

Making it better now.

ANNUAL REPORT 2009





assisted **9,000 people** with applications for energy assistance answered more than 11,000 calls through the Milwaukee Women's Center's 24-hour domestic violence crisis line



Dear Friends of Community Advocates,

We could look back at the events of 2009 and think that little has changed. Milwaukee is still grappling with the ongoing difficulties of potential homelessness because of foreclosures, evictions and job loss. Domestic abuse is on the increase, in part because of the frustrations and insecurities associated with these same issues. Incarceration rates indicate that too many individuals in our community pay a unique price because they suffer from mental illness, are poor and/or undereducated and have limited access to services and programs that can help transform their lives. Too many are trying to make do with too little.

However, Community Advocates will not look back. Our vision propels us to address today's problems and tomorrow's solutions. We have increased staff and services to meet the growing needs of our community and neighborhoods. We are giving hope and assistance to the increased numbers of Milwaukeeans seeking help, some for the first time, so they can overcome crisis and emerge triumphant and self-sufficient, ready to reestablish themselves in a new tomorrow with the resources they need to ensure success.

In 2009, we completed seamless mergers with two other agencies: **Justice 2000** and **Horizons House**. These agencies now function as strategic divisions providing targeted assistance to their traditional client base. And, because of the advantages of integrated, internal referrals, our staff can effect immediate and efficient access to the supportive services available through Community Advocates' more than 50 human needs programs.

Our staff is working harder and working smarter. Their capacity for caring and their dedication to assist the thousands of Milwaukeeans in need is boundless. We are not content with asking our clients to "just hang on until it gets better" — we are making it better **now**. We can do this because of you.

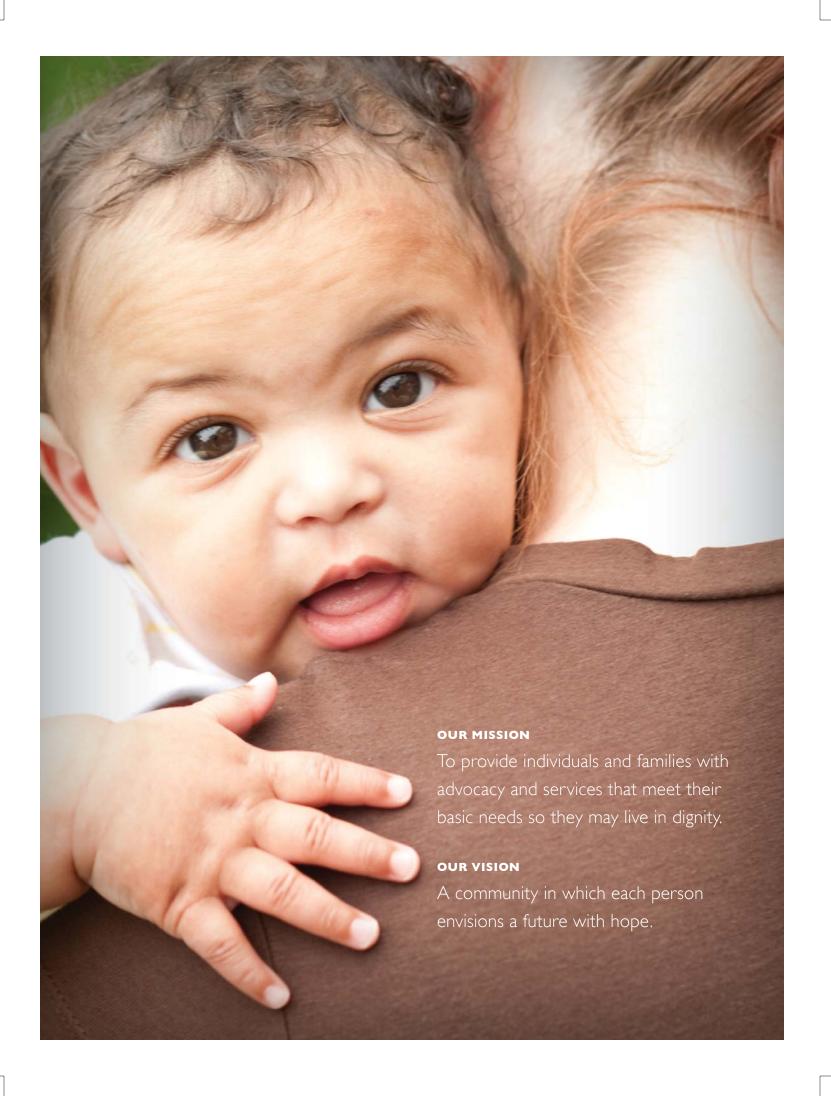
We want to thank you — our friends and partners — for your concern, your compassion, and your support. We hope that you will use this Annual Report to review the progress we have made during this pivotal year.

Normas G. Brogshy Thomas Brophy

PRESIDENT

Joseph L. Volk

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



COMMUNITY ADVOCATES

Programs and Services

For more than 30 years, Community Advocates has set the highest standards for meeting people's basic needs and helping them achieve self-sufficiency. From housing to health care to public policy advocacy, Community Advocates provides services directly and indirectly, helping to build and maintain cooperative networks among human service providers.

Major Service Areas

- 1. Housing 10 programs serve a range of housing needs including homelessness, home loans, rent abatement, tenant/ landlord counseling, relocation, and crisis intervention.
- 2. Women's Services 11 programs provide emergency shelter and intervention, prevention and treatment services for women victims of domestic violence, their children and their batterers
- 3. Behavioral Health 6 programs provide specialized case management and services for people who are homeless as a result of mental illness.
- 4. Health Care 3 programs assist over 1,000 clients per year through health care enrollment for kids and families, hospitalization issues, and Medicaid outreach.
- 5. Disabilities 3 programs provide assistance and advocacy for those eligible for public disability benefits through Social Security.
- 6. Utilities 6 programs help clients avoid service interruption and disconnection.
- 7. **Justice 2000** 9 programs assist low-income Milwaukeeans suffering from mental illness with pre-trial and community re-entry issues.
- 8. Public Policy Institute develops strategies and acts to bring about needed social policy changes that meet the basic needs of the underserved and help reduce poverty.

Collaborations

Community Advocates serves as the lead agency for and/or helped establish the following collaborations:

- 1. Milwaukee Brighter Futures Initiative is Milwaukee's largest coalition of child, youth, and family-serving agencies working together to prevent child abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence, and substance addiction.
- 2. Milwaukee Continuum of Care is the 100-member planning body for all homeless services in Milwaukee.
- 3. HealthWatch is an 80-member coalition of health care providers and advocates addressing responsible health care solutions for Milwaukee's low-income population.
- 4. Milwaukee Addiction Treatment Initiative (MATI) is a major system reform initiative of the Public Policy Institute established to improve addiction treatment, access and policy.
- 5. Tobacco Use Prevention Outreach is providing information and assistance to businesses and individuals about compliance with the State of Wisconsin's new smoke-free legislation.



"I don't know what I would have done if I lost my home. Community Advocates saved me and my two sons from living on the streets. Literally."

CYNTHIA, WHO WAS NEARLY EVICTED AFTER LOSING HER JOB, RECEIVED RENT ASSISTANCE UNTIL SHE FOUND NEW EMPLOYMENT.







HOUSING SERVICES

More Families Than Ever Find Help

11,000 calls were received by

Community Advocates' Housing Services Department for assistance with tenant/landlord issues

4.000 households were saved from

homelessness – either because they were provided with safe and affordable permanent housing or were given short-term assistance to maintain existing housing

he demand for Housing Services has been increasing since 2007, but limited community resources meant that Community Advocates could not always help everyone who needed short-term assistance. "It was very stressful and frustrating," says Maudwella Kirkendoll, Director of Community Advocates' Basic Needs Division.

"We would have someone come in who had worked 30 years at a job, lost the job, and needed immediate help. We had to tell them there was no assistance available."

Program funding shortages continued through much of 2009. Then, in October, federal stimulus legislation allocated a three-year, \$6.9 million grant for Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing to the City of Milwaukee to help alleviate housing needs. The Milwaukee Continuum of Care (CoC) represents the full spectrum of homeless services providers. Fifteen member organizations, including Community Advocates, met to discuss utilization trends, review best practices, and identify programming priorities for the funding.

Community Advocates used its portion (roughly \$2.7 million) to help pay backrent for individuals and families, provide tenant/landlord mediation services, and to rapidly rehouse families staying in shelter. As a result, the number of people Community Advocates was able to help tripled.

Kirkendoll says many families are seeking services for the first time.

"In the past, we would typically see single mothers with children. Now, we are seeing families that have always been middle class." All those we have helped, he says, suffered loss of income for some reason—a health care crisis, job loss or family emergency. "We're not just helping anyone who walks through the door. These are people who truly need it. A lot of people have paid taxes all their lives and are now appropriately using the public assistance available."

In 2009, Community Advocates helped prevent more than 600 evictions, allowing Milwaukee families to remain in their homes. Kirkendall and his staff are happy to help.



Where Abuse Ends and Hope Begins

A Snapshot of Domestic Violence

30,000:

Approximate number of domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement and referred to district attorneys offices in Wisconsin every year

10,000:

Approximate number of domestic violence incidents reported in Milwaukee County each year

67:

Sadly, the number of people in Wisconsin (12 in Milwaukee County), who died as a result of domestic violence in 2009 — the highest number of victims in 10 years

1 in every 4 women

will experience domestic violence in her lifetime

Because of you, the Milwaukee Women's Center is able to provide critical, life-saving services and safety to hundreds of women and children in the greater Milwaukee community — year after year.

Milwaukee Women's Center: 2009 By the Numbers

- 11,229 calls fielded through the Milwaukee Women's Center's 24-hour domestic violence crisis line
 - $13^{\prime\prime}$ women victims of domestic violence were provided shelter and comprehensive services
 - $181\,$ child victims of domestic violence were provided safety and support in emergency shelter
 - $89\,$ percentage of shelter clients who developed a safety plan prior to leaving shelter
 - 65 number of women who received services and support through the Older Abused Women's Program, including crisis counseling, information, and referrals
 - $72\,$ number of low-income, homeless families that received housing counseling, including rent and utility assistance, to secure safe, stable housing away from their abusers

.....

- 90 number of men who participated in the Nevermore Batterers Treatment Program
- '/4 percentage of those men who completed all of the Nevermore Program requirements
- 69 percentage of men graduating from the program who had not re-offended six months after completing the program

We Appreciate Our Volunteers!

In 2009, 178 volunteers donated 6,213 hours of their time, which is valued at \$125,809. Thank You!





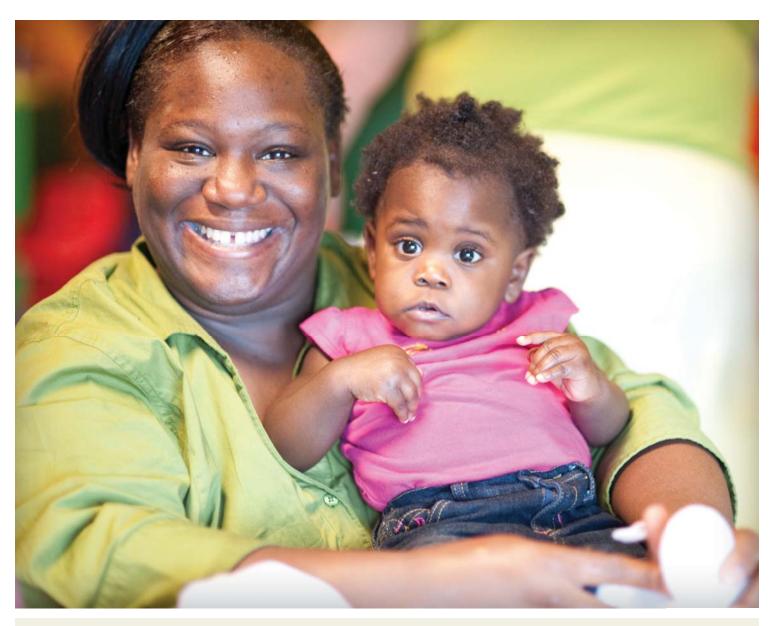


"The Milwaukee Women's Center saved my life. I would not be here today, if I had not had such a safe place to go with my kids. We are here today because of you."

MARIA, WHO CAME TO THE SHELTER WITH HER TWO YOUNG CHILDREN AFTER SUFFERING YEARS OF ABUSE BY HER HUSBAND
Working with staff to access resources to meet their emotional, physical, and financial needs,
Maria and her kids successfully transitioned to their own apartment.

Her future is now filled with hope, and her home is peaceful.





"It's so good to have my sister back."

JAMES, BETTY'S BROTHER, COMMENTING ON HER GRADUATION FROM HORIZONS

Because of her participation in Horizons' inpatient and outpatient treatment programs,

Betty is now in recovery after more than 50 years of drug and alcohol addiction.







HORIZONS

Creating Hope for Women and Children

Horizons Joins Milwaukee Women's Center Division

In 2009, 118 or 66% of clients completed Horizons' addiction and addiction-related mental health treatment programs, a very favorable completion rate according to UCLA program evaluators.

 T n 2009, the Boards of Directors of Community Advocates and Horizons, Inc. Inegotiated and completed a merger between the two nonprofits.

Horizons was founded as an independent nonprofit in 1971 - as the first half-way house for women offenders in the State of Wisconsin, and as one of the first half-way houses in the nation. In the nearly 40 years since then, Horizons has evolved from a "half-way house" into one of Wisconsin's primary community-based residential treatment facilities for women and their families.

With an emphasis on treating addiction and addiction-related mental health, the goal of Horizons' programming is to give women the skills and empowerment they need to avoid future incarceration and become productive members of society.

The merger was finalized on September 1, 2009, when the Horizons Campus officially became an integral part of the Milwaukee Women's Center Division of Community Advocates. Joe Volk, CEO of Community Advocates, had this to say about the merger:

"Horizons' efforts to provide residential and outpatient mental health and addiction treatment services to women and their children will combine with and enhance the many supportive services provided by Community Advocates' Milwaukee Women's Center programming. Both groups of programs help empower women and their dependent children to achieve economic and emotional independence, while maintaining safe, secure, crime-free, and drug-free lives."

The more than 40 Housing, Utilities, Health Care, and other assistance programs offered by Community Advocates will increase the accessible resources available to the women residents of Horizons.

IUSTICE 2000

Advocating for Treatment and Alternatives to Incarceration



JUSTICE 2000

A Division of Community Advocates

Where Court Alternatives Promote Health and Safety

In 2009, 97% of Justice 2000's clients avoided new arrests while they were under the supervision of Justice 2000's Case Managers.

Justice 2000's programs providing alternatives to incarceration created 9,752 community service hours and saved 68,654 jail bed days (representing a savings of \$6,362,869.47 in tax payer dollars).

 T n 2009, Justice 2000 and Community Advocates completed a plan to merge $oldsymbol{ol}}}}}}}}}}}$

It is well known that the effects of poverty often contribute to harmful choices, adverse behavior and limited access to restorative services and treatment.

In the few short years since its founding, Justice 2000 developed the framework for what has become Milwaukee County's nationally recognized pre-trial service programs. These programs are designed to expand opportunities for the safe release and community integration of criminal offenders who are often handicapped with addictions, mental illness and lack of basic resources to successfully function independently in the community.

Community Advocates has a long and distinguished history of effectively serving Milwaukee's low-income and at-risk populations with an array of direct services and resources needed to overcome the most harmful consequences of poverty.

Effective pre-trial services require prompt access to the whole range of community services and treatment for the pre-trial population. The merger of Justice 2000 with Community Advocates paves the way for creating new and innovative quality programming and service delivery.

The leadership of both Community Advocates and Justice 2000 quickly recognized the compatibility of missions and mutual advantages of combining the services and resources of both organizations. On a practical level, shared administrative functions and consolidated resources reduce costs while improving service integration. Also, combined efforts will exert a greater influence on public policies that affect the issues of poverty, health care and criminal justice for the greater good of the entire Milwaukee community.

Community Advocates welcomes the new Justice 2000 Division to its family of services.







"This letter is a thank you so much for what you have done. I know you was [sic] only doing your job, but that help [sic] me a lot. I never had that in my life. ...I know my son misses his daddy taking him to school everyday."

AN EXCERPT FROM **SAMUEL'S** LETTER TO HIS JUSTICE 2000 CASE WORKER

Samuel was detained in jail until his case — a misdemeanor
marijuana possession charge — was heard, because he could not afford his bail.

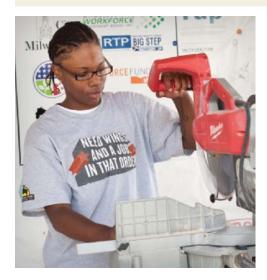




"I always wanted to do work like this. But I never knew how. Now I feel like I'm doing something that matters. I love coming to work every day."

WILLIAM, WHO IS BEING TRAINED IN CONSTRUCTION AND HOME-BUILDING
BY THE MILWAUKEE AREA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD'S MILWAUKEE BUILDS PROGRAM.

Milwaukee Builds is a Transitional Jobs Program supported by the City of Milwaukee and WI Department of Workforce Development for low-income unemployed individuals who need work and skills development. Participants can earn \$8-12 per hour and work up to 30 hours a week learning various construction-related skills. Photos feature program participants.







PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

Helping Families by Helping to Create Transitional Jobs



Community Advocates' Public Policy Institute helped develop the legislation that created 4,000 new transitional jobs in Wisconsin.

Tn 2009, Community Advocates' Public Policy Institute continued its $oldsymbol{\perp}$ groundbreaking work to provide effective advocacy to influence public policy change that will positively benefit Milwaukee and Wisconsin's poorest and neediest families.

Wisconsin and the United States are suffering from uncommonly high unemployment. The job gap — the difference between the number of unemployed men and women who need jobs, and the jobs that are available to them—has also risen to unprecedented levels.

To help get people back to work, Community Advocates' Public Policy Institute has worked closely with Wisconsin lawmakers to create transitional jobs: wage-paying jobs that allow low-income, unemployed men and women to do useful work and support themselves and their families. Transitional jobs - in combination with earning supplements, affordable childcare and affordable health care — are key to reducing poverty and increasing employment.

The Public Policy Institute's work on transitional jobs has already resulted in two significant pieces of legislation:

In 2009, Public Policy Institute Director David R. Riemer drafted language for a 2009-11 Wisconsin State budget amendment — inserted into the budget by Sen. Spencer Coggs (D-Milwaukee) — which created the Transitional Jobs Demonstration Project authorizing up to 2,500 jobs slots. Riemer subsequently worked with Rep. Tamara Grigsby (D-Milwaukee) to draft the Wisconsin Family Jobs Act. The Act removed the demonstration project's 2,500 job cap.

As a local leader on transitional jobs, the Public Policy Institute helped to found the Milwaukee Transitional Jobs Collaborative, which seeks to obtain state and federal programs and funding to make transitional jobs available to Wisconsin's unemployed.

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position

Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

ASSETS	2008	2009	LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	2008	2009
Current Assets:			Current liabilities:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 740,005	\$ 390,944	Current portion of notes payable	\$ 47,284	\$ 20,453
Investments	478,065	556,054	Line of credit	-	200,000
Receivables:	, .		Accounts payable	84,743	111,076
Grants	465,346	1,075,966	Subcontracts payable	203,663	214,575
Pledges – Current Portion	311,127	512,170	Accrued payroll and related liabilit	ies 206,872	207,148
Other	7,809	11,311	Accrued pension	50,083	79,928
Prepaid expenses and deposits	6,649	14,384	Deferred revenue	24,294	45,000
Total current assets	2,009,001	2,560,829	Other accrued expenses	6,393	26,206
	,	,6 : :, : 6	Total current liabilities	623,332	904,386
Restricted Assets:					
Restricted cash	190,390	204,141	Client trust payable	190,390	204,141
Restricted Colortyme:					
Cash and cash equivalents	34,315	12,016	Notes payable, less current portion	552,175	566,452
Certificates of deposit	122,502	97,891	m 11.1.1		
Total restricted assets	347,207	314,048	Total liabilities	1,365,897	1,674,979
		., .	Net assets: Unrestricted	10/00/5	1 000 101
Property and equipment:			Temporarily restricted	1,042,045	1,822,181
Land, buildings and improvements 805,316		1,341,282	Total net assets	1,012,970 2,055,015	872,563 2,694,744
Furniture and equipment	199,542	412,522	Total fiet assets	2,055,015	2,094,/44
Vehicle	17,143	17,143	TOTAL LIABILITIES		
Construction in progress	_	71,524		3,420,912	\$ 4,369,723
Total property and equipment	1,022,001	1,842,471		0,1,0	+ 1,0 - 0,7 - 0
Less accumulated depreciation	325,316	422,786			
Property and equipment – Net	696,685	1,419,685			
Other assets:					
Goodwill	118,402	75,161			
Pledges receivable, less current portion 249,617		_			
Total other assets	368,019	75,161			
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,420,912	\$ 4,369,723			

What Funds Pay For

Program Services 88%

Basic Needs 21%

Behavioral Health 8%

Community Coalitions 37%

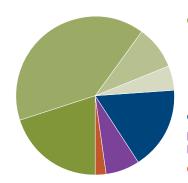
Milwaukee Women's Center 13%

Public Policy Institute 9%

Administration 10%

Fundraising/Other 2%

Where Funds Come From



Government Grants 74%

Federal 20%

State 40%

County 9%

City 5%

Contracts 17%

Foundations/Corporations/ Individuals 7%

Other 2%

INCOME/EXPENSES 100% = \$10,114,115 Total

Major Revenue Sources

FEDERAL

Department of Housing & Urban Development Federal Emergency Management Agency SAMHSA

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Department of Administration – Division of Housing

Department of Children & Families

Department of Health Services

Department of Justice

MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Behavioral Health Division

Management Services Division

Division of Housing

Economic Support Division

CITY OF MILWAUKEE

Department of Administration

Community Development Block Grant

Department of Administration

Emergency Shelter Grant

Department of Neighborhood Services

Housing Authority City of Milwaukee

Department of City Development

Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing

Municipal Court

PUBLIC, PRIVATE and CORPORATE CONTRACTS

Aurora Health Care

CHILD

ColorTyme

Continuum of Care

Division of Children and Family Services

Healthcare for the Homeless (PATH)

Healthier Wisconsin - Project Heart

Kenosha County - SSI

Managed Health Services

Public Service Commission

UMOS

United Way

We Energies

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare





















2009 Honor Roll of Donors

\$100,000+

Greater Milwaukee Foundation Open Society Foundation United Way of Greater Milwaukee Wildflower Communities

\$50.000+

Joseph & Vera Zilber Family Foundation

\$25,000+

Associated Bank Helen Bader Foundation

\$10,000+

Mr. Lynn Adelman Daniel M. Soref Charitable Trust Hunger Task Force J. Jill Compassion Fund of the Boston Foundation Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation Northwestern Mutual Foundation Recognize ARC The Windhover Foundation

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Anonymous

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