



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

2018

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



2018 HSC Members

Executive Committee

Chair, Rebecca Burns

Health Officer, BHSJ Community Health Agency

Vice Chair, Tim Stoll

Executive Director, SJC Commission on Aging

Past Chair, Kathy Olsen

Marketing & Community Information Coordinator,
Michigan Works! Southwest

Member at Large, Steve Yorks

Dir., St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Member at Large, Rob LaBarge

CEO, Sturgis Hospital

Fiduciary, Kristine Kirsch

Exec. Director, CMH & SAS

St. Joseph County Commission

Kathy Pangle

HSC Body

David Casterline

CEO, Three Rivers Health Foundation

Chuck Rose

Director, Department of Health & Human Services

Stephanie Lemmer

St. Joseph County Superintendents Association

Teresa Belote

Superintendent of Schools, SJC ISD

Kelli Tackett

Executive Director, Keystone Place, Inc.

Tonya Howden

Dean of Student Services, Glen Oaks Community College

Tom Robertson /Judge David Tomlinson

St. Joseph County Juvenile Court

Michelle Williamson

CEO, Community Action Agency

Stacy Linihan

Covered Bridge Healthcare

Kathryn Hanfland

Aetna Better Health of Michigan

Susan Vosmik

St. Joseph County Transportation Authority

Matie James

Citizen Representative

Rose Ludwick / Elizabeth Alderson

Director, Domestic and Sexual Abuse Services

Stephanie Giolitto

Great Start Collaborative Coordinator

Tami Farnum

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

Message from the 2018 Human Services Commission Chair

Greetings!

As 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 2018. We have taken great strides this year with the development of a new HSC website with a human resources calendar as well as continued growth of the SJC Resources Google group and Resource Guide. All 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 2019!

Rebecca Burns, BHSJ Community Health Agency

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 to facilitate “seamless and efficient access to services that support individual, family, and community needs.”

The Human Services Commission helps to financially support the following initiatives:

Step Up St. Joseph County www.sjchumanservices.com/stepupsjc.php
Project Connect www.sjchumanservices.com/projectconnect.php

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 18 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.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CLICK HERE TO VIEW

RECENT NEWS

OCTOBER 27, 2018

20,000 Help Cards Distributed

SEPTEMBER 28, 2018

**Project Connect Returns to St. Joseph County
October 5th**

FEBRUARY 15, 2018

2017 HSC Annual Report

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

**Human Services Commission Undergoes Strategic
Planning**

JANUARY 12, 2018

2017 Health Needs Assessment Report

COMMUNITY HELP CARD

RESOURCE GUIDE

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SJC RESOURCES GOOGLE GROUP

A new Human Services Commission website was developed to include a calendar featuring human services events within St. Joseph County, Michigan. The new HSC website can be found at

sjchumanservices.com

Many events on the calendar are also shared to the **St Joseph County Human Services Commission** Facebook page.



Be sure to follow us on Facebook!

New HSC Website & County Human Services Calendar

Big changes on the HSC website! The new site keeps the most sought after documents, the countywide resource guide, calendar, and google group up front.

It also keeps meeting minutes from the HSC, its executive committee, and task forces easily accessible in the “About Us” and “Taskforces” tabs.

Additionally, the website features a new area to store Community Data, accessible by anyone.

The new calendar features events specific to human services.

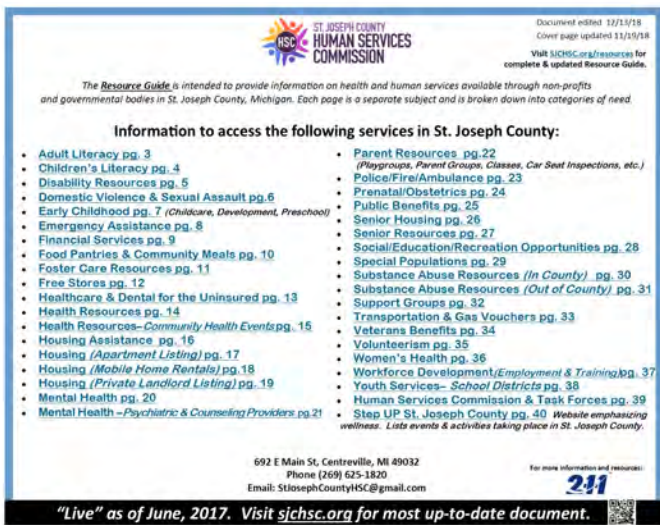
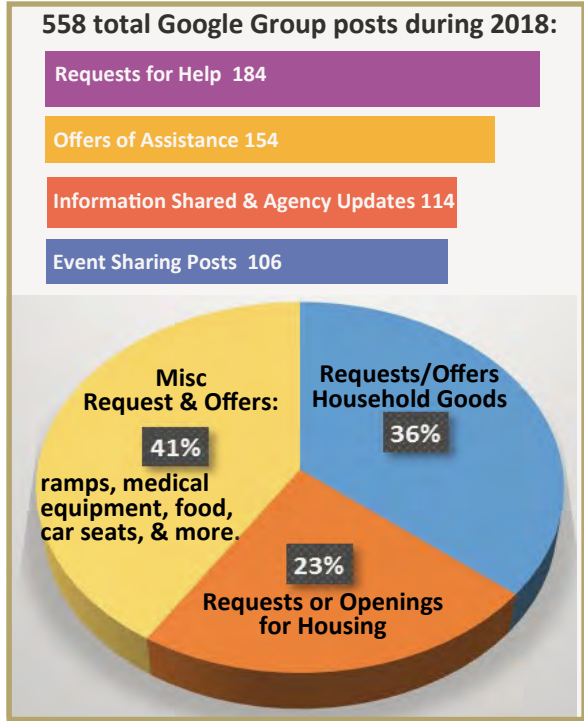
Users can choose from these categories:

- ◆ Children/ Youth/ Teens
- ◆ Community Events
- ◆ Disability & Illness
- ◆ Employment & Training
- ◆ Family / Parenting
- ◆ Food & Household
- ◆ Health & Wellness
- ◆ Hobbies & Enrichment
- ◆ Older Adults & Their Caregivers
- ◆ Recreation & Physical Activity
- ◆ Substance Abuse & Prevention

Users can view events taking place within the entire county or one town at a time. Visit us at www.sjchumanservices.com/calendar_day.php

The **SJC Resources Google Email Group** was created among the task forces and workgroups in November 2016 and has grown to 400 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.

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



St Joseph County Resource Guide

A comprehensive **Resource Guide** was developed within the task forces / workgroups for front line workers and published on the HSC website June, 2017.* The full document has been downloaded more than 3,500 times since posted online. This is a live document regularly updated with current services. The document can be found at this link: <https://www.sjchumanservices.com/resources.php>

“The guide has been so helpful to me that I faithfully pass it on to other front line people. If people thought the little florescent green help cards were a “gift from God” the Resource Guide is icing on the gift from God...Thank you for all your hard work in putting the guide together for us to use.”

Google Group Survey Respondent

“This is a valuable resource for the county and its residents.”

“Being new to the area and to my position, this resource will be invaluable in helping me learn about the different resources available for our clients.”

Google Group Survey Respondent

“I love the guide and the Google email group. It is such a great way to use everyone's knowledge to help others!”

2018 Project Connect & Veteran Stand Down

Project Connect is a collaboration of the SJC Human Services Commission, its task forces, and other agencies serving St. Joseph County. The 12th Annual Project Connect was held October 5th, 2018 at the Centreville Fairgrounds in Centreville. It was held in conjunction with a Veteran Stand Down.

Event Impact:

- 368 households attended
- 1015 persons were Impacted (includes household members not present)
- 89% of attendees reside within St. Joseph County
- 328 out of 332 households indicated they received help they needed or were connected to a resource to help with their current needs
- 255 new households attended that did not attend in 2017
- 206 households attending in 2017 did not return to 2018 Project Connect
- 89 veterans attended
- Average household size was 3 persons
- Average age of attendee was 46-55 years old
- 22% of households had less than 12 years of education
- 22 households currently homeless
- 14 households in process of being evicted
- 79 attendees currently unemployed
- Typical wage of attendees was \$9-\$11/hour
- 71% 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 2018 Project Connect:

- 38 rides provided to and from event courtesy of SJCTA
- 500 meals served
- 99 haircuts provided
- 80 service agencies participated
- 429 hygiene kits provided
- 429 community help cards distributed
- 2,356 pounds of fresh food distributed through Fresh Food Initiative
- 405 food boxes distributed
- 191 shots administered
- 317+ health screenings provided

Project Connect Planning Committee

*Chair: Laura Brott, SJC Human Services Commission
Brottl@michigan.gov*

Co-Chair: Natalie Boland, SJC Great Start Collaborative

Chuck Asher, Community Action
Cynthia Cotter, Senior Services, Inc. of SW MI
Rod & Betty Detweiler, Firm Foundations Ministries
Dave Eckert, Firm Foundations Ministries
Kathryn Hanfland, Aetna Better Health of Michigan
Ray Jeschke, Word of Life Bread Ministry
Marsha Keefer, Food Bank of South Central Michigan
Nikki Notestine, SJC Co-Op
Cindi Pennington, KMG Prestige
Amanda Schemmel, Covered Bridge Healthcare
Mike VanLente, Walmart–Sturgis
Karen Webber, Glen Oaks Community College
Chris Yorks, St. Joseph County Transportation Authority



Access to Healthcare

Chair: Rob LaBarge, Sturgis Hospital

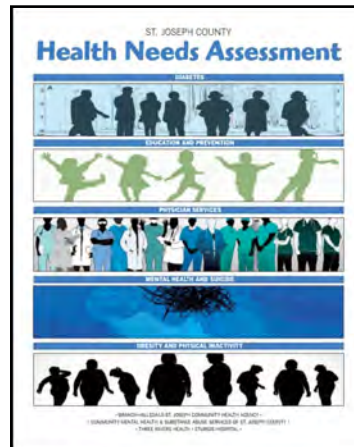
rlabarge@sturgishospital.com

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
- Aetna Better Health of Michigan
- Covered Bridge Healthcare
- Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Collaboratively accomplished:

- ◆ Suggested and helped develop the “Helping You” flyer for front line workers showcasing internet links to help card, resource guide, and google group
- ◆ Integrated StepUpSJC.net into sjchumanservices.com to form one site which includes both a calendar of human services and resources available in St. Joseph County.
- ◆ Monthly WBET morning show broadcast and newspaper articles on health topics.
- ◆ Documented a snapshot of Access to Healthcare through the years and the strides in access in St Joseph County over the years for a Health Prize Grant application.



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

Adult Services Network

Chair: Melissa Cramton, Area Agency on Aging 3C

cramtonm@bhsj.org

Vice Chair: Travis Ericksen, Community Mental Health & SAS

Participating Agencies:

- Absolute Homecare
- Aetna Better Health of Michigan
- 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
 - 1188 people trained
 - 64 people served
- ◆ Vulnerable Adult Interdisciplinary Team
 - 11 cases reviewed
- ◆ Nine community partner presentations at ASN meetings
- ◆ 300 attended the first Senior Resource Fair
- ◆ 61 community partners involved in the ASN google group and 20 regularly attend the monthly meetings

“

The Senior Resource Fair was a huge success of community collaboration which provided seniors an opportunity to learn of the many services and supports available to them now and in the future as their needs change.

Melissa Cramton, Adult Services Network Chair

”

Child Death Review

Chair: Holly Cerny, Constantine Public Schools, hcerny@constps.org

Vice Chair: Matthew Deming, DHHS, Demingm2@michigan.gov

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.

- ◆ 10 cases were reviewed in 2018.
- ◆ Lack of safe sleep practices, lack of prenatal care, prematurity, domestic violence, and suicide contributed to preventable deaths of children occurring in 2018.

Great Start Collaborative/Early Childhood Workgroup

Chair: Stephanie Giolitto, Great Start Collaborative/ISD, sgolitto@sjcisd.org

Participating Agencies:

- Aetna Better Health of Michigan
- 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 continued implementing its 4 year strategic plan.

- ◆ Sponsored Family Fun Day – 20 agency partners participated – 121 children participated. 400+ attended
- ◆ Awarded 33 preschool scholarships for three year olds in St. Joseph County (FY17/18)
- ◆ Partnerships with 6 childcare/preschool providers.
- ◆ 4 Playgroups each week in four different communities
- ◆ 225 Welcome baby bags distributed to new families at Three Rivers, Sturgis, and Bronson hospitals – bags include local resource information for parents.
- ◆ 15 Pack n Plays given out through Cribs for Kids
- ◆ Held two community baby showers with safe sleep and shaken baby syndrome trainings. 65 families were educated.
- ◆ 671 in attendance at Mom2Mom Sale.
- ◆ Participated in 8 community Back to School Events



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
- Elm Tree Apartments
- Fair Housing Center SWM
- Habitat for Humanity
- Hope House
- Hope United
- KeyStone Place
- KMG Prestige
- Michigan State Housing Development Authority
- Michigan Works! SW
- Operation 6:12
- 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
- United Community Assistance Program
- Woda Management



2018 Statistics

- ◆ 122 homeless people on Point in Time Count Day
- ◆ 596 literally homeless people served in St. Joseph County in 2018
- ◆ 366 children served in shelter with average age of 7 years old
- ◆ 289 people served with rent assistance, equaling \$133,540.00
- ◆ 349 households served with utility assistance equaling \$123, 959.50
- ◆ Emergency housing assistance provided for over 700 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 20 households with severe and persistent mental illness
- ◆ The rate of people returning to shelter this year stayed at 24%
- ◆ The elderly population entering shelter continues to increase
- ◆ 1015 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 community-wide 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:

- Aetna Better Health of Michigan
- 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



Annual Candlelight Vigil

Collaboratively accomplished:

- ◆ Annual Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil
- ◆ Continue to compare emergency response calls to DASAS with cases submitted to Prosecuting Attorney's office
- ◆ Ten community partner presentations at meetings to learn about and discuss systematic practices and effects on survivors.
- ◆ Created Task Force Facebook page to push out more information to public about healthy relationships
- ◆ Co-hosted Intersection of Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse Conference with Substance Abuse Taskforce
- ◆ Task force was instrumental in promoting prevention education throughout the year

Substance Abuse Task Force

Chair: Mikayla Finnerman, Community Mental Health & SAS
mfinnerman@stjoecmh.org

Participating Agencies:

- Aetna Better Health of Michigan
- 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 Community Mental Health & Substance Abuse
- SJC Human Services Commission
- St. Joseph County Probation Division
- Riverside Church
- South West Michigan Behavioral Health
- Recovery Resource Center

Collaboratively accomplished:

Held 4 campaigns in FY 17/18: 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 40 alcohol/tobacco retailers:
 - ◆ 18 tobacco compliance checks completed
 - ◆ 15 Alcohol compliance checks with local law enforcement
- ◆ Held 2 Naloxone trainings in calendar year 18– 15 kits were distributed
- ◆ September 2018 Community Marijuana Forum– 35 individuals attended
- ◆ February 2018 Voices of Recovery Meth- 73 attended
- ◆ November 2018 Conducted second student poster contest to engage students across seven districts in prescription drug campaign. 9 posters were submitted from three school districts.
- ◆ Collected 732 pounds of prescription drugs at prescription drug take back boxes during FY2017-2018
- ◆ Collected an additional 190 pounds at October 2017 DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day
- ◆ Co-hosted Intersection of Domestic Violence & Substance Abuse Conference with Family Violence Taskforce- 89 attended
- ◆ Hosted 5 Mental Health First Aid trainings
- ◆ In April 2018 , collaborating with libraries, sponsored and hosted One Book, One County Event focusing on Opiate Addiction. Brought in John Temple of West Virginia University. 140 books distributed /183 attended.



Submitted entries from the prescription drug campaign student poster contest



Strategic Planning

The St. Joseph County Human Services Commission Membership engaged in strategic planning with consulting firm Omni Tech International, Ltd in 2017 to determine how our collaborative can best serve the people of St. Joseph County.



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.

Strategic Plan Items Accomplished in 2018

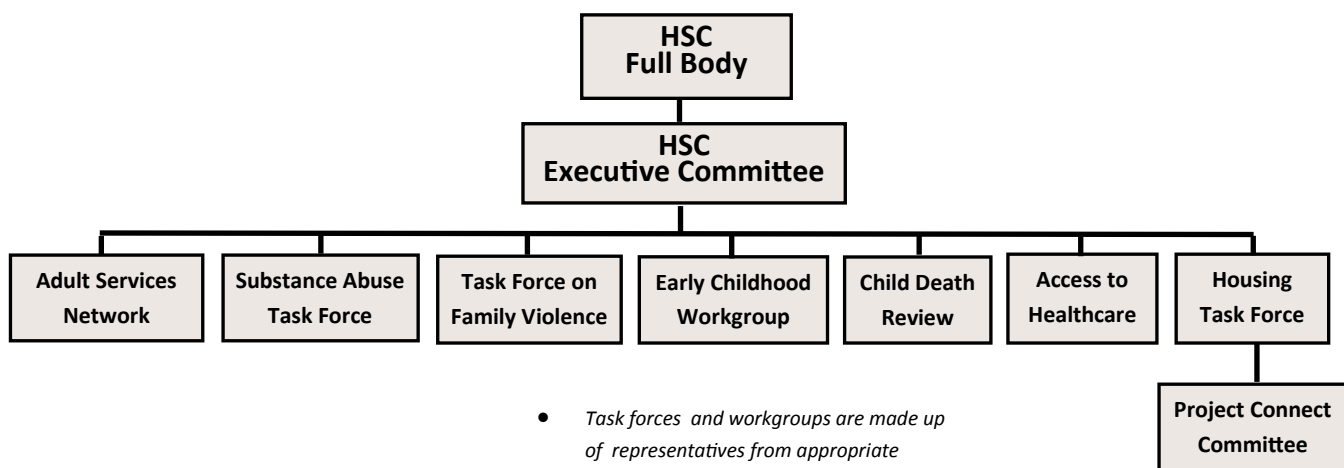
In 2018, HSC chartered a communication committee, launched a new website with a county wide human services calendar, produced an annual report with outcomes of each workgroup, communicated results of the needs assessment and HSC strategy, optimized HSC meetings, and tracked connections made and needs resolved within the SJC Resources Google group.

Focus for 2019

HSC will address the lack of housing in St. Joseph County. A forum will take place for the community to come together to share and collect data to start building a community housing plan.

The St. Joseph County Human Services' Strategic Plan for 2017-2020 can be viewed at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tiSxGB041us5EoddyUnkAJG1AXazjcGF/view>

SJC Human Services Commission—Organizational Diagram



- 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