

About United Methodist Community House

The United Methodist Community House (UMCH), has been meeting the needs of and offering opportunities to children, youth, families and seniors since it opened its doors in 1902 and is truly a place where members of the community gravitate for their daily necessities.

Through the years, the program has expanded to meet the growing needs and challenges of our community.

UMCH collaborates with area agencies, organizations and civic groups to offer a wide range of family-friendly programs, from childcare to family and senior programs.

Our Mission

“Increasing the Ability of Children, Youth, Adults and Families to Succeed in a Diverse Community”



Child Development Program

For: Children Ages 0 - 5

Hours: Monday through Friday, from 6 AM - 6 PM

- NAEYC Accredited
- Research-Based Curriculum
- Qualified & Caring Staff
- Nutritious Meals / Snacks
- Enriching Environment

For more information, contact: Lisa Brown
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3007 - lbrown@umchousegr.org

Youth Development Program

For: Children Ages 6-12

Hours: Monday through Friday, from 6 AM - 6 PM

- Qualified and Caring Staff
- Nutritious Meals and Snack
- Academic Support
- Qualified and Caring Staff
- Recreational Activities

For more information, contact: Ronda Libbett
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3017 - rlibbett@umchousegr.org

I Believe...I Become Program

For: Rising Middle and High School Students

- Academic Support / College Prep for Middle School Students
- College Prep / Work Enforcement for High School Students
- College Visits
- Summer Learning
- Fun Activities

For more information, contact: Rose Simmons
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3017 - rsimmons@umchousegr.org

Literacy Competency for Life Program

Our Literacy Program provides opportunities to build, improve and enhance literacy skills in all areas of service by using developmentally appropriate literacy activities.

For more information, contact: Nkechy Ezeh
(616) 452-3226 Ext.3016 - nezeh@umchousegr.org



Family Development Program

UMCH offers programming for parents and families focusing on fathers, single parents, and couples.

All of our family programs are free of charge and most offer great bonuses, including family meals, transportation, and on-site childcare.

For more information, contact: Rose Simmons
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3037 - rsimmons@umchousegr.org

Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative Programming (MPRI)

UMCH offers a program, coordinated through ACSET, to provide family reunification services for Kent/Allegan County.

Proud Fathers

- 10-week group-based service for fathers, fathers-to-be, and male caretakers
- Helps participants develop attitudes and skills to promote male nurturance in family relationships.

Proud Parents

- 10-week marriage and parenting program
- Focuses on strengthening relationships through shared exploration of parenting and attitude skills.

Circle of Parents

- Ongoing support group for families involved in the MPRI Program and the reunification process.

For more information, contact: Euse Ekere
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3036 - eekere@umchousegr.org

First Step House

For: Women ages 18+ in recovery from prostitution and/or substance use/abuse.

- Transitional Housing
- Provides help and hope to women who are ready to make the change to a more positive lifestyle.
- Peer Mentoring

For more information, contact: Mary Alonzo
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3028 - malonzo@umchousegr.org



Programs for Seniors

JMCH offers a variety of activities and services to persons 60 years of age and older designed to maintain or improve the level of functioning of seniors through approaches that address the needs of the mind, body and spirit.

- Congregate Meals
- Assisted Transportation
- Outreach and Assistance
- Health Screening / Education
- And much more!

Additional Offered Activities

PATH (Personal Action Toward Health) is a fun, 6-week interactive workshop that helps participants improve their health and feel better.

Exercise classes are exercise programs specifically designed with the fitness needs of seniors in mind.

Matter of Balance is a health education program focusing on preventing falls, improving mobility, increasing energy and stamina levels, and helping overcome stress.

For more information, contact: Anita Christopher
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3013 - achrisopher@umchousegr.org

UMCH Off-Site Programming

Hope Community Childcare Center

For: Children Ages 6 weeks to 12 years old
Hours: Monday through Friday, from 6 AM - 6 PM

- In Partnership with the GR Housing Commission
- Qualified and Caring Staff
- Nutritious Meals and Snack

For more information, contact: Kim Spencer
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3007 - kspencer@umchousegr.org

Schools of Hope

For: Children in Grades 1-3 who are 1.5 Grade Levels Behind in Reading

Where: Dickinson Elementary School

- Literacy Focused After-School Program
- Nutritious Snacks
- Qualified and Caring Staff
- Tutoring / Academic Support

For more information, contact: Rose Simmons
(616) 452-3226 Ext. 3037 - rsimmons@umchousegr.org

Sherwood Park LOOP Program

For: Children in Grades 1-8
Where: Sherwood Park Elementary School

- Partnership with the GR Loop Organization
- Nutritious Snacks
- Qualified & Caring Staff
- Academic Support
- Recreational Activities

For more information, contact: Cheryl Brewster
(616) 819-3095—sherwoodloop@yahoo.com



To support the United Methodist Community House in its work to become a "Lifeline for a Lifetime", please consider an **Advance Gift. ? Number 162871**



United Methodist Community House
904 Sheldon Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49507

Phone: (616) 452-3226
Web: www.umchousegr.org

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