COVID-19 Update

Impact on Social Service Needs in our Community
What Do We Know?
Stages of Community Reaction

Response
Meet immediate needs to preserve safety and life

Recovery
Address longer-term needs that were created by the crisis

Rebuilding
Work to regain a new normal

Resilience
Strengthen systems to face the next challenge
Comparison of 2-1-1 Service Needs

38% of needs have been related to COVID-19
This is slightly above the state rate of 33%

Households in Cass tend to have slightly more needs per call as compared to Berrien and Van Buren

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Needs/call</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berrien</td>
<td>1.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cass</td>
<td>1.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Buren</td>
<td>1.58</td>
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</tbody>
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March 1, 2019 - April 30, 2019
March 5, 2020 - May 5, 2020
Summary of All Needs

225 different types of needs recorded

Food: 37.5%
Housing: 15.7%
Utilities: 16.0%
Clothing and Supplies: 4.7%
COVID Information: 3.2%
Healthcare Needs: 2.9%
Financial Assistance: 2.3%
Unemployment: 2.0%

All Others: 15.7%
Comparison of Needs – by Category

Some needs exacerbated

Other needs created

Devastating for ALICE households
Comparison of Needs – by County

The top 3 needs in each county are nearly identical, yet have slightly different rankings. They comprise more than 1/3 of all needs.

Cass has a slightly higher level of need.
Unmet COVID Needs

- Grocery Delivery
- Food Pantries
- Homeless Motel Vouchers
- Electric Service Payment Assistance
- Undesignated Temporary Financial Assistance
- Rent Payment Assistance
- Community Shelters

![Chart showing Met vs. Unmet COVID Needs across different regions]

- Michigan: 91.7% Met, 8.3% Unmet
- Berrien: 91.0% Met, 9.0% Unmet
- Cass: 90.5% Met, 9.5% Unmet
- Van Buren: 91.0% Met, 9.0% Unmet
Reasons for Unmet COVID Needs

**Service Not Available**
- Grocery Delivery
- Homeless Motel Vouchers
- Undesignated Temporary Financial Assistance

**Service Not accessible (hours)**
- Food Pantries

**Client Ineligible**
- Electric Service Payment Assistance
- Rent Payment Assistance

**Client Refused**
- Community Shelters
How Are We Responding?
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Southwest Michigan Cares
Fund Disbursement

Partnership with Berrien Community Foundation
42 organizations
$136,688.80 disbursed

Significant amount set aside for recovery
Funders

1st Source Bank  
AEP  
Berrien Community Foundation  
Consumers Energy  
Entergy  
Felland Foundation Fund  
Hanson Family Foundation  
Hirsch-Schwartz Foundation  
Horizon Bank  
Hunter Foundation  
Martin’s Super Markets  
Mcloughlin Family Foundation  
Meijer  
Michigan Gas Utilities/WPS Foundation  
Michigan Gateway Foundation  
Midwest Energy & Communications  
SEMCO Energy  
Schalon Foundation  
South Haven Community Foundation  
Spectrum Health Lakeland  
Timken Foundation of Canton  
United Way of Southwest Michigan  
Whirlpool Corporation  
The Wood Foundation  
Yeager Family Foundation  
Anonymous donors  
Individual donors  

Recipients

ACTION Ministries  
Benton Harbor Promise  
Caring Cupboard  
Cass County Council for Aging  
Decatur Human Services  
Edwardsburg Emergency Fund  
Eleanor’s Pantry  
Emergency Shelter Services  
First Church of God  
First Congregational Church Food Pantry  
Gobles-Kendall Area Ministerial Association  
God’s Mercy Seat Ministries  
Harbor of Hope Food Pantry  
Helping Hands of Cass County  
Holy Family Healthcare  
Hope Parent Resource Center  
Hope Resources  
LifePlan  
Lily of the Valley Church  
Living Water Food Pantry  
Marcellus Community Food Pantry  
Neighbor to Neighbor  
New Heights CCDA  
Niles Buchanan Meals on Wheels  
Senior Nutrition Services  
Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency  
Spinks Corner Early Head Start - Telamon  
St. Paul's Episcopal Food Pantry  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
St. Vincent dePaul Society of Mattawan  
The Avenue Family Network  
The Church of Cassopolis  
The Salvation Army, Benton Harbor  
Trinity Lutheran  
United Christian Services  
Vandalia Church of God  
We Care, Inc.  
Women’s Care Center  
YMCA of Greater Michiana
Collection of Donated Items

Partnership with Berrien County, Cass County, and Van Buren County Emergency Operation Centers

More than 2300 donated items

Distributed to 14 local organizations

- Personal hygiene items
- Rubber gloves
- Hand-sewn masks
- Hand sanitizer
- Socks and underwear
- Toilet paper and paper towels
Volunteers Step Up

Partnerships with Area Agency on Aging, Greater Niles Senior Center, Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan

43 COVID-related opportunities
183 responses, plus hundreds more
UWSM investments at 47 organizations can be reallocated to where the dollars are needed most.
What Comes Next?
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Housing & Utilities

Most expensive assistance to provide

Two of the most basic needs

Housing first approach
Education

Need for summer support

Impact of budget shortfalls
How Can You Help?
Donate Items

Berrien County
United Way of Southwest Michigan Office
2015 Lakeview Avenue - St. Joseph
Mondays 3:00 to 5:00 or Fridays 10:00 to 12:00

Cass County
United Presbyterian Church
209 E. State Street – Cassopolis
(call first – 269-445-2664)
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 to 1:00

Clothing
New, clean socks and underwear
Scrubs, new or gently used

New PPE/Medical Supplies
N95/Surgical Masks
Isolation masks
Handmade masks
Masks with face shield/visor
Face shields
Goggles/safety glasses
Gloves
Thermometers
Disposable medical gowns
Ponchos

New Cleaning Supplies
Bleach wipes
Hand Sanitizer

Food Items
Shelf stable snacks
Shelf stable microwaveable meals

New Hygiene Items (Travel Size/Disposable)
Soap
Shampoo
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Deodorant
Feminine care products
Shaving cream
Razors
Van Buren County

Van Buren United Civic Organization
73292 34th Avenue – Covert
Tuesdays and Thursdays – 9:00 to 11:00

Covert Township Tall
73943 Lake Street – Covert
Mondays and Wednesdays – 9:00 to 11:00

United Christian Services
600 E. Michigan Avenue – Paw Paw
Mondays and Thursdays – 9:00 to 2:00
Saturdays – 12:30 to 1:00

First Congregational Church, UCC
651 Phoenix Street – South Haven
East Side of building

Simpson United Methodist Church
507 Joy Street – Bangor
Front of the building

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Do What You Can

southwestmichigancares.org
Text swmicares to 41444

2-1-1

uwsm.org/volunteer
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VOLUNTEER UNITED - Find volunteer opportunities here: volunteer.uwsm.org!
Thank you