

Annual Report 2023



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Leading the way to inclusive communities



LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Laurie Matties: Community Connections Manager
 Shad Welke: Community Employment Manager
 Adam Hamlin: Youth Services Manager
 Pat Peters: Operations Manager
 Amanda Lawson: Communications Specialist
 Renee Peterman: Community Connections Manager
 Rosalinda Gardner: Community Employment Manager
 Maureen Wargo: Autism Services Manager
 William Campbell: Clare Branch Manager
 Krystal Travis: Gratiot County Program Manager
 Brian Johnson: Controller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

BOARD CHAIR: Michael Formsmma
 VICE-CHAIR: Mike Simon
 TREASURER: Neil McDonnell
 SECRETARY: JoDell Heroux
 Pat Richards
 Michelle Reed
 Leanne Barton
 Sarah Adkins
 Paige Zimmerman

EXECUTIVE TEAM:

Cherie Johnson: CEO
 David Gnegy: Director of Employment Services
 Jim Haton: Director of Quality Assurance
 Emma Reed: Director of Human Resources



Leading the way to inclusive communities

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OUR MISSION:

To support our communities to include people with diverse needs by creating meaningful connections through employment, training, and inclusive opportunities.

Message from our CEO



Celebrating over 50 years of dedicated service to Central Michigan, MMI continues to embody determination, integrity, and a spirit of innovation and growth.



Dear MMI Supporters, Partners, and Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the unwavering support that has fueled our mission at MMI. This support has helped us to continue to make meaningful strides in serving individuals with disabilities, empowering them to lead fulfilling and inclusive lives. In the face of unprecedented challenges, our commitment to creating a more accessible world has remained steadfast. Through innovative programs and dedicated advocacy, we have worked tirelessly to break down barriers and create opportunities for personal growth and community inclusion.

Your support for our organization and the people we serve has directly translated into impactful initiatives, including autism services in Clare County, support for youth moving from high school into the world of work, greater opportunity to explore the rich and diverse communities in which we live, and individualized support services that address the unique needs of each individual. Our collaborative partnerships with local communities, businesses, and educational institutions have allowed us to foster a culture of inclusivity, ensuring that individuals with disabilities are recognized and valued for their abilities.

As we embark on another year of service, we invite you to join us in our ongoing journey towards a world where everyone can thrive. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve and the communities in which we work.

Thank you for being an integral part of our mission.

-Cherie Johnson, CEO



OUR VALUES:

To live in communities where people with diverse needs are included and supported to lead independent lives.

A photograph of four people standing outdoors. From left to right: a man in a tan cap and glasses, a man with a beard and sunglasses on his cap, a woman with curly hair, and a woman with glasses and her hair in a bun. They are all wearing high-visibility yellow and orange safety vests. The background shows trees and a bright sky.

"Community integration is what MMI is all about, and I see that in their services."

-Funding Source Representative

A legacy of impact.

870

individuals served by MMI this year.

"The staff from MMI do a great job with the people they serve and provide a variety of services to meet their individual needs."

-Home Provider

To Our Partners



MMI wants to express our sincere appreciation to our partners for their invaluable contributions in establishing networks of resources and opportunities that empower individuals and promote inclusion. Community partnerships play an important role in enhancing our effectiveness, reach, and impact. You bring diversity, expertise, and additional resources that contribute to our mission.

100%

OVERALL
SATISFACTION
RATING FROM OUR
PARTNERS.

Community Connections



Community Connections provides opportunities for inclusion of people in everyday life in their community. It provides a natural support network and enhances the whole community.



100%

of individuals participating in Community Connections received services in community settings.



*"We value what you do for our community and the people you serve."
-Community Partner*

93%
rating in regard to providing a variety of services.

EFFECTIVENESS OF SERVICES

95%

*"The staff is very dedicated and you can tell they enjoy it."
-Home Provider*



*"The staff goes above and beyond to help my son. He is doing better than ever."
-Parent of person served*



83%

of individuals participating in Community Connections achieved their goals and objectives.



92%

of Employment
Connections
services were
provided in a
community setting.



*"The staff I work with are
always willing to problem
solve and make necessary
changes to meet customer
needs."*
-Business Partner

Employment Connections

Through the Employment Connections program, individuals can discover their career interests and work toward finding their dream job. Employment Connections allow people to explore new options while acquiring both hands-on and soft skills essential for success. The Employment Connections program is a path for individuals to discover, grow, and achieve their career objectives.



RETENTION
RATE
91%

91% of people who achieved independent employment, retained their employment beyond 90 days. This is 6% higher than the national average.



47

**INDIVIDUALS
GAINED
INDEPENDENT
EMPLOYMENT**

*"The MMI staff are flexible, and creative in finding activities and locations to use."
-Case Manager*

Throughout this program year, 11 individuals advanced from enclave training to Competitive Integrated Employment, marking a notable rise compared to the previous year. We have successfully reduced the average duration spent in enclave training for those securing employment. On average, individuals entering competitive integrated employment spent 270 days in the enclave training crews.

Youth Services

MMI's youth team is dedicated to empowering students in their journey of exploration and informed decision-making about their futures. They take a dynamic approach, using classroom-based curriculum and community-based experiences to strengthen local networks for students and support them in developing essential skills and reaching their goals.



"I have learned lots of new things. I am ready to find a good job."
- MIPOWER Student



24 schools in
8 counties
throughout
Central
Michigan.

MMI provided
programs for
305
students.



Bridging Futures: career discovery in virtual reality is an initiative that harnesses the transformative capabilities of Virtual Reality (VR) to redefine how individuals explore, discover, and prepare for career opportunities. Our project empowers individuals with disabilities by offering an immersive portal into the world of careers and the many options available.

...Youth Services



19 LOCAL SUMMER WORK SITES

MMI partnered with 19 businesses to offer summer work experiences to local students.

"The MMI staff is keeping her students on track & asking for feedback to help them grow. She is very interactive with our team and strives to help in areas needing attention."

-Business Partner, Summer Work

96%

of students in the GOALS classroom program showed improvement in work readiness skills.



Connections

AUTISM SERVICES

BY MMI

Connections offers a comprehensive spectrum of support, including Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) therapy for individuals aged 4 to 21, social skills teaching for individuals and groups, and essential parent/guardian training encompassing ABA, social skills coaching, and group support.



Our Connections manager became a Certified Provider of the PEERS® Adolescents Social Skills Program. Connections is currently working with multiple clients and seeing success. MMI is overwhelmingly grateful for the support the program has received from the community.



Community Highlights



MUSIC IN THE PARK

Thanks to the generous support from Art Reach of Mid-Michigan and the Michigan Arts and Culture Council, we saw record numbers of attendees at Music in the Park this season. Over 200 community members attended each week.



NOTABLE MOMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

- MMI took part in the annual Family Night Out event held in Clare, MI. This event is designed to offer various fun-filled activities for the entire community.
- The MMI team took part in the Under the Big Top event held in Mt. Pleasant, MI. It was a circus-themed event that was free and fun for families.

WALK & ROLL

The Walk & Roll is a community event to raise Mental Health Awareness. MMI partnered with Community Mental Health of Central Michigan to bring this event back for 2023. It is a chance for the whole community to celebrate the importance of mental health awareness. Over 150 people attended.



ADA CELEBRATION

In honor of the 33rd Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, MMI partnered with the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum team to host an ADA Celebration. Over 100 community members joined us for an ice cream social. MMI plans to continue this celebration annually.

- MMI took part in Give Local Isabella, an MPACF initiative involving many community members providing support to local charitable organizations by establishing endowment funds for their benefit.
- MMI continues to introduce new fundraising efforts like Fast Food Fridays and event sponsorship opportunities.



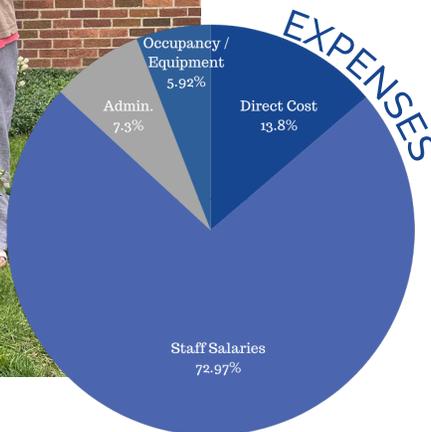
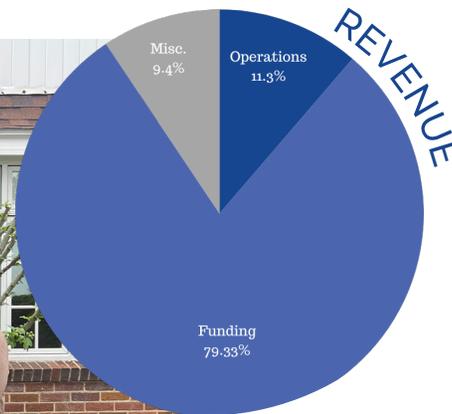
MMI partnered with
31
local
organizations in
2023.



Successful grant applications increased by

23%

MMI is opening new doors and opportunities for our community to engage, and supporting the people we serve to grow and connect.



SUPPORTERS

- Clare County Community Foundation
- United Way of Clare & Gladwin County
- Mid-State Health Network
- Mt.Pleasant Jaycees
- Mount Pleasant Area Community Foundation
- Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Michigan Arts & Culture Council
- Bardaville Family Fund
- The Aylor Family
- Jerry and Marilyn Morey

MMI has begun new fundraising efforts aimed at enhancing our services beyond what can be provided using traditional funding resources. By expanding its reach and engaging with new donors, MMI hopes to create more opportunities for growth and positive impact in our communities.



*"We can count on MMI.
When I need to call the
office I always receive
great customer service."
-Business Customer*



Upcoming Projects



Our growth is sustained by genuine connections with dedicated partners and committed participants. These relationships have expanded our perspective and provided access to exciting new opportunities, enhancing our ability to serve the community.

DISCOVER INCLUSION

We are excited about the ongoing and expanding ADA anniversary celebration in partnership with the Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum. This collaboration not only commemorates the milestones achieved under the Americans with Disabilities Act but also reinforces our commitment to inclusion and accessibility.



MULTISYSTEMIC THERAPY COMING IN 2024

Multisystemic Therapy (MST) is an innovative and evidence-based approach to therapy that is making a significant impact on individuals and families facing complex challenges. MST is designed to address a wide range of issues by focusing on the interconnected systems that influence a person's life. It is a holistic, family-focused, and community-based intervention that tailors its strategies to the unique needs of each individual and their environment.



First Choice Office Outlet

First Choice Office Outlet is thriving as an affirmative business with expanding opportunities for growth. MMI is committed to providing training and development opportunities to the people we serve in order to help them build valuable skills and achieve greater success. First Choice is updating its website to expand its reach and provide more opportunities for skill-building, including e-commerce and additional services.





Locations:

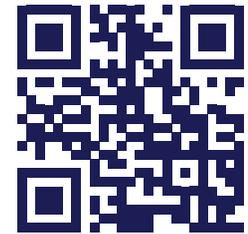
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
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f: 989-773-1317

Clare Branch
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f: 989-386-2199

Southern Operations
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Stanton, MI 48888
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Gratiot Branch
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