



HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF MICHIGAN

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

1. The sponsoring representative's first name:
David
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:
Martin
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.
State Rep. Matthew Bierlein (District 97)
State Rep. Phil Green (District 68)
State Rep. Amos O'Neal (District 94)
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
Families And Children Together (FACT)
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:
FACT Office address - St. Michael's Conference Center, Lwr Level - 609 E 5th Ave
Flint, MI 48503
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:
Would support expanded access to services in Genesee County & Saginaw County
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:
Rep. Phil Green – Dist. 67; Rep. David Martin – Dist. 68; Rep. Jasper Martus – Dist. 69;
Rep. Cynthia Neeley - Dist. 70; Rep. Brian BeGole - Dist. 71; Rep. Mike Mueller - Dist. 72; Rep. Matt Bierlein – Dist. 97; Rep. Amos O'Neal – Dist. 94; Rep. Tim Kelly - Dist. 93
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.

FACT's mission is, 'Investing in the safety and well-being of children and families through building community, providing support, and promoting advocacy'. Their goal is to prevent families from entering the child welfare system and, for those already involved, to provide a fundamentally different, family-centered experience. FACT's program offers a way to coordinate services with those who have been involved with Child Protective Services (CPS) and have since closed their case. These services also become a gap filler to support permanency for children involved in foster care in a timely manner. Currently, the average time a child is in foster care is 2.5 years in Genesee and Saginaw Counties. This does not meet the federal key performance indicator of 12 months to permanency.

FACT integrates and wraps services around children and their families, providing referrals and resources that address specific unmet needs through prevention-focused, family-centered interventions. This integration involves the collaboration of community organizations. These services enable families to maximize the use of community-based resources that are centrally located and designed to promote self-sufficiency. FACT's helpline meets families where they are, offering immediate support and connection to resources.

FACT serves families across Genesee and Saginaw counties, reaching not only urban areas but also rural communities where resources are often scarce. In Genesee County, their Community Service Hub has significantly impacted families by providing a centralized, neutral, and accessible space for support, connections, and community engagement. Their hub in Saginaw County provides not only space for support and coordination, but with an additional element of supporting education initiatives such as literacy, tutoring, and support for students.

FACT's proprietary software system, MiARGOS, is now actively supporting our work proactively with families and providers. This innovative platform, in combination with our '877 Helpline', enables us to coordinate care, track family progress, and ensure that services are delivered efficiently and effectively and nurturing better outcomes for the families we serve. The MiArgos "Provider Portal" is active. This allows the Provider Network to access their cases, provide case updates, communicate with other connected providers, collect contact information, and more. Finally, a resource library has been created for staff and providers to access all of the community events. This provides a consolidated space to search for activities, resource fairs, and events being held for children and families.

FACT also has an active partnership with the Saginaw Valley State University School of Social Work. Having completed the first phase of an evaluation study, we are now moving into the next phase, which focuses on assessing protective factors within families. This data-driven approach allows outcomes to be measured effectively and continuously refine services to ensure they are making a measurable difference in the lives of those they serve.

The holistic approach brought by FACT not only focuses on the children in foster care,

but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available, and lessens the load while filling the gaps of publicly funded programs. Funding through the 2025-26 budget would help expand this amazing program to impact further families in need of these essential services.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

2000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Private","None"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Bridgitt McCaughey, CEO, Gale Overstreet, Erin Covert, Sheryl Thompson,

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

FY 2025-2026

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes



FACT Community Service Hub

FACT Service Hubs provide a location for families to access services from their providers, connect with others in the community, and enjoy time amongst themselves in a warm, inviting area. Our Hub serve as an extension by offering spaces that are open to the community.

SUNROOM – Hosting meetings, family time & gatherings

KIDTOPIA – A new approach to family visitation time

FOCUS FACTORY – Open-concept workstations for professionals

CONSIDER OUR HUB'S COMMUNITY IMPACT IN OUR SIX MONTHS OF OPERATION:

1100

**Community Members
utilized the Service Hub
in our first quarter of operation**

The FACT Hub increased the accessibility and served as a meeting option for agencies looking for an alternative location for parent visits, family advisory groups, staff trainings and workspaces for professionals.

Adults, 40.6%

Professionals, 32.1%

Children, 27.3%

Partner Provider
Professionals
Worked over

1,400 HOURS

in the
FACT Community
Service Hub

TRAUMA-INFORMED DESIGN

The FACT Service Hub, designed with trauma-informed principles, fosters collaboration, support, and connection. Soft lighting and calming colors create a welcoming, safe space for families.



44.7%
of Hub
operating hours have
been utilized by those
in the community

8 diverse
types of
community
engagement

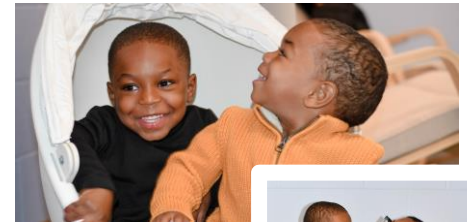
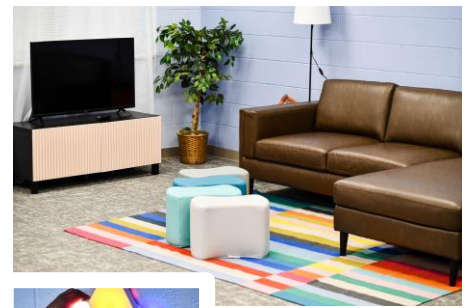
INCLUDING

Remote Office Space • Parent Cafes

Resource Distribution • Training

Children Playtime • Family Visitations

Envisioning Groups • Staff Meetings



609 E. 5th AVE., FLINT, MI 48503
St. Michael's Conference Center
Lower Level

FAMILIES AND CHILDREN TOGETHER

1.877.745.7797

info@mi-fact.org

mi-fact.org

Community Service Hub – First Quarter Impact Report

October 2024 – December 2024

Overview

Families And Children Together (FACT) has made significant strides in achieving the goals and objectives outlined in our initial plans, with milestones that are transforming how we serve families. The most impactful development has been the opening of our **Community Service Hub in Genesee County**, which now serves as a centralized space for families and service providers to **connect, share resources, and access essential support**.

The Hub was designed based on direct community input to ensure a **welcoming, safe, and neutral environment** for families in need. Our first full quarter of operation demonstrates both the demand for and the success of this initiative.

Community Engagement and Impact

Total Individuals Served

- **Total Children Served:** 167
- **Total Parents/Caregivers Served:** 99
- **Total Individuals Impacted:** 266

Breakdown by Age Group

- **Flint Children (Ages 0-5):** 94
- **Flint Children (Ages 6-10):** 73
- **Flint Children (Ages 11-18):** 0

Service Reach by Flint Zip Code

- **48502:** 176
- **48503:** 35
- **48504:** 19
- **48505:** 58
- **48506:** 2
- **48507:** 18
- **48509:** 0
- **48519:** 3
- **Other Areas:** 147

Conclusion

The FACT Community Service Hub has become a trusted place for families in Genesee County, providing direct support and strengthening connections between caregivers, children, and service providers. FACT remains committed to expanding access, enhancing services, and addressing the evolving needs of our community.

Bridgitt McCaughey
CEO Families And Children Together (FACT)
bridgitt@mi-fact.org - 248.766.1566

Data

One method in how FACT receives referrals is through our 877-Helpline. Families can call this number and connect with an individual in their respective county. Additionally, FACT has received referrals from our community partners and walk-ins at our Service Hub.

- Since beginning our operations in October 2024, FACT has served 67 unique families.
- FACT has assisted families with coordinating care by:
 - Accessing basic needs such as food, clothing, and diapers.
 - Finding financial assistance to cover utility bills, housing, and childcare.
 - Arranging transportation to medical appointments and other essential trips, such as grocery stores.
 - Coordinating mentoring services for at-risk youth to prevent incarceration and expulsion.
 - Advocating for IEPs, special education services, and other programming to help students achieve better educational outcomes.

FACT works with the family to prioritize resources and supports as a part of personalized goal setting. These conversations help FACT's Community Resource Specialists create goals that are customized for each family.

- 125 total goals were created by the families we serve.
- Out of all goals established:
 - 45% attended to basic needs
 - 12% attended to behavioral health needs
 - 10% attended to healthcare needs
- 71% of goals were achieved within one month.

Each goal created leads to a referral to another partnering agency. This process involves conducting a search in MiARGOS (FACT's proprietary software solution) that house a vast network of agencies and organizations to find the resources that best match each family's needs. When making referrals, FACT works around services that work best with:

- The family's preference of providers.
- The family's availability.
- The family's insurance.
- The family's transportation, or lack thereof.
 - If necessary, bus passes and/or medical transportation are coordinated for our families.

The referral process involves FACT conducting research on agencies in the community to determine if our families meet the criteria and determine if their services will best meet each family's goals. This process is unique for each case. Since beginning the care coordination process with our families:

- 78 referrals have been coordinated.
- 47 of these referrals have been completed, which contributes to each family's goals being met.
- Most referrals are made to address accessing food and personal hygiene, receiving household goods (e.g. bedding, cookware, clothes, etc.), mental health therapy, support groups, and financial literacy programs.

FACT utilizes Quality of Life (QOL) indicators when working with families. These indicators help us identify deficits in our families' QOL and ask our families directly what resources would help them the most. By integrating this approach, we are addressing the needs that would most significantly impact the families' overall well-being and thus, reducing the likelihood of child welfare involvement. As FACT works with families:

- Families have experienced a 5% increase in their Quality of Life while working with FACT.

- Mental health, living conditions, and accessibility to resources are the QOL indicators that experienced the most significant increases.

Family Testimonials

"When my son was on life support in Grand Rapids, and I was trying to get there from Saginaw, the financial strain was immense. Terricina, at FACT, helped me access gas cards, which were an absolute lifeline. That support from FACT allowed me to be with my son during the most critical time. It was more than just assistance; it was compassion in action, and I'll never forget the difference FACT made." -A.B.

"Through the unwavering support of FACT Families and Children Together, especially Terricina Jackson and Chad Pocock, I was able to reconnect with the DOULA program at Great Lakes Bay Health. They didn't just offer assistance; they offered a lifeline, guiding me back to a path that empowers both myself and other mothers." -J.T.

"During a particularly challenging time, Dad found himself living in the Warming Center, separated from his children—a situation that was deeply difficult for him, as he had never been apart from them before. FACT stepped in and invited Dad to bring his children to a caregiver dinner and skating event at Roller Haven. The family had an incredible time together, creating joyful memories despite their current hardships.

The following day, Dad called in tears, expressing his heartfelt gratitude. He shared that the event not only provided a safe and fun way for him to spend time with his children, but it also marked a milestone—it was the first time his children had ever been roller skating. Thanks to FACT, this family was able to experience a happy, positive moment amid their housing crisis and family separation." – LC

"A family of six I have been working with recently moved to Saginaw from Florida. The family was unable to take any of their furniture with them during the move. The mother who I was working with was actively working towards the adoption of her niece. Their caseworker noted that the family needed to obtain furniture to support the adoption process. A referral was made to a local agency for the family to receive furniture items. However, the agency was unable to help with transportation.

FACT worked to advocate on behalf of the family and secured a moving truck from a church to have these items delivered directly to their home at no cost. With all new dressers, tables, bed frames, mattresses, lighting, kitchen supplies, and essential toiletries, the family is now able to live comfortably with each other and continue working towards adoption." - CP

"I am a foster care case worker at Ennis Center for Children and have worked closely and directly with the FACT program for approximately the last year. The FACT facility and staff have supported Ennis workers in a wide range of ways. FACT staff are welcoming us and all members of our community. FACT program staff have allowed us to work within their facility to support our children and parents in our community where it is most accessible to them. FACT program staff are knowledgeable and think "outside the box" when it comes to the needs of our families and have many times helped me provide creative solutions and services to our families to help reduce barriers that brought their families into the foster care system.

The FACT facility is a safe space for our kiddos and parents, and even our program staff when we need a convenient community location to work and meet with our families.

I have personally held many parenting times at the FACT facility and have always found it to be clean, appropriately stocked with many age-appropriate items for children of all ages and stages. The rooms are sensory friendly and meet the needs of our children and parents. FACT has been an asset to me as a worker, my families, our agency, and our community. – NE Foster Care Worker

Caregiver Dinners

FACT hosts monthly Caregiver Dinners for families in Genesee and Saginaw counties. These events serve as opportunities to share a meal with their family and others in the community, enjoy an activity together, and learn about a topic that will help Each Caregiver Dinner is carefully planned to provide Positive Childhood Experiences and enhance the Protective Factors of each family. As a result of survey feedback from each Caregiver Dinner:

- 100% of our Caregiver Dinner attendees felt welcome.
- 100% of our Caregiver Dinner attendees feel this is a good thing for their family to do together.
- 96% of our Caregiver Dinner attendees feel that they were connected to others in their community.

FACT Care Packages for Families

At each of our caregiver dinners, FACT provides families with a thoughtfully prepared care package. These care packages are designed to align with the theme of the event and incorporate elements that support the Five Protective Factors, ensuring they meet practical household needs while reinforcing family well-being. Our goal is to offer items that families may often need but might choose to forgo prioritizing food or other essentials.

Purpose and Impact Our care packages are intended to:

- Provide families with useful items that ease financial burdens.
- Offer tools and supplies that promote health, hygiene, and home care.
- Encourage family engagement through themed resources that align with seasonal needs or special observances.
- Ensure families feel supported, valued, and heard as they engage with our services and events.

Contents and Themes The contents of our care packages vary throughout the year to reflect relevant themes and family needs. Examples include:

- **Dental Health Awareness Month (February):** Dental care products such as toothbrushes, toothpaste (adult and child), floss, mouthwash, and educational materials on oral health.
- **Back-to-School Season (August):** School supplies like notebooks, pencils, and other classroom essentials to support students and caregivers as they prepare for the academic year.
- **Personal Hygiene Support:** Products suitable for all ages, including soap, shampoo, deodorant, and other hygiene essentials to support individual well-being.
- **Household Cleaning Items:** Supplies such as sponges, dish soap, laundry detergent and all-purpose cleaners to promote a clean and healthy living environment.
- **Holiday Support:** Gift-wrapping materials, tape, and ribbons to assist families during the holiday season.
- **Healthy Meal Preparation:** Recipes and ingredients for a quick, nutritious meal that families can prepare together.
- **Inclusion-Focused Items:** Specialty products designed to meet diverse family needs, such as easy-grip crayons for children with special needs.
- **Infant Care:** Special bags for families with infants include baby wipes, infant detergents, teething toys, blankets and more.
- **Medical Essentials:** Bandages, first-aid items, and electrolyte drinks, which are consistently welcomed by families.

Building Connections While these care packages meet practical needs, they also play an essential role in strengthening our connection with families. Each package is carefully designed to reflect thoughtfulness and care, reminding families that they are seen, valued, and supported. By addressing their immediate needs with meaningful items, we help families maintain stability while fostering a deeper connection with FACT and the community at large.

Testimonials from Caregiver Dinners:

"Getting a chance to interact with other families in our community was valuable. I wish we had more programs like this... All year round."

"The staff member was very warm and welcoming, we really enjoyed ourselves the food and fellowship and I loved the yoga, I had a very stressful month and just to learn different yoga poses and breathing exercises was something I really needed and it was good for the kids as well."

"It gives us time to stop and enjoy each other's time as a family. It was also fun trying something new for our daughter."

"Allows me as the parent to relax, not have to plan an outing or dinner, I can show up with my child, have an enjoyable and safe experience."

"I totally feel connected and supported by my community involving my children and that's awesome. We appreciate y'all and thank y'all for everything y'all do. We have so much fun and love that our littles get to experience some things for the first time that, some that they other wise may not be able to do because we aren't able afford to take them to!"

"This beautiful what you all are doing for the community, I'm honored to be apart of it."

"I wanna say thank you for making sure to have inclusion at this event..... Even such a little thing like having the easy grip crayons... meant the world to our family. Many other families liked them as well! It made London so happy, smile, and feel very included when coloring with her friends. Normal crayons just don't fit or work in her short, stubby downs syndrome hands. Again... thank you so much! You have no idea how much that alone warmed my heart tonight!!! 🧡💙🧡💙🧡💙🧡💙🧡💙" via Facebook



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
GENESEE COUNTY – CHILDREN’S SERVICES

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

March 19, 2025

Dear Application Reviewers:

On behalf of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Genesee County, I am writing to express my support for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able to access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you,

Kim LeFear
Child Welfare Director
Genesee County MDHHS

March 20, 2025

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Genesee Health Plan, I am writing to express my strong endorsement of Families and Children Acting Together (FACT), an organization that plays a vital role in supporting families and service providers within Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven to be an invaluable community asset, connecting service providers and offering support to enhance their work with vulnerable families. Furthermore, they have become trusted partners to these families, resulting in better outcomes for both parents and children.

FACT has developed a community-based prevention approach to serving families and children by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This approach includes an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral space for families to meet, train community members, and promote community needs. Additionally, FACT helps families access services like tutoring, housing, and transportation, coordinating these efforts in a way that fosters empowerment and improves overall well-being. This holistic approach benefits not only the children but also the entire family, building trust and expanding access to valuable community resources.

As the President and CEO, I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand FACT's work. Their efforts promote the collaboration of community resources, creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Sincerely



Jim Milanowski
President/CEO
Genesee Health Plan



Saginaw County
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Caring experts, advocates & champions.
For health. For everyone.

March 21, 2025

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Saginaw County Health Department (SCHD) I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the SCHD Health Officer I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christina A. Harrington, MPH
Health Officer



Jeffrey J. Collier, Ed.S. • Superintendent • (989) 249-8700 • jcollier@sisd.cc
Ericka M. Taylor, Ph.D. • Executive Director of Early Childhood • (989) 399-7423 • etaylor@sisd.cc
Sabrina Jackson, M.Ed. • Director of Early Childhood • (989) 752-2193 • sjackson1@sisd.cc

March 19, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my admiration and support for Families And Children Together (FACT) and their groundbreaking efforts in reshaping the landscape of family support, particularly in the areas of prevention and preservation. FACT's innovative approach to helping families stay out of foster care is truly commendable and serves as a beacon of inspiration for organizations across the nation.

FACT has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the prevention and preservation of family support, recognizing that the most effective way to support families is by intervening early and providing the necessary resources and assistance before crises. The organization's forward-thinking initiatives, designed to address the root causes of family challenges, display a commitment to creating lasting, positive change.

One of FACT's notable strengths lies in its holistic and family-centered approach. By implementing targeted prevention programs and offering comprehensive preservation services, FACT is effectively working towards keeping families together and reducing the need for foster care placements. Their emphasis on early intervention, evidence-based practices, and community collaboration positions them as leaders in the field.

It is refreshing to see FACT take bold steps to re-imagine family support services, placing a strong focus on preventing the breakdown of families and preserving their well-being. Their dedication to providing families with the tools they need to thrive is evident in every facet of their work, from community engagement to the implementation of innovative, preventative strategies.

I wholeheartedly recommend Families And Children Together to our partners seeking inspiration and guidance in the realm of prevention and preservation efforts. FACT's pioneering work exemplifies a new and transformative approach to family support, and I am confident that their initiatives will set a standard for organizations nationwide.

Sincerely,

Ericka M. Taylor

Ericka M. Taylor, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Early Childhood
Saginaw Intermediate School District

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

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Board of Education Dr. Katherine Ellison • Ruth A. Coppens • LauraSue Holcomb • Lisa Hubbard • Ruth Ann Knapp



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Michigan House of Representatives
Amos O'Neal
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE BLACK
CAUCUS CHAIR

Committees:
Appropriations
Subcommittee Corrections (MVC)
Subcommittee Public Health
Subcommittee Agriculture and Rural
Development and Natural Resources (MVC)

March 21st, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I write today to express my support for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties.

FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children. FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As a member of the Appropriations committee, I support and advocate for the funding needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us personally. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amos O'Neal".

Amos O'Neal
State Representative
94th House District
517-373-0837
AmosONeal@house.mi.gov

Bridgitt McCaughey, MSW
Chief Executive Officer
Families And Children Together (FACT)
129 E. 3rd Street
Flint, MI 48502

Dear Ms. McCaughey,

I am pleased to extend my sincere recommendation for Families And Children Together (FACT), our esteemed collaborator in the development of a comprehensive network for the care of local families. Throughout our partnership, FACT has exemplified a deep commitment to community engagement and empowerment.

Their unique ability to connect with and involve community members in the planning and implementation of our network initiatives has been a driving force in ensuring the relevance and inclusivity of our programs. FACT understands that the true strength of our network lies in the collective wisdom and contributions of the community, and their emphasis on empowering local families has been transformative.

The passion and dedication of Families And Children Together in fostering community-driven solutions have significantly enhanced our ability to address the diverse needs of families in our area. I am confident that their community-focused approach will serve as an inspiration for other local partners striving to create networks that prioritize the voices and aspirations of the communities they serve.

I highly recommend FACT to those seeking a partner dedicated to community engagement and empowerment. Their collaborative spirit and commitment to uplifting local families make them an invaluable ally in any community-based initiative.

Through our collaboration it is our hope that Great Lakes Bay Health Center becomes a preferred referral hub for services such as school-based health programs, infant and maternal care, and child and adolescent behavioral health services. We are excited to see opportunity come to fruition, and we are offering our assistance and support as they move forward in their endeavors.

Kind regards,



Lisa Galonska, BS
Executive Vice President



Quality Healthcare for Everyone.

GREAT LAKES BAY HEALTH CENTERS SITES

Arthur Hill | Bayside | Belding | Bridgeport | David R. Gamez | Hearth Home | Inlay City | Integrated Care Saginaw | Integrated Care Shiawassee | Integrated Care Thumb Area | James Street | Manchester | Mobile Dental 1 & 2 | Mobile Medical | Old Town | Pharmacy Saginaw | Roosevelt S. Ruffin | Saginaw High | Shiawassee | St. Vincent | Thumb Area | Wadsworth | Wolverine Saginaw | Wolverine Vassar | Women's Care Bay City | Women's Care West Branch

IT TAKES **LITTLE** TO BE **BIG**™



Big Brothers Big Sisters®

1176 Robert T. Longway Blvd
Flint, MI 48503
T 810-235-0617
F 810-235-0689
www.bbbsflint.org

Mission: To create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth

President/CEO
Lisa J Humphrey

Governing Board of Directors

Chair
James Washington

1st Vice-Chair
Mark Branoff

2nd Vice-Chair
Tiffany Peeler

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Shelley Hufton

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DeWayn Allen

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Lincoln Ward

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Fermeko Myles
Kenneth Parker
Michael Perry
Gloria Rogers-Byers
Matthew Strnad
Cassandra Willis

March 17, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Flint and Genesee County, I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a community-based organization and provides one-to-one mentorship to youth in Flint and Genesee County. Community partnerships like FACT allow the organization increase our capacity to provide holistic services to not only the child or youth, but the the family, when applicable. The collective efforts allow community organizations to maximize funding and effectively serve local youth and families.

As the President/CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Flint and Genesee County, I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

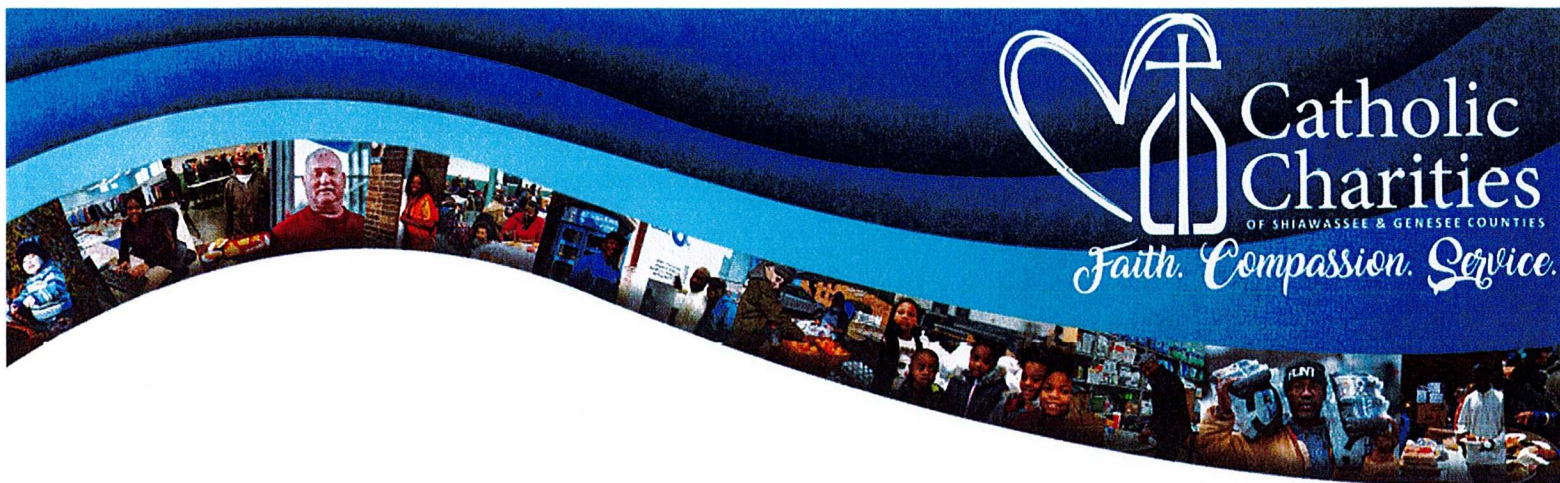
Lisa Humphrey, President/CEO



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters®**
OF FLINT & GENESSEE
COUNTY



Funded Partner



March 18, 2025

Dear: Collaborative Partner

On behalf of Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties, I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) which supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or who are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able to access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the CEO, I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Katherine Baxter, LMSW
CEO

Catholic Charities of Shiawassee & Genesee Counties

VOLUNTEER



SCAN ME

Sheridan Center • 901 Chippewa Street, Flint MI 48503 • 810-232-9950
Owosso Office • 1480 N. M-52, Suite 1, Owosso MI 48867 • 989-723-8239
Center for Hope • 812 Root Street, Flint MI 48503 • 810-265-7025
Children's Center • 575 Louisa Street, Flint MI 48503 • 810-232-3418
North End Soup Kitchen • 735 Stewart Avenue, Flint, MI 48505 • 810-785-6911



www.ccsge.org

Date: March 15, 2025

Dear: Ms. McCaughey,

On behalf of Community Resolution Center I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the Executive Director of the Community Resolution Center I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dayna Harper

Dayna Harper, Ed.D.
Executive Director
Community Resolution Center
315 E. Court Street, Suite 200
Flint, MI 49502



Showing the Love of Christ • Restoring Hope • Rebuilding Lives

Date: 03/17/2025

To Whom It May Concern:

Officers:

President

Lionel Wernette

Vice President

Reggie Smith

Secretary

Becky Bennett

Treasurer

Amanda Skaff

Directors

Judy Clippard

Cheston Downs

Sarah Elkins

Celeste Lord-Timlin

Lisa Horne

Tim Jones

Rhonda Mattiuzzo

Pastor Thomas Mattiuzzo

Rev. Dr. Joseph Novak

Connie Pangle

Rev. Jeremy Peters

Pastor Michael Stone

Board of Advisors

Dee Lada

Rev. Dr. Doug Mercer

William H. Piper

Dr. John L. Snell

Ruth Thrash

Dawn Vallee

Staff

Executive Director

Denise Diller

Development Officer

Tiffany Sommers

Center Coordinator

Karen Dukes

Customer Service

Andre Brown

Sponsoring Churches

Court St. United Methodist

First Presbyterian

St. Paul's Episcopal

Every Nation Church

On behalf of Crossover Outreach, I am pleased to express my strong endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT), an organization dedicated to supporting families and service providers in Genesee and Saginaw Counties.

FACT has established itself as a vital community asset, strengthening connections between service providers and enhancing the critical support available to vulnerable families. Their dedication to improving outcomes for parents and children is evident through their proactive approach in ensuring families can access essential services with ease and dignity.

Through a community-centered prevention model, FACT provides comprehensive support and connections for families at risk of entering—or already involved in—the child welfare system. Their services include:

- An 877 Helpline offering immediate support and referrals
- A safe and neutral Hub space for family meetings
- Community trainings to educate and empower service providers
- Resource coordination for tutoring, housing, transportation, and more

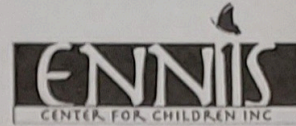
This holistic approach not only prioritizes the well-being of children but strengthens entire families, fostering trust, empowerment, and stability through expanded access to community resources.

As the Development Officer at Crossover Outreach, I fully support and advocate for the continued funding and expansion of FACT's work. By promoting collaboration among community organizations, FACT is helping to create a more efficient, effective, and compassionate system of support for the families who need it most.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Sommers
Development Officer



"With the support of the community, we preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary."

1112 W. Bristol Road, Flint, MI 48507 / Phone: 810.233.4031 / Fax: 810.233.0008

To Whom It May Concern:

March 17, 2025

On behalf of Ennis Center for Children, Inc. I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

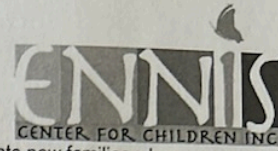
As the Chief Executive Officer, I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erin L. Covert". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Erin L. Covert
CEO, Ennis Center for Children, Inc.



"With the support of the community, we preserve families when possible and create new families when necessary."

Admin: 1112 W. Bristol Rd., Flint, MI 48507 / Phone: 810.233.4031 / Fax: 810.243.0327

March 18, 2025

Dear Collaborative Partner:

On behalf of Ennis Center for Children, Inc., I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the Executive Assistant and Social Media Coordinator for Ennis Center for Children, Inc., I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Darla Haynes".

Darla Haynes
Executive Assistant and Social Media Coordinator





FAMILY JUSTICE GROUP

DAVID KELLY & JERRY MILNER

March 18, 2025

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing on behalf of the Family Justice Group, a national child welfare technical assistance organization, to endorse Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. The Family Justice Group has provided on-the-ground support for FACT for the past two years, and we know first-hand what a vital community asset they are in supporting vulnerable families. We have watched FACT grow from a concept to an active presence in the community that is supporting families before crises lead to engagement of government agencies in their lives.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that focuses on the children and their families in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the co-founders and co-directors of the Family Justice Group, we support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families. We believe that this kind of community-based family-support is a model that can be replicated in Michigan and throughout the country as a non-intrusive way of supporting families to care for their children in safe and healthy ways.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

David Kelly & Jerry Milner

[Type here]

3/17/2025

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of InvolvedDad, a local fatherhood organization, I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the executive director, I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Sincerely,



Shon Hart, Executive Director

InvolvedDad

InvolvedDad | Family Matters | DIALOGUE | IMPACT | PROTECT | Family Forward
1172 Robert T Longway Blvd, Flint, MI 48503 | website: www.involveddad.org
"Turning the hearts of fathers back to their children, one father at a time."



Date: March 13, 2025

Dear:

On behalf of The MADE Institute, I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host training for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able to access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families.

This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available. As the title/position within the organization I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

**Thank you.
Sincerely,**

**Leon El-Alamin
Executive Director**



3121 Sheridan Avenue, Saginaw, Michigan 48601-2941

Phone: (989) 798-605 or (989) 327-1760

Bishop Larry D. Camel, Founder/Pastor

“ . . . A Church That ♥ Loves ♥ Everybody. . . ”

Date: March 19, 2025

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

On behalf of New Birth Missionary Baptist Cathedral I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the title/position within the organization I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Bishop Larry D. Camel



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SAGINAW COUNTY

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

March 14, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of Saginaw Department of Health and Human Services I am writing to express my endorsement for Families and Children Acting Together (FACT) that supports families and service providers within the communities of Genesee and Saginaw Counties. FACT has proven itself as a vital community asset in connecting service providers and offering support to enhance the work they are providing to vulnerable families. Further, they have become valued partners in working with these vulnerable families to access these services resulting in better outcomes for parents and their children.

FACT has developed a community prevention approach to serving families and children through support and connection by providing referrals and resources to families at risk of entering the child welfare system or are already in the system. This community-based approach consists of an 877 Helpline, providing a safe and neutral Hub space for families to meet, host trainings for community members, and promoting community needs. In addition, these families are able access additional services such as tutoring, housing, transportation, and coordinate these efforts in a manner that leads to empowerment and a greater sense of well-being for the families. This is a holistic approach that not only focuses on the children but on the family in a manner that develops trust and expands on the community resources that are available.

As the local office Director I support and advocate for the appropriation needed to continue and expand the work of FACT that promotes the collaboration of community resources creating a more efficient and effective way to deliver services to our vulnerable families.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jennifer Shores".

Jennifer Shores, Director