

# SUMMER

JULY 5, 2019



# FLASH

## NEWSLETTER

United Way  
of St. Clair County

1723 Military Street, Port Huron, MI 48060

P: 810.985.8169 • [www.uwstclair.org](http://www.uwstclair.org) • [linkedin.com/company/uwstclair](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uwstclair) • [facebook.com/uwstclair](https://www.facebook.com/uwstclair) • [twitter.com/uwstclair](https://twitter.com/uwstclair)

## ~ HELPING ADULTS THROUGH EDUCATION OR TRAINING ~

Radiant sunshine and warm weather seems to be here to stay! We hope you had safe and fun 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities! To add to our celebrations, we are delighted to announce that over \$40,000 has been allocated to our Helping Adults through Education or Training Impact Area!

### Program

### Affiliated Organization

Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' by World	Blue Water Community Action
Psychosocial Programming for Uninsured Adults Recovering from Mental Illness	Touchstone Services, Inc.



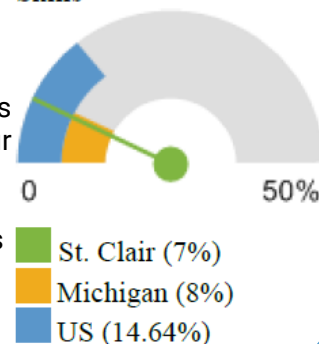
Please take some time to discover these programs and the impact they are having on our community. They are making great strides to help our residents to live independently!

[www.uwstclair.org/HelpingAdultsThroughEducationOrTraining](http://www.uwstclair.org/HelpingAdultsThroughEducationOrTraining)

## WELCOME ABOARD!

Percent Lacking Literacy Skills

A lack of literacy skills can have a significant affect on people's lives; especially with respect to employment. Removing this barrier can open many doors that were unimaginable to over 9,000 of our residents. Our CRC and Board of Directors have recognized this need and have recently approved **Literacy and Beyond** as our newest Affiliated Organization. They will be eligible for program funding from our 2019 Campaign.



### MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

Need medical equipment or disposable supplies?  
Try our FREE Medical Loan Closet!

**COMMON ITEMS AVAILABLE\*:**  
Shower Chairs • Walkers • Commodes •  
Wheelchairs • Knee Walkers • Crutches •  
Diabetic Test Strips • Adult Briefs • Bandages •  
Tape • Colostomy & Ostomy Supplies • Gloves

\*Items are donated and therefore fluctuate throughout the year

For St. Clair County residents of at least  
the past 12 consecutive months.

810.985.8169 • 1723 Military Street, Port Huron

**\*NEW\***

Medical Loan  
Closet cards!  
Pick up a stack  
for your facility  
8am - 4:30pm, M  
- F.



## ~ CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY ~

We joined an array of local organizations at Blue Water Safe Horizons' Elder Abuse Awareness Event in June. Our volunteer, Gene Downing, did a wonderful job sharing our resources with the elder community and their caregivers! Thank you!! 😊

If your workplace is having an event or resource fair and would like to have our resources available for guests, please contact Amy:

[marketing@uwstclair.org](mailto:marketing@uwstclair.org)  
810.985.8169 ex. 110



### MEDICAL LOAN CLOSET

Helping our neighbors with physical ailments.

"The St. Clair County United Way Medical Loan Closet was very helpful. My grandson needed a shower chair after leg surgery. Fortunately, the shower chair was available through the loan closet. Thank you for the program!"  
~ Ruth Hablewsky

We are always seeking donations of gently used durable goods and new disposable goods of a medical nature for our Medical Loan Closet!

**MOST NEEDED**  
Shower Chairs • Knee Walkers • Commodes •  
Wheelchairs • Adult Pull-up Briefs • Ensure •  
Boost • Shoe Horns • Sock Aids • Reachers

Please call our office or stop in for more details.  
1723 Military Street, Port Huron • 810.985.8169 x3





# ~ BUILDING BLOCKS ~

## To an independent future...



### An example of the wonders that your generosity supports:

Presented by: Touchstone Services, Inc.

### Psychosocial Programming for Uninsured Adults Recovering from Mental Illness . . .

"Sean" is a retired, veteran, senior citizen. He attends Clubhouse 3 days a week for 2+ hours each time. Sean was insured when he was first referred to the program but has been without insurance for more than 10 years. With a limited support system outside the Clubhouse, he depends on the nutritional support, referrals and stability the program provides him. Sean admits that when he is actively attending Clubhouse, he feels more connected, is more likely to actively manage his health and requires fewer hospitalizations. He is always in attendance at holiday gatherings; would have nowhere else to go if the Clubhouse was not open on those days. In recent years, Sean has used his computer skills to educate himself and other members on insurance and benefits. He does this on the Clubhouse computer and the other members appreciate his help. Sean brings a sense of calm to the Clubhouse and has the ability to bring the group together. He would be much worse off without the Clubhouse services and support.



### LEADERSHIP ORGANIZATION AWARDS



### St. Clair County Statistics

40% of households are living below the ALICE Threshold.  
7,163 of those households are living in Poverty.

Source: 2017 ALICE Report  
(ALICE = residents who are working and are still struggling to make ends meet)

About 5,679 adults are living with a Severe Mental Illness in St. Clair County; that is 4.5% of residents 18+ years.

Source: National Institute of Mental Health

#### Sources:

Community Commons: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey. 2010-14  
American FactFinder: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates  
Community Commons: National Center for Education Statistics, NCES - Estimates of Low Literacy

### ACCORDING TO THE BLUE WATER COMMUNITY ACTION'S 2016 COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT:

St. Clair County Statistics Averaged over 2010 - 2014	% No High School Diploma	% High School Only	% Some College	% Associate Degree	% Bachelor's Degree	% Graduate / Professional Degree
Education Attainment for People over Age 25	10.73%	35.7%	26.1%	10.1%	10.8%	6.6%
Poverty Rate for the Population Age 25+	27.3%	7.7%	12.1%		4.3%	

### HOW OUR SUPPORTED PROGRAMS ARE BRIDGING THE GAP TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

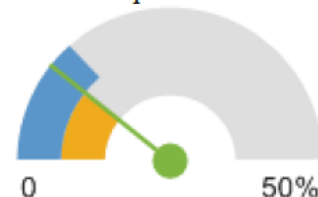
#### Blue Water Community Action

Getting Ahead in a Just Getting' by World helped 14 St. Clair County residents move from poverty towards self-sufficiency through an array of training modules in 2018.

#### Touchstone Services, Inc.

Blue Water Clubhouse, in 2018, gave 82 individuals recovering from psychiatric disabilities a safe and respectful place to rediscover talents and reclaim confidence to help them live as independently as possible in our community.

#### Percent Population with No High School Diploma



St. Clair County, MI (10.73%)  
Michigan (10.73%)  
United States (13.67%)