



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Greg
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
Alexander
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.  
n/a
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Thumb Industries Inc.
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
721 N Van Dyke Road, Bad Axe, MI 48413
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
721 N Van Dyke Road, Bad Axe, MI 48413
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
Greg Alexander | District 98
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.  
As part of our continued efforts to strengthen communities and create inclusive opportunities, I am proud to support Thumb Industries, Inc. in partnership with Huron Behavioral Health. Together, they are advancing an initiative to provide essential job skills training for individuals with disabilities—an investment in both people and our local economy.  
Thumb Industries plans to establish a dedicated classroom to teach practical job skills

such as stocking, janitorial and housekeeping services, operating a cash register, customer service, office administration, production work, and more. Participants will graduate with a certificate of completion that can assist them in securing meaningful employment within the community.

This program reflects Thumb Industries' unwavering commitment to empowering adults with disabilities to build fulfilling careers. Their Job Readiness Services offer the training, confidence, and support needed to thrive in competitive or supportive work environments.

Participants are prepared for in-demand roles in janitorial services, cashiering, stocking, manufacturing, and reception—addressing critical workforce needs while promoting independence and community integration.

This initiative delivers substantial public benefit by helping close workforce participation gaps for Michiganders with disabilities. Employment not only fosters self-sufficiency and personal dignity, but also reduces reliance on public benefits, enhances mental well-being, and helps build inclusive, vibrant communities. It also provides local businesses with a reliable, well-trained workforce that reflects the rich diversity of our region.

The proposed \$1,000,000 in funding for this initiative serves a clear public purpose and therefore does not violate Article IV, Section 30 of the Michigan Constitution.

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.

1000000

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

["Local"]

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.'

Timothy Fritz, Chairman; Mark Brown, Vice Chairman; Jan Holz, Secretary; Randi Rambo-Guigar, Treasurer; Doug Brining; Jon Volk; Greg Newland; Misty Rogers; Shawn Weber; and Laura Polega

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:

Immediately upon receiving the award | Until award is depleted.

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

Yes



# About Us....

Thumb Industries, Inc. is a leading private, non-profit provider of job training services for individuals with vocational barriers. We have been providing services in the thumb of Michigan since 1970. Our organization provides services to over 200 individuals with disabilities each year. We also provide a variety of services to meet the needs of the individuals and businesses that we serve. Our employment services programs are designed to provide individuals with little to no work experience the opportunity to work in various community settings.

## Thumb Industries provides the following services to our community:

- **Manufacturing Services** – We support 6 local manufacturers; including, Gemini, Thumb Plastics, Valley Enterprises, Regency Plastics, Walbro, and Ametek-Drexelbrook. We produce small assemblies for these companies. Consumers complete light assembly and packing work.
- **Janitorial Services** - Crews clean 26 buildings that cover over 200,000 square feet of building space throughout Huron county.
- **Retail Training Services** – The Thrift Store moved to its current location at 721 N. Van Dyke in the spring of 2021. The community has been very supportive of our store, through its donation of goods and by shopping at the Thrift Store for treasures in our constantly changing inventory. ***All items donated to our organization stay within our community and provide job opportunities to the individuals that we serve.***
- **Micro Business Support Services** - Our organization also supports individuals that own their own micro business. These small businesses provide goods and services such as snack bar services, packaged cards and homemade craft items.
- **Employment Services** – This program provides assistance to individuals that are looking for competitive employment in the community. Our staff works with an individual to assess their interests, skills and abilities and assists them in finding work that matches their individual strengths. Thumb Industries also provides on-going support and training to ensure that the individual is successful on the job.

Continued on back.....

Thumb Industries takes pride in serving our local community. Since 1989, Supported Employment Services have obtained employment for over 530 individuals with disabilities throughout Huron and Sanilac Counties. 60 Huron and Sanilac County businesses partner with Thumb Industries, and provide training sites for our consumers. Over 240 businesses have hired individuals with disabilities through our supported employment program. We also pride ourselves in working with the next generation of workers, the students of our communities. Thumb Industries also provided services to students transitioning from school to work. These services included a summer employment program, as well as, linking and coordinating students with necessary and available resources throughout our community.

We also recognize the importance of giving back to our community as well. In 2024, Thumb Industries gave over \$40,000 in goods to students, fire victims, individuals in need and our customers. Our staff is also involved in the community and volunteer for various clubs and organizations.

Thumb Industries has been successful because of the cooperative interaction between our various departments, local businesses, partnering agencies, donors, staff and consumers. We invite the community to visit our locations and become familiar with the work of our organization and the consumers we serve. Because of the community's ongoing support, we continue to provide job opportunities to individuals with barriers to employment and will do so well into the future.



## **Thumb Industries, Inc.**

### ***DID YOU KNOW...***

- ➔ In the past ten years, the Thumb Industries Thrift Shop has increased store sales by 63%. The Thrift Shop currently employs 33 staff members and persons with disabilities. Proceeds from the Thrift Shop are re-invested in the non-profit facility to continue to provide vocational training.
- ➔ In April 2021, Thumb Industries opened an expanded Thrift Store in the north end of Bad Axe. This 40,000 square foot location houses our store, donation center, administrative offices and Employment Services offices. All clothing and household items are accepted at this location. Antique and collectible items are also located at this location.
- ➔ Thumb Industries janitorial crews clean 26 buildings throughout the Huron County area and employ 15 staff members and individuals with disabilities.
- ➔ Janitorial crews clean over 200,000 square feet of buildings. Two crews provide cleaning services Monday through Friday, 52 weeks a year.
- ➔ Thumb Industries completed manufacturing services for local businesses such as Gemini Plastics, Thumb Plastics, Valley Enterprises, Regency Plastics, Walbro and Ametek-Drexelbrook. 28 staff members and consumers work in our manufacturing department.
- ➔ Since 1989, Supported Employment Services have obtained employment for 530 individuals with disabilities throughout the Huron and Sanilac County area.
- ➔ Over 240 Huron and Sanilac Businesses have hired individuals with disabilities through our Supported Employment Services.
- ➔ 60 Huron and Sanilac County businesses have worked with Thumb Industries in providing a training site for our consumers. This allows individuals to learn a variety of jobs available to their community.
- ➔ Thumb Industries provided services for over 100 individuals with disabilities in the last year. 58 referrals were made for services in 2024.
- ➔ Thumb Industries provided transition services to 14 students transitioning from school to work in Huron and Sanilac Counties in 2024. These services included a summer employment program and linking and coordinating to necessary resources in the community.
- ➔ 2 consumers own their own business with the support of Thumb Industries staff. These businesses consist of custom jewelry, crafts, and snack bar services.

August 17, 2022

Rhonda S. Wisenbaugh  
Thumb Industries, Inc.  
721 North Van Dyke Road  
Bad Axe, MI 48413

Dear Mrs. Wisenbaugh:

It is my pleasure to inform you that Thumb Industries, Inc. has been issued CARF accreditation based on its recent survey. The Three-Year Accreditation applies to the following program(s)/service(s):

Community Employment Services: Employment Supports  
Community Employment Services: Job Development  
Employment Planning Services

This accreditation will extend through August 31, 2025. This achievement is an indication of your organization's dedication and commitment to improving the quality of the lives of the persons served. Services, personnel, and documentation clearly indicate an established pattern of conformance to standards.

The accreditation report is intended to support a continuation of the quality improvement of your organization's program(s)/service(s). It contains comments on your organization's strengths as well as any consultation and recommendations. A Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) demonstrating your organization's efforts to implement the survey recommendation(s) must be submitted within the next 90 days to retain accreditation. The QIP form is posted on Customer Connect ([customerconnect.carf.org](https://customerconnect.carf.org)), CARF's secure, dedicated website for accredited organizations and organizations seeking accreditation. Please log on to Customer Connect and follow the guidelines contained in the QIP form.

Your organization should take pride in achieving this high level of accreditation. CARF will recognize this accomplishment in its listing of organizations with accreditation and encourages your organization to make its accreditation known throughout the community. Communication of the accreditation to your referral and funding sources, the media, and local and federal government officials can promote and distinguish your organization. Enclosed are some materials that will help you publicize this achievement.

Your organization's complimentary accreditation certificate will be sent separately. You may order additional certificates from Customer Connect (<https://customerconnect.carf.org>).

If you have any questions regarding your organization's accreditation or the QIP, you are encouraged to seek support from Leshan Mitchell by email at [lmitchell@carf.org](mailto:lmitchell@carf.org) or telephone at (888) 281-6531, extension 7104.

CARF encourages your organization to continue fully and productively using the CARF standards as part of its ongoing commitment to accreditation. CARF commends your organization's commitment and consistent efforts to improve the quality of its program(s)/service(s) and looks forward to working with your organization in its ongoing pursuit of excellence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian J. Boon Ph.D." in a cursive script.

Brian J. Boon, Ph.D.  
President/CEO

Enclosures





**CARF Accreditation Report**  
**for**  
**Thumb Industries, Inc.**  
**Three-Year Accreditation**



**CARF International Headquarters**  
6951 E. Southpoint Road  
Tucson, AZ 85756-9407, USA

[www.carf.org](http://www.carf.org)

# Contents

Executive Summary

Survey Details

Survey Participants

Survey Activities

Program(s)/Service(s) Surveyed

Representations and Constraints

Survey Findings

Program(s)/Service(s) by Location

## About CARF

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accreditor of health and human services, enhancing the lives of persons served worldwide.

The accreditation process applies CARF's internationally recognized standards during a site survey conducted by peer surveyors. Accreditation, however, is an ongoing process that distinguishes a provider's service delivery and signals to the public that the provider is committed to continuous performance improvement, responsive to feedback, and accountable to the community and its other stakeholders.

CARF accreditation promotes providers' demonstration of value and Quality Across the Lifespan® of millions of persons served through application of rigorous organizational and program standards organized around the ASPIRE to Excellence® continuous quality improvement framework. CARF accreditation has been the recognized benchmark of quality health and human services for more than 50 years.

For more information or to contact CARF, please visit [www.carf.org/contact-us](http://www.carf.org/contact-us).

**Organization**

Thumb Industries, Inc.  
721 North Van Dyke Road  
Bad Axe, MI 48413

**Organizational Leadership**

Rhonda S. Wisenbaugh, Executive Director  
Tim Fritz, Board President

**Survey Number**

159117

**Survey Date(s)**

July 18, 2022–July 19, 2022

**Surveyor(s)**

Debby L. Graham, MA, Administrative  
Anddy S. Perdomo, MPA, Program

**Program(s)/Service(s) Surveyed**

Community Employment Services: Employment Supports  
Community Employment Services: Job Development  
Employment Planning Services

**Previous Survey**

August 5, 2019–August 7, 2019  
Three-Year Accreditation

**Accreditation Decision**

Three-Year Accreditation  
Expiration: August 31, 2025



# 2025

## CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

This is to certify that

# Thumb Industries, Inc.

has met all requirements for affiliation and is  
herewith granted membership to observe the  
duties and enjoy the rights and privileges which  
are accorded by the Bylaws of the Association.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd W. Culver", written over a horizontal line.

Todd Culver,  
President & CEO

**COMMUNITY BASED WORK SERVICE  
OUTCOME MEASUREMENTS SYSTEM  
-WORK SERVICES-**

PERIOD COVERING: January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024  
Annual Review

**I. Participant Descriptors**

- A. Number of program consumers served this period: 12
- B. Number of terminees this period: 5
- C. Average number of consumers participating/training in:
  - a. Resale Store 3 (25%)
  - b. Janitorial 3 (25%)
  - c. Enclaves 0 (0%)
  - d. Facility Based Manufacturing 5 (42%)
  - e. Micro businesses 2 (17%)
  - f. Community Base 0 (0%)
- D. Number of consumers involved in multiple sites: 0 (0%)
- E. Percent of Consumers by age:
  - a. 16-17 years of age: 0 (0%)
  - b. 18-40 years of age: 5 (42%)
  - c. 41-65 years of age: 7 (58%)
  - d. 66-85 years of age: 0 (0%)
  - e. 86+ years of age: 0 (0%)
- F. Percent of Consumers with Primary Diagnosis of:
  - a. Mental Illness: 3 (25%)
  - b. Developmental Disability: 5 (42%)
  - c. Dual Diagnosis: 1 (8%)
  - d. Autism: 3 (57%)
  - e. Dementia: 0 (0%)
  - f. Other: 0 (0%)



G. Percent of Consumers with:

- |    |                              |        |
|----|------------------------------|--------|
| a. | Speech/Language Impairments: | 1 (8%) |
| b. | Hearing Impairments:         | 0 (0%) |
| c. | Vision Impairments:          | 1 (8%) |
| d. | Mobility Impairments:        | 0 (0%) |

H. Consumers residing in:

- |    |                          |         |
|----|--------------------------|---------|
| a. | Independent Living:      | 2 (17%) |
| b. | Semi-Independent Living: | 0 (0%)  |
| c. | Adult Foster Care:       | 4 (33%) |
| d. | Living with Family:      | 6 (50%) |
| e. | Other:                   | 0 (0%)  |

I. Percent of consumers with history of:

- |    |                |        |
|----|----------------|--------|
| a. | Alcohol Abuse: | 0 (0%) |
| b. | Drug Abuse:    | 0 (0%) |

J. Percent of Consumers with Ethnic Background of:

- |    |                   |           |
|----|-------------------|-----------|
| a. | Caucasian:        | 12 (100%) |
| b. | African American: | 0 (0%)    |
| c. | Asian:            | 0 (0%)    |
| d. | American Indian:  | 0 (0%)    |
| e. | Hispanic:         | 0 (5%)    |

K. Percent of Time Consumers involved in Work Services:

- |    |              |         |
|----|--------------|---------|
| a. | 0-5 years:   | 4 (33%) |
| b. | 6-10 years:  | 2 (17%) |
| c. | 11-15 years: | 4 (33%) |
| d. | 16+ years:   | 2 (17%) |

L. Gender Percentage of Consumers:

- |    |         |         |
|----|---------|---------|
| a. | Male:   | 8 (67%) |
| b. | Female: | 4 (33%) |

M. Staff to Consumer Ratio: 1:6

II. Supplementals:

- A: Average Wage of Consumers in Work Services: \$10.33
- a. Number of participants earning minimum wage: 12 (100%)
  - b. Number of participants earning deviated wage: 0 (0%)
- B. Number of days no paid work available: 0
- C. Total number of days program closed to:
- a. Weather/Transportation not operating: 0 day
  - b. Holidays: 10 days
  - c. Inservice Days: 0 days
  - d. Other: 0 days
- D. Number on Referral/Waiting List at time of report: 0
- E. Length of time on Referral/Waiting List: N/A

Completed by:           Jessica Bruno

**WORK SERVICE PROGRAM**  
**OUTCOME MEASUREMENT SYSTEM**

**PERIOD COVERING:** January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

**Annual Review**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>		<b>OPTIMUM</b>	<b>WEIGHTS OUTCOME</b>	<b>MINIMUM</b>	<b>GOAL</b>
<b><u>EFFECTIVENESS OBJECTIVES</u></b> Maximize the percentage of individuals that maintain or show progress on their Person Centered Plan Goals	25	40%	50%	60%	39%
<b><u>EFFICIENCY OBJECTIVE</u></b> Maximize the number of individuals who have been continuously employed six months or more	25	40%	50%	60%	75%
<b><u>SERVICE ACCESS OBJECTIVE</u></b> Minimize the time taken to set first appointment	25	10 days	7 days	5 days	N/A
<b><u>SATISFACTION</u></b> Maximize number of participants who are satisfied with program	25	60%	80%	100%	100%