

WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER'S

Family

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ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR AREA RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 1 • 4011 W. Isabella Road • Shepherd, MI 48883 • (517) 832-3256 • WINTER 1999

WMFC to Celebrate Silver Anniversary Throughout 1999

A MESSAGE

From Our President

We have much to be thankful for!

Although it seems impossible, 1998 has been an event busier and more productive year for West Midland Family Center than ever before. Our Mission... "to enhance the quality of life for area residents of all ages"... has been the driving force to help all of us better understand what our goals and commitments need to be. Other stories in this issue detail some of our accomplishments and outline some of our future objectives.



Bob Dostal

As we move into 1999, we have every reason to be both optimistic and enthusiastic. This year has very special significance. It was 25 years ago that a few community-minded "pioneers" decided that something must be done to improve the "quality of life" in West Midland county... and they set about to do it! What a vision!! Today, because of their efforts, and those who followed, we have a facility and an organization that is truly serving the community.

This year we will be commemorating this milestone with a number of special events (see lead story). We hope that every one of you will

See **PRESIDENT**, Page B

West Midland Family Center will mark its Silver Anniversary with a series of special events throughout 1999. Phyllis Breedlove, one of the conceptual founders of the Center... and its Executive Director for many years...

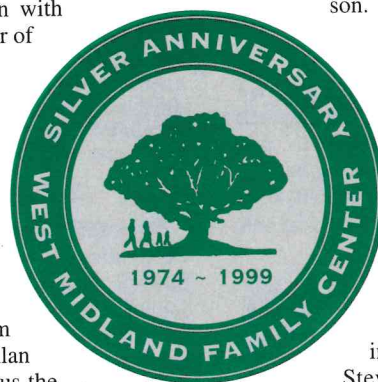
will serve as Co-Chairperson with Jo Ann Winchester, a member of the Center Board.

A 25th Anniversary logo and slogan have been developed and will be featured in all support materials and publications being especially prepared for the various programs. (See illustration at right.)

A special Steering Committee consisting of Jim Burlingane, Bob Dostal, Alan Oman and Win Zacharias, plus the Co-Chairs, has been working on the preliminary overall planning for several months. Four events, with tentative dates, have been scheduled and Co-Chairpersons and Center staff have agreed to lead the event committees.

The first event on the Silver Anniversary Calendar will be the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner Sunday, April 18. Presentation of the Orrin Barrett, Phyllis

Breedlove and Steve Barstow Awards will be featured at the event, with additional special programs built around the Anniversary theme. Tom Misner and Sue Thumma will serve as Co-Chairs, with Becky Lampman as staff liaison.



**"Strengthening the family...
for a promising future."**

The second event will be the Silver Celebration, to be held Thursday, August 5. The general public, as well as regular Center patrons, are invited. Special events for participants of all ages are being developed and the day will be capped off with a full-course meal. There will be awards and prizes. Guided tours will be conducted for interested visitors. Jim Anderson, Steve Carras, Joe DuFort and Rhonda Krotzer have agreed to Co-Chair this event, with Gail Crosby and Greg Dorrien as staff liaison.

A special Benefactor Reception, honoring Individuals, Businesses, Foundations, and local Agencies will be held at the Center Sunday, September 12. Bob Dostal and Win Zacharias will serve as Co-Chairs, with Alan Oman as staff liaison for this third event on the schedule.

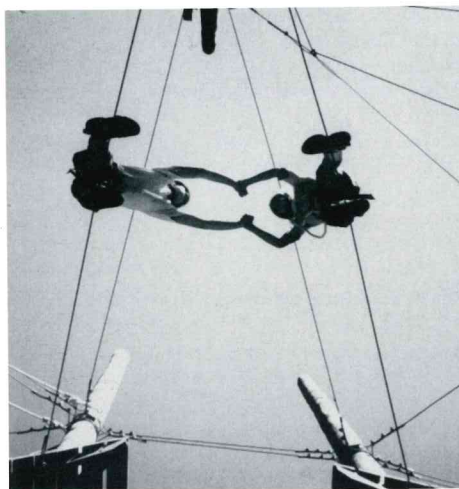
See **SILVER ANNIVERSARY**, Page B

Dow Foundation Fulfills Program Endowment Pledge

In December, the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation completed their 1992 pledge of matching \$1.50 for every \$1.00 raised by West Midland Family Center for the Program Endowment Fund. The Center raised \$485,972 and the Foundation matched it with \$728,958 for a joint total of \$1,214,930. The Foundation had already contributed \$300,025 in 1994, so their latest contribution was \$428,933.

"The original goal was for us to raise \$1,000,000" said Win Zacharias, the Center's Fundraising Chairman. "We are very grateful to all the businesses, foundations and individuals who have so generously helped us exceed our original goal. We are also grateful to Herbert (Ted) Doan, President of the Foundation, and all the trustees for their special generosity by increasing the original matching pledge so that all the donations were matched \$1.50 to \$1.00."

"These donations and the matching grant will help strengthen the financial base of the Center,



One of the highlights of this year's Teen in Training program was a chance to complete the adventure ropes course at Eagle Village.

which in turn allows us the opportunity to help build the social and educational fabric of the community" said Greg Dorrien, Executive Director. "We will be expanding our assistance to families who need crisis support and redesigning our Summer Program to better meet the needs of students during the summer."

See **CONTRIBUTORS**, Page B

1998 proved to be another record year, measured by all of our various registration and attendance figures. The Summer Program was up significantly, in part because the program was held at Floyd School for children grades 2 and up. This change allowed us to expand the 4 - 6 year-old program held at the Center from 20 children in 1997 to 80 in 1998.

Special thanks must go to the Midland County Council on Aging who served over 13,000 meals to children and overcame logistical difficulties of serving these kids at two sites.

See **DOW FOUNDATION**, Page B

Silver Anniversary

(continued from front page)

The final event of the year-long celebration will be an employee and Spouse Appreciation Dinner. Sunday, December 4 is the date. Bob Dostal will act as Chairman with Alan Oman filling the staff liaison slot.

Much work has already been done... but there is much more to do! Each of these committees need and will welcome volunteers to help them make every event memorable for all who participate. If you would like to serve, please contact the staff liaison on the committee of your choice.

More details on each of the events will be announced in the future in FAMILY FOCUS, the MIDLAND DAILY NEWS... and in flyers and announcements at the Center. Mark the dates on your calendar today... and get ready for a Silver Anniversary year of celebration!

President

(continued from front page)

join with us in the year-long celebration.

Success also creates new opportunities. We have reached the point where our facilities are bursting at the seams. We must expand... and a special committee has been working hard to develop plans for this expansion. We will keep you posted on our needs, our plans and our progress. And we will make it happen!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it is my privilege to recognize and express deep appreciation for the dedication of the staff and the volunteers who have made these accomplishments possible. They, along with our many benefactors, have enabled us to provide a better environment for "strengthening the families" of the West Midland community.

We have much to be thankful for!

-Bob Dostal

Dow Foundation Fulfills Endowment Pledge



Dow COP students Jason Bearss and Ralph Griffith were able to take part in the Class of 1998 and 99's backpacking trip in the Upper Peninsula thanks to the ongoing contributions the Center receives from community supporters.

(continued from front page)

"We would have never been able to serve these children if it wasn't for the support of the Bullock Creek School System and Floyd School in particular. Not only did we have full use of the school, but the School District also allowed us to use their buses and bus drivers to meet our transportation requirements," said Wyndy Johnson, Summer Program Director.

"We will not be able to direct the Summer Program at Floyd School in 1999 due to their school expansion project. One of the changes that will really help us meet the space demand

with all the children at one site again, is the new modular building that was added in the summer of 1998," said Gail Crosby, Director of Programs. "Still, it is going to be a tight fit."

The Modular Unit is another proud achievement of 1998. "We often refer to it as 'Building Expansion Phase One' and we were able to pay for it out of funds that were left over from the original 1989 building project," said Dorrien. "It is used by NEMCSA's Head Start class (a federally funded preschool program) and also by our Child Development program in the afternoons. We hope 'Building Expansion Phase Two' will get off the ground (or more appropriately in the ground!) in late 1999. A special committee is working diligently with local benefactors on this all-important project."

For these reasons and countless additional events, 1998 was another great year, but with a committed and devoted staff and community support at an all time high, the expectations for 1999 will be even greater.

WEST MIDLAND FAMILY CENTER

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President Bob Dostal
Vice President Jim Anderson
Secretary Sue Thumma
Treasurer Joe Vanderkelen

Directors: Julie Arbury, Stephen Carras, Ben Dollard, Chuck Infante, Don Koster, Amber Phillips, Jo Ann Winchester

Advisors: Jim Burlingame, Gene Dauer, Dick Furlow, Tom Misner, Chuck Norisetz, Roland Weaver, Win Zacharias.

STAFF

Executive Director Greg Dorrien
Program Director Gail Crosby
New Initiatives & Promotions Director .. Alan Oman
Office Manager Becky Lampman
Office Supervisor Diane DeMott
Receptionists: Teri Booth, Diane Dauer, Kathy Roberts
Maintenance Director Barry Lenski
Maintenance Staff: Gerald Burkett, Mike Kirby, Karen Leath
Dow College Opportunities Coord. ... Tracy Meister
Youth & Teen Coordinator Wyndy Johnson
Youth & Family Education Coord. ... Renee Shauger
Youth Staff: Alex Bartlett, Tom Berlin, Jessica Booth, Eddie Burns, Beth Fry, Nicole Gainforth, Brianne Galbraith, Bryan Kern, Chris Pieper, Stephanie Wirtz
Family Support Coordinator Lois Burton
Family Resource Coordinator ... Jessica Pieper
Preschool Teacher Elaine Fabinski
Preschool Teacher Assistant Barb Simons
Preschool Aides: ... Missy Finney, Karen Hall
Preschool Driver: Bryan Fowler
Preschool Van Aide: Cari Kline
Child Care Director: Ginger Yarch
Child Care Aides: Connie Billings, Eileen Burch, Shannon Cottrell, Annabelle Curtis, Stephanie Delong, Sherry Huckins, Bree St. John, Penny Owen, Nicole Schlese, Eva Searfoss
Senior's Staff Sue Wells
Council On Aging Site Manager ... Judy Wirtz

1998 CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

Organization	Amount
The Herbert H. & Grace A. Dow Found.	\$ 453,933
State of Michigan Special Contracts	281,004
United Way of Midland County.	173,250
Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation	55,000
West Midland Family Center Auxiliary	28,600
Vada B. Dow Trust	20,000
The Allen Foundation	15,200
Children's Trust Fund	10,941
The Dow Chemical Company Found.	10,000
The Barstow Foundation.	10,000
Bergstein Trust Fund.	9,000
Homer Township.	6,250
Yost Enterprises	6,000
Midland County Child Prot. Counc.	5,760
Lee Township	4,000
Hudson's.	3,400
Sunrise Optimist Club.	3,290
Snow Machines Inc.	3,000

Michigan 4C Association	\$ 2,980
Greendale Township	2,500
Blessed Sacrament Church	2,000
United Way Venture Grant	1,000
The Herbert & Junia Doan Found.	1,000
Midland Kiwanis Foundation	1,000
First United Methodist Church.	700
Bullock Creek H.S. Student Council	644
Westown Retirees	500
Child Care Concepts	450
Homer United Methodist Church.	425
Midland Rotary Club.	300
Memorial Presbyterian Women	200
Aldersgate United Meth. Church	139
TOPS.	130
Midland Jaycees	122
Caltech Industries	100
Fisher Contracting	50
Chapter EP PEO Sisterhood.	40

Individuals who have contributed:

Ledell & Sheila Alexander, Gene Anderson, Travis Barrow, Stuart & Ruth Ann Bergstein, Linda Boyd, Phyllis Breedlove, Kelly Buell, Jim & Arlene Burlingame, Dale & Rose Burlison, Ruth & Bill Caldwell, Rod Converse, Lois Craven, Daniel & Janet Cronkright, Wayne Crosby, Paul & Shirley Davis, Bob & Mary Ann Dostal, Joe & Stacy Dostal, Dave Dunn, Eugene & Sandra Engle, Mary Fick, Richard Furlow, Carl Garrison, Mary Gieselmann, Kate & Ted Groening, Floyd Hall, Virginia Harlow, Greg Harnick, Dana & Jodi Harrison, Vernon Harry, Bonnie Hart, Jill Hartley, John & Mary Hinson, Kevin Hoerauf, Robert & Ann Hotchkiss, Norm & Ruth Hozak, Cherie Hutter, Charles Infante, Carol Johnson, John Jones, Kenneth Foster & Janice Karlovich, Robert M. Keil, Michael & Kerri LaFore, Stephanie Lichtmen, Lori Lickly, Ladonna Little, Gladys McRoberts, Tracy Meister, Elisabeth Minibole, Alan & Julie Oman, Gary O'Neill, Michael & Christine Owen, Paul & Phyllis Pankratz, Mike & Noreen Parker, Frank & Jean Popoff, Sheldon & Mildred Putnam, Randy Randall, Michael Rapanos, John & Judy Rapanos, John & Ranny Riecker, Walter & Joanne Rupprecht, Larry Sherwood, Richard Skochdopole, William & Linda Stavropoulos, Ira & Sue Thumma, Betty VanderKelen, Gilbert & Alice Ward, Jim Weaver, Ronald Wells, Jim Williams, David & Jeanne Yost, Jim & Betty Young, Win Zacharias & many anonymous gifts.

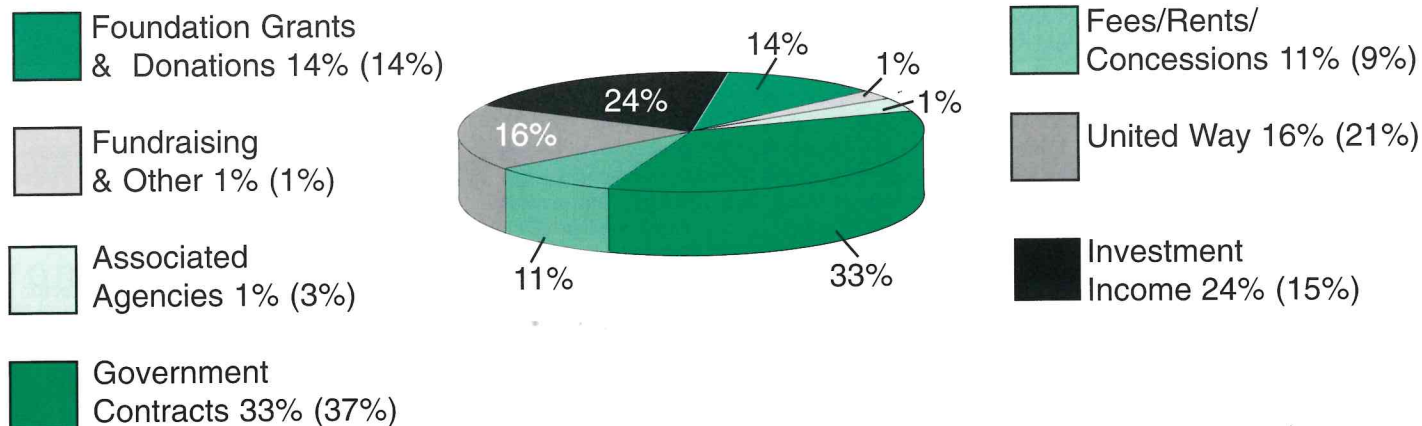
1998 ANNUAL REPORT

Budget Summary (Unaudited)

Figures in Brackets represent actual income and expenses for 1997.

1998 OPERATING INCOME

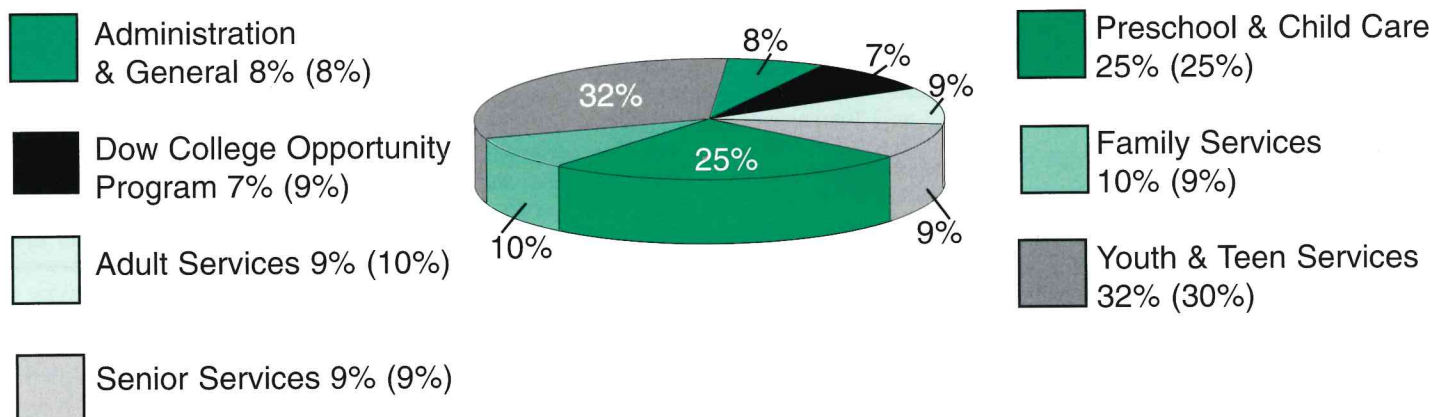
TOTAL: \$1,058,140 (\$933,428) *



***Contributions to Restricted Endowment Fund not included.**

1998 EXPENSE

TOTAL: \$1,069,800 (\$870,822)



% PROGRAM GROWTH IN SELECTED PROGRAM AREAS 1996-1998 (UNITS OF USE)

	1996	1997	1998
Preschool & Child Care: (days of care)	5,810	8,433	12,222
Family Support Services: (individuals served)	219	360	708
Summer Programs: (days of service)	3,466	5,277	6,226
Dow College Opportunity Program: (hours of service)	7,192	8,125	8,715

1998 ESTIMATED VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES AND DONATIONS

Market Value	
Volunteer Hours:	\$200,000
Donated Goods:	\$ 80,000
TOTAL WORTH: . .	\$280,000

Another Wonderful Year for WMFC Because of You

Thank you for making this another wonderful year for the West Midland community. You are the person who helped this organization succeed at effectively helping others. I know you well. There are many others who have helped too. In many ways they are not like you. They are in many ways just the opposite of you because they are young/old, rich/poor, live in the city/county, visit the Center frequently /occasionally, help us receive support/receive support from us, help the staff learn/help the staff teach, etc. But we all share one thing in common – we care for each other.



Greg Dorrien

You demonstrate caring in many different forms. Children show they care by greeting and playing with the toddlers in the nursery. Preschoolers make place mats for the Greendale

Happy Diners. Teenagers join SPARK (Students Performing Random Acts of Kindness) and T'NT (Teens in Training) and become great role models for young children (and adults!).

Parents who've received help become volunteers. Senior citizens adopt struggling families during the holidays. Foundation trustees invest in our long-range future. Civic group members support ongoing programs and new ventures. Other citizens donate to the United Way and serve on Citizen Review panels to assure the community's money is spent wisely.

Industries share their resources and encourage their employees to get involved in a way that is right for each individual. Agencies share information. School personnel provide leadership and resources. Government employees work in collaboration for the mutual benefit of Midland County families. And on and on.

Frequently our volunteers, friends and sup-

porters have asked me "How do you do it all?" I'll let you in on a secret. I don't do it. We do it together! Thanks for making 1998 another wonderful and successful year.

Officers and Directors Elected for New Year

Jim Anderson, Principal of Floyd Elementary School, has been elected Vice President of West Midland Family Center. He replaces Joe DuFort, who was recognized for many years of outstanding service upon his retirement at the January Board meeting. All other officers were re-elected.

Ben Dollard is a newly elected Director and will serve as Chairman of the Investment and Accounting and Budget committees. Jim Anderson and Don Koster were elected to serve their 2nd three-year term on the Board.

— Calendar of Events —

January 23: Coed Snow Pitch Tournament
January 24: Winter Competitive Coed Volleyball League Begins
January 25: Winter Recreational Coed Volleyball League Begins
January 26: All Star Basketball Festival
January 27: Health Dept. Immunization Clinic
February 11: W.I.C. Clinic
February 12: Teen Valentine's Dance
February 19: Family Fun Night
February 20: Youth & Teen 3-on-3 Tournament
February 24: Youth & Teen 3-on-3 Tournament
February 25: Parent TIP Night
February 26: Teen Dance
March 11: Parent TIP Night
March 12: Teen St. Patrick's Dance

March 20: Youth & Teen 3-on-3 Tournament
March 24: Youth & Teen 3-on-3 Tournament
March 26: Teen Spring Break Party
March 29 -April 1: Spring Break Activities
March 29 -April 1: No Preschool or Head Start Programs
April 2: Building Closed (Good Friday)
April 3: Family Spring Carnival
April 4: Building Closed (Easter)
April 9: Teen Dance
April 9: High School Overnighter
April 16: Deadline for Dow COP Registration
April 18: Optimist Bowling Challenge
April 18: WMFC Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
May 7: Community Rummage Sale

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ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

We are now accepting
Nominations for the...

- ★ Orrin Barrett
Volunteer of the Year
- ★ Phyllis Breedlove
Friend of the Center
- ★ Steve Barstow
Youth Volunteer

Please pick-up your nomination
forms at the front desk

Awards will be presented at
the Appreciation Dinner
April 18, 1999

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