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**For Immediate Release**

**FAIRBANKS ACCEPTS ASSISTANT POSITION AT  
ALLIANCE FOR ECONOMIC SUCCESS**

**Manistee, Michigan** – Cathy Fairbanks, a resident of Wellston, Michigan, has accepted an administrative assistant position with the Manistee-based Alliance for Economic Success (AES). Fairbanks succeeds Betsy Keson who ably performed the job for nearly two years before departing the AES after accepting an assistant accounting role with a company located in Wyoming.

Fairbanks has extensive prior experience with project and data management, having served as Team Leader for Data Processing Services in Indianapolis for thirteen years, prior to her becoming secretary and bookkeeper for Fairbanks Construction while also running *The Potted Gate* gift shop in Wellston. She is an adjunct instructor at West Shore Community College where she has taught introduction to computer concepts, introduction to spreadsheets, desktop applications, and other programs. She also has academic experience in business and business technology and is skilled in web page design and management, Quickbooks accounting and Microsoft programs.

“Cathy brings a set of skills to the AES that will support the continued growth and development of our organization and benefit those that we serve,” said AES Executive Director Renee' Ihlenfeldt. “She will be instrumental in making sure that we are operating efficiently by using technology to its full advantage. She will also assume an important role in managing the various grants and special project that the AES has taken on to support the quality of life and economic well-being of Manistee County.

Fairbanks can be reached at the AES office at 11 Cypress, Manistee, MI 49660, 231-723-4325 or at [cathy@allianceforeconomicsuccess.com](mailto:cathy@allianceforeconomicsuccess.com).

“As we welcome Cathy, we also want to express our thanks and appreciation to our friend and colleague Betsy Keson,” Ihlenfeldt said. “We look forward to following her growth and success and wish her all the very best.”