

Your Dollars at Work



Success Stories

Community Priorities

- Emergency Assistance
- Youth Development
- Strengthening Families and Youth
- Prevention of Domestic Violence
- Job Retention
- Adult and Senior Safety Net

Community Priority Area 1: Emergency Assistance

Goal – To provide short-term emergency support while reducing future demands.

Partner Agency: Clinton County Family Resource Center

- **Program: Clinton County CARES.** “Theresa” was in need of help with formula for her five day old infant. Her homeless case worker was unable to come up with a resource for her. Through a collaboration with the Beacon of Hope Family Care Center, the coordinator with Clinton County CARES was able to get her formula until Theresa’s appointment with her WIC representative. Theresa was very thankful for everyone’s help.

Partner Agency: The Salvation Army

- **Program: Permanent Supportive Housing.** After successfully operating a limousine service, owning two rental homes, and returning to college—for the hearing impaired—to complete the final year required for a bachelor’s in social work, John’s life seemingly fell to pieces. The rental market seemed to deteriorate and John suffered through the death of his parents and only daughter. After the loss of the rental homes and an ensuing divorce John found himself lost in depression with no where to turn. In addition, the two limousines John utilized as his primary source of income broke down. Although John was able to acquire SSI as a result of his depression and hearing impairment, he could not find an affordable place to live. After residing in his vehicle for nearly a year John came to The Salvation Army to acquire a food order. Upon sharing a few of the circumstances he was facing he was referred to The Salvation Army Permanent Supportive Housing Program (SA PSH). After enrolling in the SA PSH program, John was placed in a safe, affordable apartment outside the downtown area. With the stability of a safe place to call home, John immediately began to address the various barriers which had prevented him from living independently. John worked diligently with his SA PSH Case Coordinator to acquire a mental health therapist to provide counseling and medications for a nominal fee, faced a warrant for arrest as a result of parking tickets while sleeping in his vehicle, learned to maintain a budget, worked to re-establish his credit, utilized Michigan Rehabilitation Services to acquire custom hearing aids and develop a resume, and recently acquired part-time employment. John’s goal is now to return to Lansing Community College to complete the one remaining year required for his Bachelor’s Degree. After watching John’s progress throughout his time in the program, we at the Salvation Army are fully confident in his ability to do so.

Partner Agency: Volunteers of America

- **Program: New Hope Day Shelter.** A former client wrote this testimonial. “I was living with friends and they were evicted. I have no family up here and no where to go with my one year old son. I stayed a couple of nights without him to see how it was and it was very warm and comforting. I now have a home and being homeless helped me become stable and want so much more. The Volunteers of America staff was so helpful and caring even some of the other people there were nice. I really enjoyed my stay at the Volunteers of America and if I was ever homeless again, I would stay at the Volunteers of America again.”

Partner Agency: Salvation Army

- **Program: Emergency Family Services/Housing Placement.** Curtis Brown, a 50 year old divorced, African American male was referred to HPP while accessing shelter at the City Rescue Mission. He became homeless after an inspector came to his home and stated his apartment was a fire hazard. He left and went to stay with his brother, but things didn't work out, so he went to the shelter. He stated he was homeless in February of 2000 for two weeks after relocating from Ypsilanti. Curtis stated the longest amount of time he rented an apartment was in Ypsilanti for three to four years. He stated he has lived with his parents on and off for most of his life after the motorcycle accident that left him unable to work. Curtis receives \$974 from Social Security, making most one bedroom housing affordable. Curtis indicated he would like to live in subsidized housing at Riverfront, Capitol Commons Seniors, or Friendship Manor. He applied at all three complexes and began to receive letters that he was denied due to a poor credit history. He stated he hadn't ever seen his credit report, and was unsure what debts would show up. With the help of HPP, Curtis wrote letter to the credit reporting agencies, requesting a copy of the report. He also requested appeals at all three complexes; all were owned by First Housing Corporation. He received denials to all three appeals. His caseworker helped him realize that he needed to take immediate action to repair the problem. His HPP counselor helped Curtis create a plan to pay off \$500 of the \$1000 debt on his credit report. HPP called all of the companies and verified the amounts owed and the addresses to send payment. Curtis provided money orders for the debts and HPP faxed copies of them to First Housing Corporation. The following day, First Housing called HPP and stated they were able to approve Curtis' application. He could move in immediately. He applied to FIA for assistance with his \$249 deposit. He was approved and HPP was able to pay his first month's rent.

Partner Agency: Cristo Rey Community Center

- **Program: Prescription Assistance Program.** Anthony and Joan are a couple ages 69 and 66 years old respectively. Both of them contacted the Prescription Assistance Program because they could not afford their medication every month since their only source of income is their Social Security benefits from retirement. Anthony receives \$762.00 and Joan receives \$294 every month which barely covers their maintenance bills and their living expenses. They have been able to receive their respective medication at no cost by apply directly to the Prescription Assistance Program office by the pharmaceutical companies to the citizenry. In order for this to be a success, they require an advocate to them help them fill out the necessary paperwork, send the require information to each pharmaceutical company, and finally follow up on their application every three months so they could have their prescriptions filled with running out of medication and without paying neither for medicine nor for advocacy services provide as advocate. Anthony's month medications total \$929.10 and Joan's medications total \$2,092.32, and a total for both of \$3,021.50. Anthony and Joan say "this is a blessing, and we appreciate everyday of our lives not only the medication, but for the services provided at Cristo Rey."

Partner Agency: Cristo Rey Community Center

- **Program: Prescription Assistance Program.** Mary Jane is a 46 year old woman, who came to Cristo Rey Community Center asking for help to see a doctor because she didn't have any medical Insurance. She received an appointment with the doctor at the Clinic, and the doctor referred her to the Prescription Assistance Program for help to get her needed medications. Mary and her husband have been going through a very difficult time. Her husband has been paralyzed since September 2005 because of a birth defect. At the time of the illness they had no income and no health insurance, they applied for Social Security Disability but it was not effective until April 2006 with monthly income of \$1,046. Since that time relatives and friend had helped them to pay for food, rent, bills, but it was not enough to buy her medications. Upon learning of the Prescription Assistance Program, she was worried about filling out the paperwork that is required by each company. She was relieved to learn that the program helps people coordinate the whole process, the process of linking low income people, their doctors and various pharmaceutical companies together to provide the necessary mediations. The process also talks to doctors (when necessary), follow up on the applications and let them know the status, all this with no cost to the people. Mary Jane received a three month supply of mediation shipped to the doctor's office for dispensing to here. Refills will be ordered every three months if medically appropriate for her. The monthly cost of Mary Jane's medications is \$547.30. Mary Jane is very pleased finding the help she needed with this program. She had been without her medication because she was not able to pay for them and today her health is better due to them. Thanks to the help she received from Cristo Rey Community Center.

Community Priority Area 2: Youth Development

Goal – To develop successful children and youth.

Partner Agency: Gateway Community Services

- **Program: Crossroads Homeless Youth Shelter and Transitional Living Program.** “Katie” moved into the Crossroads program in August of 2005. At this time, “Katie” was not in a healthy place emotionally. She was not enrolled in school, not employed, and was unfamiliar with the Lansing area. On top of all that, “Katie” also had little to no support from the people in her life. During her stay in the program, “Katie” made several positive steps in her life. She was able to gain employment soon after moving in. She enrolled in school and was able to do well academically. “Katie” also learned the CATA bus system, as this would be her main source of transportation. Even though “Katie” did suffer a setback which caused her to leave our residential program, that did not stop her from meeting with her Case Manager and continuing to work toward her goals. “Katie” was accepted back into the residential part of our program one month later. At that point in time, she picked up where she had left off. “Katie” was also able to find a new job that she still employed at and pays her more money. She continued to do well academically in school. “Katie’s” main goal in the Crossroad program was to achieve independent living . She had been working with her Case manager and Independent Living Skills instructor on developing the tools that she would need to do this. In April of this year, she was able to achieve her goal. She was able to find an apartment that was affordable for herself and her roommates as well as being close to her school and job. “Katie” worked hard toward her goals and did not let setbacks or adversity stop her from achieving the. She has proven that hard work, along with reliable support and guidance, can result in achieving what you want to achieve.

Partner Agency: Big Brothers Big Sisters – Michigan Capital Region

- **Program: One-to-One Mentoring.** Alan Drake and Frank Kelley were matched through the school based program since December 2003. They meet on a weekly basis during Alan's lunch hour. Alan said they mostly talk about his family, school and friends during their time together, but sometimes they play games and work on multiplication. Alan was referred by the school because he needed assistance in the areas of school performance, classroom behavior, and because his mother was not a consistent part of Alan's life. The past two and a half years, Alan and Frank have really gotten to know one another. Alan said, "I have made some friends at my school, but Frank is my best friend ever!" Alan also said that "Frank really helps me control my anger and with my difficulties in class." Alan has been known to have a temper at times when frustrated. Frank has been working with him on that. When Alan and Frank were first matched, it was at Verlinden Elementary. A year after their match began, Alan switched schools. Big Brothers Big Sisters did not have a program at Alan's new school, but Frank said that even if he was the only mentor in the whole school, he would definitely follow Alan there. Frank has been meeting at Alan's new school, Cumberland, ever since! Frank reports that Alan seems to have better self-confidence, a better sense of his future, and seems to be getting along better with his family since the beginning of their match. Frank has decided to continue for the 2006-2007 school year as well, and help Alan through his last year as an elementary school student. In June of 2005, Alan's third grade teacher reported that since the beginning of Frank and Alan's match, Alan seems to have gained more self-confidence, is better able to make decisions, and uses more school and community resources. The friendship that Alan and Frank have is truly special and unique. Frank said he feels lucky to have been given the chance to make a difference in Alan's life. However, Alan is the lucky one to have met someone as dedicated and reliable as Frank. In fact, last month one of the Big Brothers Big Sisters' Case Managers asked Alan if there was anything else she should know about his relationship with Frank. Alan thought a moment and then stated, "The thing you should know is that he has been like a real Big Brother to me!"

Partner Agency: Youth Development Corporation

- **Program: Spartan Friends.** Celina was a sixth grader at Otto Middle School in Lansing. She always made an effort, went to school every day, and did all of her school work but was failing with all D's. Her mother discussed Celina's situation with the school counselor who put her in touch with YDC's Mentoring Coordinator and Celina was assigned a mentor. Karen became her mentor and friend. Within a year, Celina's grade point average jumped up a whole point. The relationship continued for three years and even though the mentor program was only for middle school students, Karen continued to mentor Celina through her freshman year in high school. This helped her adjust to high school and Celina's grades and confidence kept rising. During the eighth grade, Celina was nominated for an Olivet College Scholarship by the YDC. Celina is now attending Olivet College furthering her education. "YDC made a dream come true for me that I would have never thought was possible: attending college", said Celina.

Partner Agency: St. Vincent Catholic Charities

- **Program: Tutor/Mentor.** Denise is a volunteer in our Tutor/Mentor Program through St. Vincent Catholic Charities. She was assigned to mentor Susan, a 12 year old girl living at St. Vincent Home in the 90 day assessment program. Denise visited Susan every week, getting to know her and just showing her that someone cares. As the assessment was completed for Susan it was clear that she needed more intensive services and she was placed in a group home in Grand Rapids that specializes in longer term treatment for girls. As Denise got to know Susan she realized that she had no adults in her life who would visit her while she was in Grand Rapids. Denise talked with her husband, Tom, and they both thought it was important for Denise to continue her weekly visits with Susan. One day, out of the blue, Susan asked Denise if she and her husband had any children. Denise told her that they didn't. Susan then responded by saying "I don't have a mom and dad." This touched Denise deeply and she realized how much she did care for Susan. Denise and Tom started visiting Susan together and soon decided to begin the process of becoming adoptive parents, with the support of the group home administrators. At this time Susan knows that there is a couple interested in adopting her but she doesn't know who the couple is. The adoption study will be completed this week and Denise and Tom will have the right to adopt Susan. By the end of the week Denise and Tom will be telling Susan that they are the ones that love her and want her to become their daughter!

Partner Agency: YMCA of Metropolitan Lansing.

- **Program: Domestic Violence Intervention/Prevention.** “I am a single mother of two wonderful boys, Dylan and Jared. Dylan suffers from a form of autism called Aspergers Syndrome causing him to be immature both physically and socially. That is when Jared was diagnosed with Stage IV Neuroblastoma, and my efforts to maintain a normal life became a battle to save my youngest son’s life. We spent 2 1/2 years confined to either a hospital room or home. Physical health and socialization weren’t even a consideration for Dylan and me during that time due to my focus on Jared. I had no idea where to begin. That is when someone mentioned joining the YMCA and the scholarship program I could apply for. The day the scholarship came in the mail it was like being delivered a winning lottery ticket. I began using the gym immediately and within 2 months I was in great health again. The Oak Park Y has become a second home for me. It has also provided me with a safe place to bring my children. Dylan enjoys relaxing in the teen lounge, spending time away from the demands of this brother. He also wants to learn to swim. Having a family membership to the Y offers us the opportunity to achieve a sense of normalcy in our lives. It has given us something to look forward to daily. Without the scholarship we would be still confined to our home with no socialization and physical activity. With the membership we have something we had not had in years - hope for a normal life. Thank you.”

Partner Agency: Boys & Girls Club of Lansing.

- **Program: Develop Successful Children & Youth.** Kiera, a junior at Everett High School, was recently named the Boys & Girls Club of Lansing “Youth of the Year.” She competes in the statewide competition and was named the “Youth of the Year” for the state of Michigan! She will go on and compete regionally for a chance to be considered for the National Youth of the Year (the national youth of the year will receive their award at the oval office from President Bush.) In her speech, Kiera said “I was shy and unsure of myself when I came to the club as a child, the Boys & Girls Club of Lansing help me to become a more out-going and confident person. That really helped me in school, as well.” Hundreds of kids, every year, express the same sentiment. “I wasn’t the smartest kid in my family or the best looking or the one that excelled in sports. I often felt like I was nobody, that I didn’t matter. At the Boys & Girls club, I mattered. The staff knew my name and gave me high-fives just for coming in after school. Sometimes I would win the Lego contest or foosball and it made me feel like I was good at something.”

Community Priority Area 3: Strengthening Families and Youth

Goal – To develop safe and stable families and reduce child abuse and neglect.

Partner Agency: Child & Family Services, Capital Area

- **Program: PASS (Post Adoption Support Services).** Johnnie has been in a residential facility since January 31, 2002. He was discharged on November 4, 2005 and placed with Mildred Roberts, a licensed foster parent with Child & Family Services, Capital Area. Ms. Roberts met Johnnie at a Kinship Festival sponsored by MARE in June 2005 and expressed a special interest in having Johnnie placed with her. The two bonded almost immediately and Johnnie was very excited to finally have a permanent family. Johnnie now attends Waverly High School in Lansing and is in the tenth grade. Ms. Roberts has also enrolled Johnnie in a vocational education program through the school district to prepare him for adulthood as he transitions to independent living. Johnnie hopes to work with young children through structured recreational programs as his career goal. He plans to attend college (preferably MSU) after he graduates from high school. Johnnie loves playing basketball and is currently acting as a "team manager" in an unofficial capacity to the Varsity Basketball Team. He is also actively involved in a basketball and mentoring program for African American youth, HOPS, with Trinity AME Church with Mr. Daryl Hibbert, one of the program's founders and facilitators. Johnnie has formally joined the church where he and Ms. Roberts attend, Lansing Church of God in Christ, and he is a Junior Usher. Johnnie has overcome exceptional odds and he is proving that with a committed, dedicated and devoted family, he will like thrive and triumph into a successful adult. Services provided to the family included groups, individual, and family assistance and counseling.

Partner Agency: Legal Services of South Central Michigan

- **Program: Legal Assistance for Low Income Parents.** A recent client is a young mother. As a child, she received SSI for a learning disability. Besides having a learning disability, client had been raised in an isolated, abusive cult. In 2004 client received a letter from the SSA stating that “the criteria had changed,” and her benefits had been terminated. LSSCM requested the Social Security Administration client for a consultative evaluation, to evaluate her for post traumatic stress disorder caused by her violent childhood. The request was granted, and client was indeed found to have PTSD, in addition to a learning disability. At a “supplemental hearing” In February 2006, the ALJ found client to be disabled and awarded her benefits.

Program Agency : Expectant Parents Organization

- **Program: Prenatal and Parenting Classes.** “My husband and I took the prenatal class offered with Expectant Parents Organization for our fist child. I learned so much in that class. The nurse that taught the class was very experienced with child birth and parenting. She shared a very broad scope of experiences. The instructor brought to our attentions some situations new parents may experience. Ironically, she touched a little bit on projectile vomiting and if your baby experiences that type of vomit, seek medical attention immediately My baby was born with an obstructed bowl and malrotation of the intestines, which caused her to vomit bile, projectile. I recalled from my prenatal classes and immediately called the pediatrician. The pediatrician sent us to admitting at the hospital. Just a few hours later my 5 day old baby had emergency surgery to save her life. I think back to the instructor of my prenatal class, and if I would not have taken the class, I may not have reacted so quickly and not had such a positive outcome. I feel the information I gained from taking this class saved my baby’s life. I’m now pregnant for my second child and plan on taking the class again as a refresher.”- Tracy R.

Partner Agency: St. Vincent Catholic Charities

- **Program: Ballentine Stepping Stones.** In November of 2005, the agency provided shelter services to a mother and three children. In the beginning of this family's stay, the mother was very hesitant to receive counseling services for herself and her family. The mother explained that it was extremely difficult for her to share her feelings and deal with her issues. Even though the client was reluctant to attend individual counseling and support groups, the client consistently attended her scheduled Advocacy appointments and was persistent in accomplishing her goals. The client's major challenge was obtaining affordable housing. The client became interested in transition housing and was put on the list at Ballentine's Stepping Stones. As the client worked on her goals in Advocacy, she had identified a need to receive counseling services. The client had begun attending individual counseling and consistently attends the Family Focus and the Women's Empowerment Group. When space was made available at Ballentine's Stepping Stones for this family, they were able to exit the shelter and move into affordable housing there. At this time, not only has the client continued to attend individual counseling appointments, she is accessing non-residential Advocacy services and considering family counseling with her mother.

Partner Agency: Capital Area Literacy Coalition

- **Program: Family Literacy.** Mai Her, former Family School Partnership (FSP) Coordinator, recently moved to Novi. She is greatly missed. Mai participated as a child in the FSP program for two years. Later she returned as a teen tutor, was promoted to site supervisor and finally became the program coordinator. Mai is living proof of the value of sustained, continued support from the Capital Area Literacy Coalition. We wish her well.

Community Priority Area 4: Prevention of Domestic Violence

Goal – To reduce the incidence of domestic violence.

Partner Agency: MSU Safe Place

- **Program: Domestic Violence Intervention/Prevention.** Our agency sheltered a woman who had been in an abusive relationship and had her children taken from her because of that. She had three children from a previous relationship. While living with her boyfriend for six years, she was hospitalized with injuries on three different occasions. The police were called to an incident that resulted in her being hospitalized for two days. During this time the boyfriend left the home, and there was no one to watch the children. Children's Protective Services put her children in a temporary foster home. After she was ready to be discharged from the hospital, CPS decided to keep her children because they were concerned about exposure to further violence, and they had been informed by the boyfriend that the mother occasionally took illegal drugs. CPS informed this client that she had to get her own home, do random drug drops and leave the abusive relationship before she could get custody of her children. When she came to MSUSP she had no job, and no place to live. While staying in our shelter our staff drove her to weekly parenting time visits. After two months of being in shelter and attending our support group, she ad a job in a restaurant and was able to move into her own apartment. She had no contact with her ex-boyfriend and had no desire to return to that relationship. After another month of receiving non-residential advocacy services from us, she got her children back. She continues to have contact with our program and she and her children are doing well.

Partner Agency: Legal Services of South Central Michigan

- **Program: Legal Assistance for DV Survivors.** A client contacted LSSCM needing a divorce and immigration help. Client's husband was verbally and physically abusive throughout their three year marriage, and he refused to file any papers client needed in order to get her green card or work permit. The conciliator at Friend of the Court refused to issue spousal support, instead imputing income to client. The conciliator believed that a work permit could be easily gotten if client went to Refugee Services and inquired. Attorney filed objections and at the Referee hearing and client was awarded spousal support in excess of what the spousal support guidelines suggested. Attorney also helped client file for immigration relief under Violence Against Women Act; petitions are pending.

Partner Agency: Eve, Inc.

- **Program: Domestic Violence Intervention/Prevention.** Our agency had a woman without children who entered shelter after being on the run from her assailant for several years. She met with a counselor to receive information regarding various counseling services offered while she was staying in EVE's House shelter. She then began to meet with a counselor on a weekly basis. She addressed her eating habits and patterns, taking care of herself and building her sense of self-worth and confidence. Through these counseling sessions the client became more aware of her lifestyle and how her childhood impacted many of her adult relationships. She was able to identify her needs, evaluate previous relationships and determine how these relationships did not meet her needs and to implement strategies to assist her in getting her needs met in the future. The client established boundaries for her adult relationships and focused on changing her view of herself. She has since exited EVE's House and continues to receive EVE's counseling services. While this client stayed at EVE's House she achieved a name change and obtained a new Social Security number. The accomplishment of these tasks allowed her to feel that she would be safe from her assailant and to stay in this area where she could begin to build a new life.

Community Priority Area 5: Job Retention

Goal – To provide employee assistance to support job retention.

Partner Agency: Capital Area Center for Independent Living

- **Program: Community Employment Consortium (EAP).** The customer had been employed for 4 years with a Lansing area senior citizen living complex as a leasing agent. Customer is an above the knee, right leg amputation that was in need of a new prosthetic leg. Current prosthetic leg was beyond repair and causing health issues resulting in missed time from work. Customer was in need of a new prosthetic leg to maintain employment, since he was required to walk around the entire complex to show prospective residents and their families open units. The new prosthetic leg was not covered by insurance and customer did not have the financial resources to pay for it. (One income family with 4 children) Financial assistance was provided in obtaining a new medically prescribed prosthetic leg which allowed the customer to maintain employment.
- **Program: Community Employment Consortium (EAP).** Consumer received \$421.80 to pay Board of Water and Light so that she could retain employment: also received budget counseling to help with future emergency situations. This customer has three children and is in the process of getting a divorce; she was having financial difficulty and family issues that weighed heavily on her emotionally. She was determined to keep the job that she had so that she could provide for her children despite her divorce. She is still working that things are looking up for her.

- ***Program: Community Employment Consortium (EAP).*** Consumer received \$175.00 to help pay off a vehicle so that he could retain employment; also received budget counseling to help with further emergency situations. He is working two part time jobs that provide bare minimum for his family. Therefore, he did not have any extra money to pay for a car. However with the retention grant he was able to finish paying for the car and maintain both jobs.
- ***Program: Community Employment Consortium (EAP).*** Customer is self-employed, however due to a disability related issue has problems with speech. As a result customer was unable to speak clearly, which severely impacted her ability to attract and retain clients. An evaluation by a speech pathologist resulted in the recommendation for a speech enhancing unit. This unit was ordered and with training, along with additional adjustment has significantly improved speech clarity for this customer. In addition, while this customer uses the speech enhancing unit; she has put forth less effort to speak, thus increasing her work endurance. With the used of the speech enhancer this customer's practice has grown in size, in addition to being able to expand business in the direction of providing trainings which previously was not possible due to speech limitations.
- ***Program: Community Employment Consortium (EAP).*** The customer is a 47 year old WM referred by a friend to MRS. Their history included major depression, back pain and substance abuse. The customer was provided counseling resulting in stability for him to successfully maintain he job. Support was also given to him by the substance abuse counselor to give support to help him maintain his recovery. That resulted in maintaining employment.

Community Priority Area 6: Adult and Senior Safety Net

Goal – To enable adults and seniors, otherwise unable to pay, to maintain their self-sufficiency and independence.

Partner Agency: New Way In, Inc.

- **Program: Ex Offenders Program.** “Ann” was a young woman who had been involved in a petty theft in her youth. She has since turned her life around and been a model citizen. However, because of the criminal conviction, she could not consider certain occupations, including health care. With United Way funds, she was able to pay for the fees to get her criminal conviction set aside. She can now move forward with her life having learned much from her one mistake.

Partner Agency: Legal Services of South Central Michigan

- **Program: Adult and Senior Safety Net/Legal Services.** A client contacted LSSCM in March 2006. She was being evicted from her apartment for an alleged health hazard. Client is 61 years old and disabled. Her two cats and dog are her family. LSSCM assisted client in submitting a Request for Accommodation to her landlord, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act. At the hearing, LSSCM was able to negotiate a settlement order allowing client to continue to live in the apartment with her pets.

Partner Agency: Capital Area Center for Independent Living

- **Program: Mid-Adult Day Program.** A new member at the Center is visually impaired. When she first came to CACIL, she was isolated and didn't have many friends. She was so excited about the program that she wanted to attend everything. She came on a quilting day even though she had never done any sewing before. One of the other consumers worked with her and, by the end of the day, she was sewing quilting squares.