

# Community Homeworks Annual Report 2012-2013

A COMMUNITY TRANSFORMED BY THRIVING FAMILIES IN SUSTAINABLE HOMES

In this, our fifth year of serving Kalamazoo County, we have much to be proud of. Since our founding in 2009, we have served more than 1,100 families - improving the condition of their homes, permanently reducing their utility bills, and offering them access to expertise and knowledge they can put to use themselves.

What we do is not just about the numbers. It's about the families we serve – your friends and neighbors and fellow members of our community. It's about Brandi, whose home was rid of potentially deadly carbon monoxide. It's about Essie, whose basement wall was rebuilt, saving her home from collapse. It's about Barbara, whose participation in our education workshops gave her the confidence to pursue a college degree.



Research continues to show a direct connection between stable housing conditions and positive outcomes in education, employment, and physical and mental health. At Community Homeworks, we help families meet the challenges of affordably remaining in their homes. What we have learned over the last five years is reflected in our programs. For many of our neighbors, **access to affordable home repair services** is the difference between stability and slipping into crisis. These families are often eligible for more comprehensive **weatherization services**, which further improves home conditions and produces **long-term savings**. And **by educating homeowners about home maintenance and repairs**, we empower them to take control of their homes and establish a more stable foundation for the future.

We all benefit when families and neighborhoods in our community are thriving. Children perform better in school, local crime rates are reduced, the local economy improves, property values increase, and people dream bigger. At Community Homeworks, we believe our work is part of making that success possible. We strive for excellence not only in the direct services we offer, but also by connecting families to other support resources, by collaborating efficiently with other organizations, and by leveraging funds for the greatest impact.

## Outstanding Service

We are committed to providing all of our clients with the highest standards of service – we were honored to be recognized by **Consumers Energy Helping Neighbors Program** for outstanding service on behalf of energy efficiency for the last two years, the only organization in West Michigan to be honored.

## Thank You

We are grateful for the generous support we receive from our donors, supporters, collaborators and volunteers – we couldn't do what we do without you:

### MAJOR DONORS

Consumers Energy  
City of Kalamazoo  
Irving S. Gilmore Foundation  
Dorothy U. Dalton Foundation  
Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation  
Western Michigan University  
Kalamazoo Community Foundation  
DeVisser Landscape Services  
Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
The People's Church  
Tyler-Little Family Foundation

### COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Department of Human Services  
Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity  
Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Services  
Open Doors Kalamazoo  
Senior Services Inc.  
Vine Neighborhood Association

## Financials - 10/1/12 - 9/30/13

### Revenue

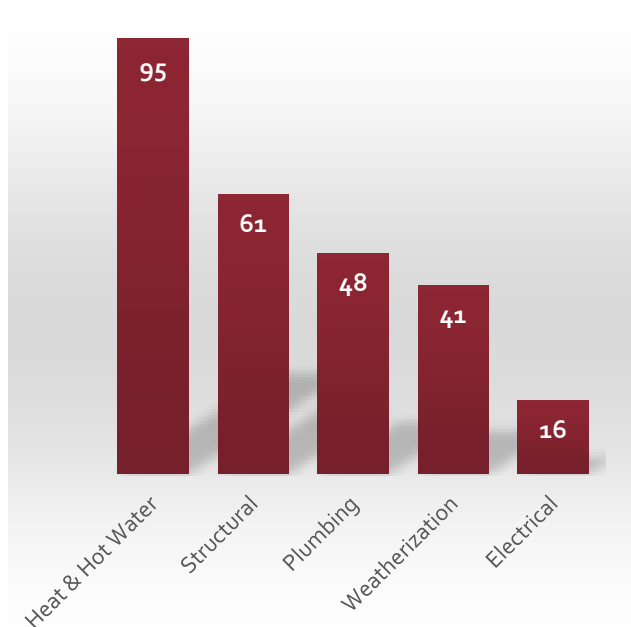
Grants	\$251,002
Energy Optimization Rebates	\$115,607
Program Service Revenue	\$58,511
Contributions	\$23,496
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$448,616</b>

### Expenses

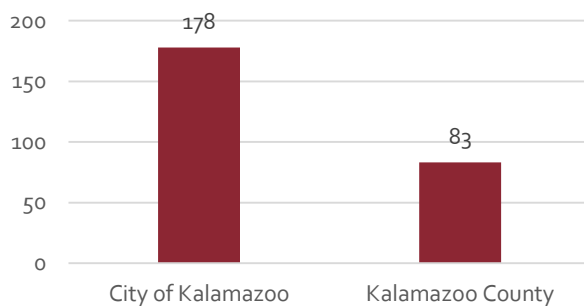
Program Staff	\$167,366
Home Repair & Weatherization Materials	\$133,399
Program Administration	\$53,760
Education Program	\$25,222
Management & General Operating	\$51,579
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$431,326</b>

## What We Do

From October 2012 through September 2013, **261** total repair & improvement services were performed in 119 homes in Kalamazoo County. Our focus is on the safety and sustainability of a home and its systems so when a furnace or water heater can't be repaired, we replace it with a high-efficiency unit. If a repair client is eligible for a whole-house weatherization and funding is available, we strive to make that happen. We believe that lasting impact comes from taking a wholistic approach to a home whenever possible.



## Where We Work



## Education Workshops

From October 2012 through September 2013:

- Total number of workshops - 85
- Total hours of education - 170
- Number of unique workshop topics - 39
- New workshop subjects - 2
- Total number of workshop attendees - 213

## Volunteers

Our programs rely on the generosity and skills of our volunteers - over the past fiscal year, our volunteers gave 716 hours of their time:

- As workshop instructors
- Distributing flyers and materials
- Working on special projects
- Providing office support services

Our workshops help participants connect with skilled professionals, find support and encouragement, and develop confidence in making repairs.

## Why Weatherization & Energy Efficiency Matter

Since 2011, Community Homeworks has provided energy efficiency and weatherization-related repairs and services in more than 500 homes. That work – installation of high-efficiency furnaces and water heaters, air sealing, insulation, installation of CFL light bulbs and water saving faucets – returns real savings to our clients while also benefitting our local environment and economy.

Based on the Michigan Energy Measures Database (MEMD), the work performed by Community Homeworks has produced **projected utility cost savings of \$1,657,909** over the next 15 years. With total organizational operating expenses to date of \$1,133,992, the savings generated by Community Homeworks represents a **32% return** on that investment.

## Projected Utility Savings

