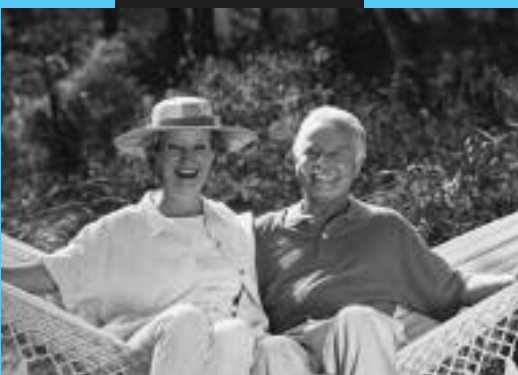




# Huron Behavioral Health



*Helping People...  
Making Life Work*

## Annual Report 2009

1108 S. Van Dyke, Bad Axe MI 48413  
(989) 269-9293 • [www.huroncmh.org](http://www.huroncmh.org)  
24 Hour Emergency 1-800-356-5568



# ANNUAL REPORT



## *Message from the Huron Behavioral Health Board of Directors to the Community:*

We are pleased to present the 2009 Annual Report to the citizens of Huron County and all other interested readers.

This Annual Report to the Community will give you some information on the programs and services we have provided and a look at the business side of the organization for the 2009 fiscal year. We hope this information helps to give you a better understanding of some of things going on at Huron Behavioral Health.

This year, we are shining the spotlight on the Infant Mental Health program and Emergency Services and Community Inclusion.

We also work with many community partners in order to provide our supports and services. We are proud of and appreciate each one of these partnerships – Blue Water Center for Independent Living; Department of Human Services; Flashpoint Drop-in Center; the Homeless Coalition and Thumb Area Continuum of Care, Huron County Medical Care Facility, Huron County Courts, Huron County Public Health Department, the Sheriff Department and Jail staff; the local schools and hospitals, just to name a few. Together with these other organizations and agencies, we are able to extend a helping hand to a lot of people in our community.

The upcoming years, just like those in the recent past, are expected to be very uncertain for us due to the state financial situation. The HBH Board of Directors and HBH staff long ago made a commitment to continuing the best services and programs within the limits of agency's financial resources. Uncertainties with the funding from the state may result in additional cuts to our local budget. Regardless, we are committed to providing the best quality services that we are able for the community.

We are proud to be a part of this community and we look forward to continuing our partnership with all people in Huron County that are working to remove barriers, improve health and mental health and who are striving to lead productive and satisfying lives – “making life work”.

J. Dean Smith  
2010 Board Chairperson

Suzanne Prich  
Executive Director

## 2008/2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**J. Dean Smith**  
Chairperson



**Pam Kahler**  
Vice-Chairperson



**Jim Chalou**  
Secretary



**Suzanne Prich**  
Chief Exec. Officer



**Pamela Chabot**



**Joann Yott**



**Eli Kabban**



**Linda Stahl**



**Dale Koehler**



**Peter Ney**



**Jill Schelke**



**Robert Witherspoon**

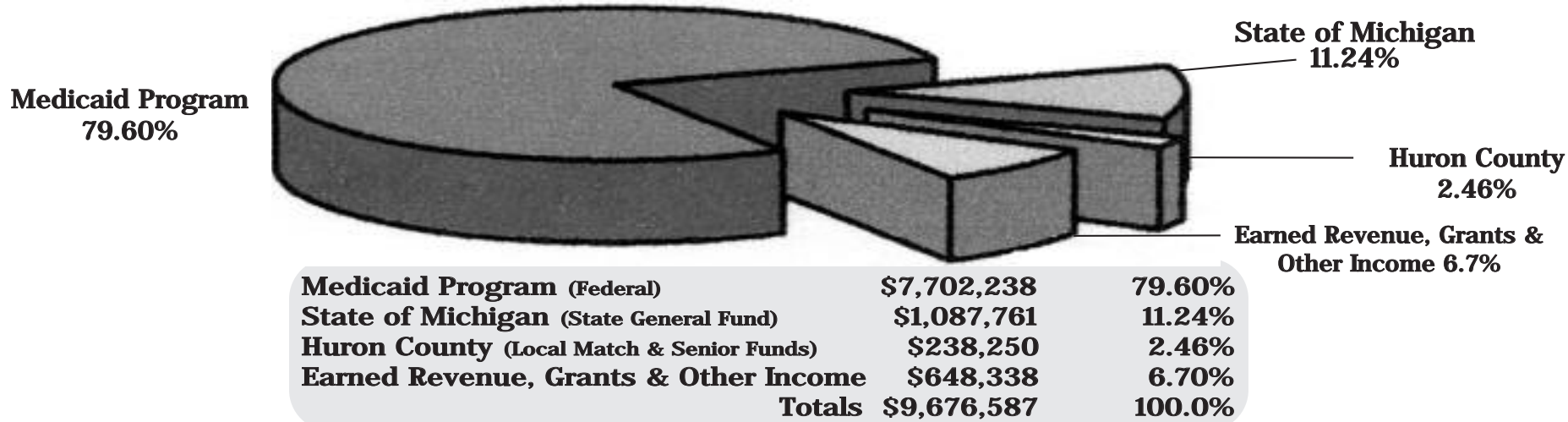


**Hank Weitenberner**

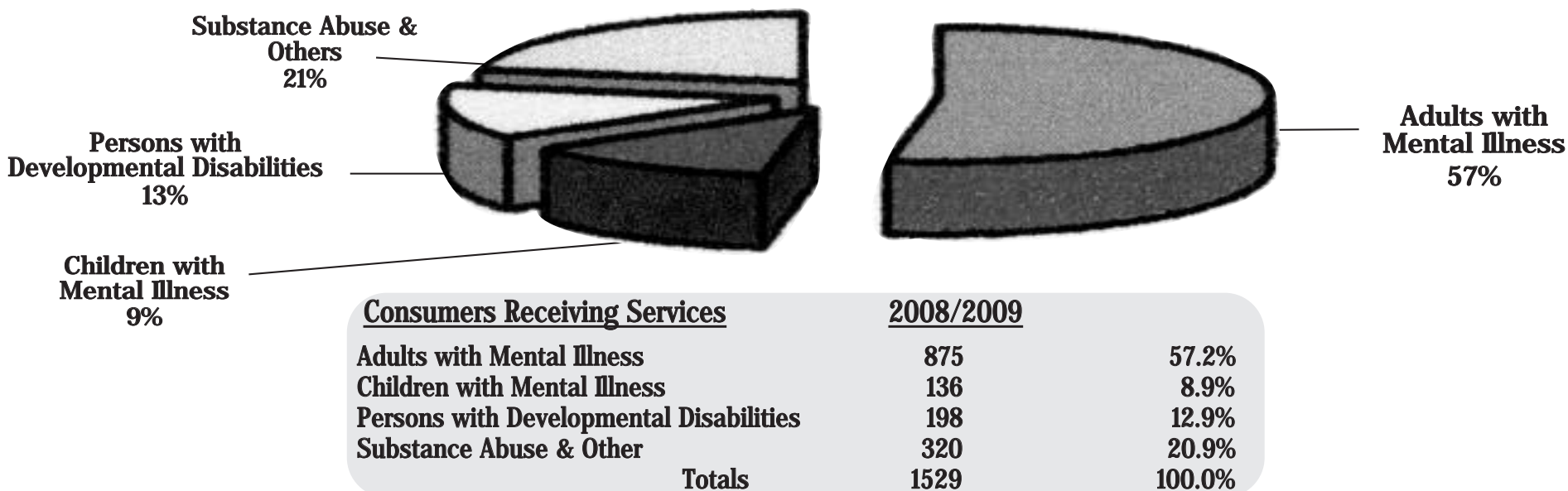


**Patti Deneen**  
Board Clerk

# 2008/2009 SOURCE OF FUNDS



# 2008/2009 PERSONS SERVED



*We would like to thank the following community groups for hosting our volunteers...* Huron Medical Care Facility Gardens, Sunny Acres, Harbor Beach Long Term, Huron Learning Center, Huron Medical Center, Human Development Commission, Scheurer Hospital, Country Bay Village, Owendale and Gagetown United Methodist Church, Faith Gospel Tabernacle Food Pantries, Helping Hands Thrift Store, Bay Shore Camp, Thumb Christian Outreach Ministries, Special Olympics, Relay For Life, Adopt A Highway, Family Fun Festival, Regional Interagency Consumer Committee, Huron County Baby Pantry, Pigeon Library, Children Fun Fair, Project Connect, Clothe A-Child, Knight of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive

# The Development of Good Mental Health Starts Early at Huron Behavioral Health

New to our array of services in 2009 is the Infant Mental Health program. This program provides services that support the social-emotional development of infants from birth to age five and support primary relationships with that child. Infant Mental



Health services promote a loving, nurturing relationship with a consistent positive caregiver, improving the child's development and mental as well as physical health for a lifetime. Parents/caregivers learn developmental stages and how to respond to the needs of the infant.

This program helps the infant to develop a strong positive relationship with the caregiver and helps the child to develop healthy strong relationships throughout their life.

Services are provided at a place convenient to the caregiver and are covered by Medicaid or based on the family's ability to pay.

## Emergencies Don't Wait for Business Hours

As the economy in the county declines, anxiety disorders, substance abuse and depression have increased. For the Emergency Services staff at Huron Behavioral Health this translates into an increased number of emergency contacts with individuals who are having problems handling the stress in their lives. Emergency contacts in 2009 were up almost 57% over contacts in 2007, yet mental health dollars for this vital service continue to dwindle from the state's budget. Without adequate mental health services, law enforcement, courts, emergency departments and schools are left to deal these difficult issues and/or those in need go without these essential services.

Emergency Services are available 24/7, 365 days a year by calling Huron Behavioral Health at 800-356-5568 or 911. Individuals and families in distress receive services to stabilize the immediate situation and referrals and linkages to services and supports for follow-up care.



*Emergency Services worker Jean Kloska takes a call from a distraught family member.*

# Win-Win Relationships Thrive Throughout Huron County

Two of the key measures of the quality of life for an adult with a developmental disability are community inclusion and employment and in Huron County we are pleased to say there are opportunities for both. Individuals with a developmental disability experience the self-esteem and sense of accomplishment that comes from being a contributing member of the community. The community is made richer by having the opportunity to see adults with disabilities as valuable and productive members of society and appreciating for their many contributions. And thanks to our many community partners working with Community Links and its consumers, those contributions are as diverse as they are plentiful. People who have disabilities, with the support of Community Links, enjoy volunteering around the Thumb Area in places such as Huron Medical Center, Scheurer Hospital, Harbor Beach Community Hospital Long Term Care Facility, Huron County Baby Pantry, Faith Gospel Tabernacle Food Pantry, the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive, Bay Shore Camp, Sunny Acres Nursing Home, Huron County Medical Care Facility, Home Delivered Meals to Seniors in Bad Axe, Elkton and Ubyly, the Huron County Intermediate School District Library, Adopt a Highway, Pigeon Library, County Bay Village and County Gardens Assisted Living Facility. Community Links and Huron Behavioral Health want to sincerely thank these community partners for hosting our hard working volunteers.

Whether it's delivering books or meals to people who are shut in, sorting and organizing baby clothes or working in the Medical Care Facility gardens, people find giving back to their community very rewarding.



*Pictured are Steve Hanson, Wm Skip Seagraves, Norma Hessling and Duane Hessling working with Huron Behavioral Health's Mary Ann Mazure at the Huron County Medical Care Facility Gardens. Residents and visitors alike enjoy the beautiful setting throughout the year.*