

Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw

Community Action Agency

"Helping People – Help Themselves"



Community Needs

Assessment

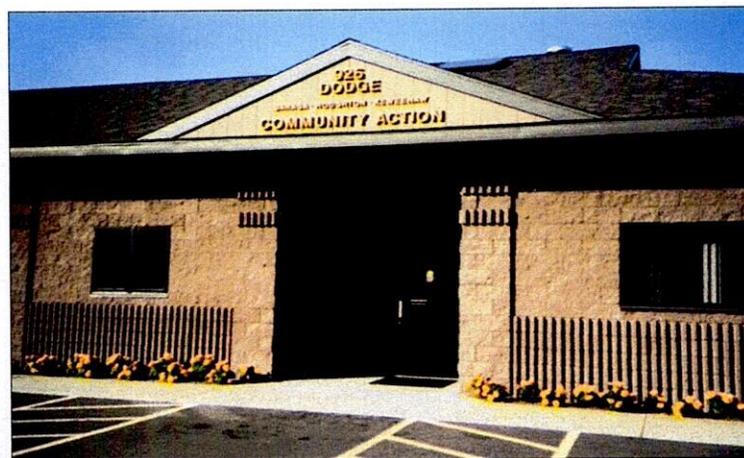
2022

About Us

Since 1965, the Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Community Action Agency has been helping individuals and families in the three-county areas.

BHK is a non-profit Community Action Agency governed by a 12-member tri-partite board. The Board is made up of representatives from public, private, and low-income sectors of the community. BHK is funded by federal, state, and local grants as well as private foundations.

In fiscal year 2021, B-H-K Community Action Agency assisted more than 3,500 individuals through fuel assistance, utility assistance, tax assistance, home weatherization, housing assistance, bus rides, food assistance programs, in-home programs for seniors, youth recreation, furnace/ chimney cleaning and repair, and the operation of the Keweenaw Handicraft Shop in Ahmeek.



Introduction

Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Community Action Agency conducts a needs assessment every three years to ensure that we are doing everything possible to meet the needs of the communities we serve.

Feedback from our Board, the community, and other partners helps us to assess the challenges faced in the community, identify unmet needs, and guide us in our efforts to assist individuals and families as best we can.

Methodology

A survey was distributed at our food distributions and handed out in the office. A separate questionnaire was given to the governing board and local partners/businesses in an effort to work together in enhancing our programs to better meet the needs of the community.

Approximately 140 community surveys were returned.

Three-County Snapshot

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey 2020, 5-year estimates)

Population:

- Total population of the State of Michigan: 9,973,907
- Total population of Baraga County: 8,337
- Total population of Houghton County: 37,361
- Total population of Keweenaw County: 2,046

Age:

- Median Age in the State of Michigan: 39.8
- Median Age in Baraga County: 45.8
- Median Age in Houghton County: 33.2
- Median Age in Keweenaw County: 58.3

Income:

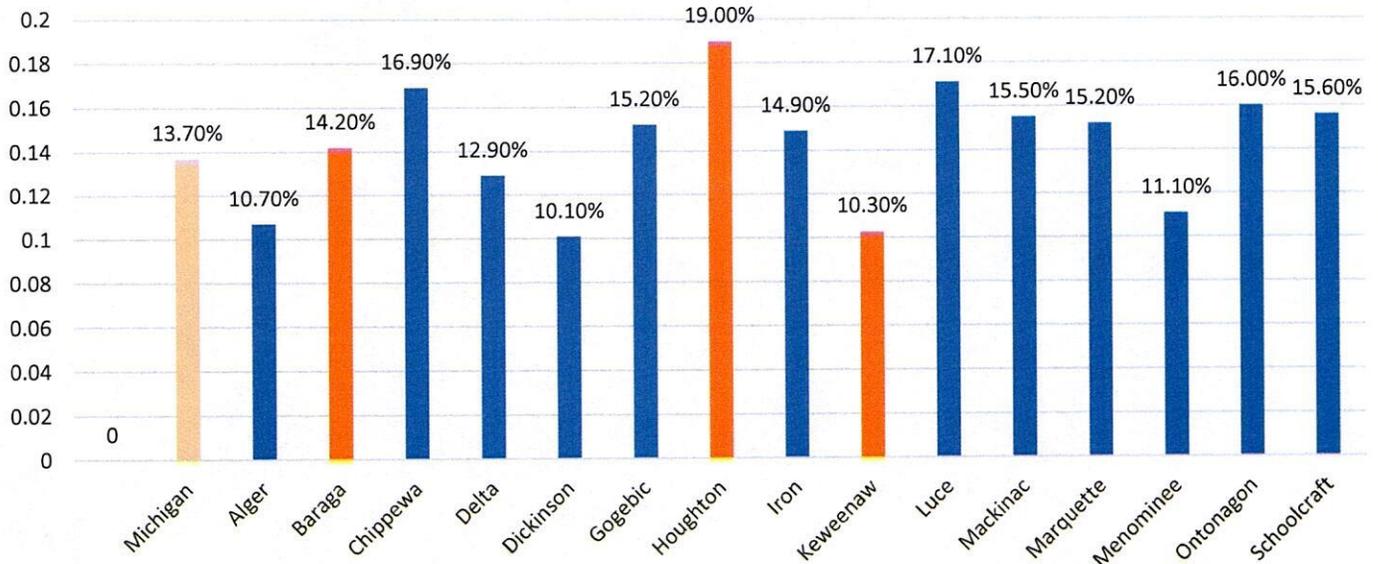
- Median Income in the State of Michigan: 59,234
- Median Income in Baraga County: 46,581
- Median Income in Houghton County: 44,839
- Median Income in Keweenaw County: 51,750

Poverty:

- See charts on the following page

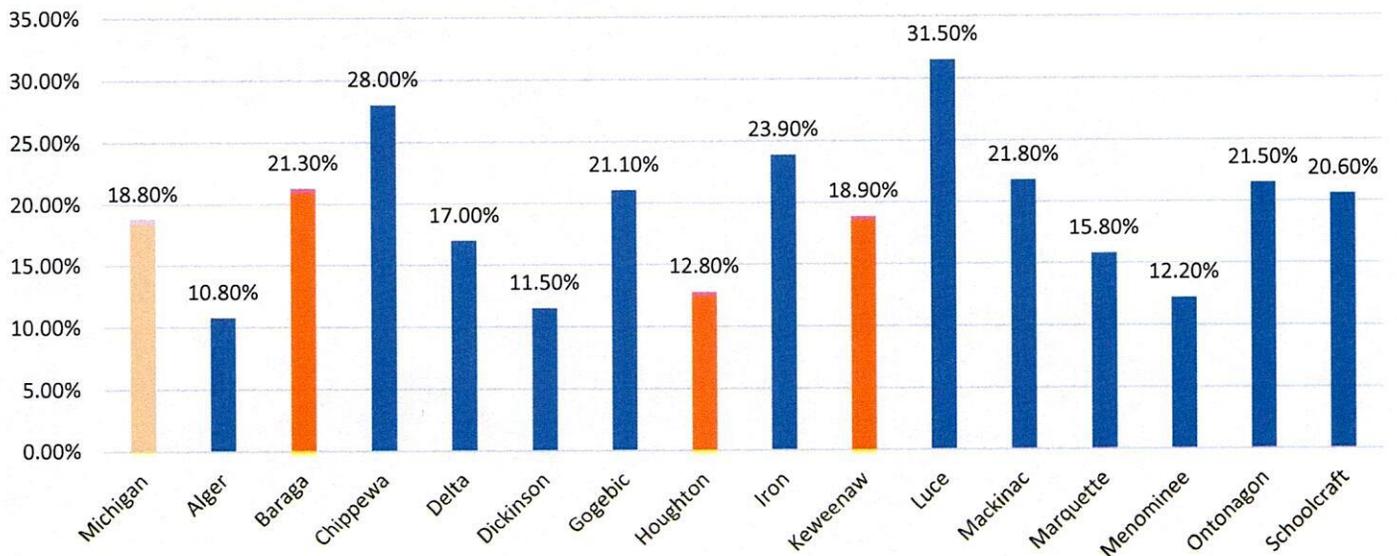
Percent of Population in Poverty

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020

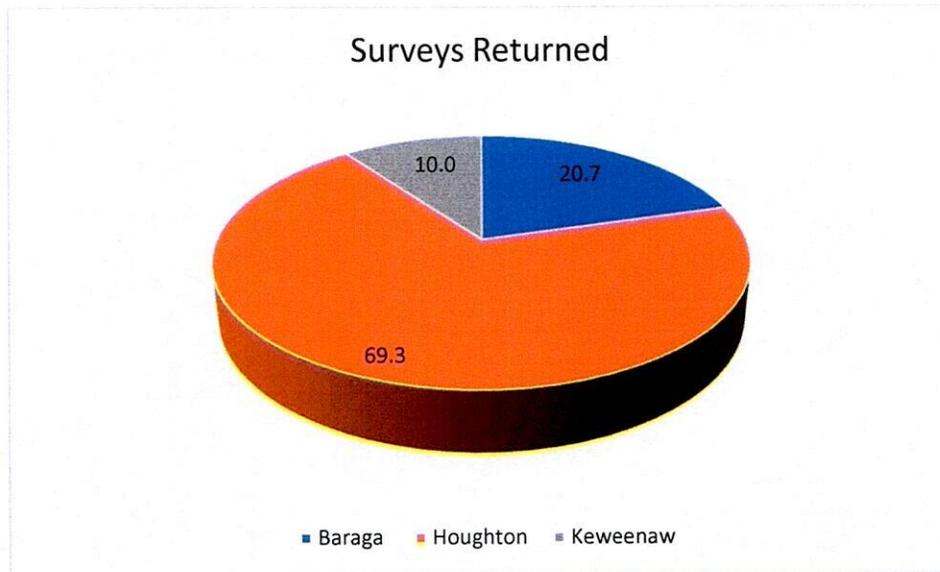


Percent of Children Under 18 Living in Poverty

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2020



Three-County Respondent Data



- Male Respondents: 35.7%
- Female Respondents: 64.3%
- Houghton County had a high percentage of female respondents at 70%.

Age of Respondents

18-24	0
25-44	5
45-54	5
55-59	6
60-64	23
65-74	46
75+	54

- 22.1% are Veterans
- 39.3% are Disabled
- 4.9% have No Medical Ins
- 74.8% Own their Home
- 25.5% Rent their Home
- 20.2% are Widowed
- 25.9% are Married
- 48.9% are Single/Divorced
- 64.3% use the Internet
- 43.3% use social media

Feel they are self-sufficient: 21%

Feel they need occasional assistance: 65.7%

Feel they need more assistance than is available: 10.5%

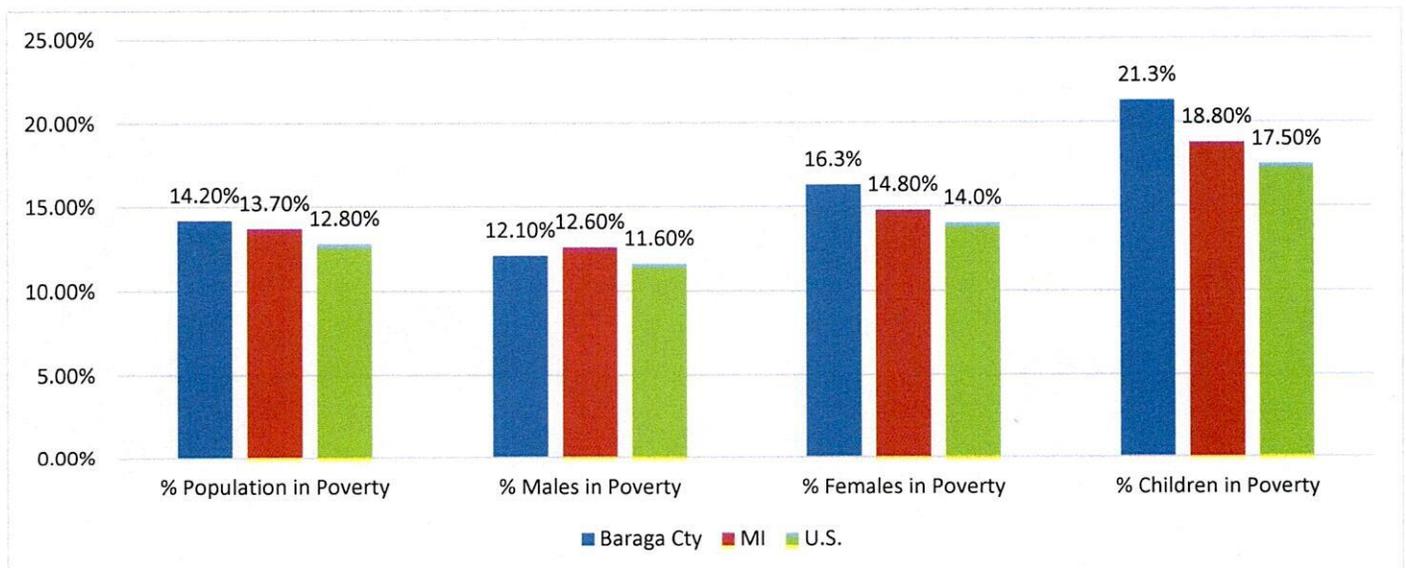
Did not respond: 2.8%

Race/Ethnicity

Native American	6
Asian	1
African American	1
Caucasian/White	130
No Answer/Multiple	2

Baraga County, MI

DATA INDICATOR	INDICATOR ATTRIBUTE	BARAGA CTY	MI	USA
Total Population	Total Population	8,158	9,973,907	326,569,308
	Median Age	45.8	39.8	38.2
	Population Age 65+	1,887	1,712,841	52,362,817
	Percent Population Age 65+	23.10%	17.20%	16.00%
Children Eligible for Free/ Reduced Price Lunch	Total Students	1,084	1,400,628	53,388,966
	# Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	580	715,721	26,206,442
	% Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	53.50%	51.10%	52.30%
Education - Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Total Population Age 25+	6,201	6,853,674	222,836,834
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	940	2,055,131	73,356,319
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	15.20%	30.00%	32.90%
Median Household Income	Total Households	3,188	3,980,408	122,354,219
	Average Household Income	\$62,437	\$80,803	\$91,547
	Median Household Income	\$46,581	\$59,234	\$67,521
Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	3,137	4,963,430	163,654,457
	Number Employed	3,008	4,665,624	154,920,856
	Number Unemployed	129	297,806	8,773,601
	Unemployment Rate	4.1%	6.0%	5.4%



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020

Source: Datacenter.kidscount.org 2021

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Baraga County Survey Results

Total Respondents: 29

15 - Female	0 - Age 25-44	4 - Native American	3 - Partner
14 - Male	2 - Age 60-64	24 - Caucasian/White	16 - Single
	27 - Age 65-75	1 - African American	7 - Married
	0 - Age 75+		3 - Widowed

TOP 3 NEEDS:

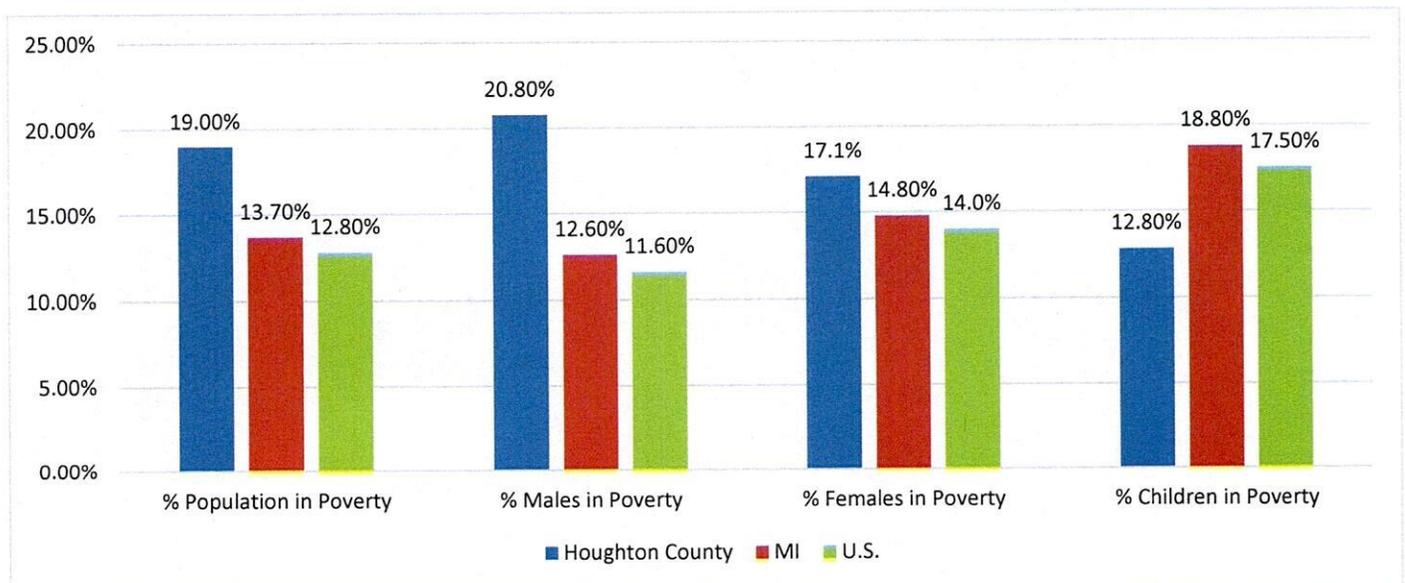
1. **Food**
2. Heat/Utility Assistance
3. Housing/In-Home Services

Top Needs not provided by Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw CAA:

1. Health Care Services
2. Vehicle Gas
3. Snow Removal/Lawn Care

Houghton County, MI

DATA INDICATOR	INDICATOR ATTRIBUTE	HTN COUNTY	MICHIGAN	USA
Total Population	Total Population	37,361	9,973,907	326,569,308
	Median Age	33.2	39.8	38.2
	Population Age 65+ Percent Population Age 65+	6,183 17.20%	1,712,841 17.20%	52,362,817 16.00%
Children Eligible for Free/ Reduced Price Lunch	Total Students	5,396	1,400,628	53,388,966
	# Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	2,445	715,721	26,206,442
	% Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	45.30%	51.10%	52.30%
Education - Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Total Population Age 25+	21,116	6,853,674	222,836,834
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	7,098	2,055,131	73,356,319
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	33.60%	30.00%	32.90%
Median Household Income	Total Households	13,805	3,980,408	122,354,219
	Average Household Income	\$62,815	\$80,803	\$91,547
	Median Household Income	\$44,839	\$59,234	\$67,521
Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	16,169	4,963,430	163,654,457
	Number Employed	15,215	4,665,624	154,920,856
	Number Unemployed	954	297,806	8,773,601
	Unemployment Rate	5.9%	6.0%	5.4%



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020

Source: Datacenter.kidscount.org 2021

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Houghton County Survey Results

Total Respondents: 97

68 - Female	5 - Age 18-44	1 - Asian	1 - Separated
29 - Male	5 - Age 45-54	1 - Native American	15 - Divorced
	3 - Age 55-59	94 - Caucasian/White	27 - Single
	20 - Age 60-64	1 - No Answer	1 - Partner
	16 - Age 65-74		28 - Married
	26 - Age 75+		25 - Widowed

TOP 3 NEEDS:

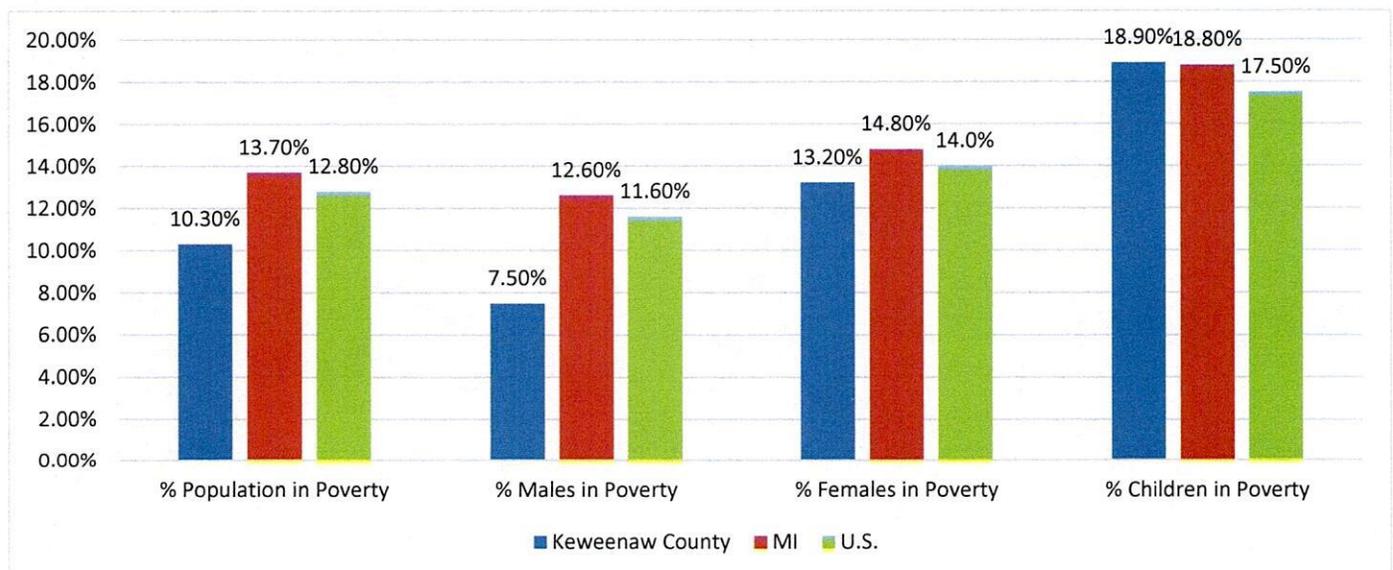
1. **Food**
2. Housing
3. Heat/Utility Assistance

Top Needs not provided by Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw CAA:

1. Snow Removal/Lawn Care
2. Medical & Other Transportation
3. Home Maintenance

Keweenaw County, MI

DATA INDICATOR	INDICATOR ATTRIBUTE	KEW CTY	MICHIGAN	USA
Total Population	Total Population	2,046	9,973,907	326,569,308
	Median Age	58.3	39.8	38.2
	Population Age 65+	753	1,712,841	52,362,817
	Percent Population Age 65+	35.80%	17.20%	16.00%
Children Eligible for Free/ Reduced Price Lunch	Total Students	190	1,400,628	53,388,966
	# Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	57	715,721	26,206,442
	% Free/Reduced Price Lunch Eligible	30.0%	51.10%	52.30%
Education - Bachelor's Degree or Higher	Total Population Age 25+	1,710	6,853,674	222,836,834
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	619	2,055,131	73,356,319
	Age 25+ w/ Bachelor's Degree or +	36.20%	30.00%	32.90%
Median Household Income	Total Households	1,079	3,980,408	122,354,219
	Average Household Income	\$71,062	\$80,803	\$91,547
	Median Household Income	\$51,750	\$59,234	\$67,521
Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	854	4,963,430	163,654,457
	Number Employed	806	4,665,624	154,920,856
	Number Unemployed	48	297,806	8,773,601
	Unemployment Rate	5.6%	6.0%	5.4%



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2020

Source: Datacenter.kidscount.org 2021

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

Keweenaw County Survey Results

Total Respondents: 14

7 - Female	2 - Age 55-59	12 - Caucasian/White	1 - Separated
7 - Male	1 - Age 60-64	1 - Native American	2 - Divorced
	3 - Age 65-74	1 - Multiple	6 - Single
	8 - Age 75+		3 - Married
			2 - Widowed

TOP 3 NEEDS:

1. **Food**
2. Heating Assistance
3. Weatherization/Home Repairs

Top Needs not provided by Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw CAA:

1. Snow Removal/Lawn Care

Key Sector Participation

Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Community Action Agency reached out to key sectors of the community to collaborate on the needs of the community and how we can work together to meet those needs.

The key sectors included community, faith based, educational, private, and public organizations. If the organization did not already know what services we provide, this was an opportunity to inform them. In addition, we learned what services they provide, what they felt to be the top needs of the community, and ideas of how we can work together to fulfill some of the unmet needs.

The top three needs listed by our partners were reliable transportation, affordable housing, and food. Other needs mentioned included mental health services, rental assistance, employment/living wages, health care costs, child care and service coordination (connecting individuals to programs).

Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Community Action Agency is already providing assistance for the top three needs. We have programs that provide food, transportation, as well as housing assistance in the form of utility assistance, minor home repairs, and furnace and/or chimney cleaning.

We will continue to work with our partners in any way we can to help the communities we serve.

Key Findings

Of the three counties in our service territory, only Keweenaw County is below the state poverty level for adults according to data from the American Community Survey 2020. Houghton County is the highest with 19% of the population in poverty. This could be due to the fact that the population is much higher in Houghton County, but the median age is much lower at 33.2. The median age in Baraga and Keweenaw Counties is 45.8 and 58.3 respectively. At age 33, people haven't been in their jobs too long and, therefore, probably earn a much lower salary.

Single parenting can be a cause of poverty. In all three counties, the poverty rate is 20-50% higher in a female household with no spouse. However, according to the data from the same 2020 survey, the percent of children under the age of 18 living in poverty went down in all three counties as well as the state of Michigan.

The median household income is much lower than the state in all three counties. Keweenaw County is the closest, but still \$7,484 below the state's median income. The unemployment rate is lower in all three counties according to the 2020 data. However, the lower income and lower median age still most likely contribute to the higher rates of poverty.

From the surveys returned, the top need listed in all three counties was again food. Heating assistance was the 2nd or 3rd need in all three counties, with housing assistance and repairs also being listed 2nd or 3rd. Baraga-Houghton-Keweenaw Community Action Agency does help with all of these needs currently and plans to continue. The top unmet need is lawn care and snow removal. We will take this into consideration; however, we feel it would be a difficult need to fulfill.

