**ELECTION 2012**

**FACT SHEET: MICHIGAN**

Entering office amid an economic crisis, President Obama has consistently fought for the middle class, protecting children, and education. Here is just some of what has been achieved in Michigan.

### Strengthening the middle class

- The current **tax system is NOT fair**: In 2010, Michigan corporations paid $692 million in state income taxes and individuals paid $5.5 billion — **eight times more**. (Source: U.S. Census Bureau, *State Government Tax Collections Summary Report: 2010*)

- The Social Security payroll tax cut instituted by President Obama is a first step to leveling the playing field — **$1,000 more in take-home pay** for a middle class family earning $50,000 a year. (Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury)

- From the late 1980s to the mid-2000s, on average the income of the **richest 5%** of families in Michigan rose by nearly $67,000 while the income of the **poorest 20%** of families in Michigan rose by about $1,500 — **45 times more**. For details, see [Pulling Apart: A State by State Analysis of Income Trends](http://bit.ly/jyj6H). (Source: *Pulling Apart: A State by State Analysis of Income Trends*, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities and the Economic Policy Institute, 2008)

### Making college affordable

- President Obama has preserved **Pell grants** for more than **330,000 students** in Michigan. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- Last year alone, the American Opportunity Tax Credit introduced by President Obama helped make **college tuition** affordable for **356,000 families** in Michigan. (Source: U.S. Department of the Treasury, Office of Tax Analysis)

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Supporting educators, modernizing schools

- As a result of President Obama’s support for the Education Jobs Fund, signed into law in August 2010, Michigan received $318 million that helped keep teachers in the classroom, limit increases in class size, and contain layoffs of counselors, classroom aides, and other education support professionals. At its peak, the Education Jobs Fund supported more than 3,500 education jobs throughout the state. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, signed into law by President Obama in February 2009, funded nearly 10,300 education jobs in Michigan. (Source: U.S. Department of Education)

- President Obama’s American Jobs Act, which the Republican Congress continues to block, would provide $946 million for education jobs, $926 million to modernize schools, and $158 million for community colleges in Michigan. (Source: A State by State Guide to the American Jobs Act, whitehouse.gov)

Improving health care

- In 2011, Michigan received $4.2 million for school-based health centers that provide screenings, conduct health promotion and disease prevention activities, and enable children with acute or chronic illnesses to attend school. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration)

- The Affordable Care Act has brought peace of mind to 6 million people in Michigan — they no longer have to worry about lifetime limits. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Health Care Law & You, healthcare.gov)

- In 2011, nearly 30,000 young adults in Michigan could remain on their parents’ health plans until age 26 — and that number will grow in 2012. Before the Affordable Care Act, many college graduates and other young adults had no insurance. (Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Health Care Law & You, healthcare.gov)