Northern Michigan Chapter Family Empowerment

 Basic Needs

Community Outreach Program

**Timing, duration, frequency of program**

Monthly throughout the year

**Fiscal Information**

Budgeted expense total for program last year: $25,000

**Partnerships**

Public Schools or Petoskey, Harbor Springs Public Schools, Northwest Community Action Agency, Petoskey Concord, DHHS, Alanson Public Schools, Project Rudolph, Community Mental Health, HHS

What role does your partner(s) have in the program? Refer children in need

**Clients**

Number of children/families served your last fiscal year: 1100 in Petosky & Harbor Springs; 224 in Alanson

Age range of clients served: infant to 18

**Volunteers**

How many volunteers participate in this program (planning and working): 10

What roles do the volunteers have in this program? receiving referral, contacting family referred, shopping for their specific needs, delivering to the family in need, contacting and paying utility company and arranging payment, special request referrals from the schools and local agencies for specific needs of a child and/or program

**Program Description**

Overall goal of this program: assist in clothing, food, hygiene, education support and short term help with utilities, to ease the stress of poverty, to allow learning to occur

What service/materials do you provide to your clients? Food, clothing, hygiene items, educational support including things such as field trips and music classes, fuel for winter heat

The Community Outreach Liaisons works year-round as the contact for local agencies and school districts. Counselors, principals, teachers and various others in the area contact the Liaisons for Christ Child Society of Northern Michigan. Families are referred for a variety of needs ranging from shoes, clothing, hyenine, food, and/or short-term help with items such as heat. In addition, special requests are referred year-round ranging from students need for a sensory room and a cool down space.

The volunteers in Alanson Schools deliver clothing to families and supplies to classrooms. Alanson is a rural community with widespread generational poverty and few resources.

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