Southwest Solutions is nationally recognized as a model of comprehensive community building. We are a leader in providing both human services and housing and economic development. We are passionate about building community because it is such a potent force. When communities are strong, crime is deterred, families and businesses thrive, and schools are successful. And so, just as we intervene with services to help an individual or family become healthier and stronger, we intervene to build community - by revitalizing the neighborhood, by training leaders, and by aligning with others around a shared vision for southwest Detroit. We are dedicated to excellence, innovation and efficiency in every aspect of our organization. We have been honored with many awards and significant acclaim, including being named “Best Managed Nonprofit” by Crain’s Detroit Magazine and receiving a “Reinventing Michigan” award from Gov. Rick Snyder. We invite you to stand with us as we work with others to improve the lives of children, youth, and families in southwest Detroit.

Chairperson

Seth Lloyd

Southwest Solutions’ Board

• Southwest Lending Solutions
  • United Tenant Council of Councils
• Detroit Educators Network
• Principals Network
• Metro Coalition of Congregations
• Michigan Organizing Collaborative
• Detroit Action Commonwealth
• United Tenant Council of Councils

Southwest Counseling Solutions

• Early Childhood & Family Literacy
  • Children, Youth and Families
  • Adult Counseling Services
  • Supportive Housing

Southwest Housing Solutions

• Housing and Real Estate Development
  • Property Management
  • Housing Opportunity Center
  • Center for Working Families
• Southwest Lending Solutions

Community Partnerships

• Our Kids Come First
  • Nuestros Niños Son Primero
• Youth Voice
• Detroit Educators Network
• Principals Network
• Metro Coalition of Congregations
• Michigan Organizing Collaborative
• Detroit Action Commonwealth
• United Tenant Council of Councils

Southwest Counseling Solutions encompasses a broad range of programs for children, youth, adults, and families. All these programs provide services that enable and empower individuals and families to change their lives toward a healthier and more hopeful future. In each of our Centers of Excellence – Early Childhood & Family Literacy; Children, Youth and Families; Adult Counseling Services; and Supportive Housing – Southwest Counseling Solutions is recognized as an experienced leader, delivering proven and effective results.

Southwest Housing Solutions is a leader in providing valuable services to help families advance economically and in the planning, development and management of affordable housing and commercial property. Our mission is to revitalize our community through collaborative, innovative and high-quality projects, by preserving and promoting homeownership, and by helping families build wealth through workforce development, financial literacy and educational programs. We provide housing to low- and moderate-income individuals, including homeless veterans and people with disabilities. We also stimulate commercial and cultural development through mixed-use projects and entrepreneurial programs.

Community Partnerships is a partnership with the Harriet Tubman Center for Organizing. Organizers work with many sectors in the community, including youth and youth-serving agencies, parents of school children, educators, neighborhood residents, human-service organizations, faith-based groups, activists, artists, and others. The mission is to equip leaders to build powerful organizations that can advocate for safer and healthier communities.

• Established Our Kids Come First chapters at elementary schools, mobilizing parents to address issues of school improvements, crime, safety, abandoned homes, in-city services and daycare. The parents successfully contacted public officials to demolish 50 dangerous buildings near local schools.
• Organized a rally in southwest Detroit that drew 1000 people and significant, specific pledges from city and law-enforcement leaders on issues of quality schools, public safety, youth violence, and immigration reform.
• Co-created the Rebuilding Civil Society in Detroit Steering Committee to increase civic participation and amplify community voice. The new initiative won major grant support from the Kellogg and Krueger foundations.
Adult Counseling Services

Provides counseling, supportive employment, group support, supportive housing, advocacy, and a homeless drop-in center.

- Served 2,458 adults with severe and persistent mental illness with recovery-focused counseling in 2011.
- 65% reduction in psychiatric hospitalization compared to pre-service among those we serve who complete their treatment.
- Satisfaction with services is greater than 95%.
- 50% of homeless individuals in shelters are able to obtain and maintain housing for 60 days a year.
- Served 315 families in Developmental Disabilities Services program.
- Supported a Coordinated Program with 108 veterans and assisted veterans with benefits and free mediation, assisted 700 clients.
- Supported Employment program helped 42 persons find work.
- Permanent Supportive Housing program helped 6 former ACF residents move into their own apartments.
- 77% of our adult clients have annual incomes less than $12,000.

Early Childhood & Family Literacy

Helps families gather the tools to read, write, and language skills, while helping teachers become full partners in educating their children; provides free training and resources to parents and caregivers to help prepare children to be “ready to learn” for school.

- Our Early Learning Communities (ELC) have provided training and support to 1,250 parents and childcare providers, impacting 8,000 children (birth to kindergarten).
- Provided 3,105 ELC graduates to high-quality early childhood development.
- 121 families graduated from one of our ELC programs in 2011, representing almost half of all 2011 ELC graduates in the tri-county area.
- Early Care Organization facilitated major childcare provider conference; took 400 children and 350 adults on field trips; distributed 1,000 RR books.
- Great Parents, Great Start served 122 families, providing seven home visits to each.

Children, Youth, and Families

Provides individual and family services for children and youth with serious emotional disorders and serves adjudicated youth in partnership with Wayne County Juvenile Court, schools and agencies.

- Provided 649 children individual and family counseling in 2011.
- 50% families in counseling achieve their self-defined goals.
- 94% of children report feeling better and have improved in school, at home, and in their social relationships.
- Served 42 youth in Connecticut program that helps youth transition to adulthood.
- Juvenile Justice program served 100 youth referred by juvenile court.
- Served 31 families in Infant Mental Health program.
- Provided Wingspan services.
- Family Skills Program served 97 “high risk” families.

Supportive Housing

Provides counseling and support services to homeless individuals, families, and veterans and assists those at risk of homelessness.

- Helped 950 chronically homeless persons move into permanent housing over the past six years, including 150 in 2011.
- Served 1128 of our 1,095 homeless individuals and families in 2011.
- 90% of those helped into housing remain in permanent housing for more than six months.
- Provided support services to 50 homeless veterans at a Magistrate’s Square and to 247 other formerly homeless individuals who now have housing.
- 80% of the veterans report that they are “significantly better off” since they moved in, half have participated in a job readiness program.
- Assisted 108 applications through Homeless Prevention Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) and referred 500 eligible applicants to partner agencies for assistance.
- Began Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

2011 Annual Report

Southwest Solutions