



615 Griswold, Suite 1805  
Detroit, MI 48226  
313-962-3171  
Contact: Sara Jean Baker  
[sbaker@mi-community.org](mailto:sbaker@mi-community.org)

### **MICHIGAN COMMUNITY RESOURCES SELECTS NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

DETROIT – April 11, 2013 – Michigan Community Resources announced today that it has hired Wendy Richards as the organization’s new director of legal & policy programs.

With over 10 years of private practice experience, Richards previously worked at the law firm Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone for eight years before moving to Michigan Community Resources (MCR). While there she specialized in intellectual property, contract disputes, and general complex commercial litigation.

Heidi Alcock, CEO of Michigan Community Resources, says, “Wendy brings to MCR a rare combination of stellar legal skills and passion for community and economic development. Under her leadership, we will meet the needs of our clients and develop new legal and policy programming that improves quality of life in Michigan’s low-income communities.”

Richards has a real passion for the work of Michigan Community Resources and brings both her legal skills and community-based experience to her new position. She serves on the City of Grosse Pointe Downtown Development Authority and the Policy and Advocacy committee of the Greening of Detroit, among other activities.

“I value MCR’s innovative approach to addressing critical issues facing struggling communities. MCR makes a positive impact through its unique integrated services and collaboration with key stakeholders,” says Richards, “I am honored to be part of such a creative, talented and experienced team.”

Richards plans to use her private practice experience to expand private bar support and volunteer opportunities for MCR, and to further integrate MCR’s policy agenda with all of its programs.

Michigan Community Resources supports and empowers nonprofit community organizations in Michigan that serve low-income individuals and communities – with an emphasis on community

economic development – by providing pro bono legal services and technical assistance. Founded in 1998, MCR has provided over \$12 million in free legal assistance to over 1000 nonprofits in Michigan and vacant property related assistance to over 200 community organizations in Detroit. Find MCR at [www.mi-community.org](http://www.mi-community.org).

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