

"THE VILLAGE IS BACK"

ELMS

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES



2023 Annual Impact Report





PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

Customer Relationship Management System Project

High School Transition Initiative Phase I

DETAILS

Developed a customer relationship management system to more effectively manage customer relationships with donors, prospective donors, and volunteers.

Established new partnerships with school districts, university partners, and college network organizations to assist in increasing youth college and career readiness exposure.

FUNDING SUMMARY

\$29,056

DONATED SERVICES

\$4,995

INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS

\$6,604

OTHER INCOME

PROGRAM & SERVICE OUTCOMES

1

Employment Services

2%

7

Youth Programs & Services

11%

11

Infant & Toddler Support

18%

13

Family Support Services

22%

28

Senior Support Services

47%

"It isn't what we do that matters most in life, rather the impact that we make when doing what we do, that does."

-PRESIDENT & CEO

"I hadn't thought much about college plans before starting this program."

-HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLAR MOUNT CLEMENS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to our CRM project team. Your unwavering support and commitment has been instrumental in laying the foundation for enhancing our organization's capacity to serve our community more effectively. Through your generosity, we have been able to embark on this transformative journey towards implementing a robust CRM system that will streamline our operations, improve client and donor engagement, and ultimately, amplify our impact.

To our donors, your generosity fuels our mission and enables us to continue providing vital services and programs to youth, adults, and families in need. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

Executive Summary

Elms Family & Community Services, hereinafter referred to as the “EFCS” is a 501(c)3 nonprofit community organization established in 2018, currently located in Clinton Township, Michigan. We provide support services to youth, adults and families in Macomb and Wayne County who are faced with social, economic and/or educational barriers, to assist in improving their overall quality of life. Because EFCS is a nonprofit organization, staff are willing and committed to giving their time to help the organization, allowing it to become successful.

The success of the organization and its outreach is dependent upon financial and program support from corporations, sponsors, donations, grants and income from fundraising events.

Vision

Rebuild, strengthen and empower individuals, families and youth in urban and surrounding communities; bringing the village back.

Mission

We aim continuously to provide services, resources and support that will enable families, youth and adults to overcome social, economic, educational and other barriers in which they face by gaining and sustaining successful outcomes in life.

Organizational Realignment

In 2023, Elms Family and Community Services navigated a strategic decision by its Board of Directors to temporarily cease operations from January – March. This pause in services allowed the organization to realign its focus and resources towards achieving its overarching goals, including board recruitment, partnership development, and other areas aimed at enhancing effectiveness in meeting program and service outcomes.

Temporary Cease Operations Decision

The Board of Directors' vote to temporarily cease operations for the period of January – March 2023 provided a pivotal opportunity for Elms Family and Community Services to reevaluate its strategic direction and operational priorities. This deliberate pause allowed the organization to step back, assess its current standing, and chart a course towards sustainable growth and impact.

Benefits and Strategic Focus

Board Recruitment: During the hiatus, the organization dedicated significant efforts towards board recruitment, ensuring the alignment of skills, expertise, and diversity necessary to steer Elms Family and Community Services towards its mission effectively. This focused approach resulted in the addition of new board members with valuable insights and connections, enriching the organization's governance structure. The organization's efforts will continue in 2024.

Partnership Development: With operations temporarily suspended, Elms Family and Community Services had the bandwidth to invest in cultivating strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, including schools, universities, civic engagement organizations, and others. This intentional engagement laid the groundwork for future collaborations, expanding the reach and impact of the organization's programs and services.

Strategic Planning: The hiatus provided an opportune moment for strategic planning, allowing the organization to refine its mission, vision, and objectives in alignment with emerging community needs and organizational capacity. Through this process, Elms Family and Community Services continued with its identified areas for growth and improvement, guiding decision-making and resource allocation moving forward.

Enhanced Effectiveness in Program Delivery: By taking a deliberate pause in operations, Elms Family and Community Services positioned itself for greater effectiveness in program delivery and service outcomes. The focused attention on board recruitment, partnership development, and strategic planning laid a solid foundation for sustainable growth and impact, ensuring that the organization could better meet the evolving needs of its constituents in Macomb County and the City of Detroit. Through this strategic approach, Elms Family and Community Services reaffirmed its commitment to excellence and innovation in serving the community, setting the stage for continued success in the years to come.

Outcomes

In 2023, Elms Family and Community Services underwent expansion and enhancement through the establishment of new community partnerships, alongside active participation in a Youth Driven Spaces (YDS) Community of Practice (CoP) for the 2023–2024 term. These initiatives have allowed us to incorporate youth voices into our programs and services effectively, alongside other innovative practices, which will result in a substantial impact on future clients served in Macomb County and the City of Detroit.

New Community Partnerships

Macomb County School Districts: Partnering with local school districts has facilitated easier access to our services for families and students, leading to increased participation in youth programs and family services for the 2024 program year.

College Access Networks : Collaboration with the Detroit College Access Network (DCAN) and Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) have prepared us to more effectively provide college and career access support and resources to youth in our Detroit and Macomb communities, fostering educational opportunities and aspirations, enabling us to gain more knowledge and tools to assist in expanding our youth programs and services, particularly targeting college-bound students, ensuring they have the necessary support to navigate the college application and enrollment process.

Civic Engagement: Joining forces with a civic engagement partner in Detroit has amplified our advocacy efforts and community initiatives, resulting in improved access to resources and services for our high school clients to assist in increased civic engagement and voter’s education in upcoming years.

Youth Driven Spaces (YDS) Community of Practice (CoP): Active participation in the YDS CoP has allowed us to incorporate youth voices directly into our program development and decision-making processes, ensuring our services are relevant and impactful for the youth we serve.

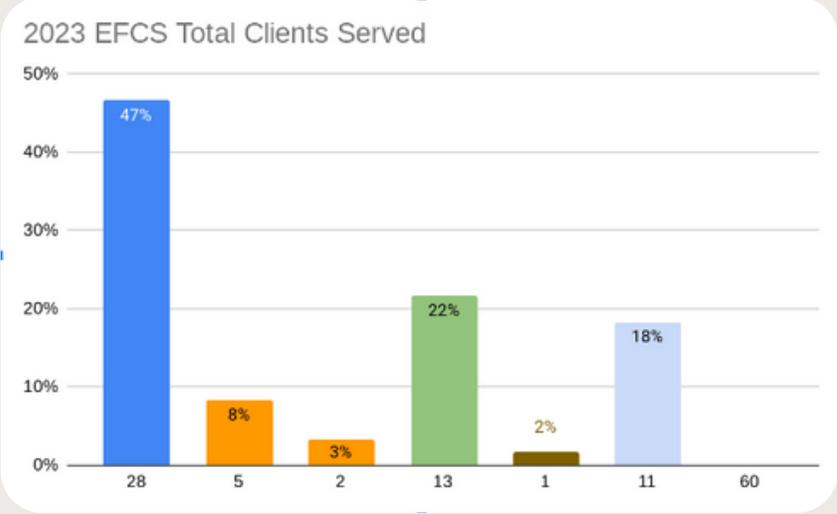
University & Community College Partnerships: Collaborating with local community colleges and universities has provided numerous benefits to assist in future educational access for our youth and adult clients in Macomb County and the City of Detroit, including access to educational resources, vocational training programs, and enhancing the skills and employability prospects for youth.

Programs and Services:



Through community outreach, existing partnerships, new partnerships and initiatives, we were able to offer a comprehensive range of programs and support, including:

- **Senior Services:** Holiday distributions for seniors, representing 47% of the total clients served in 2023.
- **Family Services:** Holistic support for families, including our Adopt-a-Family Christmas adoptions, representing 22% of the total clients served.
- **Youth Programs & Services:** Enriched youth programs and activities, accounting for 11% of the total clients served.
- **Employment Services:** Vocational guidance and support, serving 2% of the total clients.
- **Infant/Toddler Support:** Assistance to low-income moms for infant and toddler care, comprising 18% of the total clients served.



Through these collaborative efforts and innovative practices, Elms Family and Community Services continues to make a significant impact on the lives of youth, adults and families in Macomb County and the City of Detroit, ensuring equitable access to essential services and opportunities for personal growth and development. We will continue our efforts in 2024 and upcoming years and look forward to what lies ahead.

ENJOYING WHAT WE DO!



2023 REFLECTIONS

As we reflect on our achievements and milestones of 2023, we are filled with gratitude for the collective efforts of our community partners, dedicated staff, generous donors, and passionate volunteers. Together, we have made significant strides towards our shared vision of empowering individuals and families, fostering resilience, and building a stronger, more vibrant community. Looking ahead, we are committed to building on this foundation of collaboration and innovation as we continue our mission to serve and support those in need. With determination and compassion as our guiding principles, we embark on the journey ahead, confident in our ability to create positive change and make a lasting impact.

Thank you for your unwavering support, dedication, and belief in the mission of Elms Family and Community Services. Together, we are truly making a difference!

Warm regards,
Kimberly Elms, President & CEO