

# Advisory

Macomb County  
Board of Commissioners

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February 18, 2010

For more information: Board of Commissioners office (Patti Dib), 586-469-6484.

## **Hearing to Understand Unemployment in Macomb County**

**What:** The Education & Training Committee of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners will hold a special hearing to discuss the true picture of unemployment in Macomb County and the state of Michigan: what the statistics really mean and how this affects demand for basic need services.

Following the hearing, the Board also plans to pass a resolution which will urge the federal government to create programs to support a federal jobs program. Such programming will put people back to work and also assist in the delivery of services to people who continue to struggle meeting their basic needs.

**When:** Tuesday, February 23 at 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** The Board of Commissioners meeting room on the 9th Floor of the Macomb County Administration Building, 1 S. Main St., Mount Clemens, MI 48043

### **Who should attend:**

- County residents who have exhausted their unemployment benefits, or are close to having their benefits expire, are asked to attend to explain the challenges they face searching for employment and identify the services they need.
- Representatives of social services agencies are asked to attend so they can identify and explain services they provide as well as discuss how a federal jobs program will assist their agencies.
- Local officials throughout Macomb County

**Problem:** Michigan's unemployment crisis has caused severe financial hardship for families and small businesses, and created unprecedented demand on public/private entities that provide essential services to residents. Michigan has lost over 279,242 jobs in 2009, experienced a double-digit unemployment rate since December 2008, and led the nation in the highest unemployment rate since 2006.

**Solution:** The Education & Training Committee will pass a resolution urging the United States Congress and President Obama to create and pass a comprehensive jobs bill that will employ laid-off individuals for at least a period of one year.