

ANNUAL REPORT



2017

ALLEN
NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER





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This Annual Report compiled by Pa Vang, AmeriCorps

MISSION

Allen Neighborhood Center is a place-based, non-profit organization that serves as a hub for neighborhood revitalization and for activities that promote the health and well-being of Lansing's Eastside community and other stakeholders.

For nineteen years, ANC has pioneered, and continues to offer, successful programs in health education and outreach, food security and nutrition education, youth development, commercial corridor revitalization, and social capital building.



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Throughout 2017, Allen Neighborhood Center focused efforts on expansion of key programs as well as strengthening financial sustainability of the organization.

Regarding programs, we doubled the size of our Veggie Box Worksite Delivery program from the previous year; increased Market Walk participation to over 280 participants; and launched the Meet Your Neighbors initiative to bring diverse neighbors together to deepen understanding of different cultures and backgrounds. We also maintained solid attendance at the Allen Farmers Market, Youth Programs, Hunter Park GardenHouse programs, and Breadbasket, while steadily growing our Incubator Kitchen and AMP Rental Program.

To build financial sustainability, we continued to build revenues by establishing modest fees across programs and by launching LEGS (Lansing Eastside Giving Society). LEGS is a mission-centered process for raising medium term funding by engaging businesses, foundations, and individuals willing to pledge multi-year gifts to provide predictable and steadfast support for neighborhood-driven transformative change. We are so grateful to our 22 LEGS members to -date!

In the coming year, we will continue to nurture our core programs and to diversify revenue streams to ensure a sustainable organization for the long term. We are humbled by all the investment that we receive from the community and the neighbors who believe in our vision and work we do to create community.

Jonathan Lum

President, Board of Directors
Allen Neighborhood Center

Joan Nelson

Executive Director
Allen Neighborhood Center

ANC BOARD MEMBERS



Jonathan Lum
President



Janet Kincaid
Vice President



Sarah Schillio
Secretary



Dan Dowsett
Treasurer



Rick Kibbey
Founding Member



Rebecca Bahar-Cook
Member



Andi Crawford
Member



Jennie Gies
Member



Egypt Krohn,
Member

ANC BOARD MEMBERS



Kristina Sankar
Member



Joan Nelson
Non-Voting Member

ANC STAFF

Joan Nelson, Executive Director

Natalie Gottschalk, Finance & Business Manager

Denise Paquette, Outreach Director

Rita O'Brian, Egypt Krohn, GardenHouse Director

Mike Tosto, Josh Wald-Kerr, Youth Programs Coord.

Julia Kramer, Farmers Market & Breadbasket Mgr.

John McCarthy, Exchange & Kitchen Manager



AmeriCorps Members: Leah-Kate
McKenney, Melanie Sweet, Samuel
Bigley, Karalyn Grimes, Wendy
Ashworth, and Pa Vang.

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Throughout 2017, our **Outreach and Engagement** team provided health enrollment services to neighbors (Medicaid, Ingham Health Plan, IHP-Dental, Affordable Care Act), assistance in connecting with a medical home, and links to a wide range of public health, housing, and human services. Other programs include Senior Discovery Group and Market Walk/Market Moves (integrated food and fitness initiatives in which participants earn tokens to our Farmers Market by walking and/or exercising).

The Outreach and Engagement team worked throughout 2017 to integrate immigrants and refugees into our programs. We hosted 4 Meet Your Neighbors Learning Circles involving native-born and New Americans neighbors and translated informational materials into 7 languages. We also offered 'teach-ins' on voting, gerrymandering, and civic engagement.

Our Outreach and Engagement team manages ANC's communications:

- Active Neighboring News, a weekly e-bulletin, sent to 2,600 people.
- The Eastside Neighbor, a quarterly newsletter, delivered to 3,500 households.
- Our richly-detailed website, www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
- Multiple Facebook pages, Twitter feed, and Instagram accounts.
- Annual door-to-door canvass to engage neighbors in front porch conversations about the state of the neighborhood and to identify emerging opportunities and challenges.

ANC's Outreach team served over

4400

neighbors in 2017.

517

neighbors enrolled in health coverage, food assistance, and State Emergency Relief.



OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

5303

miles walked by Market Walk participants between May and September.

26 neighbors walked 50 or more miles, and

7 families walked a total of 2432 miles!

“ I find you all remarkable.
Thank you for being there. ”

-Diane

In addition to Hunter Park-based **Market Walk**, offered to over 200 people during the warmer months of 2017, we hosted **Market Moves**, a winter weather fitness program drawing 79 participants. Market Moves offers indoor, professionally taught fitness classes including pilates, yoga, and tap dance. Market Walk/ Moves participants earn tokens to our Farmers Market.

THANK YOU to the Michigan Health Endowment Fund and Blue Cross Blue Shield for their generous support of Market Walk and Market Moves and Happendance for your partnership.



The **Senior Discovery Group** meets every Wednesday morning for continuing education & camaraderie. Speakers, including MSU international students, offer presentations on a wide range of topics, including other cultures, health issues, age-friendly housing, and more. This lively group is open to anyone over 55 or to guests interested in a specific topic. Join us for pretty good coffee and great conversation!



ALLEN FARMERS MARKET

The **Allen Farmers Market** brings fresh, locally grown and produced food into the neighborhood. In 2013, the Market became a year-round enterprise, offering a scaled down version of our sprawling outdoor Market from mid-October to mid-May.

During the 2017 market season, our vendors offered produce, bread, eggs, meat, cheese, baked goods, and ready-to-eat foods including Youa's Chinese cuisine, authentic Ethiopian cuisine from Teff-rific, and Mexican cuisine from El Burrito Mexicano. The Market also provided opportunities for neighbors and others to connect with one another, learn about resources and upcoming events at our Outreach Table, listen to local musicians under our Music Tent, and generally enjoy a convivial weekly activity that has become an important part of the civic culture of the Eastside.



19,300

patrons attended the Allen Farmers Market in 2017.

Given that 20% of Eastside residents do not own cars, many of our neighbors walk, bus, or bike to the Market, highly visible on East Kalamazoo Street.

In 2017, our small Market staff was supported by 40+ volunteers, most of them neighbors, who helped set up and take down the Market, greeted patrons, and distributed food samples made with produce available that day.

A popular feature of our Market continues to be our Market Bank, where patrons can purchase tokens with debit, credit, and SNAP (including year-round Double Up Food Bucks!).

Total market tokens and vouchers redeemed with vendors in 2017:

\$76,993

Note: This represents 25% of total currency (e.g., cash, checks) passing through our Market.

BREADBASKET FOOD PANTRY



Allen Neighborhood Center, working closely with residents on the Eastside, has been building community around food issues since early 2000.

These efforts have produced a set of neighborhood-crafted and synergistic food programs.

The **Breadbasket Pantry** distributed an average of 200 pounds of bread and baked goods and 700 pounds of fresh produce each week to approximately 100-120 neighbors in 2017.

Neighbors tell us that they value Breadbasket not only for the wholesome food, but for the welcoming and congenial setting, recipes utilizing items available that day, and the ease of access to our Outreach team to discuss other services.

45,000

pounds of food, valued at \$1.67/lb, or \$87,436, was distributed to 822 unique neighbors, who visited Breadbasket 5,519 times.



ALLEN MARKET PLACE

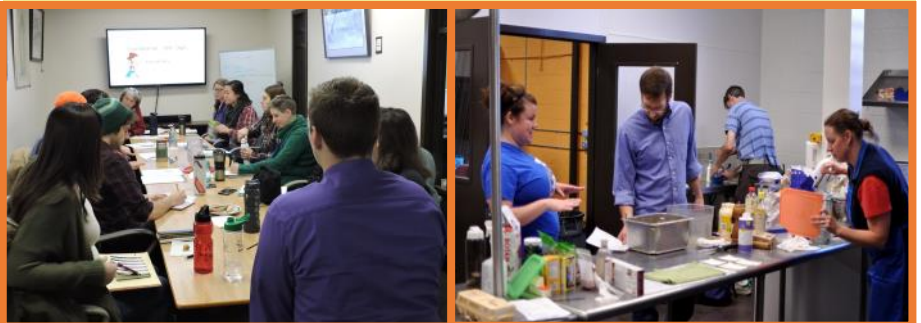
The **Allen Market Place** (AMP), which opened in late 2013, serves as a multi-functional food resource center and food hub. In 2017, it provided a home for Breadbasket Food Pantry, the Indoor Farmers Market, and much more.

The AMP features two Kitchens. The fully equipped **Cooking Kitchen** supports nutrition education, culinary job skill training, food entrepreneurship, and cooking classes that celebrate the diverse foodways and cuisine of the Eastside. The smaller **Wash-Pack Kitchen** offers cold and dry storage (large walk-in cooler, chest freezers, reach-ins, pallet shelving) for use by farmers, producers, and food truck operators.



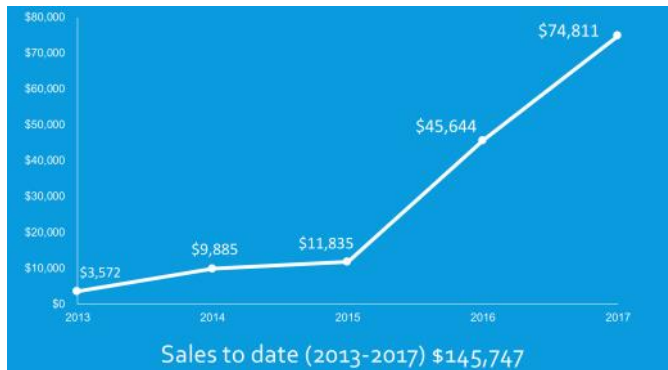
The Cooking Kitchen has become a popular site for youngsters interested in furthering their cooking skills. In 2017, members of ANC's Youth Service Corps, 4-H groups, and Home-Schooling collaboratives made regular use of this community asset.

The incubator aspects of the kitchen have been especially lively, drawing over 33 bakers, fermenters, caterers and other entry-level food entrepreneurs since 2014.



EXCHANGE FOOD HUB

The AMP facility also supports the **Exchange** Food Hub, providing aggregation and distribution for mid-Michigan growers and food producers (including the growing number of very small and small urban farmers in Lansing). Currently, this online wholesale market features the products of 130 producers which are purchased by 197 individuals (via Veggie Box), institutional buyers, and commercial buyers. Interested visitors can log onto our online wholesale market and shop for local food including a wide range of produce, eggs, meats, cheeses, baked goods, and more. It's a one-stop shop for supporting local growers and producers (and getting delicious food for your table!).



Gross sales to date:
\$145,747
of which 86% goes to farmers.



Our Exchange program saw an increase in sales between 2016 and 2017, yielding a yearly revenue of over \$74,000.

In 2017, we hosted 5 workshops for farmers and food producers on topics including: Food Safety, Growing Your Internet Presence, How to Start a Food Business, and more!

The Veggie Box Program continued to grow in 2017 with a 94% increase in member of CSAs sold.

HUNTER PARK GARDENHOUSE

The **Hunter Park GardenHouse** is a hub for year-round farm & garden education, where neighbors volunteer to grow food, flowers, and community. The GardenHouse empowers neighbors to grow, prepare, and eat healthy food to better their health and connect with the community. We are open 6 days a week and offer a wide assortment of programs and services.



Educational Workshops

The GardenHouse helps neighbors to be successful at gardening. In 2017, 10 workshops were offered, including Planning your Gardening Year, Intro to Beekeeping, Seed Starting and Transplanting, Plant Therapy, Soil Care, Gardening 101, Organic Pest Management, Container Gardening, Vermicomposting, and Flower Arranging. 90 unique people attended these workshops!

160

volunteers and interns spent a total of 2,240.25 hours at the GardenHouse.



Community Supported Agriculture

Our Community Supported Agriculture Program (CSA) offered year-round produce to 66 neighbors in 2017. Our CSA is renowned for its flexible payment options that include work shares, SNAP, and Double Up Food Bucks payments at the weekly pick-up in our Farmers Market.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

The GardenHouse also serves as headquarters for two robust youth programs, the **Youth Service Corps (YSC)**, a job, leadership, and life skills training program for 11- to 17-year-olds, and **Take Root**, a nutrition and fitness education program for 5- to 10-year-olds, utilizing a gardening curriculum.

- The Garden-in-a-Box project is a program which involves the building and distributing of 2' X 2' garden kits with soil, fertilizer, and plants to neighbors with limited income, gardening skill, and/or mobility. The 6 boxes distributed by YSC members in 2017 brought the total number of boxes distributed in the neighborhood over the last several years to 148!
- The Edible Park project involves youth designing, planting, and tending to edible garden beds to create a small orchard of fruit trees and bushes, perennial herbs, and annual crops in designated areas throughout the 13-acre Hunter Park. In 2017, youth added 3 fruit trees to the 25 already planted and expanded the Edible Park by building 3 huge garden beds.
- 3 Collection Days were hosted by Youth Service Corps members who give tours and educate neighbors on what is available to harvest in the garden and what to do with it.

Take Root Garden Club had

104

youth attend programming sessions.

Youth Service Corps had

27

unique attendees.



FRIENDRAISING



519 people volunteered with ANC in 2017, contributing over 9,500 hours of service. This is the equivalent of nearly five full-time staff members!



“ Our dedicated volunteers continue to make a difference in Lansing’s Eastside. From bagging bagels to greeting during the Famers Market, they’ve helped provide neighbors with many resources.

Thank you to our volunteers for their time and service in bringing endless laughter and smiles to ANC and Lansing’s Eastside.

”

-Pa Vang
Volunteer Coordinator

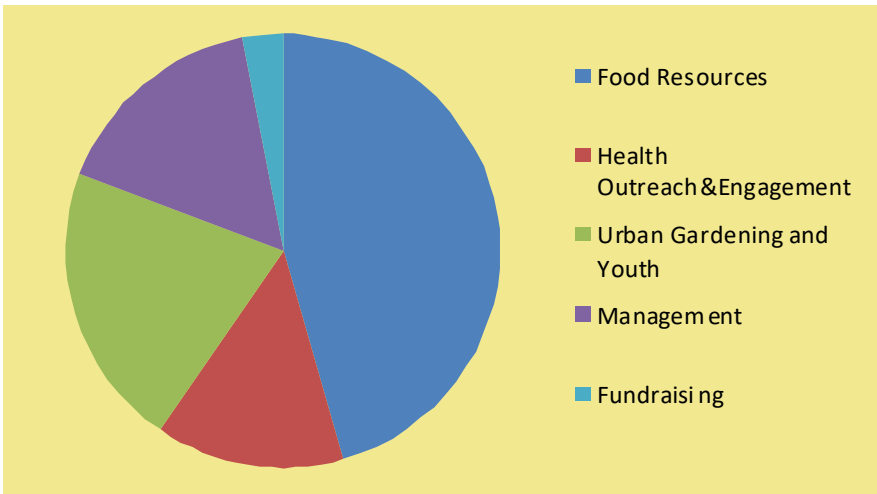
FUNDS

Est. Sources of Funds 2017
(Estimated; audit to take place April 2018.)

Source	Amount (\$)
Grant Income	\$257,986
Program Income	\$188,596
Contributions and Fundraising	\$80,547
Other	\$17,459
TOTAL	\$544,588

Est. Operating Costs 2017
(Estimated; audit to take place April 2018.)

Source	Amount (\$)
Housing, Health, Family, & Community Building Services	\$436,961
Management and General	\$88,583
Fundraising	\$14,293
TOTAL	\$539,837



Estimated Costs & Sources of Funding for 2018:

Jan. 1, 2018– Dec. 31, 2018

\$612,056

Thanks to our

Individuals

Brian Baer	Sherlyn Hogenson	Deb Nolan
Cheryl Bartholic	Iris & David Horner	Linda Nordeen
David Baur	Adam Houghton	Beth Monteith & Gary Novak
Veronica Bezenar	Tina Houghton	John Nussbaumer
Robert James Bingen	Bob & Mary Hutchins	Josh Ogeil
John Bippus	Douglas Johnson	Irene Onderchanin
George W. Bird	Dorothy Joseph	Kate O'Neil
Janet Kincaid & Steve Boehm	Shirin Kambin Timms	Jeanna Paluzzi
Judi Brown Clarke	Brent Kaschinske	Denise Paquette
Paul Pratt & Denise	Mark Kastner	Robert Pena
Chrysler	Paul & Rebecca Kennedy	Bill Perrone
Tom Cochran	Kimberly Rae Chung & John Kerr	Denise Pratt
Maria Copiaco	Patricia Koenigsknecht	Kendra Pyle-Kanaboshi
Olivia Courant	Brenda Lawson	Lynnette Rhodes
Jack & Sue Davis	Cynthia Lockington	Steven Richard
Olga Delgado	Guillermo Lopez	Catherine Richter
Doug & Laura Delind	Viki Lorraine	Diane Ross
Debbie Diesen	Mary Jo Lum	Kristina & Pratap Sankar
Dianne Dreffs	Tim Makinen	Eric Schertzing
Joseph Droste	Michael Marhanka	Sarah Schillio
Kathi Dunbar	Lynne Martinez	Kurt Scholler
Patricia & Joseph Farrell	Clara Martinez	Andy Schor
Catherine Ferguson	Joe Marutiak	Susan Slovinski
Alice Florida	Dorothy Mathews	Peter Spadafore
Nancy Fontus	Colleen Matts	David & Laura Sparks
Ann Francis	Nancy McCrohan	Patricia Sptizley
James Frendt	Brian McGrain	Mark & Ellen Sullivan
Ryan & Mandy Fuller	Deborah McMartin- Finkel	Bob & Renee Swanson
Booker & Phyllis Gauden	Nicole McNeil	Connor TK
Jennie Gies	Beauchamp	Beany Ilene Tomber
Scott Gillespie	Adam Montri	Tonya Vasquez
Terry Grant	Nathan Morrison	Jennifer Wein
Leonard Grau	Oran Morton	Bob & Charlotte Wilkes
John Grettenberger	Laura Mosher	John & Carolyn Willoughby
Virginia & Daria Hambric -Hyde	Dave & Carrie Muylle	Tom & Ann Woiwode
Karrin Hanshew	Mike & Jennifer Neller	Carol Wood
Diane Harte	Carolyn Lejuste & Joanne Neuroth	Khous Xiong
Thomas Heideman	James Noble	Ron & Winalee Zeeb
Jeremy Herliczek		

Generous Supporters!

Funders & Sponsors

American Heart Association	Jackson National Community Fund
Blue Cross Blue Shield	LAFCU
Blue Cross Complete	Lansing Art Glass
BWL	LEAP
Capital Area United Way	Lansing Area Community Trust Fund
City of Lansing	Michigan Community Service
Capital Region Community	Commission
Foundation	Michigan Farmers Market Association
CoBank	Michigan State University
Consumers Energy	Michigan Health Endowment Fund
Dean Transportation	MSUFCU
Fair Food Network	NCR-SARE
Granger Foundation Fund	Joe D. Pentecost Foundation
Grazing Fields	R.E. Olds Foundation
Greenstone Farm Credit Services	Sisters of Mercy
Ingham County Health Department	Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation
Ingham County Treasurer's Office	Sparrow Health System
Jack & Susan Davis	

Lansing Eastside Giving Society

LEGS members are a new category of donors who value neighborhood-driven, transformative change and seek to provide predictable and steadfast support for its continuation through multi-year pledges.

Steve Boehm & Janet Kincaid	Nancy McCrohan
Jack & Sue Davis	MSUFCU
Gabriels Community Credit Union	Neogen
Jennie Gies	Joann Neuroth & Carolyn Lejuste
The Gillespie Company	Jim Noble
Grau Interpersonal Communication	Joe. D. Pentecost Foundation
Leonard & Carole Grau	R.E. Olds Foundation
Jeremy Herliczek	Kristina & Pratap Sankar
Bob & Mary Hutchins	Abby Schwartz
Peter Jones	Sparrow Health System
The Kak Network	Barbara Starling
Paul & Rebecca Kennedy	Urban Systems
Jon and Stephanie Heller	Jody Washington



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