

Macatawa Community Alliance

June 30, 2025

To: Holland Charter Township
From: Macatawa Community Alliance.

Thank you for receiving our application to fund the MCA for fiscal year 2026. Our program is in continual development and we are happy to see it grow with more community participation. We are asking the Township to fund \$20,000 so that we can deliver these vital services.

The objectives of the Community Alliance Program are to gather community organizations to make the Macatawa Area a pleasant and safe place to be. We want a community where residents feel safe and can access services that create a better quality of life. We create our programs to empower individuals toward self-success. When individuals prosper and experience well-being, the overall community benefits.

We are in our 3rd year of administering the MCA program, and we are pleased at its development. We have experienced an increase in services and the number of people participating in the program. The monthly food distribution and food pantry are operating at capacity. We were also able to give more pet food through our furry friends pantry. We do hope to increase our Life Skills and Leadership development. This year we are partnering with Flagstar Bank to facilitate Financial Literacy Classe and other Finance related workshops including a Fraud Prevention Class in the next couple of months. Another added service we will begin to further assist families in need is to provide diaper distribution in July 2025.

Service Stats:

- Food Pantry: 156 families were assisted with food.
- Food distribution: 60 families attend the monthly food giveaway.
- Pet Food 167 families were assisted through our furry friends pantry.
- Community Celebration 30 families attended our celebration last year.
- We will be starting to help with diapers in July of 2025.
- Facilitate Financial Literacy and Life Skills for the second half of the 2025 program year.

For 2026 we want to continue with our current programming. We want to enhance it with community input and participation. We want to form a Community Advisory Committee to help us plan and shape the program. Through this input we can create new and innovative services that align with community need.

2025/26 Goals:

- Involve more neighborhood participation.
- Continue to improve our Food Pantry program.
- Further develop the Community Neighborhood Celebration.
- Provide more Life Skills and Financial Literacy Classes.
- Develop an Community Advisory Committee (Board), for the MCA program.

Proposed use of funding for 2026.

\$ 9,600 - Part Time Position

\$ 2,200 Community Celebration

\$ 5,200 – Facilities, Food, Pet food and other operational costs.

\$ 2,000 - Administration Costs. Management Oversight, Accounting, Insurances, etc.

\$ 1,000 - Program materials, back to school supplies.

\$20,000 - Total HTC investment.

In-kind value:

\$32,000 – 16,00 Volunteer Hours. 17 volunteers.

\$ 3,000 - 2 large walk in coolers /maintenance/food storage

\$ 10,000 - Warehousing, food storage, pet food storage and other facilities.

\$ 2,600 - County Safety Volunteer

\$ 47,600 Total MRC In kind value

\$ 67,600 Total Community Investment

Thank you for accepting our proposal to fund to deliver services in 2026. Your partnership is critical to improving the lives in our community. Thank you for your time and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Leroy Hernandez

Executive Director

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Macatawa Community Alliance Program

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