



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1 S. Main St., 9th Floor
Mount Clemens, Michigan 48043
586-469-5125 FAX 586-469-5993
macombcountymi.gov/boardofcommissioners

EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Introductory Comments by Commissioner Dave Flynn, Committee Chair
5. Testimony from Information-Providing Panels:

Panel 1:
 - John Bierbusse, Director of MiWorks
 - Bruce Weaver, Manager of Labor Market Analysis, Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG)
 - Xuan Liu, SEMCOG Data Manager
Panel 2:
 - Bill Sullivan, Director of United Way 211
 - Frank Taylor, Director of Community Services Agency
6. Federal and State Legislative Panel
7. Public Comments (3 minute time limit)
 - Local Officials
 - Non-Profits
 - Members of the Public
8. Commissioner Comments
9. Adopt Resolution Urging Federal Legislators to Create a Comprehensive Jobs Program (revised resolution attached) (mailed and attached)
10. New Business
11. Public Participation
12. Adjournment

MEMBERS: D. Flynn-Chair, Moceri-Vice-Chair, Mijac, Doherty, Rengert, Crouchman, Camphous-Peterson, Bruley, Sprys and Gieleghem (ex-officio)

MACOMB COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Andrey Duzyj - District 1
Marvin E. Sanger - District 2
Phillip A. DiMana - District 3
Ioni Moeen - District 4
Susan L. Doherty - District 5

Sue Rocca - District 7
David Flynn - District 8
Robert Mijac - District 9
Ken Lampar - District 10
Ed Szczepanski - District 11

James L. Carabelli - District 12
Don Brown - District 13
Brian Brdak - District 14
Keith Rengert - District 15
Carey Torrice - District 16

Paul Gieleghem
District 19
Chairman

Ed Bruley - District 17
Dana Camphous-Peterson - District 18
Irene M. Kepler - District 21
Frank Accavitti Jr. - District 22

Kathy Tocco
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Vice Chair

Joan Flynn
District 6
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William A. Crouchman - District 23
Michael A. Boyle - District 24
Kathy D. Vosburg - District 25
Jeffery S. Sprys - District 26

Board of Commissioners

2010

RESOLUTION NO.	Ten
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Official Resolution of the Board of Commissioners
Macomb County, Michigan

A Resolution Urging Federal Legislators to Create a Comprehensive Jobs Program

*Commissioner David Flynn, On Behalf of the Board of Commissioners,
Offers the Following Resolution:*

Whereas, Michigan continues to experience an unemployment crisis causing severe financial hardship for families and small businesses, while creating unprecedented demand on public/private organizations that provide essential services.

The past decade has proven to be devastating for the state and, in particular, the Southeast Michigan regional economy.

- *Michigan has lost more than 279,242 jobs in 2009, making the total number of jobs lost in the state over the last decade a staggering 796,942.*
- *Michigan has experienced double-digit unemployment rates since December 2008, and has led the nation with the highest percent of unemployment since 2006*
- *The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data indicates Michigan ranked 12th among the 50 States and D.C. in per capita income in 1977, 17th in 1999, and plummeted to 38th in 2008.*
- *Michigan's per capita income in 2000 was 128,597; within 8 years, it has declined 12 percent to 125,303.*

Whereas, we applaud the federal government for extending unemployment benefits and for funding re-training for residents to improve and diversify skill sets. But, Michigan's economic conditions remain severe; the majority of individuals who have been retrained still cannot find work.

- *The University of Michigan projects further net job losses of 84,900 in 2010;*
- *SEMCOG projects a regional net job loss of 52,000 in 2010;*
- *Indications are that Michigan will be among the 10 poorest states in 2010; and*

Whereas, as a result Macomb County will continue to experience the negative effects of the nation's highest unemployment rate which include, but are not limited to: high rates of foreclosure, loss of business investment, and continued decline in revenue for the levels of government that provide essential services. Therefore, the Macomb County Board of Commissioners urges the United States Congress and President Obama to create and pass a comprehensive jobs bill that will employ laid off individuals for at least a period of one year.

Whereas, the banking industry has received record amounts of financial assistance from the federal government; we believe families have suffered the greatest from this economic downturn, and should be extended the same opportunity to meet the demands caused during this severe and sustained national and regional recession.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved by the Board of Commissioners, Speaking For and On Behalf Of All County Citizens As Follows: Macomb County Board of Commissioners urges the United States Congress and President Obama to create and pass a comprehensive jobs bill that will employ laid off individuals for at least a period of one year.

Be It Further Resolved that a suitable copy of this Resolution will be transmitted to the federal legislative delegation and to all other interested parties.

Paul Gleeghem, Chairman
Macomb County Board of Commissioners

Carmella Sabaugh
Macomb County Clerk

David Flynn, County Commissioner, District 8



Dave Flynn

- Macomb County Commissioner, District 8
- Chair, Education & Training Committee



Michigan District 12



Congressman Sandy Levin

UNITED STATES SENATOR
DEBBIE STABENOW
- MICHIGAN -

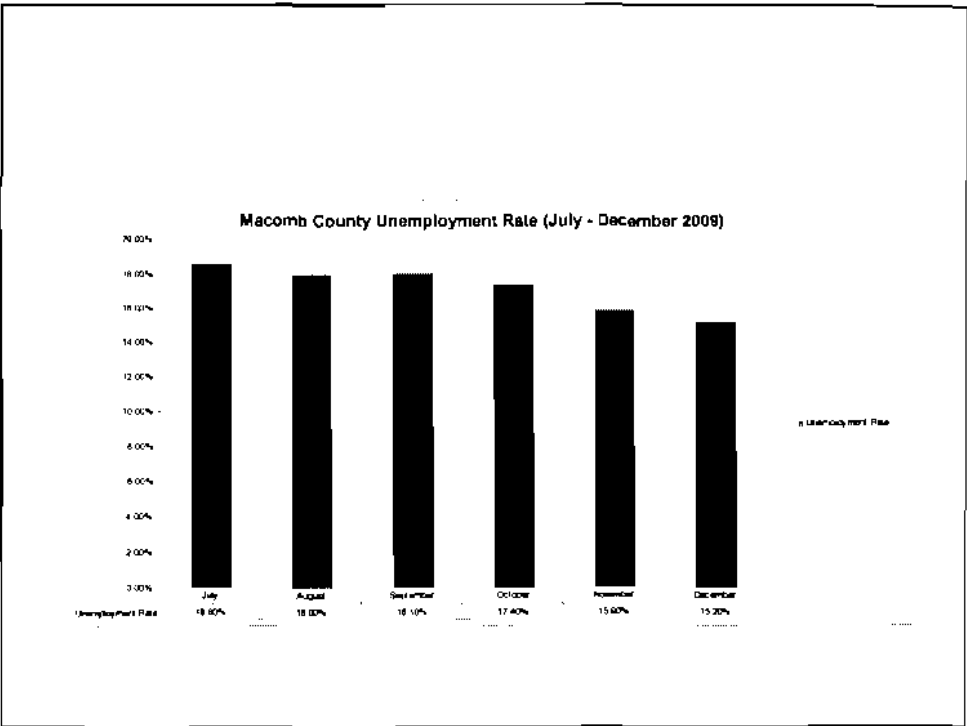
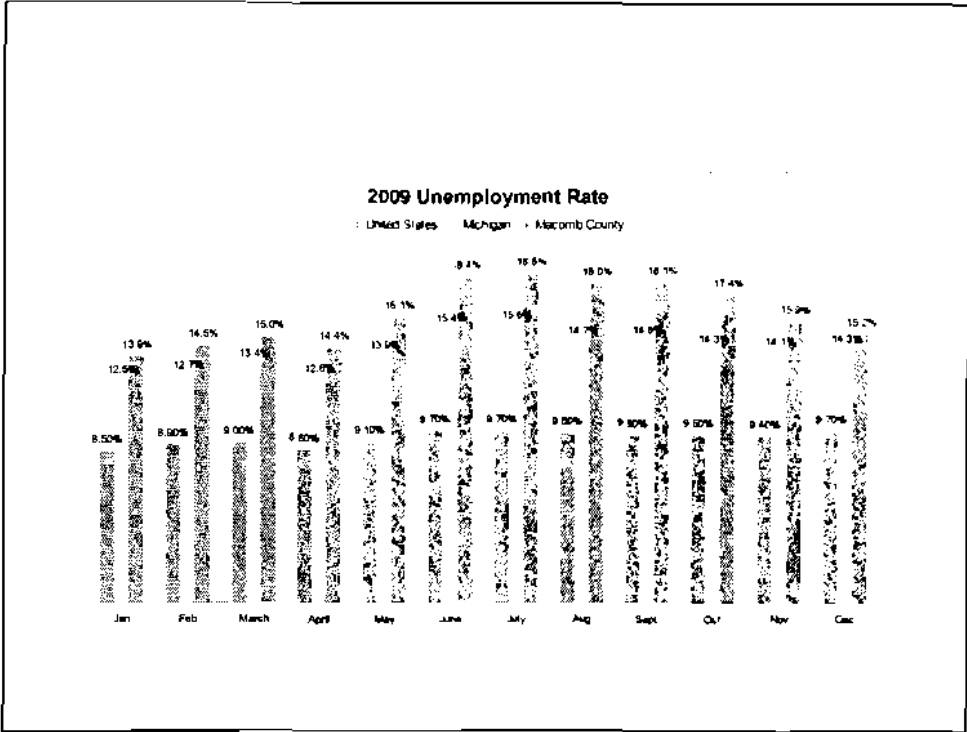


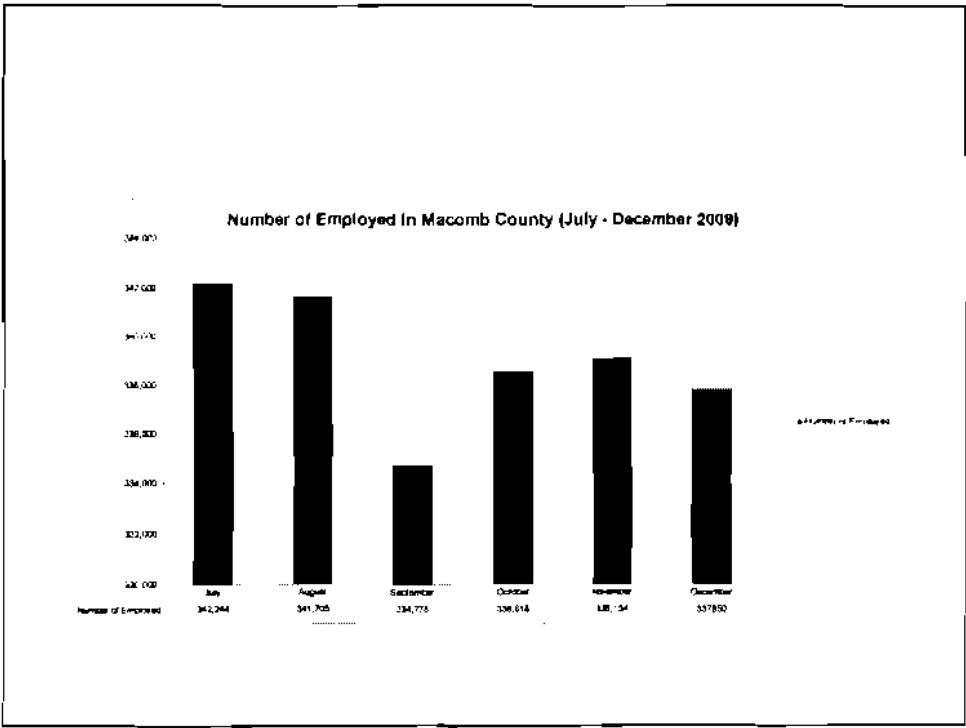
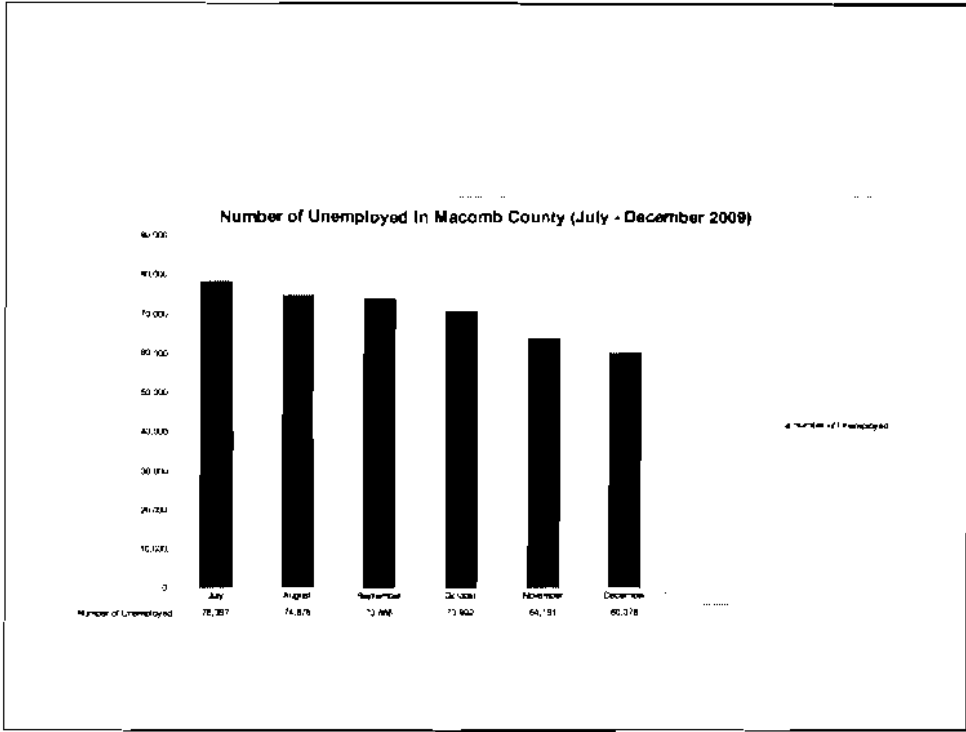
U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow

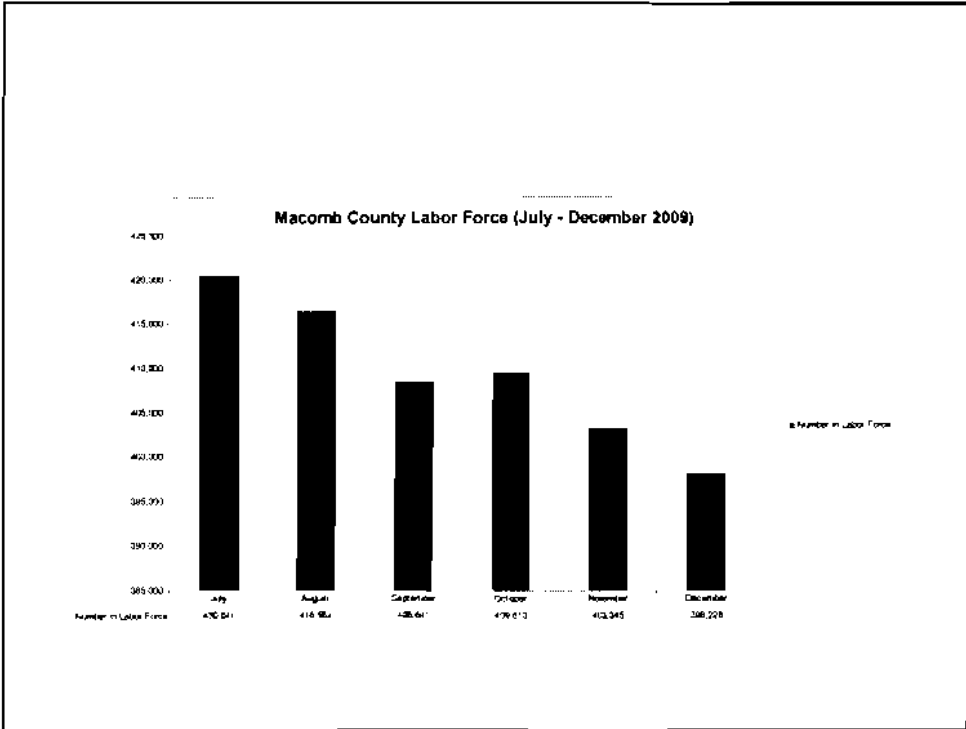
MICHIGAN
WORKS!®



John Bierbusse
Executive Director
Michigan Works







**MACOMB COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
JULY - DECEMBER 2009**

	<u>JULY 2009</u>	<u>DECEMBER 2009</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE:	18.6%	15.2%	- 3.4%
LABOR FORCE SIZE:	420,641	398,228	-22,413
EMPLOYED:	342,274	337,850	- 4,394
UNEMPLOYED:	78,397	60,378	-18,019

**PROJECTED NUMBER OF MACOMB COUNTY CITIZENS
WHO WILL LOSE THEIR BENEFITS
IF FEDERAL JOBLESS BENEFITS EXPIRE ON 2/28/2010**

Month	No. Losing Benefits
March	13,760
APRIL	15,614
May	9,504
June	8,390
July & after	6,814
Total	54,082



Bruce Weaver
Manager of Labor Market Analysis for
DELEG

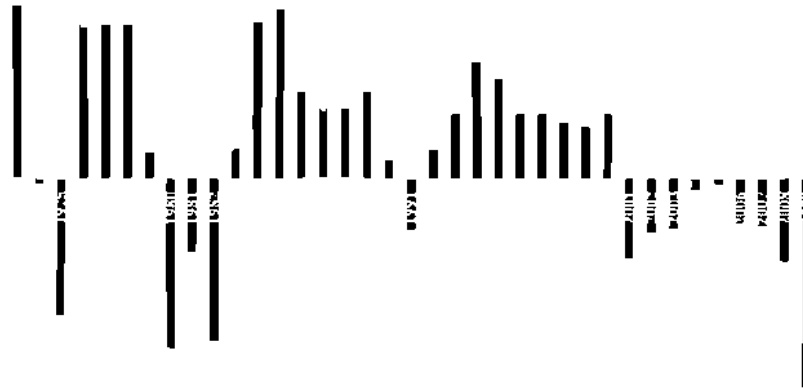


Xuan Liu
Data Manager
SEMCOG

“The Lost Decade” *in Michigan*

Presentation to
Macomb County Board of Commissioners
February 23, 2010

Percent Change in Wage & Salary Employment *Michigan, 1973-2009*



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

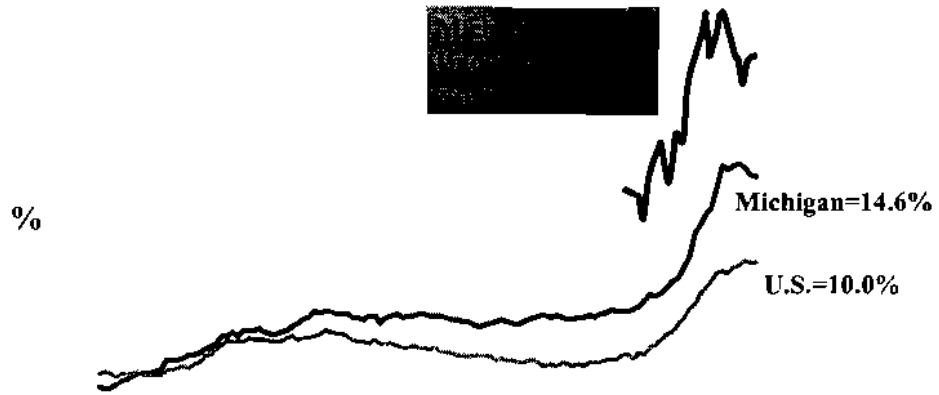
Automotive Plants and Dealership Closures *SE Michigan, 2009-2010*



- 7 Plants in 5 communities
- 33 GM and Chrysler dealerships in 24 Communities
- Spinoff impacts greater than 1

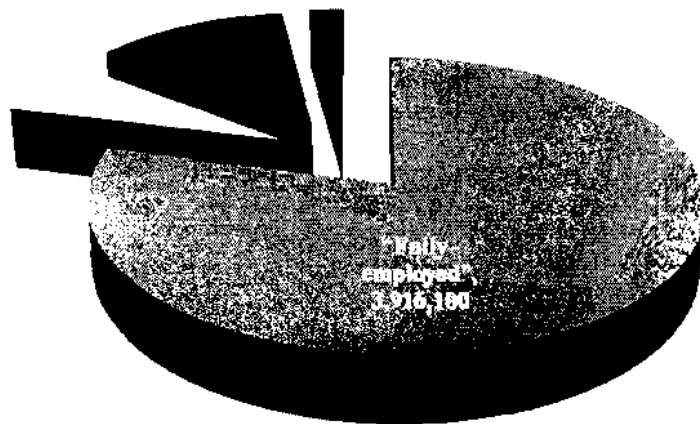
SEMCOG

Unemployment Rate 2000-2009



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

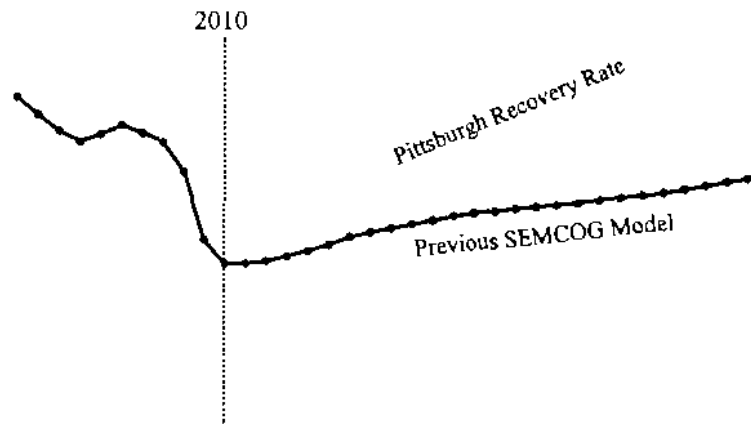
Under-employment in Michigan December, 2009



Source: SEMCOG analysis on Current Population Survey

Total Employment*

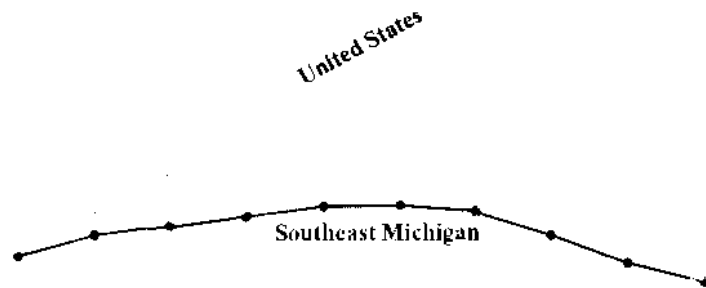
Southeast Michigan, 2000-2035



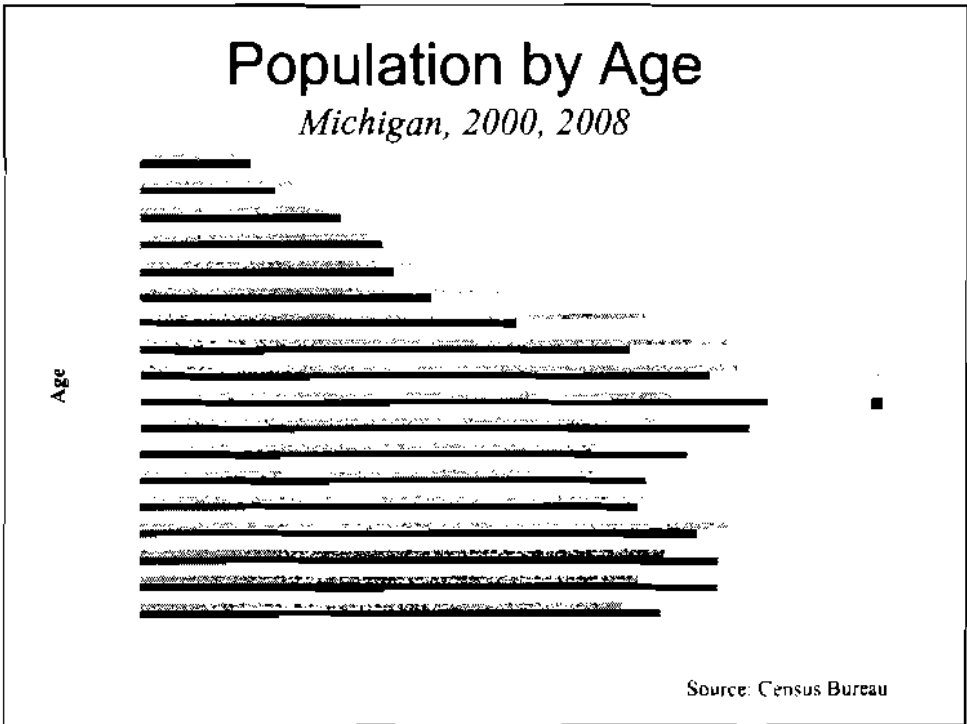
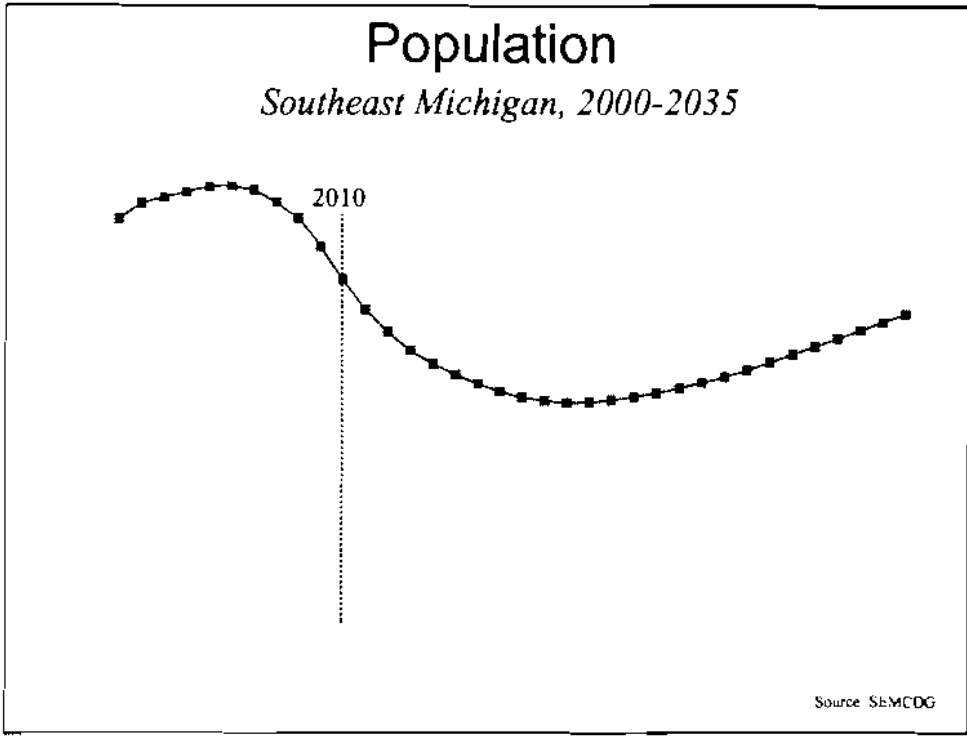
* Total Employment includes wage/salary jobs and self-employed. Source SEMCOG

Cumulative Percent Change in Population

2000-2009

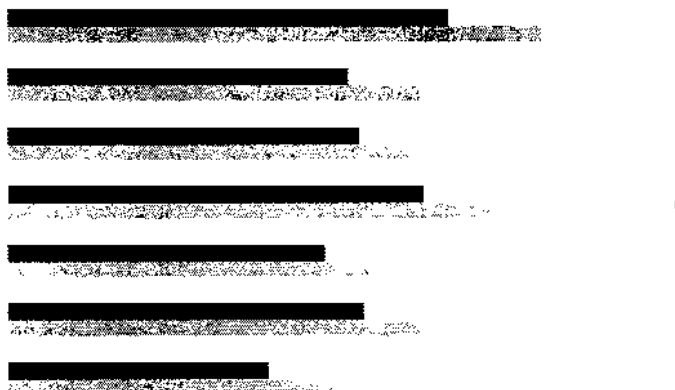


Source U.S. Census Bureau



Median Household Income

Counties in Southeast Michigan, 2000, 2008

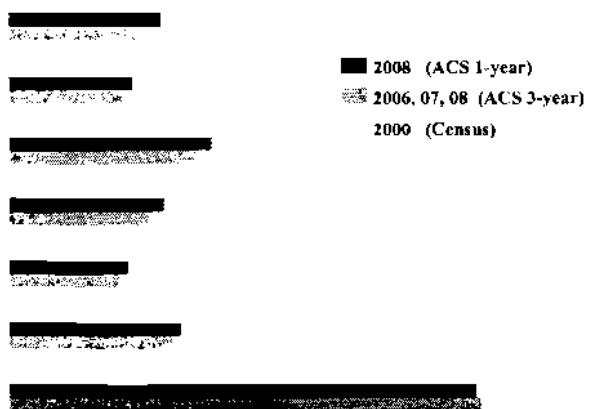


*Note: All monetary values adjusted to 2008 dollars

Source: Census Bureau

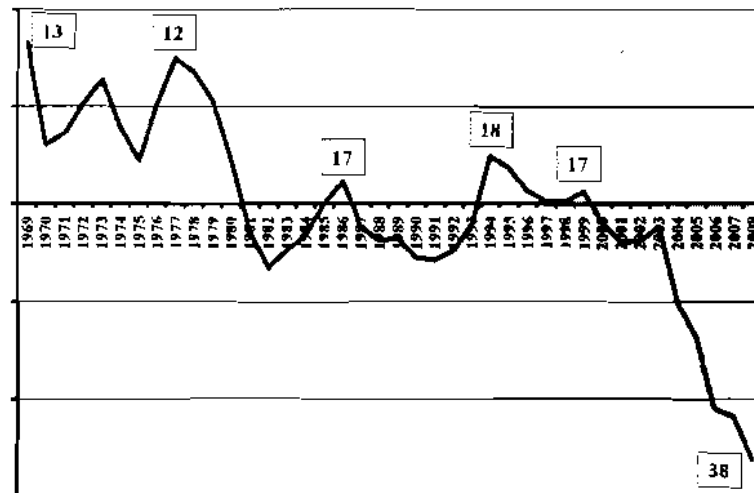
Poverty Rates

Macomb County



Source: Census Bureau

Michigan Per Capita Income *Deviation from National Average, 1969-2008*



38 State ranking in U.S., including D.C.

Source: BEA, RSQE

Implications

1. A smaller State in terms of population and jobs
2. Slow recovery
3. Short term: Crisis control
4. Long term: Redefine success
 - transforming economy
 - improving quality of life/prosperity
 - smaller can be better

A business card for Xuan Liu, Manager of Planning and Economic Development at SEMCOG. The card features a stylized map of Michigan in the background, with several black rectangular redaction boxes covering parts of the map and the contact information. The name 'Xuan Liu' is prominently displayed in a large, bold font.

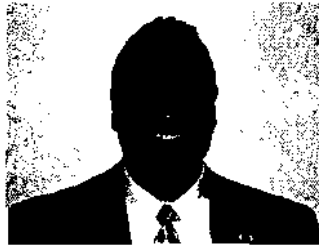
Xuan Liu

Manager of Planning and Economic Development
Liu@semcog.org
(313) 324-3223

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments
535 Griswold St., Suite 300
Detroit, MI 48226
www.semco.org

Real Life Experiences...

Jason Oziem
Thomas Thieda
Dennis Keena
James Knight

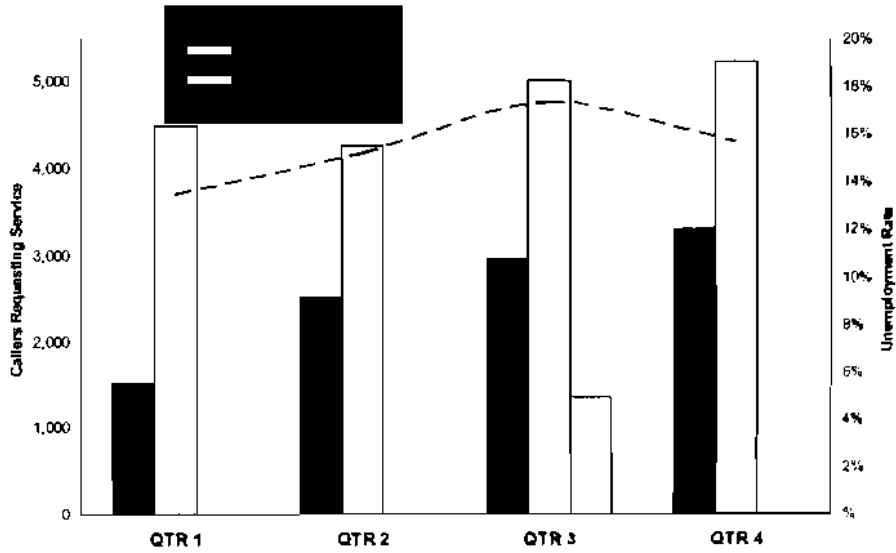


Bill Sullivan
Director
United Way 211

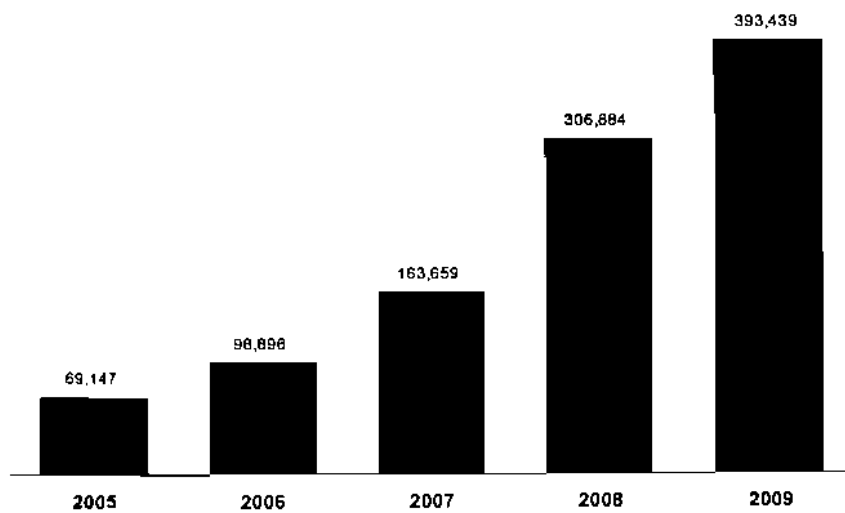
Unemployment Rate vs. 2-1-1 Requests for Service (2008-2009)



2009 REQUESTS FOR SERVICE



CALLS RECEIVED





Bill Sullivan, Director 2-1-1

United Way for Southeastern Michigan
660 Woodward Ave., Suite 300
Detroit, MI 48226

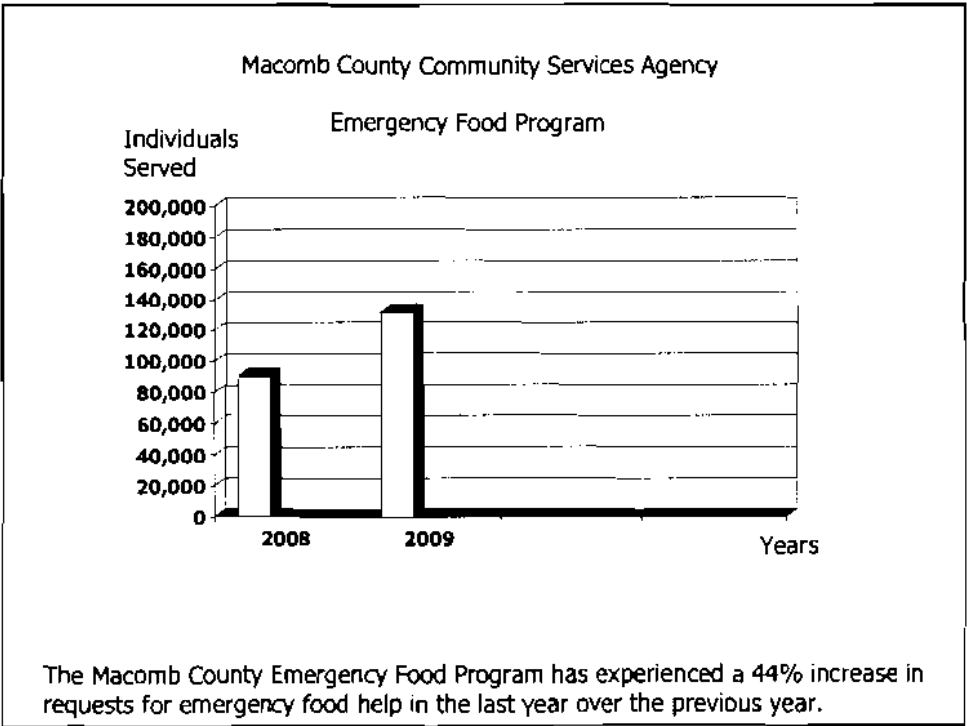
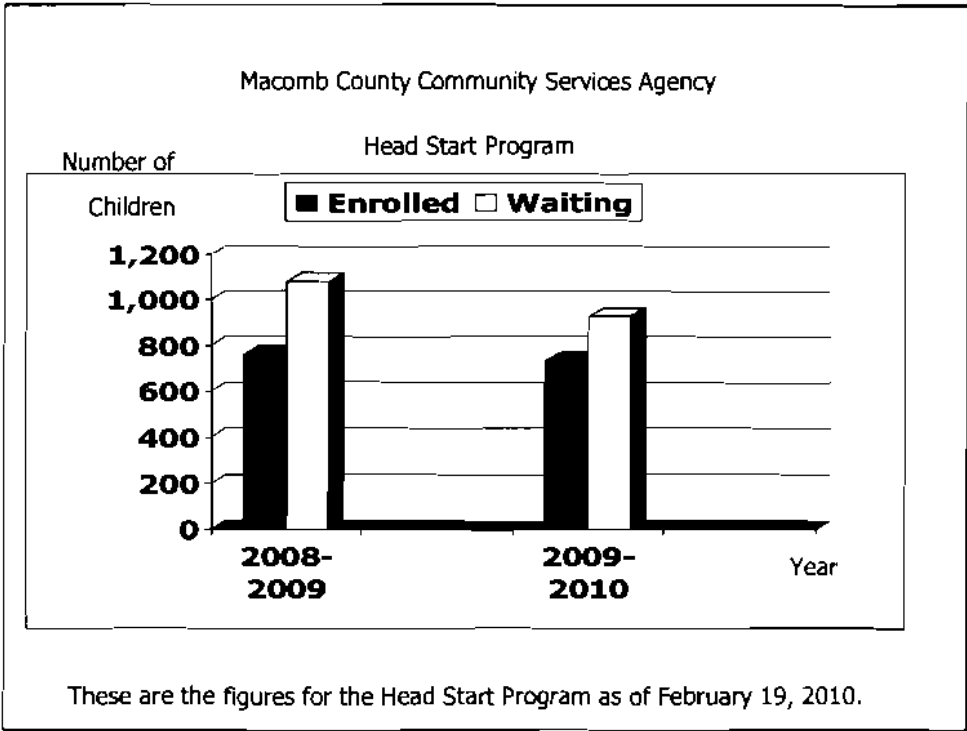
Bill.Sullivan@LiveUnitedSEM.org
313-226-9453

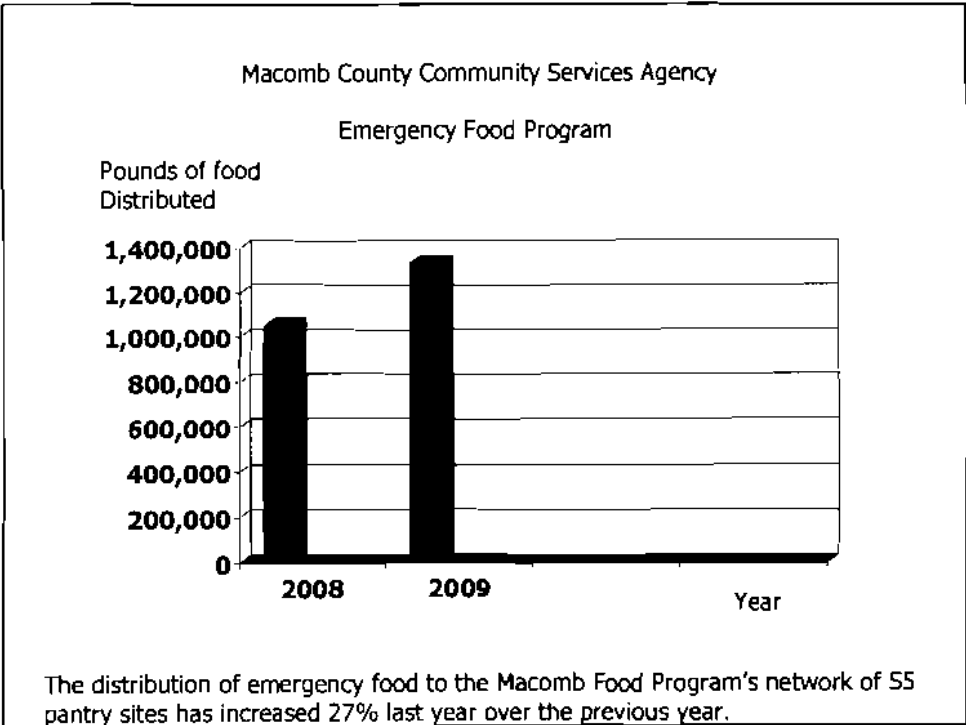
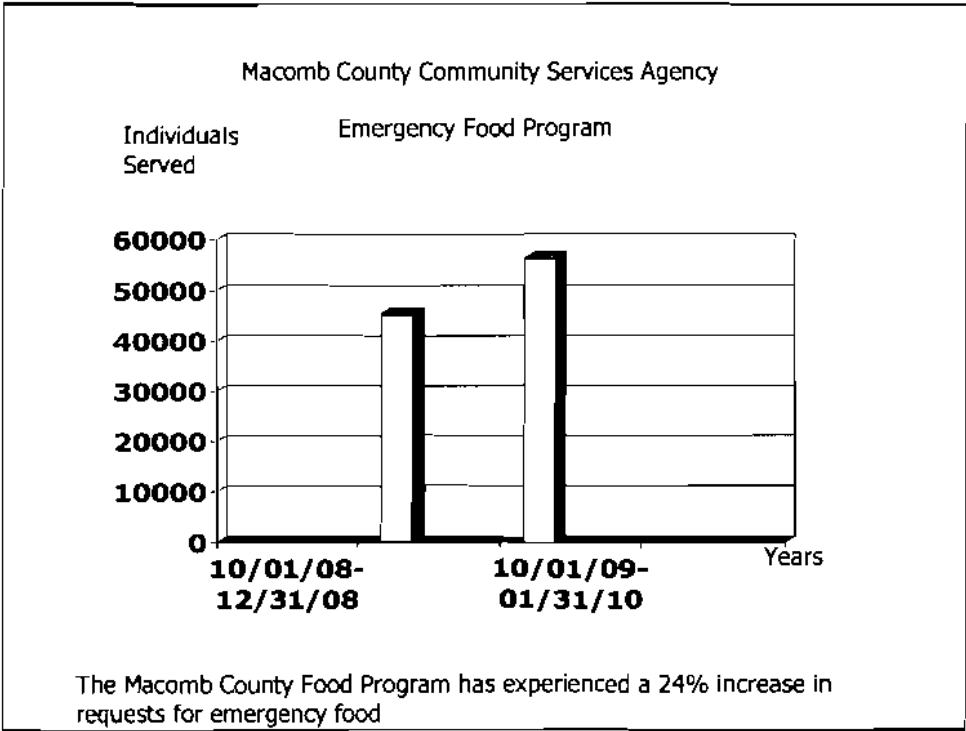


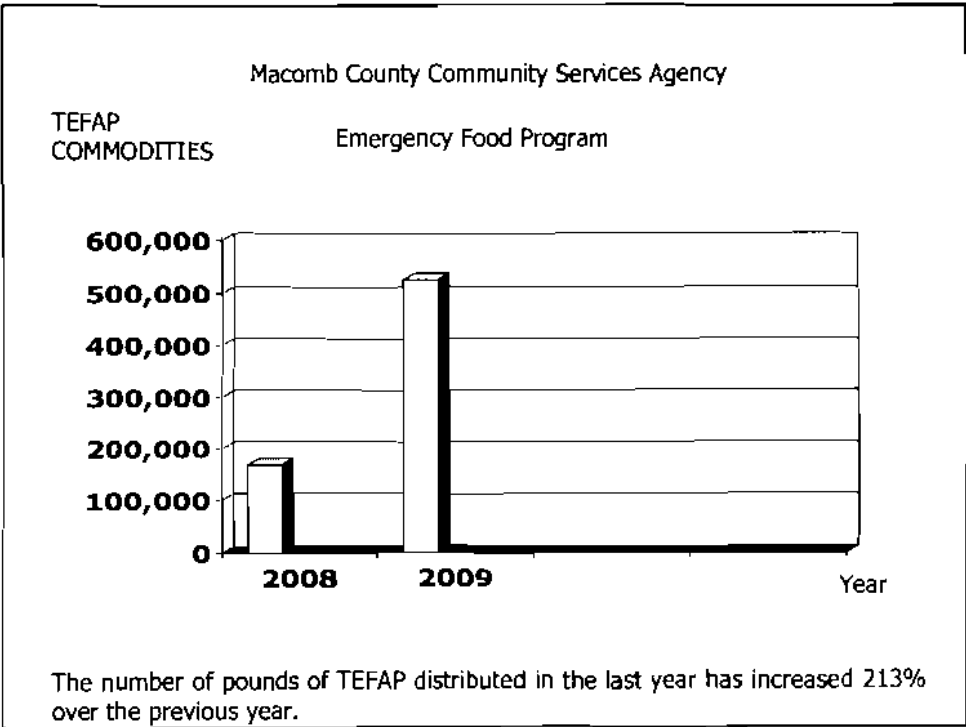
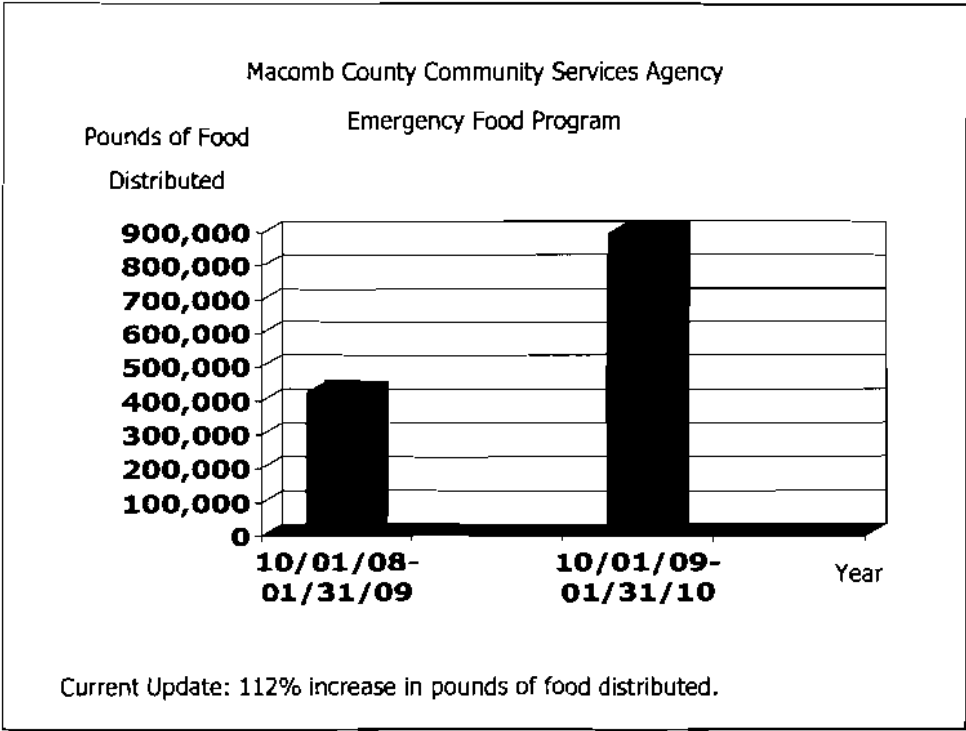
Frank Taylor
Director

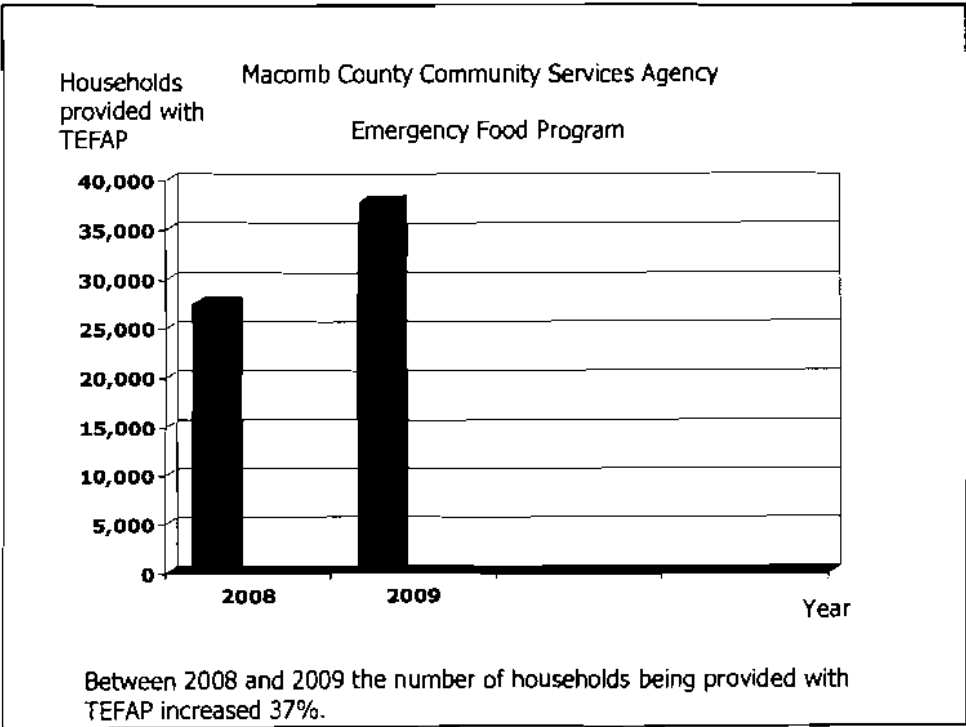
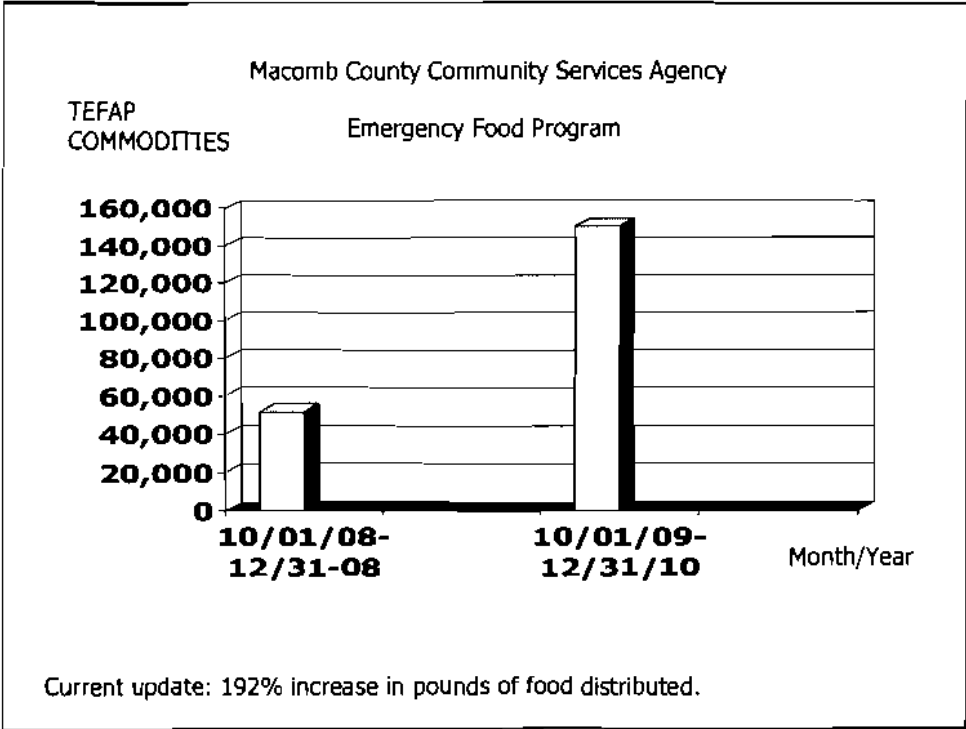
Macomb County Community Services Agency

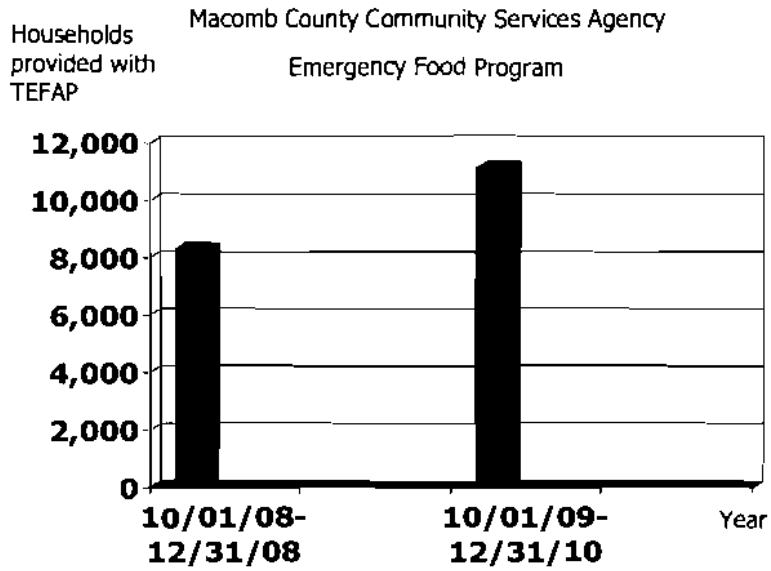




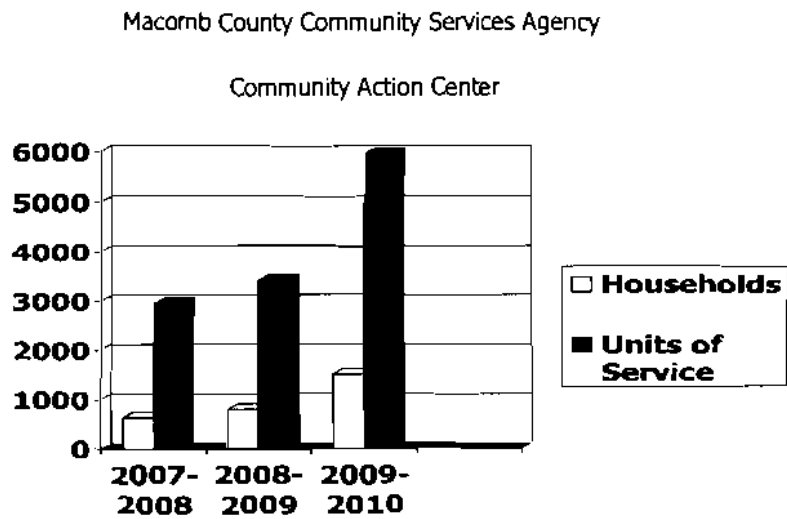








Current Update: 41% increase in households served.



This comparison is for the First Quarter (October-November-December) of the last three fiscal years and requests have nearly doubled in one year's time.

Macomb County Community Services Agency

Community Action Center

Year	Households	Units of Service
2007-2008	Households 636	Units of Service 2,949
2008-2009	Households 802	Units of Service 3,407
2009-2010	Households 1,504	Units of Service 5,950

This comparison is for the First Quarter (October-November-December) of the last three fiscal years and requests have nearly doubled in one year's time.

Macomb County Community Services Agency

Meals on Wheels

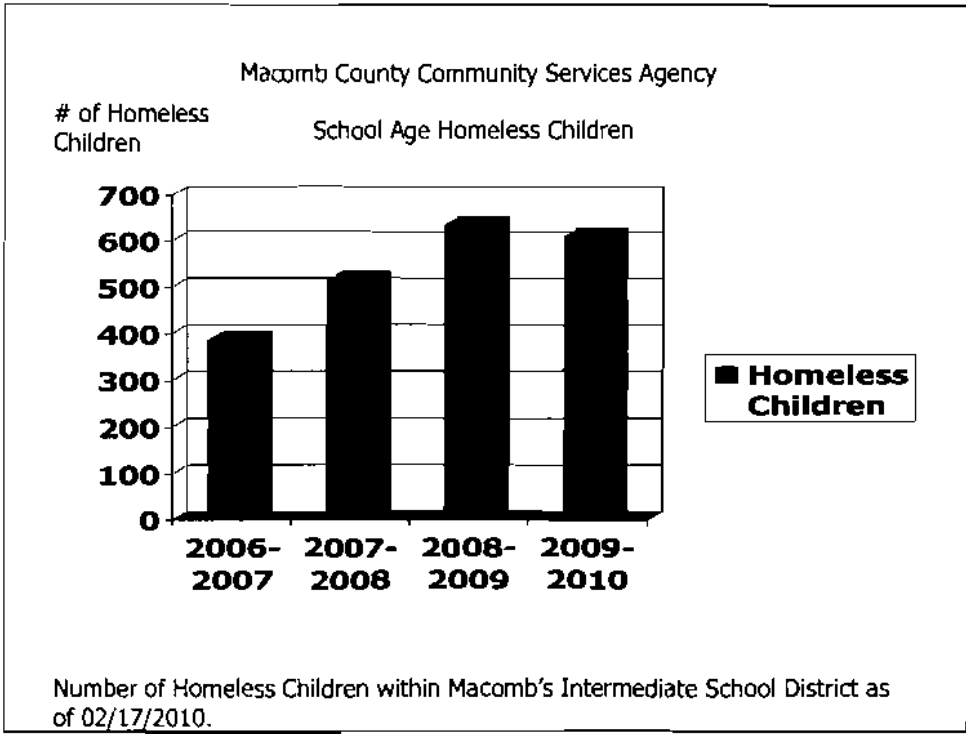
Home Delivered Meals

- \$31,000 a month is funded by Area Agency on Aging 1-B.
- \$4,500 a month is funded by American Recovery Reinvestment Act.

□ARRA/Stimulus funds were used to continue cold meal service, second meals to those at high risk and Saturday meals to those in need of weekend meal service.

Congregate

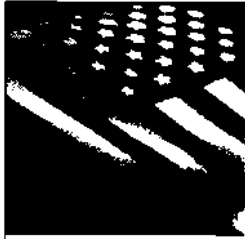
- \$7,500 a month was funded by Area Agency on Aging.
- \$1,500 a month was funded by American Recovery Reinvestment Act.



"The Economic Bill of Rights"

~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

*Excerpt from January 11, 1944
message to congress on the State of
the Union*

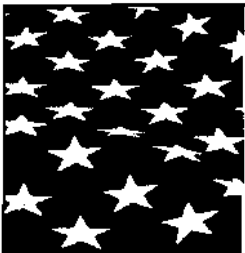


" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is our duty to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people-whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth-is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, and insecure.

This Republic had its beginning, and grew to its present strength, under the protection of certain inalienable political rights-among them the right of free speech, free press, free worship, trial by jury, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. They were our rights to life and liberty.



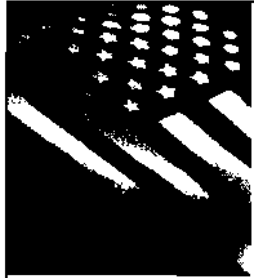
" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

As our nation has grown in size and stature, however-as our industrial economy expanded-these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of the job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

In our day these economic truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under, which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all-regardless of station, race, or creed.



" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Among these are:

The right to a useful and remunerative job in the industries or shops or farms or mines of the nation;

The right to earn enough to provide adequate food and clothing and recreation;

The right of every farmer to raise and sell his products at a return which will give him and his family a decent living;



" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

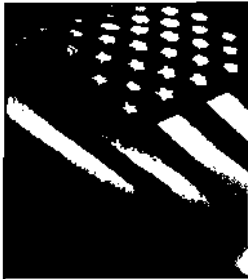
The right of every businessman, large and small, to trade in an atmosphere of freedom from unfair competition and domination by monopolies at home or abroad;

The right of every family to a decent home;

The right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to achieve and enjoy good health;

The right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident, and unemployment.

The right to a good education.



“ The Economic Bill of Rights“

Franklin D. Roosevelt

All of these rights spell security. And after this war is won we must be prepared to move forward, in the implementation of these rights, to new goals of human happiness and well-being.

America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried into practice for our citizens.

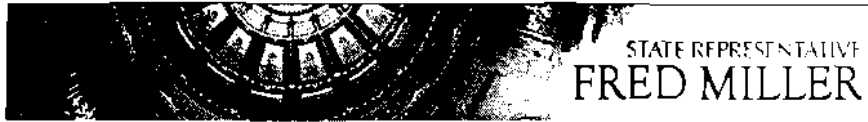
Source: *The public Papers & Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt* (Samuel Rosenman, ed) Volume XIII (NY: Harper, 1950), 40-42



Michigan District 12



Congressman Sandy Levin



Representative Fred Miller

Comments

- Local Officials
- Non-profits
- Members of the Public

- Commissioners



**Resolution Urging
Federal Legislators to
Create a Comprehensive Jobs Program**



**Special Public Hearing
Education and Training Committee
Macomb County Board of Commissioners
February 23, 2010**

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INCOME
SECURITY AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Sander Levin

12th District, Michigan

CONGRESSIONAL-EXECUTIVE
COMMISSION ON CHINA
Co-CHAIR, 111th CONGRESS

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

February 23, 2010

Dear Members of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners:

Thank you for holding this hearing and for your continued efforts to highlight the economic realities for Macomb County families. The national financial collapse and recession have combined with the crisis in the auto industry to make job growth particularly difficult. We must continue to support those who are out of work and take additional targeted steps to create jobs.

As you know, so far the federal Recovery Act has brought \$350 million to Macomb County and Macomb County communities. In addition, thousands of Macomb County residents have received tax relief, extended unemployment benefits, health care subsidies, and job training. Specific to the subject of your hearing – subsidized employment – Congress created a \$5 billion fund in the Recovery Act to which states can apply for creating or expanding subsidized employment programs, among other uses.

Many states have effectively used this funding to expand or create subsidized employment programs. I have included here a description of some of the uses to which states have put this money. Michigan has so far received a total of \$57 million from this fund, a portion of which will be used to double the number of subsidized jobs from 800 to 1,600. In addition, Michigan received funding for increased spending on the state Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). Michigan still has the opportunity to apply for an additional \$330 million in funding that can be applied to subsidized employment or other uses.

I am also supporting legislation to extend and expand this fund. The bill, H.R. 4564, would double the amount of money for which Michigan is eligible to apply. It would also eliminate the current 20% state match required for subsidized employment projects under the current terms of the fund.

I also introduced legislation this week (H.R. 4629) to use TARP funds to help manufacturing firms access the financing they need to expand, diversity, and hire new workers.

I welcome your perspectives on this legislation and your further ideas for supporting job creation.

Sincerely,



Sander Levin
Member of Congress

*distributed
2-23-10*

The Emergency Jobs Program: State Examples

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act created an Emergency Contingency Fund (ECF) to help States with increasing expenditures on subsidized employment programs (these programs temporarily pay for the wages of a worker in a public or private job) and basic cash assistance for needy families through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

At least 29 states have subsidized employment programs up and running or are in the process of developing a program that will be funded through the Emergency Fund. According to a recent report by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, states are planning to create **80,000** subsidized jobs funded all or in part through the Emergency Fund.

Without an extension of this emergency fund, States may soon reduce or eliminate subsidized employment programs and/or cut assistance to needy families. Because job placements in subsidized employment programs often run for at least six months, a number of States and counties are planning to discontinue their job programs between March and June of this year in anticipation of the emergency fund's expiration on September 30th. It is estimated that almost 60,000 jobs that would otherwise be available will disappear if the fund expires. The local agencies that use these funds already have the infrastructure in place, create jobs quickly and boost local economies.

ARKANSAS

Arkansas is in the process of implementing a subsidized employment program to create 600 new subsidized jobs by September 2010. Because the program is just getting started, extending the Emergency Fund through 2011 would allow for more subsidized jobs and longer placements. The state would be able to add a significant number of additional jobs only if an extension is combined with an increase in the amount the state can receive during the additional year.

CALIFORNIA

California counties have acted quickly and effectively to place participants who would otherwise be unemployed in subsidized jobs; 43 of the state's 52 counties are operating or planning to operate programs. San Francisco placed 1,512 recipients in subsidized jobs in January, exceeding its original goal of 1,000 placements. Los Angeles, which has placed 10,000 individuals in subsidized jobs, had 4,100 parents in jobs in January. Without an extension the state will have to stop funding and all of those workers will be out of a job.

FLORIDA

The Florida Workforce Development system brought local workforce agencies and businesses together in a model that will help local employers to hire new workers. The Emergency Fund pays 95 percent of the costs of providing a subsidized job while employers directly contribute five percent of the wages and also make an in-kind contribution of supervision and training.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Emergency Fund has been critical in enabling Massachusetts to get through the early stages of the recession. It also allowed Massachusetts to avoid deep cuts to the Employment Services Program that provides job training and related services to families receiving TANF-funded cash assistance, to child care for low-income working parents, and to the account that funds shelter for the skyrocketing number of homeless children and their families.

But, due to the Commonwealth's fiscal crisis and the expected end of the ECF as of October 1, 2010, the Governor of Massachusetts just released an FY 2011 budget proposal that would reduce the Employment Services Program by almost 50 percent from early FY2010 levels and which, if enacted, will result in the

shutting down of job training programs for low-income parents and the termination of transportation assistance to low income families trying to get to or prepare for work. By extending the Emergency Fund, the Commonwealth would be able to avoid these deep cuts and continue providing these critical services.

MICHIGAN

Michigan is using the Emergency Fund for increasing subsidized job placements and for reimbursing the state for increased spending on the refundable portion of the state EITC. Michigan is doubling the number of subsidized jobs from 800 to 1,600 but does not anticipate that it will be able to sustain the additional jobs after September 30, 2010 beyond the expiration of the Emergency Fund. The state expects to use all of the \$388 million available to it for 2009 and 2010. Michigan would continue to have significant increased spending in subsidized employment and in the state EITC if the Emergency Fund were extended for FY2011 but Michigan would need an increase in the maximum that a state could receive in order to benefit from an extension.

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico plans to use the Emergency Fund for subsidized employment. The state expects to use nearly all of the \$55 million maximum that it can receive for FY2009- 2010 under the current Emergency Fund provision. Based on the increased caseloads and the slated expiration of the Emergency Fund in September 2010, New Mexico is considering cuts. If the state reduces spending on the subsidized employment, this would mean less money in local communities and a reduction of the stimulative effects of ARRA.

NEW YORK

New York has provided its counties with funds to create green jobs in their communities, helping them to prepare individuals for employment in industries with future high growth potential. New York plans to place about 5,000 people in subsidized jobs at the end of September 2010. New York officials have indicated they will stop new subsidized job placements altogether in June and will start ramping down the program and using shorter placement periods several months before that due to the impending expiration of the federal program.

OREGON

Oregon is receiving Emergency Funds for subsidized employment and the state expects to use the entire \$83 million maximum that it can receive under the current ARRA provision. Oregon is currently considering new proposals for cuts in its Emergency Fund program for the upcoming state fiscal year. The proposals include cuts to jobs program services which will affect the ability of participating families to secure employment. If the Emergency Fund was extended, Oregon could have more resources to avoid these cuts.

TENNESSEE

Tennessee brought local workforce development, human service agencies and the business community together in a rural community hard hit by a plant closing to develop a subsidized employment program for over 500 individuals. The effort helped to reduce the local unemployment rate from 27.3 to 18.6 percent.

WASHINGTON

Washington State, which has seen need for government help increase by 30 percent since the start of the recession, has used the Emergency Fund to provide cash grants to more families and subsidized employment placements to 40 percent more individuals in the first five months of the fiscal year when compared to last year.



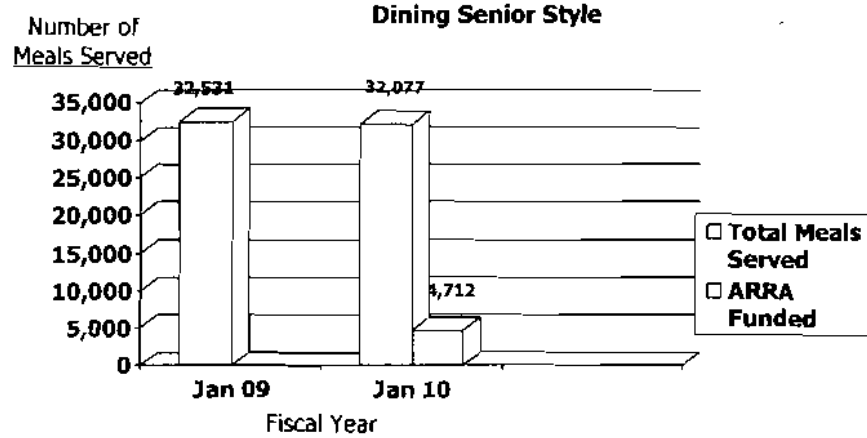
Macomb County Community Services Agency
Frank Taylor, Director

*Macomb County Board of Commissioners
Education & Training Committee
February 23, 2010*

*distributed
2-23-10*

Macomb County Community Services Agency

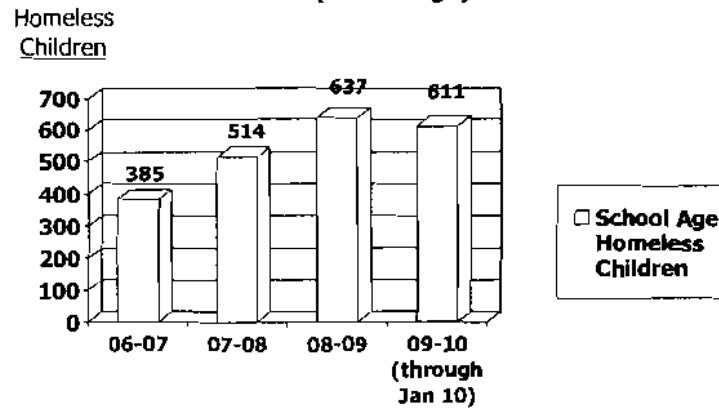
SENIOR CITIZENS NUTRITION PROGRAM



Senior Nutrition Program statistics of January 31, 2010.

Macomb County Community Services Agency

HOMELESS CHILDREN (School Age)

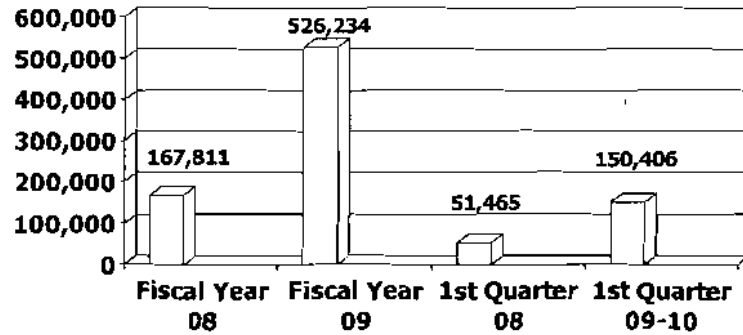


Statistics provided by the Macomb Intermediate School District as of 02/17/2010.

Macomb County Community Services Agency

THE EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM (TEFAP)

Commodities



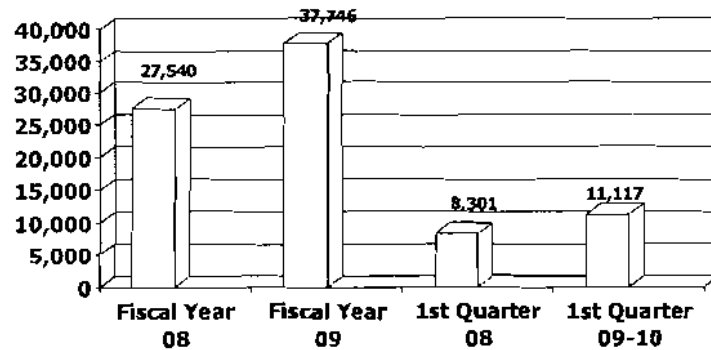
The distribution of emergency food to the Macomb Food Program's network of 55 pantry sites has increased 27% last year over the previous year.

Current update: 192% increase in pounds of TEFAP food distributed in the first quarter. (10-1 to 12/31)

Macomb County Community Services Agency

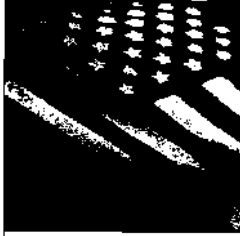
THE EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM (TEFAP)

Households



Between 2008 and 2009 the number of households being provided with TEFAP increased 37%.

Current update: 41% increase in households served in the first quarter. (10-1 to 12/31)



" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

It is our duty to begin to lay the plans and determine the strategy for the winning of a lasting peace and the establishment of an American standard of living higher than ever before known. We cannot be content, no matter how high that general standard of living may be, if some fraction of our people-whether it be one-third or one-fifth or one-tenth-is ill-fed, ill-clothed, ill-housed, and insecure.

This Republic had its beginning, and grew to its present strength, under the protection of certain inalienable political rights-among them the right of free speech, free press, free worship, trial by jury, freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures. They were our rights to life and liberty.



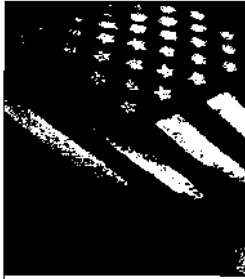
" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

As our nation has grown in size and stature, however-as our industrial economy expanded-these political rights proved inadequate to assure us equality in the pursuit of happiness.

We have come to a clear realization of the fact that true individual freedom cannot exist without economic security and independence. "necessitous men are not free men." People who are hungry and out of the job are the stuff of which dictatorships are made.

In our day these economic truths have become accepted as self-evident. We have accepted, so to speak, a second Bill of Rights under, which a new basis of security and prosperity can be established for all-regardless of station, race, or creed.



" The Economic Bill of Rights"

Franklin D. Roosevelt

All of these rights spell security. And after this war is won we must be prepared to move forward, in the implementation of these rights, to new goals of human happiness and well-being.

America's own rightful place in the world depends in large part upon how fully these and similar rights have been carried into practice for our citizens.

Source: *The public Papers & Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt* (Samuel Rosenman, ed.) Volume XIII (NY: Harper, 1950), 40-42



MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JON SWITALSKI
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

25TH DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514
PHONE (517) 373-1772
TOLL FREE (877) JGMS026
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February 23, 2010

APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT (EMD)
INVESTIGATIONS
INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS AND OVERSIGHT
JOINT CAPITAL BUDGET
TRANSPORTATION

Macomb County Commissioners Paul Gielegem and David Flynn
1 S. Main Street
9th Floor
Mount Clemens, MI 48043

Dear Commissioners Gielegem and Flynn,


Thank you for offering Resolution No. 10, urging United States Congress to pass a comprehensive jobs program. I agree, during this continuous unemployment crises Michigan workers' demand for assistance is not limited to unemployment extensions and job retraining, but also a program that will employ laid off workers now.

Every week my office is contacted by a different family member or resident of State House District 25, sharing their stories of unemployment, foreclosure and financial struggles. I understand the importance of needing a comprehensive jobs bill, and I would like to extend my support for Resolution No. 10.

On the state level I would like to share my willingness to support and sign onto a comprehensive jobs bill, or state resolution that will provide real employment. It is our responsibility to do whatever we can to get Michigan residents back to work, and that is my top priority.

Thank you again for sharing Resolution No. 10. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have further ideas or suggestions on establishing a comprehensive jobs program.

Sincerely,


Jon Switalski
State Representative
25th District

JS/mjo



Opt-Out:

Distributed
2-23-10

CC: Macomb County Board of Commissioners:

Kathy Tocco

Joan Flynn

Andrey Duzyj

Marvin E. Sanger

Phillip A. DiMaria

Toni Mocerì

Susan L. Doherty

Sue Rocca

Robert Mijac

Ken Lampar

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WORK FOR AMERICANS

*A NATIONAL JOBS PROGRAM PUTTING PEOPLE TO WORK
SERVING THE COMMUNITIES THAT NEED IT MOST*

*distributed
2-23-10*

WORK FOR AMERICANS
A NATIONAL JOBS PROGRAM PUTTING PEOPLE TO WORK SERVING THE COMMUNITIES THAT NEED IT MOST

A STEP-BY-STEP LOOK AT ONE WAY IT COULD WORK

- Federal support would flow directly to local Workforce Investment Boards (WIB) and employment agencies. In Michigan, these are called Workforce Development Boards and Michigan Works! agencies. WIBs are business-led boards that identify local human resource needs for economic development.
- 501(c) 3 non-profit organizations would submit proposals to a local WIB for approval of funding. Projects would be evaluated on several factors including,
 - 1) The ability to create jobs immediately
 - 2) The benefit to the community in targeted areas of food, shelter, utility assistance, neighborhood/community improvement, child health and development.
 - 3) Financial soundness of the organization
 - 4) A guarantee that no less than 90% of funding for each project must be spent on wages for individuals employed.
- WIB reviews and approves qualified non-profit proposals.
- Once approved, the positions would then be posted in the job agencies' job bank. Here in Michigan, it is called the Michigan Works! Talent Bank. The jobs would be available to the currently unemployed.
- Organizations with approved projects would be required to report to Workforce Development Board how many positions were filled and a quantifiable assessment of the community benefit provided by the newly created positions. The Workforce Development Boards would compile this information and report to the federal government as well as the local communities on the results of this investment.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

WHAT AREAS WOULD QUALIFY FOR THE "WORK FOR AMERICANS" PROGRAM?

States with unemployment rates above 9percent would be eligible to participate.

HOW LONG WILL THE PROGRAM LAST?

We are proposing that "Work for Americans" begin as a two year pilot program. It would last until unemployment in the area falls out of the top 10 percent and then the program would phase out in 120 days.

HOW LONG WOULD THE POSITIONS LAST?

The positions would exist for no longer than one year. Participants could only enroll once.

WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM?

The money could come from funds Wall Street investment banks have paid back to taxpayers through the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP).

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Leaders in Congress are finally beginning to talk about ways to help the recovery on "Main Street" so it is assumed this would be a funding priority. The Economic Policy Institute, a non-partisan think tank, asserts that spending \$40 billion a year for three years on public-service employment would create a million jobs.

HOW MUCH WOULD PARTICIPANTS BE PAID?

The federal government would set the guidelines. However, a reasonable measure could be the median income of the state receiving funds. For example, in Michigan the 2009 median income is estimated at \$22,648. (This figure comes from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Low Income Energy Assistance Program and is currently used in determining eligibility for that program) That works out to about an hourly wage of \$11.32 (based on 50 weeks of 40 hours a year).

WHY NON PROFITS?

Non-profits by their very nature are service oriented organizations. The need for human services is economically counter-cyclical, meaning that when the economy is down the need for services goes up. Frequently, it is non-profit organizations that help meet the needs of the public. The mission of non-profits touches nearly every area of life including providing human services, environmental projects, education and training, youth-related activities and civic engagement – and those are only a few. Additionally, non-profits engage volunteers and serve as a connection point in communities across the state and country. The National Center on Charitable Statistics counts one million registered 501(c) 3s in the U.S. Taken together, this expansive nonprofit sector employed over 14 million people last year, had 61 million volunteers and serves and engages millions more.

WORK FOR AMERICANS

A NATIONAL JOBS PROGRAM PUTTING PEOPLE TO WORK SERVING THE COMMUNITIES THAT NEED IT MOST

HOW WOULD WE MAKE SURE THE MONEY IS GOING WHERE IT SHOULD?

The Workforce Development Boards will be responsible for compiling quantifiable data and tracking outcomes. It is critically important that the jobs created be new jobs that add to total employment and not substitutes for current positions. There must be strict rules against substitution, coupled with strong enforcement of the rules.