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.

"Every week we receive requests
to help with groceries, diapers,
rent, and heating bills. In most
cases, these families are
working but not making a living
wage. The need is larger than
the combined efforts of churches
and existing social services can
address."

~ Rev. Brenda North, Detroit Lakes

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

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)

Otter Tail
County

Population: 58,746
Households in Poverty: 11% (up
from 9.1% in 2000)
Children Receiving Free/Reduced
Lunch: 37.1%
Number of Children in Child Care
Assistance Program: 111

Cost-burdened* Renter
Households: 40%
Severally Cost-burdened*
Renter Households: 20%

*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

Executive Director
Anne Krisnik
akrisnik@jrlc.org

Statewide Organizer
Joan Miltenberger
jmiltenberger@jrlc.org