

## Vision for the Future of Michigan Vocational Rehabilitation

Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Commission for the Blind envision a day in our future when Michigan citizens with disabilities will be afforded full opportunities for employment and independence throughout the state based on robust, effective vocational rehabilitation programs and partnerships supported by full federal and state funding.

### MRS/MCB Community Partners:

When the state's public rehabilitation agencies (Michigan Rehabilitation Services and the Michigan Commission for the Blind) don't receive enough General Fund revenue to match available federal allocations, it impedes opportunities to collaborate with community partners, who assist in providing services to people with disabilities. Local entities adversely affected by inadequate state funding include Centers for Independent Living, community rehabilitation organizations, and facility-based employment centers.

### For more information, contact:

#### Michigan Rehabilitation Services

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#### Michigan Commission for the Blind

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# Michigan Vocational Rehabilitation Program Funding

## Two Programs Serving Michigan

The state of Michigan has two agencies responsible for vocational rehabilitation: the Michigan Commission for the Blind, for individuals who are legally blind, and Michigan Rehabilitation Services, for individuals with other disabilities. Both agencies are part of the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth, the department that houses most of the state's workforce-related programs.

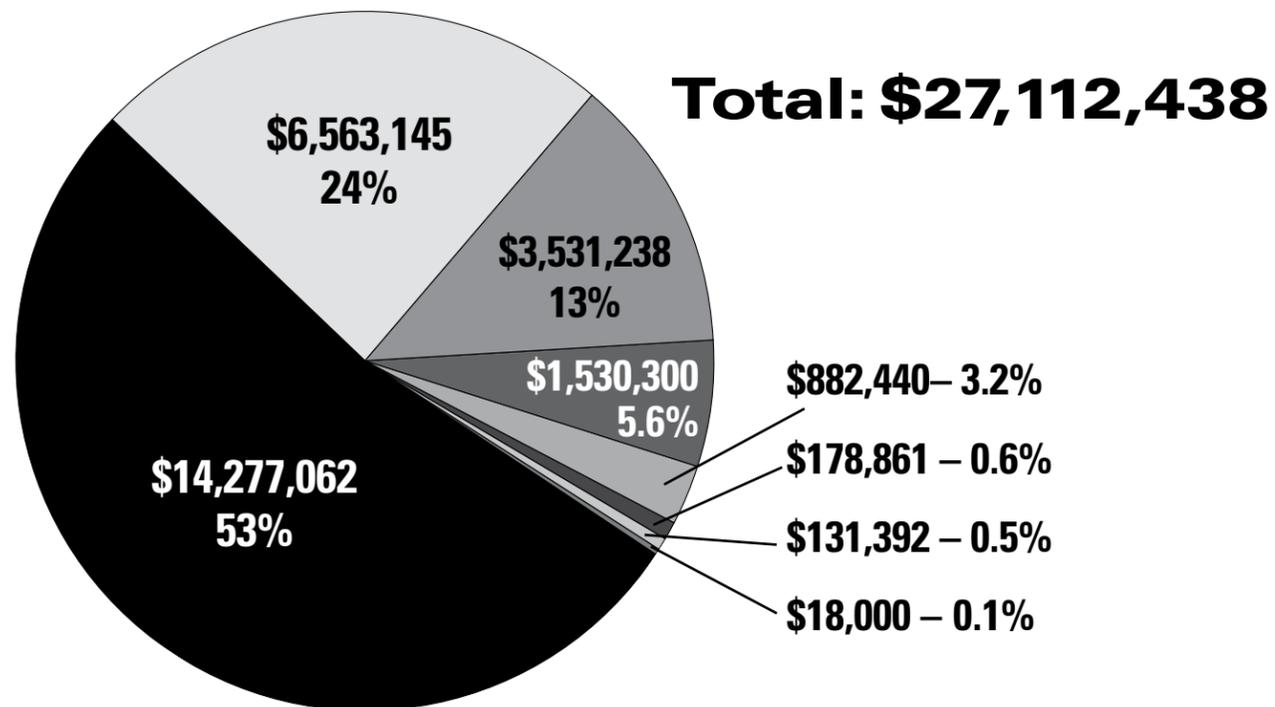
## Total 2009 Vocational Rehabilitation Funding Sources

Michigan's total 2009 vocational rehabilitation funding was \$127,064,018, consisting of a federal Title 1 grant of \$99,951,580 and a required state/local match of \$27,112,438.



## Sources of Match Amounts (Total \$27,112,438)

- **53% – \$14,277,062** General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) state funding of State Match Funds (MRS \$11,730,428, MCB \$2,546,634) updated with State Match less Business Enterprise Program (BEP) Rent, BEP Retirement, Training Grant Match, Independent Living (IL) Match)
- **24% – \$6,563,145** cash match with local funds from community partners (MRS \$6,510,702, MCB \$52,443)
- **13% – \$3,531,238** Loan staff (MRS \$3,010,808, MCB \$520,430)
- **5.6% – \$1,530,300** Joint Workforce Initiative (JWI) (JWI, Bureau of Workforce Transformation, DELEG) funding (MRS 100%)
- **3.2% – \$882,440** miscellaneous funding (MCB 100%)
- **0.6% – \$178,861** Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns (MCDC) match funding (MRS \$80,311, MCB \$98,550)
- **0.5% – \$131,392** Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) match funding (MRS 100%)
- **0.1% – \$18,000** gifts (MCB 100%)



## Program Benefits/Return on Investment

### MRS Return on Investment FY 2009, Total Budget \$110.1 million (includes FY 2008 carryover)

- Out of 50,779 customers with disabilities, 6,935 achieved competitive employment.
- A \$64 million increase in customers' annual earned income.
- \$19 million in additional state and federal income taxes paid annually
- 2,445 employers served
- 620 job retentions, with people receiving the training and equipment (such as hearing aids or computer screen magnifying software) needed to keep their current jobs.
- 307 Michigan Career & Technical Institute graduates (08/09 school year)

### MCB Return on Investment FY 2009, Total Budget \$21 million (includes FY 2008 carryover)

- 166 customers who are blind or visually impaired achieved competitive employment.
- An increase of \$2.9 million in customers' annual earned income.
- \$741,000 additional state and federal income taxes paid annually.
- 1,390 weeks of training for students attending the Michigan Commission for the Blind Training Center
- 57 job retentions with people receiving the training and equipment (such as computer screen magnifying software) needed to keep their current jobs.

### Program Challenges

Time spent by vocational rehabilitation staff pursuing and managing local match could be better spent providing customer services. If these match funds are jeopardized, the vocational rehabilitation programs become at risk for inadequate match to capture the full federal award. The likely consequences of this would be the creation of statewide waiting lists for services, forcing the state into an "Order of Selection." In Michigan, the low amount of General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) revenue causes program skewing, resulting in service inequities to customers.