

## Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity

### 2023 MEAP Grant

**Grant Award:** \$6,390,000

**Service Area:** Kent, Ottawa, Midland, Gladwin, Clare, Osceola, Mecosta, Oceana, Muskegon, Monroe, Macomb, Oakland, Livingston, Wayne, Clinton, Shiawasee, Eaton, and Ingham Counties

**Anticipated Reach:** 4,200 Households

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Bureau of Community Action and Economic Opportunity (MDHHS-BCAEO) is sub-contracting with nine Community Agency Agencies (CAAs) to implement successful measures including bill payment, affordable payment plan enrollment, financial counseling and budgeting, energy use education, Weatherization, and energy efficiency measures, to help low-income households permanently reduce energy bills and move toward self-sufficiency.

#### Program Details

- Customers eligible for crisis intervention and crisis prevention will complete a Self-Sufficiency Plan, designed for the household member(s) to achieve the following outcomes for individuals:
  - Consistent and on time energy bill payments; client/household accountability
  - Budgeting for and contributing (co-payments) to energy expenses;
  - Utilizing and implementing energy efficiency measures to assist in reducing the amount of energy used
- CAAs provide case management, referrals for supportive programs, energy education, budgeting and financial literacy services, vendor advocacy, and enrollment of participating utilities' affordable payment plans. CAAs provide follow-up services for program participants to determine changes in household stability.
- Energy bill payments for qualified household with a cap on assistance.

#### Additional Services Offered

- CAAs provide varying wraparound services and programs such as: Weatherization, free tax preparation; minor home repair; mortgage assistance; early childhood education and childcare; commodity food and emergency food; in-home care; transportation, and clothing.

For an interactive map on where to find the Community Action Agency serving your area, visit this [link](#).