

## Superior Watershed Partnership 2019 MEAP Grant

Grant Award: \$2,357,011

Service Area: Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon and Schoolcraft Counties.

Anticipated Reach: 3,050 Households

The Superior Watershed Partnership (SWP) is a MDHHS Navigation and Referral Partner for the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP). Households who present with an energy crisis will initially apply for the State Emergency Relief (SER) program, either directly with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or with assistance from the SWP MEAP or its Access Partners. SER applicants will be eligible to receive self-sufficiency services, including case management, energy conservation and budgeting through the SWP MEAP. Qualified households will be eligible for SWP MEAP direct payment assistance, including enrollment in an affordable payment plan.

The SWP will assist clients in completing the MI Bridges application by providing instruction or by scheduling appointments at the SWP Energy office. In addition, the SWP will provide clients with Access Partner locations throughout the UP.

This program will help struggling families in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan pay energy bills during the coldest months of the year, become more aware of home energy conservation and budgeting, and receive the tools needed to gain the confidence and self-sufficiency to budget for future energy costs.

### Program Details

- SWP and its Access Partners assist clients with the MI Bridges energy assistance application
- Client completes a self-sufficiency plan after caseworker contact
- \$2,000 maximum cap per household (October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019)
- SEMCO MAP affordable payment plans
- DTE LSP affordable payment plans
- In-person Energy Conservation and Financial workshops
- On-line and rural mailing Energy Conservation and Financial workshops
- Home energy assessments
- Solar array panel installations

### Partners

- DTE Energy
- SEMCO Energy
- Participating Society of St. Vincent de Paul offices
- Participating Community Action Agencies
- Native American tribes in the Upper Peninsula including: Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians

### Contact Information

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