Economic Instability in Minnesota

491,782 Minnesotans (including 140,103 children under age 18) live in households that are below the federal poverty threshold.*

*$21,720 for a family of three in 2020.

"Many families in our area are really struggling to make ends meet. The lack of good paying jobs affects so many physically and emotionally."

~ Rev. Kevin Anderson, Princeton

Poverty rates for Minnesotans of color are 3 - 4 times greater than those of white Minnesotans.

Poverty rates for Minnesotans with disabilities are 2+ times greater than those of Minnesotans without a disability.

Aitkin County

Population: 15,886
Households in Poverty: 12.5% (up from 11.6% in 2000)
Children K-12 Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch: 48.4%
Number of Children in Child Care Assistance Program: 31
Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 43%
Severally Cost-burdened* Renter Households: 19%

*Cost-burdened households pay more than 30% of income for housing. Severely cost-burdened households pay more than 50%.

"I therefore command you, 'Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.'"

~ Deuteronomy 15:11

Population and Poverty Data from the US Census Bureau (2019)
Free and Reduced Lunch Data from the Minnesota Department of Health (2017-18 school year)
CCAP data from the Minnesota Department of Human Services (February 2020)
Housing Data from US Census, American Community Survey (2017); Minnesota Housing Partnership State of the State's Housing Report (2019)

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition
Interfaith Advocacy for Social Justice

Executive Director
Anne Krisnik
akrisnik@jrlc.org

Statewide Organizer
Joan Miltenberger
jmiltenberger@jrlc.org