

The Antrim County Community Collaborative has been a State of Michigan endorsed Community Collaborative for over 26 years. Community Collaboratives were formed in each county in Michigan to ensure better communication, efficiency and effectiveness of helping networks in each county. The Antrim County Community Collaborative (ACCC) meets monthly on the third Friday of the month in the Board of Commissioners chamber at 10:30. We have email list serve of over 120 members representing agencies in Antrim County as well as agencies that serve Antrim County from a state or regional perspective. The Antrim County Community Collaborative has a history of advocacy for Antrim based services and holding regional/state entities accountable to serve our residents.



June 21, 2020

Dear Antrim County Board of Commissioners,

Community Collaboratives operate in nearly every county in the State of Michigan. Because of your support, Antrim County can compete in the crowded field of nonprofits in our region/state. The ACCC is committed to making sure that we are advocating for fiscal responsibility as well as results. The Antrim County Community Collaborative (ACCC), extends our sincere appreciation for your ongoing support. Your support makes a big impact for the residents of Antrim County. The ACCC is committed to excellence in programing, efficiency in approach and effectiveness of the programs we support.

We humbly request continued annual funding of \$8,000. The county funds graciously allocated by the Board of Commissioners helps us leverage additional resources, advocate for regional funds and support to build the coalitions, programs and workgroups in Antrim County. 2019/2020 Highlights: **Census 2020** - We mobilized the agencies to appeal to all their clients to complete the Census. Every census completed is money to help our residents in the next decade to fund fire response, law enforcement, roads, health and schools. In 2010 Antrim County was recognized as one of five undercounted counties in the state. Our 2010 response rate ended at 42.3%, so far we are on track to do better as we have already exceeded the 2010 rate. **Children's Trust Fund** - We initiated a child abuse and prevention council in Antrim County. The ACCC is committed to making sure that Antrim County kids are safe. Parenting Education, safe sleep initiatives and parenting support is critical in making sure our kids thrive. This year the funding helped us launch a county based chapter of the Children's Trust Fund. The local council is preparing for a grant cycle that will bring up to \$30,000 in support for prevention programs to Antrim County. These grant dollars are only available to counties with an active local CTF council. Thus far we have already garnered \$5000 for services. **Eviction Diversion Services** launched in 2019 - The ACCC is a proud partner and advocate for the program that works with landlords and tenants to come to agreements to pay arrears and mediate financial agreements to reduce homelessness and eviction and of course keeping kids in stable homes. The ACCC membership is involved with the regional and local **substance abuse prevention council**. A marketing plan is underway to address the alarming and harmful use of opioids in our communities. The regional entity has agreed to address vaping after serious advocacy from Antrim County that indicates increased use by teens in our county.

We appreciate the Board of Commissioners entrusting us with this important work. The ACCC membership holds themselves to a high standard of accountability. We are honored by your financial support as well as the assignment of Dawn from the Board of Commissioners as a valuable liaison at the ACCC table.

As we look to the future, so much is unknown. COVID 19 has turned our helping network upside down. The ACCC has continued to meet to discuss how we may serve our residents during these difficult times. We have mobilized to provide services and have risen to the challenge as members have helped deliver meals to kids and seniors, members have ramped up telemedicine to reach vulnerable populations facing physical and mental health challenges in the time of COVID and are seeking creative ways to partner to provide service delivery.

In closing, we want you to know that we have taken on the challenges and worked together to find solutions, resources and the partners needed to continue to provide help to those that need it most. Thanks to you we were ready, our partners used 211 and existing networks to get the word out - As their doors closed, their hearts remained open – services continued because we have a caring network. Each month we discuss gaps in services and how we can work together to fill the void. Just last week the ACCC met to discuss reopening our doors to services. Many have already begun limited, appointment only services.

We welcome your inquiries if you have them and wish we could join you at the Boardroom to discuss the good work happening behind the scenes because of your advocacy and financial support and to express our sincere gratitude in person.

Sincerely,

Ranae McCauley

United Way of NW MI and ACCC member

The Antrim County Community Collaborative (ACCC):

Vision: We envision every household in the county to be a safe, nurturing and healthy environment. We commit to ongoing support provided through our communities that will strengthen family functioning and encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Mission: Identify concerns, initiate action and organize for impact by providing community based partnerships that support our vision and provide a continuum of cooperation, coordination and integration of services and resources for all people in our county.

The ACCC provides a collective impact:

- Provides Antrim county perspective and advocacy at regionally based initiatives
- Increases efficiency, reduction of duplication resulting in cost savings
- Identifies trends and gaps in services
- Fosters discussion and relationship building.
- Connects the dots between people and programs with common interests who may be unaware of one another.
- Provides efficiency and effectiveness of finite tax dollars.
- Builds relationships with state and regional entities
- Shares local insights and perspectives to help inform actions.
- Acts as an objective source of information and analysis.
- Provides a forum for varying points of view.

Region-wide and State-wide program planning, development/re-design and implementation is the trend. In this era of rapid change, advocacy for Antrim County interests at the state and regional tables is a challenge. The ACCC is committed to imparting a voice for the citizens and helping organizations for Antrim County interest in these regional/state forums.

Chairperson: Lorie Minidis – North Country Community Mental Health

Vice Chairperson: Amy Burk – Communities in Schools

Meeting Information:

The ACCC meets on the third Friday of each month at 10:30 at Community Mental Health.

Collective Decision making leads to improved decisions.

Regional and Local Affiliations:

Continuum of Care

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) Childhood Trauma

Eviction Diversion

Substance Abuse Coalition

Strengthening Families Initiative

211

Great Start

Wraparound Services

Local Council Children's Trust Fund