving individuals and families.



Portrait of An Advocate

Tom Daniels



For Tom Daniels, advocacy is a way of life. Tom, a lawyer advocates for his clients at his busy law practice. In his years of practice, Tom works hard on his clients' behalf, achieving great results for them. However, no matter how tirelessly he advocates for his clients at work, the person Tom advocates the most passionately for is his younger brother Bobby. Bobby, an adult living with a developmental disability, is a long time consumer of the Community Residence program. Tom and his wife Martha Daniels work tirelessly to assure he has the best quality of life possible. "I have always been a huge part of my brother's life, and he has always been a huge part of Martha's and mine. It is my pleasure to do everything I can to help assure that he and others like him living in Washtenaw County receive the services they deserve."

As a part of these efforts in 2010 Tom worked with Community Alliance's Family Council, a group of parents and family members who advocate in the community so their families can live the fullest life possible. In 2010 the Family Council attended Washtenaw County Health Organization's board meetings to raise awareness of funding issues facing individuals with developmentally disabilities in our county. Tom and Martha also reached out to various elected officials to discuss the budget cuts and their impact on his brother's and others like him lives.

"Bobby's primary staff member, Ron Kreger, has been with him for over 15 years and he and all of Bobby's other staff members are a huge part of his life. Ron and the other staff at my brother's place have enhanced his life in ways I never could have imagined. I want to work to make sure Bobby can continue receiving the high quality care we have come to expect. In order to maintain this level advocacy work is essential. Working with other parents and family members of Community Alliance clients has been wonderful. Alone I am only one voice but if a group of concerned family members can work together as advocates we can make a difference."

Community Alliance Councils

Community Alliance Development and External Relations Council is a group of volunteers made up Board Members, members of the sub-councils (Marketing, Emeritus and Family) and other community members who are interested in helping increase Community Alliance's presence in the community and to tirelessly advocate for our clients.

Marketing

For any community member who wishes to provide assistance with Community Alliance's marketing efforts.

Emeritus

For all former board members who have completed their terms of service on Community Alliance's governing boards.

Family

For any interested clients, their families, and caregivers to ensure they remain informed.

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*Denotes multiple donations



Brotherly Love

Robert and Donald

The saying, "Friends are relatives you make for yourself" wholly describes the relationship between Robert Shipman and Donald Bauer. Their closeness transcends the bonds of friendship and has truly made them brothers. Donald first met Robert while living at a group home in the late 70s. The challenges of living in a group home complicated life for both men who found the situation less than ideal for their unique wants and needs. After four moves, the uncertainty of how long they might stay in one home made settling in and establishing a routine challenging. Also, like any rental property, the condition varied from house to house and didn't really live up to the standards that Donald and Robert desired. Because of these inconsistencies it was decided that a supported living situation would work better.



As the model of supported living evolved, The Bauer's helped Donald and Robert try a different model of care known as self-determination. The self-determination model allows the individual to hire their own staff directly and become the employer of record. This in turn, allows Donald and Robert significantly more control over the staff who provide vital services. Also, it allowed the men to determine where they lived- they are no longer subjected to moving from group home to group home.

Donald and Robert first moved into a duplex in Ann Arbor. Sixteen years later the pair continues to live together, however, now residing in Donald's very own home he and his family purchased in 2002. Their ranch home is a sunny, spacious home on the Westside of Ann Arbor where each has his own bedroom. Additionally, the house boasts an updated kitchen, new carpeting, and finished hardwood floors and a full finished basement with an extra bed and bath.



"Robert goes down to the basement to sleep when there are thunderstorms," Leila Bauer remarks, "He does not really care for storms!" Additionally, in the basement the men have a television to watch movies, an exercise bike, and a pool table to play game after game of pool.



Sadly, Robert's life was not always as full as it is now. At the age of three he was placed in an institution in Coldwater Michigan where he lived for 30 years. When the institution was closed Robert moved back to Washtenaw County. As he integrated into the community Robert began to thrive in his new situation. Now, after living with Donald for



close to two decades Robert has experienced things he never did living in an institution. Both Robert and Donald bowl in a league every Saturday, take cooking classes and even take a yearly family vacation. Prominently displayed on the dining room wall is a recent picture from a trip - a tan Donald with a snake around his neck from a family trip to Mexico.

When Donald and Robert are at home in Ann Arbor, Donald is proud of his volunteer job at Glacier Hills where he passes out magazines, and plays cards with residents. Additionally, Donald does janitorial work and shredding Community Supports and Treatment Services. Robert also has a job through Community Supports and Treatment Services where he cleans churches and ATM machines.

However none of this would be possible without the services provided through Community Living Network. Community Living Network, a Fiscal Intermediary, makes it easy for the individual to be the employer by providing payroll services, assuring all taxes are paid, providing monthly statements of their financial activity, and assuring that all employees receive accurate pay and W2s.

Part of Donald and Robert's budget includes transportation which staff provides. Staff helps with meal preparation, with transportation and with household chores, although both Robert and Donald are proud to do their jobs at the house. Staff also assists the men in attending weekly church services and helping them to lead an active social lives. In fact, when Donald recently celebrated his 50th birthday close to 70 people, friends from church and the community joined the family for a party at Donald's sister Jean's house.



Aside from living a rich full life here in our community, the most important thing that Donald and Robert want everyone to know, is that individuals with disabilities are capable of working and living in their own home and can do a great job and be wonderful neighbors.



Community Alliance Events

Casa Awards



2010 Casa Honorees

Community Alliance was pleased to honor six exceptional individuals at our Annual Meeting and CASA Celebration in November. CASA which stands for "Community Alliance Star Award," was selected as the name for the reward because it is the Spanish word for home. We found it fitting because our honorees help to make our community home to those we serve. The 2010 CASA recipients support Community Alliance's work that they have gone beyond the call of duty in their efforts. Their efforts have vastly improved our clients' lives in Southeastern Michigan helping to make it home.

Dr. Elisa Ghezzi, DDS, PhD Chair, Coalition for Oral Health For The Aging; Alexandra Anteau, Realtor, Edward Surovell Realtors; Tina Jenkins Owner, CHOICES with Self Determination LLC.; Denise Horn Lead Staff, Harold's Place, Guardian & Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities; Dr. Samuel Zwetchkenbaum Hospital Dentistry, University of Michigan; Scott Michels Second Year Dental Student, University of Michigan

Honoree Profile

Scott Michels



Scott Michels loves to help people and has successfully devoted his energy and time to aiding individuals with special needs. While studying Biological Sciences at Michigan Tech, Scott formed a three-county local chapter of the Special Olympics by coordinating with state and local officials. For this new chapter of the Special Olympics, Scott organized local events, fundraisers, transportation to regional events, volunteers, meetings, and athlete/coach practices. Additionally, Scott worked for two summers at Bay Cliff Health Camp, a year-round, nonprofit therapy and wellness center for children and adults with physical disabilities. The first summer Scott served as a counselor to 22 young men with orthopedic, speech, hearing, and vision disabilities. During his second summer Scott assisted dental students from the University of Michigan who treated over 100 physically disabled kids throughout the summer. For many of these children, Bay Cliff is the only time they see a dentist due to financial limitations. As a dental student at the University of Michigan, Scott continued his work helping individuals with disabilities through his research project and by developing a new nonprofit agency. With help from Dr. Zwetchkenbaum, Washtenaw District Dental Society, and Community Alliance, Scott created Sharing Smiles; a pilot program that tested whether or not philanthropy through dental offices could raise money to provide basic dental care to developmentally delayed adults.



The Community Alliance Classic

Community Alliance was pleased to host the first annual Community Alliance Classic, a miniature golf outing in August of 2010. WTKA'S Michigan Insider Co-Host, Ira Weintraub joined us in judging the 1st Annual "Goofy Golf Pants Contest." Many came out to play a round of miniature golf and wore their loudest golf pants to help raise money for Community Alliance! Our winner and two runner ups were inducted into the "Goofy Pants Hall of Fame." The grand prize winner, Gabe Treharne received tickets to the University of Michigan versus University of Massachusetts compliments of WTKA and the two runners up received passes to the WTKA Victors Lounge at the game.



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Community Alliance
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Support Services and Housing Options

