

Board of Directors

Deann Brown
 Margaret Groves, Secretary
 Michael Flowers
 Christopher Lewless
 Joe McDonald
 Carol Skillings
 Rudy Wilson, President
 Angie Zamora
 Monica Zuchowski, Vice President

Staff

Joy Baldwin
 Food Systems Project Coordinator
 & Webmaster
 Duana Benn
 NWI Intern
 Janine Boylan
 Vision 2020 Project Coordinator
 Kelly Burley
 NWI Intern
 Stephanie Campbell
 Office Coordinator/Editor
 Lori Eva
 VISTA Program Development Assistant
 Barbara Filmore
 VISTA Community Building Assistant
 Stephanie Fisher
 Health Outreach Worker
 Robert Fluke
 Outreach Intern
 Renee French
 Office Assistant
 Monica Jahner
 ARRO Outreach Worker
 Daniel Kay
 Outreach Intern
 Rosalind McDonald
 ARRO Outreach Worker
 Robert McElwee
 Westside Intern
 Gary McMillan
 Office Assistant
 Qosmon Sagataw
 Outreach Worker
 Nikki Schippel
 FSP & WSA Assistant
 Peggy Vaughn-Payne
 Executive Director
 Jessica Yorko
 Westside Alliance Program Manager
 Maria Zavala
 Outreach Manager

The Mission

The NorthWest Initiative is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to strengthen and sustain healthy communities in Lansing's 'grand neighborhoods' - the City area bounded by the Grand River on the north, east, and south. The Ingham County Health Department and the City of Lansing sponsors the Initiative. Program partners include residents, neighborhood organizations, local nonprofit organizations, human service agencies, and units of Michigan State University.

Westside Business Updates

More Info at www.lansingswestside.com!



1. **Westside Business Breakfast** is Wednesday, February 4, 8:00 - 9:00am at the Irish Pub, 1910 W. Saginaw. RSVP to jessica@nwlansing.org
2. **Improving Your Current Location Workshop** is Wednesday, February 18, 2:00 - 3:00pm at The Rathbun Agency, 529 W. Saginaw, RSVP to jessica@nwlansing.org.
3. **Welcome Ramon's Restaurant!** 806 W. Saginaw. Take-out only. (517) 371-6787
4. **Welcome Famous Taco!** 1909 W. Saginaw. Dine in, Delivery, or Take-Out. (517) 321-8226
5. **Thank you Dr. Maxson, DDS, PC,** for joining the Westside Commercial Association. Family Dentistry Services - 1500 W. Saginaw. (517) 485-5627
6. **Westside Business are Growing!** The 22 businesses that completed the 2008 survey now employ 31 more people than they did in 2007. The 24 businesses that completed the 2007 survey employed 24 more people in 2007, than in 2006. This is a net gain of 55 jobs from 2006-2008!
7. **Other Westside Business News and Updates** are available online at www.lansingswestside.com.

Remember: Outreach Team Fully Functional!

With the move in November, we have had to reshuffle and hit the restart button. The Outreach team, most well known for the canvassing efforts during the warmer months, want to let you know that we are still here for all our residents in need. We will answer all your NWI questions and help you apply for health programs such as these:

- Plan First!
- Healthy Kids
- Food Stamp Applications
- Medicaid
- Many more services...

Please just walk-in or call and let us know what we can do to help! We are located at **1012 N. Walnut St., Room 106.**

For more information or to volunteer, contact Qosmon at **(517) 999-2896** or email her at Qosmon@nwlansing.org. Hope to see you soon!!

ARRO Provides Opportunity for Success

ARRO is in the process of putting together a Computer Clearinghouse on-line that shows all networking available for ex-felons. We now have an accessible computer at our new location, that will be available for any ARRO client. This computer will provide access to different job sites in order for ex-felons to have the opportunity to apply on-line. There is also a resume building program and typing instructions so that ex-felons can learn how to use a computer and build a unique resume to sell their skills for employment.



To further help with the employment barrier for ex-felons, Alma Wheeler Smith, a State Representative for Michigan, has recently introduced a House Bill to repeal MCL 791.205a. If passed, this bill will allow ex felons to work for the MDOC.