

United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan 2014 Program Accomplishments and Evaluation



The mission of United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan is to connect people with disabilities to the opportunities and resources needed to live productive and independent lives. UCP MI was established in 1949.

In calendar year 2014, UCP MI provided direct services to 914 people in 49 counties. In addition, 9129 people visited the ucpmichigan.org website, viewing 23,803 pages; 45 new members joined the CP Michigan Facebook discussions, bringing the total membership to 270; and 131 new Twitter followers joined us, bringing the total to 561 followers.

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Program: Regional Inclusive Community Coalition (RICC)

Description: The RICC project teaches people with disabilities to use their voices to advocate for themselves on all levels. People with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to organize and run their own coalition meetings, talk with their legislators about disability issues, and learn personal advocacy skills. **In calendar year 2014, 327 individuals were served in the RICC program. Geographical service area:** Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Clinton, Eaton, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Gratiot, Ingham, Iosco, Isabella, Leelanau, Manistee, Midland, Ogemaw, Otsego, and Shiawassee.

The Grand Traverse and Iosco RICC members worked together this year to provide anti-bullying training presentations and information to middle school children throughout the region. RICC members with developmental disabilities held classroom conversations with the school children and talked about the many facets of bullying including hurtful words and actions towards people with disabilities.

UCP MI RICC Consumer Satisfaction 2013- 2014

Total 207 Respondents	Strongly Agree	Agree
I am satisfied with this project and it was helpful and easier to understand	95%	5%
Presenter and staff were available to answer questions	97%	3%

Total 207 Respondents	Respondents answering "Yes"
I and my family can do more things in my community as a result of this project	97%
I and my family will have more choice and control as a result of this project	90%
My life is better because of this project activity	96%

Program: Upper Peninsula Assistive Technology Center

Description: This program is focused on building the capacity of local school districts to meet the assistive technology (AT) needs of special education students. AT services match a device or software program to a specific task the student with a disability is having difficulty with. The AT Center trains school staff on AT products and services that may provide support toward meeting student IEP goals.

In calendar year 2014, the Center provided direct service to 58 individuals and training to 390 teachers and school personnel. Geographical service areas: Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft.

For each student, the Center assesses AT options and tailors a product to suit an individual's need. In 2014, 58 students received assistive technology equipment to improve their progress toward and mastery of educational goals; 19 students with complex communication needs (nonverbal) received a communication system that provides vocabulary for continuous communication in all settings; and 45 separate training activities took place that provided resources to 390 school staff and parents. In addition, 81 University students majoring in special education and communication disorders had the opportunity to learn about assistive technology in the school setting.

UCP MI Assistive Technology Center training summary 2013 – 2015.

Training Title	AT Consideration	Bookshare	Communication	Northern MI U	Switch Accessibility
Number of trainees	175	55	15	109	57
The presentation was well organized and informal	90%	95%	100%	98%	90%
I gained usable skills and will apply them in my field	100%	90%	100%	97%	100%
Handouts and resources will help me in my job	100%	88%	100%	NA	NA

Program: The Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund

Description: The Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund loans money to people with disabilities to purchase assistive technology (AT) devices. These low interest loans allow people to buy AT that leads to greater access to the world at large, increased mobility, and enhanced communication and job opportunities. Examples of items purchased through the AT loan fund include hearing aids, voice simulation systems, telecommunications equipment, environmental control units, computers, adapted recreational equipment, accessible home modifications, and modified vehicles. **In calendar year 2014 the AT Loan Fund received 51 applications and approved 24 loans, submitted 4 Assistive Technology blog posts, and conducted outreach at 14 events around the state, distributing 3,105 brochures about the program.** **Geographical service area:** The state of Michigan. Although the main office of the two loan funds is in Lansing, UCP MI has 12 satellite application locations at local disability service organizations around the state.

In February, the Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund received an application requesting a loan of \$937 for a Think Pad Edge Notebook with software. The 24 year old applicant has autism and was in need of the device in order to complete his college education. The device is a requirement of the school he is attending. His school provided the training. He was approved in his own name, which has also assisted with his independence. He is making timely payments and has already paid for half of the loan. He has also established a positive credit rating.

Program: The Michigan Employment Loan Fund

Description: The Michigan Employment Loan Fund seeks to reduce or eliminate barriers to employment through low-interest loans to people with disabilities. Financial loans can be used to buy employment-related equipment and training to use the equipment. Potential borrowers represent those interested in self-employment and those needing assistive devices to maintain, increase, or enhance employment. **In calendar year 2014 the Employment Loan Fund received 6 applications and approved 1 loan, conducted outreach at 14 events around the state, distributing 326 brochures about the program.**

A client of Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) submitted an application to borrow \$7,500 for equipment to use in her new Family Hair Care Salon. MRS provided funding for her website, marketing, license, lease security deposit, and misc. hair supplies. Her loan application was approved and used to purchase plumbing and building materials, a reception area, lighting, shelving, and salon equipment such as sinks and chairs. The loan recipient has degenerative disk disease and arthritis. Being self-employed allows her more control of appointments to manage the amount of time spent on her feet and sitting.

Customer Satisfaction for Michigan Assistive Technology Loan Fund FY 2014

Customer Rating of Services	Percent
Highly satisfied	92.%
Satisfied	7.69%
Total surveyed	16
Response rate	81.25%