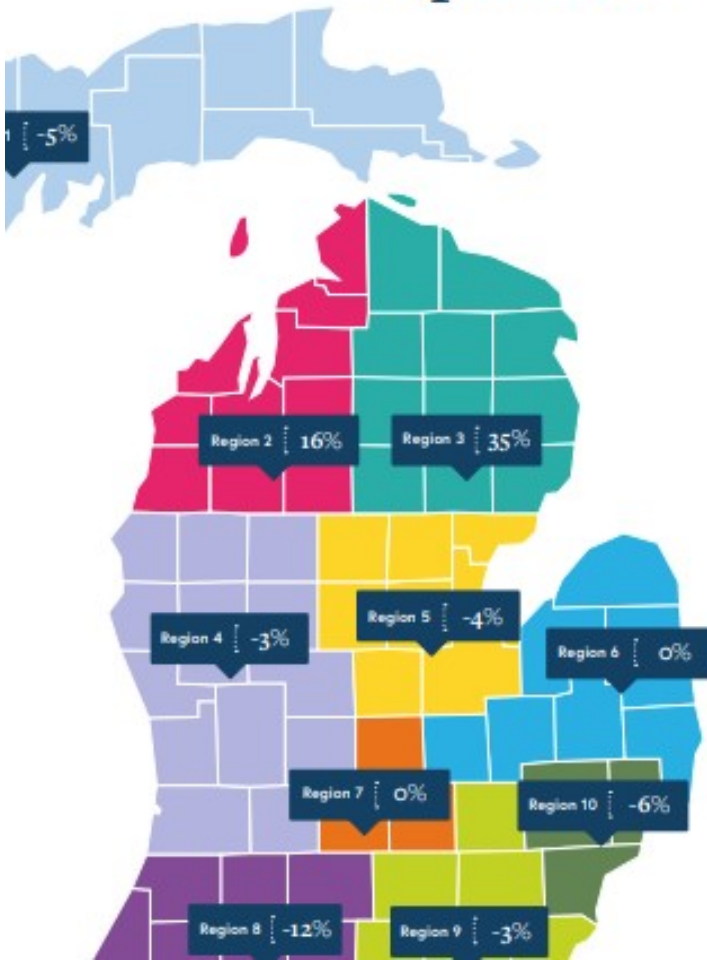




EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S

REPORT November
2022

Michigan's Homeless Population



Interesting statistics taken from the
2021 Annual Report regarding
Homelessness in Michigan:


- ~2% decrease in the number of people who experienced homelessness from 2020-21
- ~44% decline in the number of evictions between 2019-2021
- ~Michigan 2-1-1 saw a 30% increase in housing-related calls from 2020-2021
- ~Black households are 3.6 times more likely to experience homelessness when compared to the broader Census demographics and 4 times more likely to fall back into homelessness after exiting the system to permanent housing
- ~37% of homeless mothers reported experiencing physical or sexual assault

[Read Full Report HERE](#)

NOTE: There was a dramatic increase in our regional homeless population which is due to piloting the Street Outreach Program, which has increased the ability to serve 300% more than usual.

Enhancing quality of life by empowering individuals and strengthening communities.

Give the gift of warmth



Homeless Awareness Month
Blanket and Winter Gear Drive

NEW BLANKETS AND NEW WINTER HATS, NEW GLOVES & NEW ADULT COATS NEEDED!

Donations are being accepted from November 1, 2022 to November 30, 2022.

Blankets and winter gear will be distributed to people experiencing homelessness in communities throughout Northeast Michigan.

Donation Sites:

Alcona

- Dollar General- Glennie location

Alpena

- NEMCSA office
- Wolverine State Credit Union
- The Salvation Army Office

Cheboygan

- The Salvation Army Office

Crawford

- Northern Lakes Community Mental Health

Iosco

- Wolverine State Credit Union

Ogemaw


- Ogemaw County MDHHS


Otsego

- United Way (Gaylord)
- NEMCSA Northwind Apts Office (Tues-Weds and Fri 8:30 to 4 for drop offs)

Roscommon

- Houghton Lake Wesleyan Church (Wed-Fri 9-3 for drop offs)
- Roscommon County MDHHS (in the Save-A-Lot parking lot)

 How to Get help
989-358-4678
housingintake@nemcsa.org



NEMCSA School Success Partnership

School Success Liaisons work with students who are at risk of academic failure to reduce barriers that they may be facing that hinder their educational success. Help support our students by donating items from our wish list that can help reduce barriers and develop educational, social emotional and coping skills, which will ultimately help students be more successful.

Thank you!


Access Our Amazon Wishlist



You can help support students at school!



Help students break academic barriers!



Help meet students basic needs!



GIVING TUESDAY NORTHEAST MICHIGAN

NEMCSA is excited to be one of 62 nonprofit organizations participating in Giving Tuesday Northeast Michigan 2022 through the Community Foundation of Northeast Michigan (CFNEM)! This year, Giving Tuesday is November 29, 2022. Any donations made through the CFNEM on that day on NEMCSA's behalf will be used to meet the needs of those fighting poverty across all NEMCSA programs.

Giving Tuesday is a global day of giving back that falls on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, after the popular shopping days of Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Locally, the Community Foundation hosts Giving Tuesday Northeast Michigan to make giving back easy – with 100% of any donation going to NEMCSA.

Mark your calendars for Giving Tuesday, November 29th! To donate on that day, visit cfnem.org/givingtuesday or scan the QR code:



Amanda Bergeron, CSFP (Commodity Supplemental Food Programs) and TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) Coordinator hosted NEMCSA's October Board Meeting at our Warehouse in Ossineke. She helped the caterer create a meal that included CSFP and TEFAP food for our Board members lunch.

Amanda also gave a very informative presentation about each of our food programs and future of both programs.

Great Job Amanda!

- Dorothy Pintar, Community Programs Director

*Early Childhood
Services*

PROGRAM IMPACT

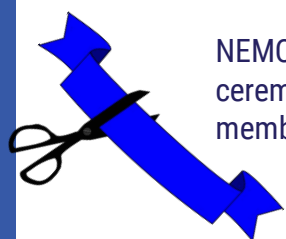


New Center Opens Its Doors in Tawas City

On October 28, an Open House was held to share the news of our new Tawas Early Childhood Center with the community. In attendance were staff and families, local elected officials, health professionals, NEMCSA Board members, school administrators, and many other friends and supporters of early childhood.

The Tawas center is home to three Head Start and GSRP classrooms, Early Head Start socialization and childcare rooms, and offices and meeting space for teachers, supervisors and classroom support staff. It features excellent outdoor play space as well as a beautiful gym.

Consolidating classrooms in Tawas means savings on utilities, mileage, and other costs, as well as greater support for staff, easier transitions for families and children, and more visibility in the community.



NEMCSA Head Start invites you to celebrate our new playground at our ribbon cutting ceremony and open house. Please help us thank all the parents, children, community members and businesses that helped make this great playground a reality.

When: Thursday November 10th, 3:00 pm

Where: 2828 Isabella St, Midland, MI 48640



PROGRAM IMPACT

School Success staff helped address student insecurities by providing over 14,000 items including school supplies, food, holiday gifts, hygiene products, clothing items, etc. during the 2021-2022 school year. We could not address this magnitude of student insecurities due to barriers that they are facing without the generous support of donors in our communities and what a better time to highlight a few of our most recent donations and mini grants than as we head into the Thanksgiving season.

AAACU – Water Bottles for Various Schools

HPC Credit Union – Coats for Various Schools

Alpena Free Methodist Church – Clothing, Shoes & Supplies to Ella White Elementary

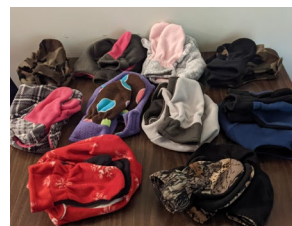
Anonymous - Donation of Hats to Wilson Elementary

Mr. Rock and Toys for Tots - Donations of warm clothing to Lewiston Elementary School

\$5000 Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan Mini Grant to purchase warm clothing for Lewiston Elementary Students



October 19th was Unity Day, a day that individuals, schools, communities, and businesses wear or share orange to unite for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion to prevent students being bullied. Many School Success Liaisons did Unity Day activities in their schools, including Amy Weide, School Success Liaison at Sanborn Elementary in Ossineke (pictured above).



CSBG-D / BOSS program

PROGRAM IMPACT



The BOSS program has been in full swing for almost a full three months now and the work that the BOSS mentors and families have been achieving together is nothing short of amazing. At the start of the program, all our families were indicating a struggle financially for various reasons. Present day, our mentors have supported a single mom get a new job, a senior citizen process through Social Security to start receiving benefits, help educate, empower two other women to enroll in college. While we have seen many accomplishments during this time, we are still facing many challenges. Including two of our BOSS families are still homeless. However, the mentors are working diligently with their families to explore many different possibilities and we are fine tuning how we support each family through each interaction.

Our mentors are currently using the Arizona Self Sufficiency Matrix as a tool to help guide their progress through actionable tasks. However, looking ahead we are exploring creating our own Self Sufficiency matrix that we find to be best suited for this program. Each family is still enrolled in the first phase of the program which is intensive case management, supportive services through weekly check ins and monthly in person visits.

Some of the services, resources and support that have been provided to the BOSS families thus far include: car repair for 2 families, studying for GED-which led to successful passing and enrollment into college, referrals to internal departments within NEMCSA, referrals to external community services, assistance with completing housing applications, job applications and other necessary paperwork, assistance with job applications, interviewing and resumes, clothing for children, back to school supplies, budgeting, coping strategies, food assistance, transportation to doctor appointments and overall empowerment during the highs and lows for each family.

Looking ahead, the BOSS mentors have meetings coming up with MiWorks to discuss how a partnership can be established to ensure full support for the BOSS families that are seeking employment and learning more about other resources MiWorks can offer. In addition, a meeting with an organization called Ground 40 is in the works to discuss their best practices and successes with case management and other supportive service through their programs.

" Many people in poverty have internalized their poverty as a personal deficiency. They see no hope for anything but an insufficient welfare or disability check, or underground activities that barely pay enough to keep food on the table and often result in incarceration. Nearly 80 percent of people in prison cannot read at an 8th grade level. Poverty affects educational success, health, relationships, and most of all it affects the ability for humans to develop to their full potential.

We can do better A deeper understanding of poverty and the barriers it presents is urgently needed. It requires community members and professionals being consistent in saying, "Poverty is an issue we are going to address." It requires each and every one of us to explore what is in our hands to make a difference for those living in poverty." -Dr. Donna Beegle

Homeless & Prevention

PROGRAM IMPACT



The Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) visited Alpena in October. MSHDA facilitated discussion between the Office of Rural Development, State Land Bank Authority and Michigan Economic Development Corporation, on housing initiatives, blight elimination and housing and economic resources. Pictured is Victoria Purvis, NEMCSA Homeless & Prevention Director, discussing the need for rural initiatives to be funded through Michigan Housing and Community Development Fund (HCDF) to ensure these funds will have a real impact at developing resources at a grassroots level for those who need them the most.



Homeless Awareness Month Activities:

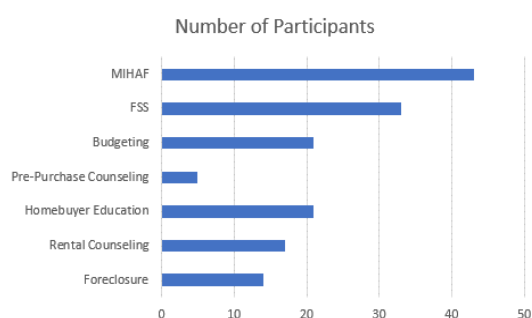
- Blanket Drive
 - 11/1-11/30
 - Drop Off Locations – (see attached flyer for locations)
- Annual Homeless Sleep out
 - 11/4, 7pm – NEMCSA Main Office
- Homeless Awareness Walk
 - 11/5, 10am – Alpena Salvation Army
- Homeless and Hunger Walk
 - 11/20 1pm – Oscoda Beach Park Pavilion

Homeless & Prevention

PROGRAM IMPACT

Financial Empowerment Program

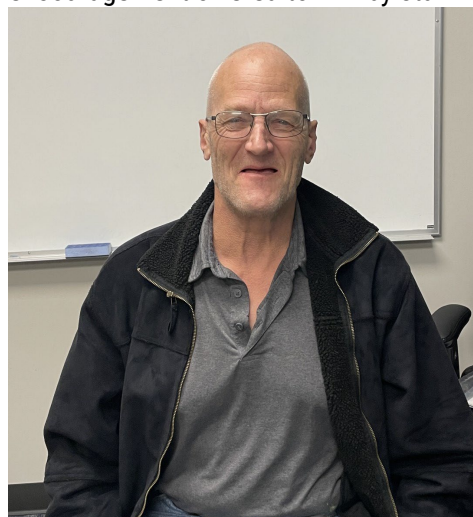
The Financial Empowerment Program offers a wide variety of counseling and classes to our community members. The program includes Foreclosure Counseling, Rental Counseling, Pre-purchase Counseling, Homebuyer Education and Budgeting classes. We also case management Family Self-Sufficiency program participants and offer application assistance through MIHAF, which is a MSHDA program. During fiscal year 22, program staff worked with 154 different households



As a result of the impact staff were able to make during FY22, funding for the Housing Counseling program is at a 5 year high, with funds received in excess of \$75,000.

Community Engagement

In November 2021, our agency was contact by Allen. He was recently divorced, unemployed and losing his home. He has been working with our Financial Coach to help him sort through all of the financial issues he's been facing. We started small with creating a budget and planning how he would stick to it with his limited funds. He was referred to many places of employment and has been hired a number of times although he kept searching as they weren't full time employment. In September he was hired full time at the hospital and has become more confident in his ability to maintain control of his finances. He meets with the Financial Coach at least twice a month to go over his spending and discuss and financial issues he might be having. His financial situation has been positively affected by the support and encouragement offered to him by staff.



"My confidence in myself and my ability to sort through my financial issues wouldn't be possible without your assistance"
-Allen

Financial Empowerment

3 new families
started their journey
to home buying this
month



Volunteer

PROGRAM IMPACT

RSVP volunteers have been busy in Roscommon County! The "Music in the Air" choir group provides classic upbeat music to the clients of Serenity Day Lodge, an adult day service in Roscommon County. These singing volunteers are talented, fun, entertaining and never fail to bring a smile to faces. In addition, RSVP volunteers, Donna Green and Sandra Striggow, are frequent volunteers at the Lodge. They love providing fellowship to clients, help with lunch hour, and participate in a variety of programs and activities with the Lodge clients. For more information on RSVP or the Serenity Day Lodge contact Amy Cook-Otto at 989-358-4650.



Our Foster Grandparent Program welcomed three new volunteers in September, finally reversing the negative trend of disenrollment caused by the pandemic. The new enrollments allow us to expand into Arenac County where we have not had a volunteer since pre-pandemic and to engage a new station in Alpena, All Saints Catholic School.

Representatives from Alpena Township Fire Department helped our Foster Grandparents and Senior Companion volunteers learn about fire prevention during our October In-Service meeting. Volunteers were provided the opportunity to practice using a fire extinguisher, the advantages and proper placement of the newest generation of smoke detectors and got to see first-hand the inner workings of a fire engine. Thanks to Fire Chief Mark Hansen and Training Officer Jim Stachlewicz, two of our volunteers were able to go home with a new smoke detector and fire extinguisher. Congratulations to Senior Companion Helen Johnson and new Foster Grandparent Sheila Hutton!

During the 2021 – 2022 program year, 23 Foster Grandparents served 143 children of which 87% demonstrated gains in academic improvement/engagement and/or social-emotional skills. Our 25 Senior Companions served 132 clients of which 86% reported increased social support. Our numbers may be temporarily small, but the impact is huge!



Food Programs

PROGRAM IMPACT



The NEMCSA Food Programs had a wonderful month! Have you seen our Food Program signs around, specifically in Alcona, Montmorency, and Alpena Counties? We have analyzed our progress with our Food Program sign campaign that we executed over the summer and we saw an increase in participant sign ups for our senior (CSFP) program by 30 families! Signs will be coming down soon, thanks to a collaborative effort with NEMCSA's Volunteer Programs.

A Halloween event was hosted the NEMCSA's Ossineke location, led by the Food Program. During this event, food program staff signed up a family for CSFP, gave out TEFAP food, children completed pumpkin crafts and all in attendance had an opportunity for pizza, candy, cider and cupcakes. All in attendance learned about a variety of NEMCSA programs including Food, Aging, Weatherization, Head Start, Early Head Start and we even had a Community Partner present from Child & Family Services. It was a well-attended event with approximately 30 individuals present.

November is the last month NEMCSA will be running TEFAP as a quarterly distribution. Upcoming dates can be found on our website!

Weatherization

PROGRAM IMPACT

The NEMCSA Weatherization Team recently took part in the Annual State of Michigan Technical Conference held in Bay City. Our three Weatherization Inspectors and Program Manager were in attendance. The State provided three plus days of focused training sessions and the opportunity to reconnect with our counterparts from across the network.

This was the first in person State conference since 2019 and we all appreciated the chance to see everyone face to face. Our long time Inspector Mark Whitscell was asked to present a session on Client Education and how that relates to the inspection process. He was supported by Lisa Ritter, the State of Michigan Weatherization Coordinator. Great job Mark!

Why Should I Apply?

According to national studies, households that receive weatherization services can expect heating costs to be reduced up to 25 percent. As fuel costs continue to rise, even greater savings will result.

Please Note:

The Weatherization Assistance Program does not include funding for structural (roofs and windows), plumbing, mold or electrical repairs. To clarify, this is not an emergency or a home repair program.

Apply at www.nemcsa.org or call 989-358-4600.



The Weatherization Assistance Program...



Saves low-income families an average of \$283 per year in energy costs and reduces heating bills by an average of 30% in cold weather states.



Returns over \$4 in energy, health, and safety benefits for every \$1 invested in the program



Helps the country reduce its dependence on foreign oil and reduce carbon emissions



Learn more about **WEATHERIZATION** and how it can improve your home

Area Agency on Aging
(AAA)

PROGRAM



CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT WORKGROUP

Overcoming Healthcare Challenges: Strengthening Communities

**SEPT. 21, 2022
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

JENNA LINDHOLM, RN, CCM
Clinical Quality Supervisor
Region 9 Area Agency on Aging

Join MVC for a presentation about support opportunities with local community-based care programs. Jenna Lindholm, RN, CCM, is the Clinical Quality Supervisor for Region 9 of the Area Agency on Aging in northeast Michigan.

Who Should Attend?

- Site Coordinators
- Quality Leadership
- Clinicians
- CQI staff

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan

Region 9 Area Agency on Aging has partnered with Michigan Value Collaborative (MVC) to help spread awareness of the AAAs as a resource to communities and health care providers. The Michigan Value Collaborative (MVC) represents a partnership between over 100 Michigan hospitals and 40 physician organizations (POs) that aims to improve the health of Michigan through sustainable, high-value healthcare. AAA staff worked previously with MVC Chronic disease management workgroup in December 2020 to present on various programs offered by AAAs that can help address chronic disease management in the community.

More recently Jenna Lindholm, BSN, CCM, Clinical Quality Supervisor for the AAA, was invited again to present at the MVC summer conference on August 18th to discuss healthcare challenges and opportunities in Northern Michigan. Jenna spotlighted how AAAs are an existing network of resources for communities across the state. MVC's goal to improve healthcare quality across the continuum aligns with the AAA mission to promote healthy aging. By building partnerships, we can collaborate on strategies and initiatives to overcome the healthcare challenges faced by the aging network and population in Michigan.

MMAP
Medicare, Medicaid, and Marketplace Assistance Program

Confused by Medicare or Medicaid?
We can help you sort through it all.

Find a Local Certified Counselor
Call 1-800-803-7174

**Medicare Part D Open Enrollment is
October 15 through December 7
Review your options with a MMAP
Counselor at (800) 803-7174.**

IMPORTANT

On October 10th, Sen. Jim Stamas visited with Laurie Sauer, AAA Director, at NEMCSA's Main Office. Laurie and the Senator discussed the need for Caregiver Resource Centers across the state. There are approximately 1.73 million unpaid caregivers in Michigan—23% of the population. As such, there is a huge need for resources such as education and training, which can be addressed with Caregiver Resource Centers.

Additionally, the direct care worker shortage was discussed including how to improve recruitment and retention in the state as well as the need to improve wages, benefits, and societal value of the profession.



Cheboygan County

Inland Lakes Elementary School
Inland Lakes Jr/Sr. High School
Indian River, MI 49749
Wolverine Elementary School
Wolverine Middle/High School
Wolverine, MI 49799

Otsego County

Johannesburg Elementary School
Johannesburg Middle/High School
Johannesburg, MI 49751

Montmorency County

Atlanta Community Schools
Atlanta, MI 49709
Hillman High School
Hillman, MI 49746
Lewiston Elementary School
Lewiston, MI 49756

Oscoda County

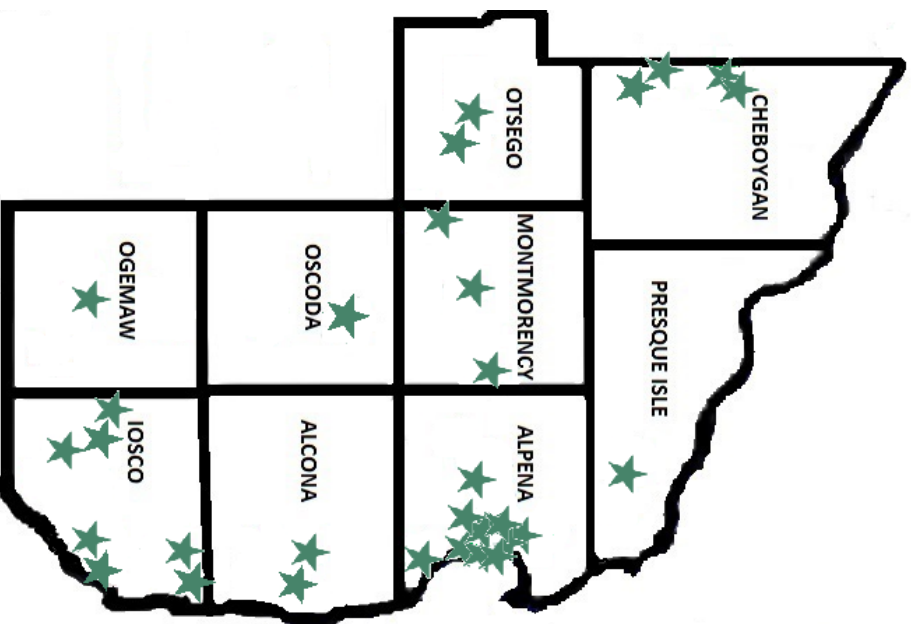
Fairview Area Schools
Fairview, MI 48621

Ogemaw County

Alternative Educational Academy of
Ogemaw County
West Branch, MI 48661

Presque Isle County

Posen Consolidated Schools
Posen, MI 49776



Alpena County

PIVOT Day Treatment Program
Besser Elementary School
Ella White Elementary School
Hinks Elementary School
Lincoln Elementary School
Alpena High School (Grade 9)
Thunder Bay Junior High
ACES

Alpena, MI 49707
Sanborn Elementary School
Ossineke, MI 49766
Wilson Elementary School
Herron, MI 49744
Immanuel Lutheran School
Alpena, MI 49707

Alcona County

Alcona Elementary School
Alcona Middle/High School
Lincoln, MI 49742

Iosco County

Hale Elementary School
Hale Middle/High School
Hale, MI 48739
Richardson (Oscoda) Elementary School
Oscoda, MI 48750
Whittemore-Prescott Elementary School
Whittemore, MI 48770
Clara Bolen Elementary School
Tawas Area Middle/High School
Tawas City 48763
Alternative Educational Academy of Iosco County
Tawas City 48763

NEMCSA Main Office (Alpena MI)

Dorothy Pintar, Community Programs Director
Kristen Wisniewski, Program Coordinator
Kristin Berles, Budget Manager

