

*"Improving the quality of life for all
citizens of St. Joseph County
through collaborative efforts."*

2017

Annual Report to the Community

Access to Healthcare

Adult Services Network

Child Death Review

Early Childhood Workgroup/
Great Start Collaborative

Housing Task Force

Project Connect Committee

Substance Abuse Task Force

Task Force on Family Violence



St. Joseph County
Human Services Commission

2017 HSC Members

Executive Committee

Chair, Kathy Olsen

Marketing & Community Information Coordinator,
Michigan Works! Southwest

Vice Chair, Rebecca Burns

Health Officer, BHSJ Community Health Agency

Past Chair, Michelle Williamson

CEO, Community Action Agency

Member at Large, Steve Yorks

Director, SJC Transportation Authority

Member at Large, Rob LaBarge

CEO, Sturgis Hospital

Fiduciary, Kristine Kirsch/ Jessica Singer

Exec. Director, CMH & SAS

St. Joseph County Commission

Appointed Representative, Stoney Summey

Director, St. Joseph County Veterans' Affairs

HSC Body

William Russell

CEO, Three Rivers Health

Tim Stoll

Executive Director, SJC Commission on Aging

Chuck Rose

Director, Department of Health & Human Services

Jean Logan

St. Joseph County Superintendents Association

Teresa Belote

Superintendent of Schools, SJC ISD

Kelli Tackett

Executive Director, Keystone Place, Inc.

David Devier

President, Glen Oaks Community College

Tom Robertson /Judge David Tomlinson

St. Joseph County Juvenile Court

Matie James

Citizen Representative

Kim Kramer / Elizabeth Alderson

Director, Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services

Natalie Boland

Great Start Collaborative Coordinator

Tami Farnum

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Kathy Pangle/ Stoney Summey

St. Joseph County Commission

Message from the 2017 Human Services Commission Chair

Greetings!

As the outgoing Chair of the St. Joseph County Human Services Commission, I want to thank all the task force and workgroup members for their work and commitment to make our community stronger.

Our task forces and workgroups strive to enhance and fill gaps in human services within our community .

This year's annual report highlights their accomplishments throughout 2017. We have taken great strides this year with the development of the county wide resource/referral guide and growth of the SJC Resources Google group. Both are products of the St. Joseph County Human Services Commissions' workgroups and task forces.

Join us as we celebrate our progress of this past year and move into 2018!

Kathy Olsen, Michigan Works! Southwest

St. Joseph County Human Services Commission Mission & Vision

The **MISSION** of the SJC HSC is to "coordinate and leverage collaborative efforts to improve the quality of life for all citizens."

Our **VISION** is "seamless and efficient access to services that support individual, family, and community needs."

The Human Services Commission helps financially support

the following initiatives:

Cribs for Kids www.cribsforkids.org
Step Up St. Joseph County www.stepupsjc.net
Project Connect www.sjcprojectconnect.org

The Purpose of the HSC

The St. Joseph County Human Services Commission (HSC) was established by the St. Joseph County Commission in 1995 as the single multi-purpose collaborative for St. Joseph County. Their resolution authorized SJC Human Services Commission to:

- Forge alliances
- Create a shared vision
- Mobilize resources for services to families whose needs are being met by multiple agencies

Currently HSC is comprised of 16 member agencies working together to coordinate health and human services across systems. HSC fosters collaboration and relationships among agencies to prevent duplication of services and provide better service to our citizens.

The HSC does this work through established task forces and workgroups.


To learn more about the work of the HSC, contact Collaborative Coordinator Laura Brott, at 269-625-1820 or BrottL@michigan.gov.

SJC Resource / Referral Guide

A comprehensive **Resource/Referral Guide** was developed within the task forces / workgroups for front line workers and published on the HSC website June, 2017.*

This is a live document regularly updated with current services. The document can be found at this link:

<https://goo.gl/HCK5z2>



The Referral Tree pages are intended to provide information on health and human services available through non-profits and governmental bodies in St. Joseph County. Each page has a separate subject and is broken down into categories of need.

Information and Referral Trees to access the following services in St. Joseph County:

- Adult Literacy pg. 3
- Children's Literacy pg. 4
- Disability Resources pg. 5
- Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault pg. 6
- Early Childhood pg. 7
- Emergency Assistance pg. 8
- Free Stores pg. 8B
- Financial Services pg. 9
- Food Pantries & Community Meals pg. 10
- Foster Care Resources pg. 11
- Healthcare & Dental for the Uninsured pg. 12
- Health Resources pg. 13
- Health Resources-Community Health Events pg. 14
- Housing Assistance pg. 15
- Housing (Apartment Listing) pg. 16
- Housing (Mobile Home Rentals) pg. 17
- Housing (Private Landlord Listing) pg. 18
- Mental Health pg. 19
- Mental Health -Psychiatric & Counseling Providers pg. 20
- Police/Fire/Ambulance pg. 21
- Prenatal/Obstetrics pg. 22
- Public Benefits pg. 23
- Senior Housing pg. 24
- Senior Resources pg. 25
- Social/Education/Recreation Opportunities pg. 26
- Special Populations pg. 27
- Substance Abuse Resources (In County) pg. 28
- Substance Abuse Resources (Out of County) pg. 29
- Support Groups pg. 30
- Transportation & Gas Vouchers pg. 31
- Veterans Benefits pg. 32
- Volunteerism pg. 33
- Women's Health pg. 34
- Workforce Development pg. 35
- Youth Services- School Districts pg. 36
- HSC Agencies and Task Forces pg. 37

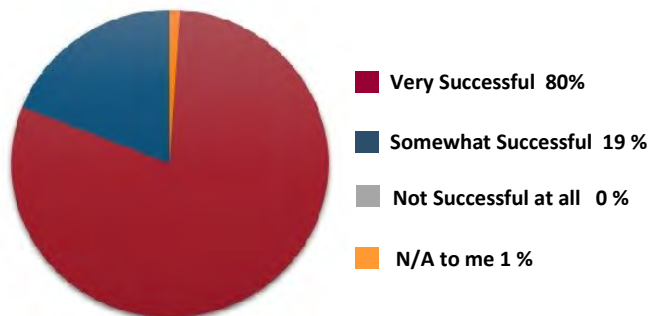
692 E. Main St. Centerville, MI 49032
Phone (269) 625-1820
Email: StJosephCountyHSC@gmail.com
<http://sjchsc.org>

For more information and resources: **24**

"Live" as of June, 2017. Visit sjchsc.org for most up-to-date information.

Agencies listed in this guide have indicated they provide these services. Some eligibility requirements may apply.

Perceived Success of Resource/Referral Guide



Among the Google Group members polled, 80% found the Resource/Referral guide to be very successful in making them aware of services available in St. Joseph County.

"It's not only helped us serve the clients, but it has made me much more aware of services that are available and how to access that help. Love it!"

Google Group Survey Respondent

“

Thank you for your work assembling the St Joseph County Resource/Referral Guide. I was able to use it today to find a place for a homeless person. Two months ago, I would have had no idea who to call.

This is truly a godsend for those of us in ministry.

*Blessings,
Pam Balasa
Crossroads Missionary Church*

”

“

We use this AWESOME document all the time to assist our clients in St. Joseph County. We have found it so useful we are making one for CASS County. Thank you SJC Human Services Commission for providing an editable document to CASS county so we can make our own. You have saved us countless hours of labor and appreciate your collaborative gesture.

*Elizabeth Alderson
Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
serving Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties*

”

*** St Joseph County Human Services Commission acknowledges and thanks:**

Calhoun County's Coordinating Council whose comprehensive Referral Tree inspired our SJC Resource/ Referral Guide.

The **SJC Resources Google email group** was created among the task forces and workgroups in November 2016 and has grown to 300 caring individuals and professionals working on the front lines in St. Joseph County across many human services agencies, groups, and faith based organizations. The group email service is used to share agency updates, upcoming events, and request help finding a service or meeting a need. *

“
I have dreamed of having a group like this in St. Joseph County for years!! Now it is here and school counselors and administration throughout the county are using it regularly to find help for students and their families.
 SJC Superintendent

“
I appreciate everything the Google Group does because it's about helping people in our county. I've shared the link to the Resource/Referral Guide with front line people and they appreciate the fact that there is someone always there at a their fingertips. Thank you very much for all you do.
 Google Group Survey Respondent

“
The Google Group has opened up a whole new way of networking and helping people within our community. I have helped three families with Car Seat Restraint education / installation and added them to our WIC program. The site also allows me to help with Tobacco Cessation and Tobacco resources throughout St. Joseph County.
 Kelley Mapes
 Community Health Educator- BHSJ Community Health Agency

“
I find it so helpful to be able to share needs and resources so easily. I think it is a true blessing to our community and a model that should be used by other communities!
 Google Group Survey Respondent

Front line workers in St. Joseph County can request to join the SJC Resources email group by emailing BrottL@michigan.gov

Number of Group Members representing these areas of Human Services:

Media	2	Free Stores	9
Law Enforcement	2	Addiction	10
Transportation	4	Food Banks	12
Legal/Courts	4	Miscellaneous	14
Veterans Services	4	Housing & Utilities	19
Domestic Violence	6	Seniors	19
Disability Services	8	Health	26
Libraries	7	Education	41
Employment	8	Family Services	42
Government	8	Churches	53

Group Members use Google Group for:



*** St Joseph County Human Services Commission acknowledges and thanks:**

Macomb County HSCB whose successful Google Resources group motivated the creation of our SJC's own Resources Google Group.

Project Connect 2017

Project Connect is a collaboration of the SJC Human Services Commission, its task forces, and other agencies serving St. Joseph County. The 11th Annual Project Connect was held October 6th at Firm Foundations Ministries in Centreville. It was held in conjunction with a Veteran Stand Down.

Event Impact:

- 288 households attended
- 759 persons were Impacted (includes household members not present)
- 93% of attendees reside within St. Joseph County
- 195 out of 200 households indicated they received the help they needed
- 125 new households attended that did not attend in 2016
- 160 of the households attending in 2016 did not return to 2017 Project Connect
- 89 veterans attended
- Average household size was 3 persons
- Average age of attendee was 46-55 years old
- 16% of households had less than 12 years of education
- 22 households currently homeless
- 20 households in process of being evicted
- 86 attendees currently unemployed
- Typical wage of attendees was \$9-\$11/hour
- 52% of attendees sought food assistance
- 21% of attendees sought healthcare assistance

Project Connect is a community resource fair for individuals and families who are low income, homeless, and/or veterans to give them a hand up and improve their quality of life. Free items, services, information, and help is available on site at this one day event.

At 2017 Project Connect:

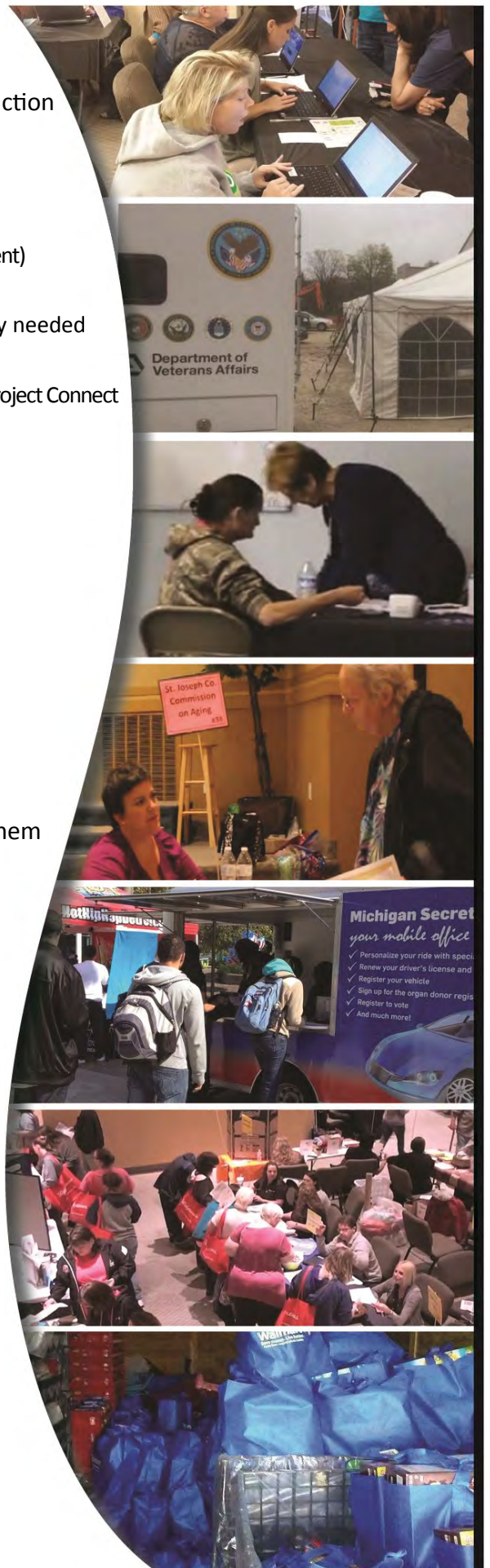
- 40 rides provided to and from event courtesy of SJCTA
- 450 meals served
- 50 haircuts provided
- 70 service agencies participated
- 300 hygiene kits provided
- 300 community help cards distributed
- 400 food boxes distributed
- 194 shots administered
- 319+ health screenings provided

Project Connect Committee

Chair: Cindi Pennington, KMG Prestige

Chair: Laura Brott, SJC Human Services Commission
stjosephcountyprojectconnect@gmail.com

Sarah Beckle, Michigan Works
Natalie Boland, SJC Great Start Collaborative/ISD
Cynthia Cotter, Senior Services, Inc. of SW MI
Rod & Betty Detweiler, Firm Foundations Ministries
Dave Eckert, Firm Foundations Ministries
Amanda Schemmel, Covered Bridge Healthcare
Mike VanLente, Sturgis Walmart
Pastor Mike Wilson, Word Fellowship Church



Access to Healthcare

Chair: Rob LaBarge, Sturgis Hospital

rlabarge@sturgishospital.com

Participating Agencies:

- Sturgis Hospital
- Gesundheit Student Clinic
- Great Start Collaborative
- BHSJ Community Health Agency
- SJC Intermediate School District
- Three Rivers Health
- Fairview Rehabilitation Community
- SJC Human Services Commission
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services



View the 2017 Community Health Needs Assessment Report and fact sheets online at <http://sturgishospital.com/pdfs/CHNA%20Report-July%202017.pdf>

Collaboratively accomplished:

- ◆ Upgraded StepUpSJC.net to include interviews with local health champions provided as a county leadership team project.
- ◆ Monthly WBET morning show broadcast and newspaper articles of health topics.
- ◆ Visited 10 civic groups and the County Commission to present the Community Health Needs Assessment results.
- ◆ Updated 5 fact sheets for SJC based on Community Health Needs Assessment findings.
- ◆ Formed an ad hoc health events group to evaluate current health events countywide, determine whether the major health concerns of the Community Health Needs Assessments are being addressed at these events, and discuss how these health events can be improved.
- ◆ Started a pilot child exercise program piggy backing off of summer lunch program in Sturgis.

Adult Services Network

Chair: Melissa Cramton, Area Agency on Aging 3C

cramtonm@bhsj.org

Chair: Travis Ericksen, Community Mental Health & SAS

tericksen@stjoecmh.org

Participating Agencies:

- Absolute Homecare
- Aetna
- Alzheimer's Association
- Area Agency on Aging 3C
- Care-N-Assist
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Disability Network of Southwest Michigan
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Fairview Rehabilitation Community
- Grace Healthcare
- Heartland Hospice
- Safe Haven
- SJC Human Services Commission
- SJC Veterans Services
- SJC Commission On Aging
- ServiceMaster
- Sturgis Home Health Care & Hospice
- Three Rivers Health Wound Clinic
- Three Rivers Home Health and Hospice
- Thurston Cares

Collaboratively accomplished:

- ◆ Elder Abuse Red Flags/ Senior Reach Grant
 - 1164 people trained (1005 non-traditional community partners)
 - 56 referrals for services
 - ⇒ 61% referrals came from non-traditional sources
 - ⇒ 87.1% of referrals who were eligible for services, accepted services offered to them
- ◆ Vulnerable Adult Interdisciplinary Team
 - ⇒ 14 cases reviewed
- ◆ Nine community partner presentations at task force meetings
- ◆ 55 community partners trained at ASN Human Trafficking event
- ◆ 61 community partners involved in the ASN google group and 20 regularly attend the monthly meetings



Three ramps were built through the Adult Services Network's Ramp Initiative this year for citizens who otherwise would not qualify for ramps. The COA took the lead of this successful grass roots effort to create a pool of resources for ramps (materials, labor, money) so people can get in and out of their homes.

Melissa Cramton
Adult Services Network Chair



Child Death Review

Chair: Natalie Boland, Great Start Collaborative/ISD
nboland@sjcisd.org

Participating Agencies:

- BHSJ Community Health Agency
- Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Michigan Public Health Institute
- Michigan State Police
- SJC Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- SJC Human Services Commission
- SJC Intermediate School District
- Sturgis Fire Department
- Sturgis Hospital
- Sturgis Pediatrics
- Sturgis Police Department
- Three Rivers Health
- Three Rivers Police Department

This interdisciplinary team of medical staff, law enforcement, and other professionals review child deaths within St. Joseph County to determine if these deaths of 0-18 years olds were preventable. When appropriate, they suggest community wide prevention education to prevent future deaths.

- ◆ 11 cases were reviewed in 2017.
- ◆ Lack of safe sleep practices, lack of prenatal care, and drowning contributed to preventable deaths occurring in 2017.

Great Start Collaborative/Early Childhood Workgroup

Chair: Natalie Boland, Great Start Collaborative/ISD, nboland@sjcisd.org

Participating Agencies:

- Aetna
- Area Preschool Provider
- BHSJ Community Health Agency
- Burr Oaks Schools
- Centreville Public Schools
- Childcare Resources Center
- Colon Schools
- Community Action
- Community Mental Health & SAS
- Constantine Public Schools
- Council for Prevention of Child Abuse/Neglect
- Covered Bridge Healthcare
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Foster Parent Liaison
- Hispanic Parent Coalition
- Kinship Care
- Mendon Schools
- Michigan Alliance for Families
- Nottawa Community School
- SJC Human Services Commission
- SJC Intermediate School District
Great Start Readiness Program
Early Headstart & Childcare Partnerships
Early On
Special Education
Parent Coalition
- SJC Probate Court
- Sturgis Pregnancy Helpline
- Three Rivers Schools
- United Way

Collaboratively accomplished:

The SJC Great Start Collaborative/Early Childhood Workgroup completed its year long strategic plan process and will begin implementing the new 4 year strategic plan.

- ◆ Sponsored Family Fun Day – 17 agency partners participated – free books and a “Build an Edible House activity” for 175 children.
- ◆ Created the “Great Start Reading Cart.”
- ◆ Increased 3 year old preschool scholarships in St. Joseph County from 2 to 28.
- ◆ Increased partnerships with 7 childcare/preschool providers.
- ◆ Provided Quality childcare training for 18 attendees.
- ◆ Conscious Discipline book study for 125 participants.
- ◆ Hosted two Jim Henry Trauma Trainings (280 attendees).
- ◆ Welcome baby bags distributed to new families at Three Rivers, Sturgis, and Bronson hospitals – bags include local resource information for parents.
- ◆ Held two community baby showers with safe sleep and shaken baby syndrome trainings. 70 families were educated.



Housing Task Force

Chair Jan Reed, Department of Health and Human Services, Reedj4@michigan.gov

Participating Agencies:

- Community Action
- Community Mental Health & SAS
- Covered Bridge Healthcare
- Disability Network
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Elmtree Apartments
- Fair Housing Center SWM
- Hope House
- KeyStone Place
- KMG Prestige
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- Michigan Works! SW
- SJC Commission On Aging
- SJC Great Start Collaborative
- SJC Human Services Commission
- SJC Realtor/Renter Association
- St. Joseph County Transit Authority
- Salvation Army
- Senior Services
- Sturgis Neighborhood Program
- True North
- Woda Management



2017 Statistics

- ◆ 124 homeless people on Point in Time Count Day
- ◆ 792 literally homeless people in St. Joseph County in 2017
- ◆ 517 children served in shelter with average age of 6 years old
- ◆ 159 people served with rent/shelter assistance, equaling \$181,277.95
- ◆ 338 households served with utility assistance equaling \$161,868.56
- ◆ Emergency housing assistance provided for over 500 people
- ◆ Over 500 cases coordinated through Interagency Services Team with focus of minimizing barriers to help people get housed and stay housed
- ◆ Used Mental Health grants to house 31 households with severe and persistent mental illness
- ◆ The rate of people returning to shelter this year increased to 24% (from 20% in 2016) due to the elderly population over age 65 returning to the shelter for assistance.
- ◆ 759 people impacted through Project Connect

Areas of Focus:

- Provide oversight to our county's Housing Assessment and Resource Agency (Keystone Place); money received, spent, and outcomes to assure a comprehensive communitywide service and housing delivery system.
- Create policy for coordinated entry
- Determine identification (ID) barriers and best practices of how other counties are addressing them

Task Force on Family Violence

Chair: Deborah Hackworth, Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services

deborahh@dasasmi.org

Participating Agencies:

- Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
- Covered Bridge Healthcare
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Great Start Collaborative
- Hope House
- Riverside Church
- SJC Human Services Commission
- SJC Sheriff's Department
- SJC Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Sturgis Pregnancy Helpline
- Three Rivers Pregnancy Helpline

Collaboratively accomplished:

- ◆ Annual Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil.
- ◆ Created a system to compare emergency response calls to DASAS with cases submitted to Prosecuting Attorney's office.
- ◆ Eight community partner presentations at meetings to learn about and discuss systematic practices and effects on survivors.
- ◆ Created Task Force handout for community recruitment.
- ◆ Outreach to underserved populations in St. Joseph County.



Annual Candlelight Vigil
Crystal Hughes, Keynote Speaker

Substance Abuse Task Force

Chair: Nathan Anderson, Community Mental Health & SAS

nanderson@stjoecmh.org

Chair: Tara Smith, Community Mental Health & SAS

tsmith@stjoecmh.org

Participating Agencies:

- BHSJ Community Health Agency
- Celebrate 1 Church
- Covered Bridge Healthcare
- Department of Health & Human Services
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services
- Great Start Collaborative
- Michigan State Police
- St. Joseph County Community Corrections
- SJC Human Services Commission
- St. Joseph County Probation Division
- Riverside Church
- South West Michigan Behavioral Health



Voices of Recovery speakers pictured with entries from the prescription drug campaign student poster contest



Collaboratively accomplished:

Held 4 campaigns in FY 16/17: RX Drugs, Underage Alcohol Use, Methamphetamine, and Underage Marijuana Use; and 1 campaign in FY 17/18: RX Drug Misuse

- ◆ Grew email reach to 400 community members and front line workers.
- ◆ Provided education to 35 alcohol/tobacco retailers:
 - ◆ 18 tobacco Compliance checks completed
 - ◆ 15 Alcohol compliance checks with local law enforcement
- ◆ Held 2 Naloxone trainings in FY16/17– 65 kits were distributed
- ◆ FY 16/17 Community Marijuana Forum– 54 individuals attended
- ◆ FY16/17 Voices of Recovery– Meth 110+ attended
- ◆ FY 17/18 Opiate Forum at Glen Oaks– 83 attendees attended
- ◆ FY 17/18 Voices of Recovery –Prescription Drug– 54 attended
- ◆ FY17/18 Conducted its first student poster contest to engage students across seven districts in prescription drug campaign. 25 posters were submitted from three school districts.
- ◆ Collected 600 pounds of prescription drugs at prescription drug take back boxes during FY2016-2107
- ◆ Collected an additional 260 pounds at October 2017 DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Strategic Planning

The St. Joseph County Human Services Commission Membership engaged in strategic planning with consulting firm Omni Tech International, Ltd to determine how our collaborative can best serve the people of St. Joseph County.



The Process

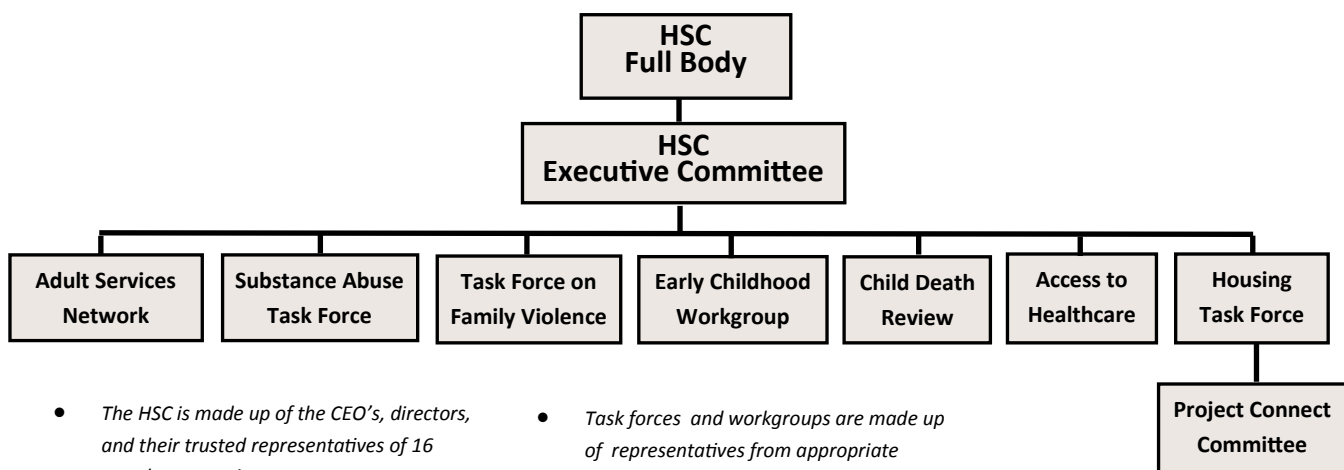
The process included engaging membership, task forces, additional agency front line workers, and other community stakeholders in a community needs survey. This survey was completed by 147 stakeholders across St. Joseph County, a sampling used to gauge opinions of where the HSC needs to position itself. Membership met for a retreat to discuss the community survey results as well as membership's overall satisfaction of the collaborative's performance. Omni Tech then wrote a Strategic Plan with the results.

Implementing a Strategic Plan for 2017-2020

While much of our strategic plan focuses on changes internally to strengthen communication within our collaborative as well communication with other bodies and agencies in SJC, the end result will be more residents receiving services because both the front line workers serving them know what is available in our county and residents will know how to access these services.

The St. Joseph County Human Services' Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 can be viewed at <https://qoo.gl/LyLQbH>

SJC Human Services Commission—Organizational Diagram



- The HSC is made up of the CEO's, directors, and their trusted representatives of 16 member agencies.
- The Executive Committee filters information and requests from the community prior to presenting to the full body HSC.
- The Full Body, Executive Committee and Early Childhood Workgroup of the Human Services Commission make up the Great Start Collaborative for St. Joseph County.
- Task forces and workgroups are made up of representatives from appropriate community agencies (middle managers, service staff, and consumers) as recommended by their directors and interested citizens.
- The HSC provides feedback to the workgroups on their goals and activities, and offers assistance and resources as needed and available.

To get involved in the HSC work groups, contact Laura Brott, 269-625-1820 or email BrottL@michigan.gov