**Walk for Warmth Fact Sheet – Branch County**

Community Action’s Walk for Warmth is a community event which raises funds to help low-income, elderly and disabled residents who have fallen on hard times to keep their utilities on so they can stay warm during the winter. **In 2012, Community Action’s Walk for Warmth Campaign donations assisted 14 Branch County households in keeping their heat on. On February 22, 2014, the Walk aims to raise $10,000 in the Branch County Area.**

***Frequently Asked Questions***

**Does the money I raise really help my neighbors?**

Yes! Funds raised in Branch County are only used to help residents of Branch County.

**Where/when is my Walk for Warmth?**

Walk for Warmth is **Saturday, February 22, 2014**. The Coldwater Walk for Warmth will start at the United Methodist Church, 26 Marshall St., and the Union City Walk for Warmth will begin at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 410 N. Broadway St. The Walk registration begins at 9:00 am, opening ceremonies will begin at approximately 9:30 am, and the one-mile outdoor Walk begins at 10:00 am.

**How can I participate in the Walk for Warmth?**

Participate in your local Walk by picking up a pledge sheet, collecting pledges, recruiting friends and family, and forming a team! If you are unable to participate in the Walk but would like to help, please mail or drop your donation to the Community Action office (175 Main St., Battle Creek, MI 49014). Pledge sheets can be picked up at participating local businesses, downloaded from our website www.caascm.org, or by contacting the Community Action office at 269-965-7766.

**How can I make sure Community Action receives my contribution?**

To ensure Community Action receives your contribution, make checks payable to “Community Action Walk for Warmth” and designate the community to which you would like your donation credited. You can mail your contribution check directly to the Community Action office (175 Main St., Battle Creek, MI 49014) or use it to sponsor a participant.

**Whom do the funds assist?**

Branch County assisted 14 households, totaling 21 family members with their utility bills through the generous Walk for Warmth donations Community Action received during the 2012 campaign. Community Action paid an average household bill of $285.71. Of the families Community Action assisted in the Branch County area:

* The percentage of households with children: 13%
* The percentage of households with seniors: 20%
* Average household income: $3,011.00

**If you would like more information on the Branch County Walk for Warmth, please contact Elizabeth Carr, Community Action Marketing Specialist, (269) 441-1325, or by email at elizabethb@caascm.org.**