



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

JANET OLSZEWSKI
DIRECTOR

October 4, 2007

Dear Colleagues and Community Partners:

The Michigan Department of Community Health is pleased to provide you with this handbook titled "Supported Self-Employment 101." This handbook is intended for organizations and service providers who foster self-employment and assist individuals with disabilities desiring to start a business.

We want to first take an opportunity to thank those pioneer businesses that shaped new opportunities for Supported Self-Employment. This Supported Self-Employment handbook was developed as a result of the combined efforts and expertise of a group of individuals involved in various aspects of employment for persons with disabilities. The Office of Long-Term Care Supports and Services partnered with the following organizations:

- Allegan County Community Mental Health Services
- Huron Behavioral Health
- Macomb/Oakland Regional Center-Inc.
- Michigan State University-Projects for Community Inclusion
- Stuart Wilson CPA, PC

Supported Self-Employment is an evolving process growing more defined with each new business. This handbook describes that with a solid support system, people with disabilities can become business owners. It also provides information and resources necessary to build a foundation for successful business planning and development.

In a continuing effort to improve competitive employment options for persons with disabilities, we request your assistance in helping us to gauge the degree of content and usefulness of this handbook. Please use the Feedback Form on page 60 to provide your input and return as noted.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this handbook, please contact Joe Longcor at (517) 241-1730 or e-mail longcorj@michigan.gov or Cathy Maddalena at (517) 355-0166 or e-mail maddale2@msu.edu. We appreciate the opportunity to lead this project.

Sincerely,

Janet Olszewski
Director