

KNOW THE STATS

BE AN ADVOCATE.

February and March can be some of the coldest months of the year in Michigan. As the thermometer dips below freezing, energy bills often soar. Families barely able to make ends meet find themselves having to make more tough decisions to get through the winter. Here are a few statistics to show the effect of “**energy poverty**” on low income Americans.

- **31% of all U.S. households have trouble paying energy bills**
- **1 in 5 households in the United States reduce or forgo food, medicine, and other necessities to pay energy bills**
 - Of these households, 40% have at least 1 child in the home
- **More than 10% of households keep their homes at unhealthy or unsafe temperatures**
- **Percentage of Income Spent on Energy Bills For Homes Below 50% of Federal Poverty Level in Kalamazoo County**
 - Percent of Income Spent on Energy: 32.1%
 - Estimated Annual Energy Costs: \$2,293.16

TO SEE HOW YOU CAN BE AN ADVOCATE FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY, JOIN OUR MAILING LIST AT KZOO.F.ORG/ADVOCATE