



History

- 1962- The parents of individuals with disabilities came together to create work activities for their sons and daughters. The first location was in a parent's garage in the city of Saginaw.
- 1962- In December the first board created Saginaw Valley Rehabilitation Center and it became a legal entity.
- 1968- The program moved into a portion of the Lufkin Rule Co. at 1730 Hess.
- 1982- Construction began on the new building located at 919 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.
- 1983- Construction was completed at 919 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.
- 1983- An agreement with the State of Michigan to employ Independent Living Specialists and Vocational Rehabilitation Counselors for the Michigan Commission for the Blind began. These individuals are in different counties across the State and work with individuals who are blind and in need of assistance with either activities of daily living or helping them locate and maintain employment.
- 1987- SVRC received a grant from Virginia Commonwealth University to provide Supported Employment services to persons with disabilities.
- 1990- SVRC Industries, Inc. acquired ACKO Industries, another nonprofit agency with a similar vocational rehabilitation mission and is in Owosso.
- 1994- SVRC Industries, Inc. was awarded a contract with the State of Michigan to administer the Welfare to Work programs in Saginaw County.
- 1995- SVRC Industries Inc. started the Saginaw County Transition Academy which was chartered by the Saginaw Intermediate School District (SISD) to serve at-risk middle and high school students. These students were originally referred to the program by the Saginaw County Court system and the SISD.
- 1996- SVRC Industries, Inc. acquired the ARC of Saginaw, a nonprofit advocacy agency, which could no longer continue to support its programs due to reduced funding. Originating as a grassroots movement, The ARC was initially devoted to improving the lives of individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities.
- 1998- SVRC Industries Inc. started an Interim Alternative Education Program. This SISD contracted program is for students who are specially placed from all Saginaw County school districts who have been temporarily suspended from their home school.
- 1999- SVRC Industries, Inc. changed its name from Saginaw Valley Rehabilitation Center to SVRC Industries, Inc., due to the large array of services the agency provides.
- 1999- Westlund Child Guidance Clinic, a nonprofit children's mental health provider, joined SVRC Industries, Inc. due to serious fiscal difficulties. The Norman Westlund Child Guidance Clinic was founded in 1942 and provided for the assessment and

treatment of children and families living in the Saginaw area that experienced emotional difficulties, learning disabilities, behavioral problems and mental disorders. The clinic changed its name to Westlund Guidance Clinic in 2001 as it continues to adapt its services to meet the changing needs of the population it serves.

- 2001- SVRC was awarded a contract by the Saginaw County Juvenile Detention Center to run its educational programs. This program is operated in conjunction with the SISD for detained youth 10-17 years of age.
- 2002 – SVRC received its first ISO 9002:1994/QS 9000:1998 Quality Registration, SVRC was one of the first Vocational Rehabilitation agencies to complete this process in the country.
- 2003- SVRC Industries, Inc. started a specialized SISD program/classroom for Oppositional Defiant students.
- 2004 – SVRC received its first ISO/TS 16949:2002 Quality Registration
- 2005- The Saginaw County Learn to Earn Academy – chartered by the SISD, opened its doors for 16-20-year-old students’ grades 10-12 who have dropped out of a previous school program.
- 2005- SVRC Industries entered into a formal contract with the State of Michigan to provide professional staffing to the Michigan Commission for the Blind.
- 2005- SVRC Industries, Inc. was invited to be a member of the Community Council for the Michigan Prisoner Re-Entry Initiative (MPRI) sponsored by the Michigan Department of Corrections. As a result, in the summer of 2006 SVRC won a competitive bid to become the Fiduciary or fiscal agent for the Saginaw County 2nd Round Pilot Site.
- 2005- SVRC Industries, Inc. saw an opportunity to help **Opportunities Industrialization Center of Metro Saginaw** by purchasing their building at 1000 Tuscola which they were in process of defaulting on and SVRC Industries, Inc. saw as an asset to the community. Through the help of the **SVRC FOUNDATION**, this building is home to SVRC’s educational and youth programs and named **Tuscola Educational Center**.
- 2006- SVRC Industries Inc. was asked to provide a teacher for Health Source Saginaw’s inpatient psychiatric unit. This program is for school-age youth receiving inpatient medical and/or psychiatric services. The teacher coordinates with the student’s school to ensure they are keeping up on class work while receiving services.
- 2006- The Arc Services changed its name to S.A.I.D. or Saginaw Advocacy for Individuals with Disabilities. During 2005/2006 the advisory board, along with other parents and consumers spent a great deal of time advocating for consumer choice, while the Arc of Michigan and the Arc of the United States spent its time lobbying and advocating for full inclusion, at all costs, for all people with disabilities.
- 2007 SVRC turned over the MPRI fiduciary contract to Michigan Works. A contract to provide Employment Services continued.
- 2008 SVRC provided a Contact Center Training Program through two grants funded by the State of Michigan.
- 2008 SVRC received a WIRED grant from the State of Michigan to develop the agencies

- new website and work on a diversification marketing plan.
- 2008 Westlund implemented a bullying prevention grant funded by local foundations for K-3 graders.
 - 2008 MPRI programs were expanded to include Case Management, Workforce Development and Life Skills Training.
 - 2009 SVRC received a grant from the FHLBI for \$750,000 to assist in the building of the Post-Secondary Transitional House. Along with funds from the **SVRC FOUNDATION** and \$250,000 from the Non-Profit Housing Corporation of Saginaw County, our dream of a transitional living home for persons with IDD became a reality.
 - 2009 SVRC began Community Living Supports program with SCCMHA and transportation services expanded for SCCMHA consumers.
 - 2009 SVRC launched its new website and implemented an online Learning Management System for employees.
 - 2010 SVRC Groundbreaking ceremony for the SVRC Barnard Apartments.
 - 2010 SVRC began working at the Hemlock Semiconductor plant with a group of 17 consumers prepping bags for the facility.
 - 2010 SVRC won the Hetherman Award from the United Way of Saginaw County for excellence in our United Way Campaign.
 - 2011 SVRC won Business of the Year in Saginaw Township for the SVRC Apartments construction project.
 - 2011 SVRC's CLS group won *Best Out of Town Float* in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day parade.
 - 2011 SVRC and SAID held the 10th Annual Golf Classic to raise money for the Summer Transition Program held each summer at the Melvin G. Millet Learning Center.
 - 2012 SVRC celebrated its 50th year of operation at the historic Temple Theatre in downtown Saginaw.
 - 2012 SVRC's CLS group won *Best Out of Town Float* in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day parade.
 - 2013 SVRC provided summer work experience to at risk youth ages 16-24 years of age through the Michigan Department of Natural Resource Grant. The grant was awarded again for summer 2014.
 - 2013 SVRC's CLS group won *Best Out of Town Float* in the Bay City St. Patrick's Day parade. 3rd year in a row!
 - 2014 SVRC was awarded the Department of Labor Youth Build grant for at risk youth between the ages of 16-24 years to provide education, work experience and constructional skills training.
 - 2014 In collaboration with the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (BSBP) SVRC opened the *SVRC Café* in the Jerome T. Hart State of Michigan building to be used as a community-based rehabilitation training site.
 - 2014 SVRC purchased the old Saginaw News building located at 203 S. Washington in downtown Saginaw for redevelopment purposes. Plans include a farmer's market, business incubator, banquet facilities and other areas to open up employment

- opportunities for person with disabilities in Saginaw County.
- 2015 Westlund Guidance Clinic begins serving individuals with Autism.
 - 2015 SVRC was awarded the GLBMW contract for Saginaw, Bay, and Midland counties dislocated and adult WIA, PATH and WIA Out of School programs.
 - 2016 SVRC won Saginaw Futures Economic Excellence Award for its work on the SVRC Marketplace.
 - 2016 SVRC won the Addy Derby award for Advertising Excellence around the Marketplace messaging.
 - 2017 SVRC Industries takes over ownership of Joan Manly Wolfe apartments and begins to rehabilitate the apartment complex to better serve disabled and senior populations.
 - 2017 the SVRC Board of Directors updates the organization mission through a Strategic Planning process.
 - 2017 SVRC won Saginaw Futures Economic Excellence Award for its work on the SVRC Marketplace.
 - 2018 SVRC Marketplace received the Positive Impact Award from Positive Results Downtown.
 - 2018 SVRC Industries with the help of several investors and the **SVRC FOUNDATION** were able to open the SVRC Marketplace in downtown Saginaw as a way to integrate our services into the community.
 - 2018 SVRC won the Hetherman Award from the United Way of Saginaw County for excellence in our United Way Campaign.
 - 2019 SVRC goes through a provider transformation process with the help of ODEP to end facility-based services and integrate services into the community.
 - 2019 SVRC gives up its 14c Wage Certificate and hires consumer workers as employees.
 - 2019 The **SVRC FOUNDATION** provided \$250,000 to support IDD transportation so our customers can have better access to the community.
 - 2020 SVRC Industries develops the Boardroom as a culinary training program.