

2009 City of Newburyport Poverty Survey

Because of the economic times, an increase in the number of local families living at poverty level is expected and is already being seen by many of the service agencies. In order to better understand the current and expected consequences to our fellow citizens, Pennies for Poverty: 2 Cents 4 Change has formulated a survey in order to: evaluate the current status of poverty in Newburyport; determine the current and anticipated needs, identify where; there are gaps in coverage, suggestions and ideas to address the needs of at-risk families in Newburyport; and provide a starting point for discussion and formulation of a plan. . The results of the survey will be emailed out to the responders of the survey as well as published online and in our newsletter. In the future the information can be used to evaluate the citywide implications of any increase in poverty; determine the ability of the city and local agencies to handle such an increase; evaluate and identify areas that are currently not in place or are inadequate to address this crisis; formulate a plan to address the needs of at-risk families here in Newburyport. We plan to do periodic short poverty surveys during the year to update the information. If you have any questions, please email 2cents4change@gmail.com or call 978-463-0507. Thank you for your participation in this survey.

2008 POVERTY SURVEY

Please complete and return to Pennies for Poverty: 2 Cents 4 Change, 280 High St., Newburyport, MA 01950 or via email to: 2cents4change@gmail.com by Feb. 1, 2009

Name of Organization: _____

Your Name: _____ Title: _____

Type of Organization: Service____ Food Pantry____ Soup Kitchen____ Education____ Health____
Advocacy____ Law Enforcement____ Housing____ Financial____ Religious____ Other_____

How big a problem is poverty in Newburyport: small____ average____ big____ getting bigger____

Estimated percent of population in Newburyport who are in poverty or at risk of poverty
0-15%____ 15-30%____ 30-40%____ 40-50%____ 50-60%____ Above 60%____

Local perception of the percent of population in Newburyport who are in poverty or at risk of poverty: 0-15%____ 15-30%____ 30-40%____ 40-50%____ 50-60%____ Above 60%____

Has the stigma of poverty kept potential clients from seeking help: Yes No

Number of poor served: 2007____ 2008 to date____ 2009 expected increase____

Percent of above who receive state or federal assistance: 2007____ 2008____

Percentage Population Served: Elderly____ Adults____ Teens____ Children____ Infants____

Number of Homeless Served: 2007____ 2008____ 2009 expected____

Number of your clients served due to the following categories and if combination of categories, please number from 1 to x with 1 being the greatest population served: Elderly Fixed Income____
Unemployment____ Long-term Unemployment____ Health/Medical____ Mental Health____
Low/Min. Wage Primary Wage Earner____ Single-Parent Household____ Immigrant____
Illiterate____ Affordable Housing____ Lack of Job Skills or Education____ Debt____ Drug & Alcohol Abuse____
Domestic Violence____ Military/Veteran____ Combination____

What is the population that is most at risk due to the current economic times - please number 1-5 with 1 being at most risk: Elderly____ Adults____ Teens____ Children____ Infants____

Please number in order expected increase in need: Housing costs____ Food____ Heat____
Utilities____ Medical Expenses____ Transportation____ Employment____ Job Training____
Affordable daycare____ Mental Health Counseling____

Current poverty needs: does the City and service agencies have adequate: _____ funding
 Yes No Volunteers Yes No Community Support Yes No

Future poverty needs: does the City and service agencies have adequate: _____ funding
 Yes No Volunteers Yes No Community Support Yes No

Please rate the level of cooperation between city agencies and local nonprofits:
excellent Good Needs Improvement

Please rate the level of interagency cooperation: excellent Good Needs Improvement

Have you been effected by the recent funding cuts: Yes No

If you are a nonprofit, have you seen donations reduced in the past 6 months: Yes No

If you are a nonprofit, have you seen volunteerism reduced in the past 6 months: Yes No

Because of reduced funding or reduced donations, will you be cutting or reducing services,: Yes No

If so, what specific services:

In your opinion, what services are most needed to keep people from falling further into poverty:

In your opinion, what services are most needed to lift people out of poverty:

In your opinion, are there adequate services to address a potential increase in poverty and if not, what is lacking:

In your opinion, what is the single most important service to increase or service to develop to address a potential increase in poverty:

Other comments: