



ACCESS.
INCLUSION. .
COMMUNITY.



Mission

To promote and encourage independence for ALL people with disabilities

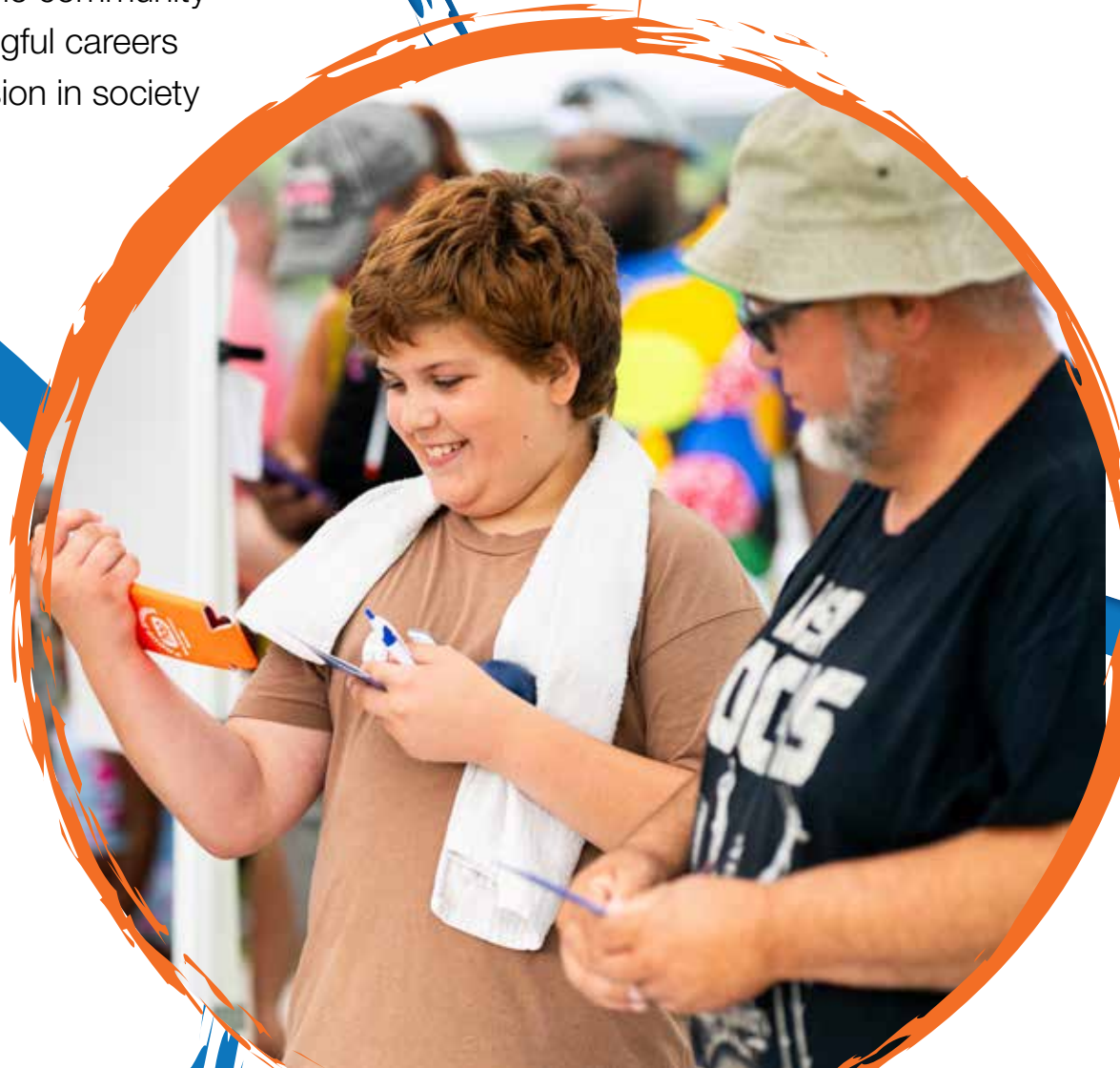
Vision

Accessible and inclusive communities that provide opportunities for individual choice

Values

Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the individual's right to:

- Live independently
- Enjoy self-determination
- Make personal choices
- Contribute to the community
- Pursue meaningful careers
- Enjoy full inclusion in society



Contents

Kelly's Korner: A Message From Our Executive Director	1
2025 By the Numbers	3
Community Initiatives	4
Nursing Facility Transition	5
MI Options	6
Veteran Directed Care	7
ADA.	8
Financial Statement.	9
Thank You To Our Donors	10
Core Services Video Story	11
Board of Directors.	11
Statement of Inclusion	12
Accessibility Statement.	12

“Kelly’s Korner”

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Friends and Partners,

Reflecting on 2025 at Disability Network Mid-Michigan (DNMM), I am struck by the incredible resilience of our community. This past year has been a journey of navigating significant external challenges while simultaneously reaching new milestones in our mission to create a truly inclusive Mid-Michigan.

Navigating the Challenges

The start of 2025 brought an unexpected hurdle for our entire network. The temporary pause on federal funding for grants and financial assistance programs created a period of uncertainty for Centers for Independent Living across the state. This "down" moment required us to work more diligently than ever to assess and protect the vital services our 2,600+ consumers rely on every day.

Additionally, we faced difficult transitions as we made the strategic decision to end two of our long-standing Community Mental Health (CMH) programs. While saying goodbye to these specific initiatives was a challenge, it was a necessary step to ensure we are aligning our resources where they can have the most profound, specialized impact. Whether it was ensuring services remained available for those returning home from the hospital or maintaining our advocacy for veterans facing possible institutionalization, our team stepped up to ensure that the

barriers our consumers face weren't compounded by administrative or programmatic shifts.

Celebrating the Ups

Despite these hurdles, 2025 was a year of vibrant connection and growth. Our community impact remains strong:

- **Economic Impact:** Through our transition services, we helped over 130 individuals move from institutional settings back into community-based living, contributing to a total of \$14.6 million saved for the state.
- **Employer of Record Program:** Our partnership with Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) has been vital in providing On-the-Job Evaluations through our Employer of Record program. By serving as the fiscal agent, we enable individuals to gain critical work experience and vocational assessments in real-world settings, providing a clear pathway toward competitive integrated employment.



- **Accessibility Partnerships:** Our collaboration with the GoGreat Lakes Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau has been a highlight of the year. By working together to assess and improve regional accessibility, we are ensuring that our beautiful Great Lakes Bay region is a welcoming and inclusive destination for visitors and residents of all abilities.
- **Peer Connection:** Our calendar remained full of life, from our "Kindness 101" project and virtual cooking demos to our weekly Mall Walks and the popular "Amazing Women's Group." These programs are the heartbeat of our Peer Support Program, providing the social infrastructure that fights isolation.
- **PASREP Success:** We successfully administered the Personal Assistance Services Reimbursement for Employment Program (PASREP), helping individuals with significant disabilities maintain their careers and financial independence.
- **Person-Centered Options Counseling:** We are thrilled to have successfully launched Person-Centered Options Counseling. This addition has transformed how we support individuals, allowing us to provide a more holistic, self-directed approach to navigating long-term supports and services.

The Heart of Our Mission: Our Team

None of these achievements would be possible without the extraordinary people who work here. I am constantly moved by the dedication, empathy, and expertise of our employees. They are more than just staff; they are tireless advocates who show up every day with a "people-first" mindset. Their ability to pivot during times of change while keeping the focus entirely on the independence of our consumers is what makes DNMM a leader in the disability rights movement.

Looking Ahead: The Path to 2026

As we move toward the future, I am filled with optimism. We are entering this next chapter with a sharpened focus on sustainable operations and expanded advocacy. Our goal is to ensure that "accessibility" is not just a checklist, but a foundational value in every community across our 12-county service area.

We are moving toward a future where "diverse abilities" truly means "limitless possibilities." Thank you for standing with us, for advocating alongside us, and for believing in a world where everyone has the opportunity to live, work, and play independently.

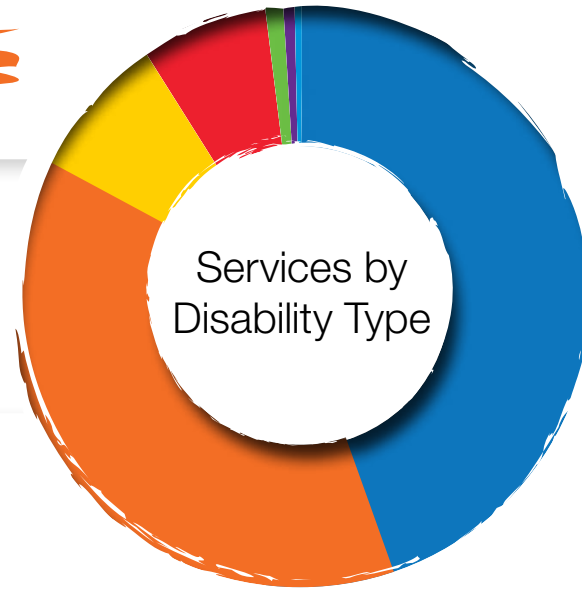
With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Peterson".

Executive Director | Disability Network Mid-Michigan

FY25 By the Numbers

- Cognitive 44%
- Multiple Disabilities 37%
- Mental/Emotional 7%
- Physical 10%
- Hearing 1%
- Vision <1%
- Other <1%



Provided ongoing individual services to 1,109 people with disabilities across 12 counties

1,109



5,245



Engaged in 5,245 community activity hours

Provided Information & Referral services to 1,468 people in our 12-county service area

1,468



2,655



Served 2,655 people

Provided consultation to 81 businesses to help improve accessibility

81



125



125 people transitioned from institutional settings to community-based living

Saved the state \$13.6 million by transitioning 133 people from institutional care to community-based living—achieving it all for less than \$650,000

\$13.6M



240



Over 240 community-based living goals were achieved

Over 260 individuals achieved vocational goals

260

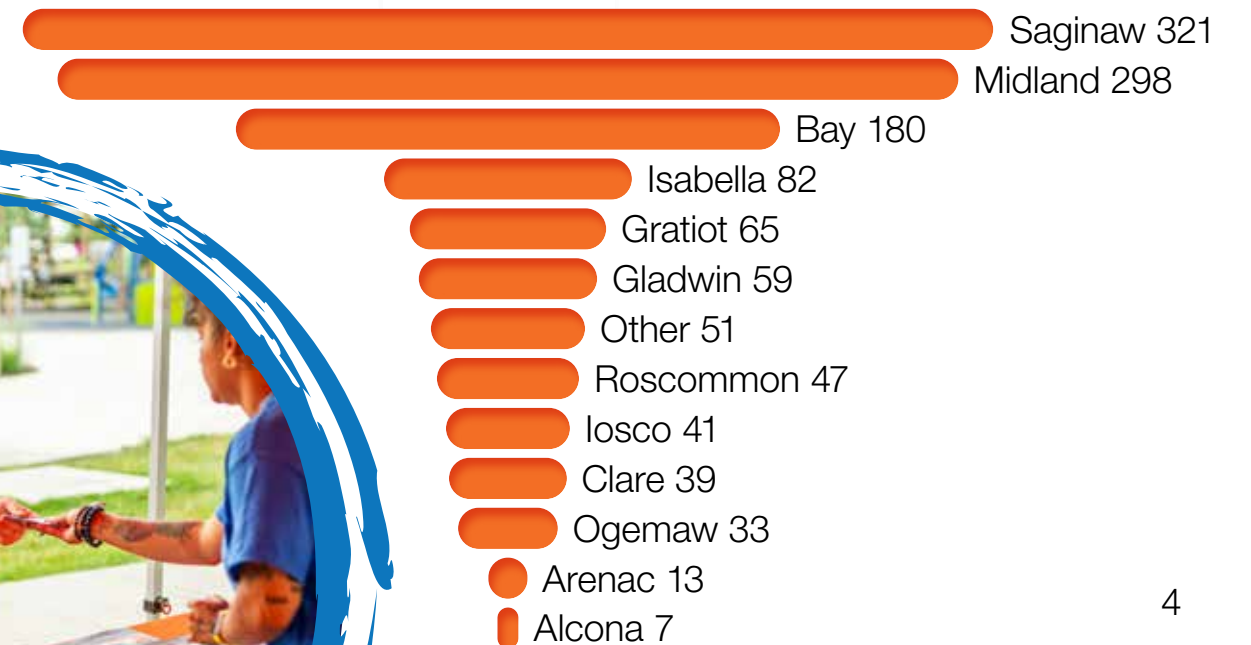


197



Assisted 197 individuals to participate in an "on-the-job" experience

Residents Served By County



Nursing Facility Transition

DNMM Helps Create Safe, Accessible Home for Mom

DNMM's Community Transitions Program helps people living in nursing facilities return to the home and community they love. In FY 2025, we supported 127 individuals as they transitioned back to community living.

While the goal of many community transitions is to restore a person to independent living, we are also able to help caregivers who want their loved one's final days to be lived in the comfort of home rather than in a sterile nursing facility.

One of those caregivers is Kathy*, whose world was upended last June when her mother's limbs became suddenly rigid. Kathy had been caring for both her mother, Ann, and her father, Tom, in their home and was committed to keeping them as happy as possible. Ann, who has dementia and Parkinson's, had to be taken by ambulance to the hospital and later was placed in a nursing facility for physical therapy.

In the meantime, Kathy was facing the realization that she could no longer care for her parents without some significant changes to their home, and she was unsure how to make those changes a reality. They needed a new stove, as their old one had become unsafe. Ann

and Tom both would require a patient lift device, so carpeting throughout the house needed to be replaced with wood flooring. Ann needed a lift chair. A ramp needed to be installed. Kathy was overwhelmed.

"It was like my parents and their house decided to age at the same time. I had all these things happen at the same time," she said.

That's when a social worker at the nursing facility suggested Ann might be a good candidate for DNMM's Community Transitions Program. Kathy agreed, and one of our NFT Navigators went to work assessing needs and finding solutions.

"After I connected with Disability Network, all I had to do was put in requests and we got what we needed. It was a very pleasant experience all the way around. In the midst of chaos, Disability Network helped me bring my mom home," she said.

Even though Ann is unable to express her feelings about being reunited at home with her daughter and husband, Kathy said she can see that her mom is more comfortable and content.

"I know this is what Mom wanted," she said.

DNMM's Community Transitions Program is geared toward meeting the individual needs of those seeking to escape a nursing facility setting. Here are just some of the ways we may be able to help:

- Installing handrails, stairlifts, and grab bars
- Securing adaptive devices not covered by insurance
- Setting up personal emergency response systems
- Paying back-utility and rent-delinquent debt
- Completing housing applications for individuals
- Securing security deposit and first month's rent
- Paying for moving company
- Pest eradication
- Deep cleaning
- Purchasing lift chairs
- Obtaining identification
- Securing groceries, furniture, household supplies, clothing
- Helping individuals that need additional assistance find alternative housing like assisted living or Adult Foster Care

*Names changed to protect identity

MI Options

Helping Individuals and Families Navigate Long-Term Care Through MI Options

In April 2025, Disability Network Mid-Michigan launched the MI Options Program through a funding opportunity provided by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). The program allowed DNMM to transition two existing staff members into dedicated MI Options roles while hiring two additional team members to expand services throughout the region.

During the program's first six months, MI Options counselors provided long-term care navigation and support services to 85 individuals across Mid-Michigan.

Through MI Options, specially trained counselors provide free, confidential guidance to adults age 18 and older throughout 12 counties, helping individuals and families better understand long-term care, caregiving resources, Medicare options, and community-based supports.

Counselors work one-on-one with individuals and caregivers to explore available services, navigate complex systems, and make informed decisions based on personal goals, health needs, and preferences.

Learn more at dnmm.org/mi-options.



Veteran Supported in Quest for More Freedom

After its first full year as a service provided by DNMM, the Veteran Directed Care Program is expanding its reach helping to meet the needs of former U.S. service members in our communities. From October 2024 to December 2025, the program served 125 veterans through Veterans Administrations in Saginaw, Battle Creek, and Detroit. In addition to DNMM's 12-county service area, we are able to provide services to veterans in Newaygo, Mecosta, Montcalm, Tuscola, Huron, and Sanilac counties.

The Veteran Directed Care Program gives veterans with disabilities expanded choices in their own care, offering a level of autonomy many told us was lacking in their lives.

Marine Corp Veteran Grace struggled to live freely for more than seven years while fighting to obtain adequate staffing using agencies. While her VA benefits entitled her to 42 hours of care, agencies regularly were unable to meet that need.

Caregivers would refuse shifts, fail to show, and even abandon her mid-shift. Additionally, staff provided by agencies could not drive her van, leaving her essentially shut in her home.

Grace served from 1983-1989 as a water support technician, providing clean, fresh water to troops in the field and was among the first in the nation to use a reverse-osmosis treatment system.

After her service, multiple sclerosis and spinal stenosis caused paralysis below her waist, and she now uses an electric wheelchair. She needs assistance bathing safely, preparing meals, dressing and transferring into her chair. Her home was built around her accessibility needs, but without proper staffing, she was unable to maintain it.

“It was terrifying. I just had a house built, only to possibly lose it because agencies were unable to meet my needs,” she said.

There was little the VA could offer until DNMM launched its new program aimed at helping veterans like Grace.

She was connected with a Person-Centered Counselor who completed an assessment of her needs and provided options beyond what the VA could provide.

Her counselor helped her cut through red tape quickly, and Grace was able to hire two dedicated staff members directly rather than using agency services. The new arrangement offers both flexibility and a level of certainty that previously was lacking, and both are able to drive her accessible van, empowering Grace to return to her community.

“It’s another level of freedom,” she said. “That’s what this whole program does, it allows you to craft a sense of normalcy that accommodates your disability,” she said.

Any veteran interested in the Veteran Directed Care Program offered by DNMM should talk to their social worker at the VA. A Person-Centered Counselor can meet where it is convenient for them to assess their needs. In addition to enabling the hiring of direct staff, DNMM may be able to facilitate the installation of accessibility tools, such as ramps, walk-in showers and lift chairs.

Celebrating the ADA Through Community Partnership

In honor of the 35th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Disability Network Mid-Michigan partnered with Hoyt Library, R C Zael Memorial Library, and Butman-Fish Branch Library to bring a free ADA Pride Pop-Up Exhibit to the Saginaw community last summer.

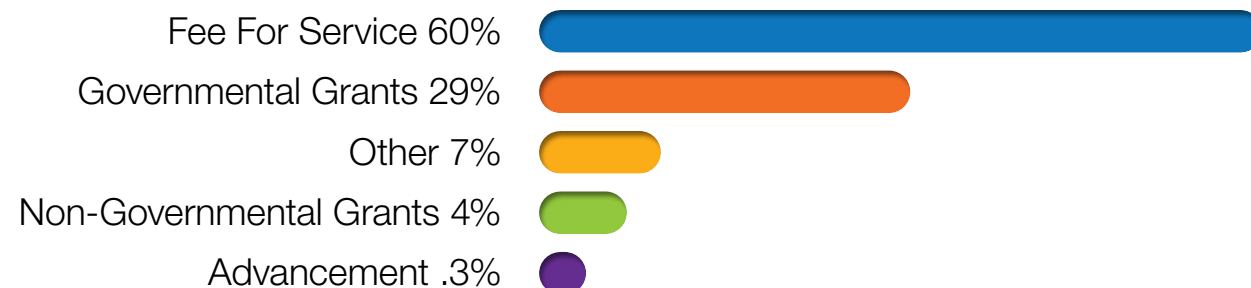
The exhibit highlighted the history of the disability rights movement through powerful photos, storytelling elements, and educational displays focused on advocacy, accessibility, and inclusion. Presented in collaboration with the Michigan Statewide Independent Living Council (MiSILC), the exhibit encouraged community members to reflect on the progress made since the ADA became law while recognizing the ongoing work needed to build more inclusive communities.

This partnership helped raise awareness, celebrate disability pride, and reinforce the importance of accessibility and belonging for all.

Financial Statement

Assets	9/30/25	9/30/24	\$ Change	% Change
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings	\$ 1,929,257.82	\$ 1,555,047.75	\$ 374,210.07	24.1%
Accounts Receivable	\$ 667,128.13	\$ 676,028.63	\$ -8,900.50	-1.3%
Other Current Assets	\$ 22,437.56	\$ 5,606.10	\$ 16,831.46	300.2%
Total Current Assets	\$ 2,618,823.51	\$ 2,236,682.48	\$ 382,141.03	17.1%
Fixed Assets	\$ 550,451.98	\$ 592,871.98	\$ -42,420.00	-7.2%
Total Assets	\$ 3,169,275.49	\$ 2,829,554.46	\$ 339,721.03	12.0%
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities	\$ 470,053.22	\$ 384,057.74	\$ 85,995.48	22.4%
Long-Term Liabilities	\$ 268,890.00	\$ 288,507.00	\$ -19,617.00	-6.8%
Total Liabilities	\$ 738,943.22	\$ 672,564.74	\$ 66,378.48	9.9%
Equity				
3015 Designated Net Assets	\$ 3,145.13	\$ 3,145.13	\$ 0.00	0.0%
3018 Temporarily Restricted	\$ 2,425.00	\$ 2,425.00	\$ 0.00	0.0%
3065 Temp Rest Peer	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 0.00	0.0%
3200 Unrestricted Undesignated	\$ 1,636,755.59	\$ 1,848,974.94	\$ -212,219.35	-11.5%
3201 Board-designated Operating Reserve	\$ 261,219.00	\$ 259,600.00	\$ 1,619.00	0.6%
3202 Emergency Operating Reserve	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 100,000.00	100.0%
3203 Retirement/Bonus Reserves	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 150,000.00	100.0%
Net Income	\$ 274,787.55	\$ 40,844.65	\$ 233,942.90	572.8%
Total Equity	\$ 2,430,332.27	\$ 2,156,989.72	\$ 273,342.55	12.7%
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 3,169,275.49	\$ 2,829,554.46	\$ 339,721.03	12.0%

Funding by Revenue Source



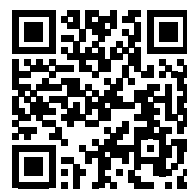
Thank You To Our Donors

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Shari Armstead	Kroger	Steph Stender
Mathew & Sandra Bandstra	Alyssa Latta	Lara Sullivan
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Core Services Video Story

ADVOCATE EDUCATE EMPOWER



Center for Independent Living

As a federally-funded Center for Independent Living (CIL), we work to change societal attitudes about people with disabilities and to provide an environment where everyone, regardless of their abilities, can contribute to their communities based on their interests, skills, and desires.

Scan the QR code to learn about our services.

Board of Directors

President: John Searles – Midland County ESA Superintendent

Vice President: Eric Olgaard – Saginaw Spirit – Disability Advocate

Treasurer: Katie Erikson – Dow

Secretary: Lisa Berrie – Senior R&D Leader: Dow

Past President: Mary Kunz – Field Neurosciences Institute

Member-At-Large: Kellie Courier – Disability Advocate

Member-At-Large: John Ell – Associate R&D Director: Dow

Member-At-Large: Jacob Kain – Assistant City Manager for Development Services: City of Midland

Member-At-Large: Shannon Zilska – Disability Advocate



Statement of Inclusion

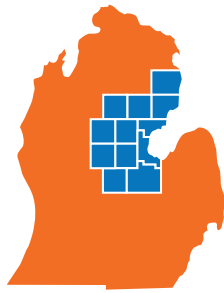
At Disability Network Mid-Michigan (DNMM), inclusion is a universal human right for all people, regardless of race, age, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or any other discernible quality. To be inclusive is to promote a sense of belonging, respect, and value for who you are as a person. It is about equal access and opportunities for everyone. Inclusion is an integral part of our Independent Living philosophy and of our agency's vision of "Accessible and Inclusive communities that provide opportunities for individual choice."

In the twelve counties we serve in mid-Michigan, Disability Network offices have been, and continue to be, places of solace, understanding, and information for all. We are committed to promoting and protecting diversity and inclusion, within our offices, among our community partners, and throughout the 15 Centers for Independent Living in Michigan.

Accessibility Statement

DNMM advocates for the removal of barriers to independence and full inclusion of people with disabilities throughout the mid-Michigan area. DNMM pledges to ensure accessibility. Each year, DNMM conducts a review of its own architectural, environmental, attitudinal, employment, communication, transportation, and other barriers that may exist that prohibit full access to our services.

If you have any issues of concern regarding the accessibility of DNMM services and facilities, we encourage you to share that information with us.



Counties We Serve

Alcona, Arenac, Bay, Clare, Gladwin,
Gratiot, Iosco, Isabella, Midland,
Ogemaw, Roscommon & Saginaw

Disability Network Mid-Michigan locations in YOUR community

525 North State Street
Alma, Michigan 48801

266 Uptown Drive
Bay City, Michigan 48708

490 Industrial Drive
Gladwin, Michigan 48624

1705 South Saginaw Road
Midland, Michigan 48640

1605 Concentric Boulevard
Saginaw, Michigan 48604



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