

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Beth Linnea Verhey <bethlverhey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 23, 2021 7:32 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik; Michelle Crocker  
**Cc:** Laurel Evans; Ty Wessell  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please consult local stakeholders and newly released poverty reports to plan implementation of American Rescue Plan County \$4.2 million  
**Attachments:** ALICE in Leelanau 2021.pdf

Dear Administrator Janik,

In following up with a friend in Glen Arbor who is in touch with Commissioner Allgaier, she suggested I re-send to you my message and suggestions regarding priorities for the American Rescue Plan funds.

I would also like to refresh my request that my letter be included in the public comments/handouts. I've reviewed such from the May meetings and believe this was missed.

In addition to the ALICE Leelanau profile I attached, and to my letter, I understand Ty has shared with you and the Commissioners an Essay Collection, which includes an essay I co-authored with Ty focusing on poverty and the insights of the United Way ALICE metrics.

Focusing on considerations and preparations for the American Rescue Plan funds, I recently noted a Bridge article that the official US Treasury guidance is now out; there is a link in this article to the 151 page document.  
<https://www.bridgemi.com/michigan-government/fun-michigan-governments-how-spend-11-billion-federal-stimulus>

Importantly, the funds can be allocated to local non-profits, so I wonder if outreach/discussions/preparations to receive funds could start with some of the 'front-line' experienced organizations, such as Leelanau Christian Neighbors and the Leelanau Township Community Foundation. In initial review myself, I'm glad to see water and sewer needs prioritized in a similar way to broadband, and references in both the health and economic categories to invest in our county's most in-need families, including housing assistance and child care needs. A category that may be overlooked is "equity focused services" which includes support to especially affected households and actions that support a "healthy childhood environment".

Thank you, I hope this is useful,  
Best regards,  
Beth Verhey

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Beth Verhey <bethlverhey@gmail.com>  
**Date:** April 26, 2021 at 18:01:01 EDT  
**To:** rrobins@leelanau.gov, drushton@leelanau.gov, wbunek@leelanau.gov, twessell@leelanau.gov, psoutas-little@leelanau.gov, gallgaier@leelanau.gov, mlautner@leelanau.gov, Chet Janik <cjanik@leelanau.gov>, Michelle Crocker <mcrocker@leelanau.gov>  
**Subject:** Please consult local stakeholders and newly released poverty reports to plan implementation of American Rescue Plan County \$4.2 million

Dear Commissioners, Administrator, neighbors,

I have been following your discussions regarding the \$4.2 million American Rescue Plan funds forthcoming to the County. While I understand you are waiting for further guidance, I am writing now to suggest the Board, and other local leaders, have an urgent opportunity to pro-actively seek recommendations from frontline organizations to ensure the funds prioritize your residents most in need.

I am writing directly as I hope you will reach out for such recommendations ahead of your May meetings; and also respectfully request this email be shared for public comment linked to your May meetings.

While I appreciate Administrator Janik's updates in your April 13 meeting, including that the County is not yet receiving proposals, now is the time to seek stakeholder input to establish the priorities and mechanisms that will best reach households most affected by the pandemic, including economically.

National policy analysts and researchers are also pointing to the urgency and need to engage local, affected stakeholders. For example, an article entitled "**How should local leaders use their American Rescue Plan funding?**" from The Brookings Institution: *"The money needs to move fast and be deployed smartly and equitably. In 10 years, we may look back at this time and ask: Which places merely spent their money, and which places invested it?"*

Another article, "**The American Rescue Plan clears a path to recovery for state and local governments and the communities they serve**", by the Economic Policy Institute emphasizes that: *"Policymakers should talk to the people in the communities that have suffered the most; talk to the workers and families who have struggled to access public supports; talk to the parents who have had to juggle caring for and educating children while trying to work....."* and the need to attend to the disadvantaged communities shown to have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and growing income disparities, *"<sup>[i]</sup>State and local tax policy and public investment decisions can and must be used to build more equitable and anti-racist communities."*

In the last month, I have been struck by the irony of newly released reports on poverty in our County on the one hand, and waiting for external guidance to plan for the \$4.2 million "windfall" the County will receive as part of the American Rescue Plan. In Leelanau County **37% of households (3,348) are ALICE**, compared to 25% overall for Michigan. I attach the ALICE Leelanau County Profile for ease of reference.

The March 2021 ALICE Report highlights the 'impossibility' of 'middle class'. ALICE households are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed; they earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the established basic cost of living. Two further details are important to bear in mind: 1) the data available to produce the 2021 ALICE report is mostly from 2019, thus pre-dates the impacts of the COVID pandemic, and 2) an additional 6% (535) of Leelanau County households are below the Federal Poverty Level, and thus struggling even more than ALICE households to make ends meet.

**A new report by the collaborative Michigan Poverty Task Force** presented 35 solutions, pointed out the "plague of structural" factors hindering poverty solutions, and highlighted the urgency of addressing child poverty.

The Poverty Task Force recommendations add to many other solid research reports and recommendations. The 2016 National Council of Counties' White House Council Poverty Summit, reported that the keys for rural counties' success are early childhood programming, strong schools, broadband access and an economic development plan. Thus, in addition to the priority you are already giving to broadband, thank you, early childhood programming is another key area to invest such funds. The earlier mentioned EPI article also highlighted that *"Providing safe, enriching, and accessible schools and other child care centers is critical for working parents, too. Child care and other learning centers account for a little less than 1% of state and local employment, but the importance of this workforce was made abundantly clear in the pandemic. State and local governments need to consider*

*whether past resources provided for early child care education are really meeting the needs of working families in their communities.”*

I listened to your discussion of the mapping survey to prepare for the broadband service improvements our County needs. Just as your discussions flagged the mapping survey as an important step “to get ahead” and ready for other ARP fund plans, reviewing recent poverty reports and gathering stakeholder priorities will expedite your ARP fund decisions, and eventual reach of such funds to households and businesses in need.

The Brookings Institution article noted that “*ARP provides funding for “Community Navigators” to ensure equitable access to capital and technical assistance. This requires organizational coalitions that have legitimacy and reach in a diverse range of communities.*”

While citizens can write-in, call-in to your meetings, such is insufficient to ‘invite in’ the practical experience of those most affected by the pandemic. An expedient approach in the current context would be to request input from, and base fund allocation decisions on the recommendations of, representative organizations, such as:

- Leelanau Christian Neighbors and other frontline food and social services organizations,
- Consult young people, for example through the LIFT Teen Center,
- Housing North, and others working on critically needed affordable housing,
- Grand Traverse Band, Northwest Michigan Migrant Resource Council and others focused on communities prevalent in poverty disparities, and,
- Networks Northwest, United Way’s 211 and other groups with knowledge of the types of assistance most needed.

Please ensure the population groups and recommendations of these reports are prioritized for your decisions in allocating the County’s \$4.2 million American Rescue funds.

Thank you,  
Beth Verhey, Northport

### **References and links mentioned:**

2021 Michigan Poverty Task Force Report, - [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/LEO-Poverty\\_Task\\_Force\\_Report\\_716585\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/LEO-Poverty_Task_Force_Report_716585_7.pdf) - Released February 17, 2021; And Article in Record Eagle, March 14, 2021 - [https://www.record-eagle.com/news/local\\_news/report-michigan-poverty-plagued-by-structural-mechanism/article\\_d3b2df06-7e3c-11eb-905c-6313f384ad88.html](https://www.record-eagle.com/news/local_news/report-michigan-poverty-plagued-by-structural-mechanism/article_d3b2df06-7e3c-11eb-905c-6313f384ad88.html)

United Way Alice Report 2021 - <https://www.unitedforalice.org/export-pdf> and <https://www.unitedforalice.org/county-profiles/michigan>

Brookings Institution article, “**How should local leaders use their American Rescue Plan funding?**”, by Brad Whitehead and Joseph Parilla, March 23, 2021- <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2021/03/23/how-should-local-leaders-use-their-american-rescue-plan-funding/>

Economic Policy Institute article, “**The American Rescue Plan clears a path to recovery for state and local governments and the communities they serve**”, March 15, 2021, by David Cooper, Julia Wolfe, and Sebastian Martinez Hickey - <https://www.epi.org/blog/the-american-rescue-plan-clears-a-path-to-recovery-for-state-and-local-governments-and-the-communities-they-serve/>

Leelanau Early Childhood Committee Report, August 2019 - <https://www.leelanau.gov/lceccc.asp>

POPULATION	2010	2019	% change	POPULATION BY RACE (2019)			
Total population	21,708	21,761	0.2%	<b>Child population by race</b>			
Child population	4,240	3,494	-17.6%	Hispanic 0–17	370	<b>Young adult population by race</b>	
• Ages 0–5	1,129	1,058	-6.3%	Non-Hispanic 0–17		Hispanic 18–24	130
• Ages 6–12	1,637	1,324	-19.1%	• African American/Black	65	Non-Hispanic 18–24	
• Ages 13–17	1,474	1,112	-24.6%	• American Indian	186	• African American/Black	23
Young adult population				• Asian/Pacific Islander	59	• American Indian	62
• Ages 18–24	1,277	1,281	0.3%	• White	2,814	• Asian/Pacific Islander	21
						• White	1,045

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR (2019)				
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	RATE CHANGE	MI RATE	TREND
	Children in poverty, ages 0–17	609	14.7%	332	9.7%	-34.0%	17.5%
Young adults in poverty, ages 18–24	290	22.8%	199	14.4%	-36.7%	24.5%	●
Households in Poverty & ALICE	2,847	30.6%	3,883	42.5%	38.7%	38.1%	●

ADDITIONAL DATA (2020 UNLESS NOTED)			
	NUMBER	RATE	MI RATE
Children receiving...			
• Free and reduced price lunch, K-12	947	47.8%	50.5%
• Subsidized child care, ages 0–12	11	0.5%	1.7%
• Cash assistance (FIP), ages 0–18	5	*	1.2%
• Food assistance (FAP), ages 0–18	303	8.2%	21.6%
• Women, Infants and Children (WIC), ages 0–4 (2019)	256	29.6%	44.3%
• Supplemental Security Income, ages 0–18 <sup>^</sup>	22	6.0	16.3
• Any amount of child support owed	493	93.4%	83.6%
Median household income (2019)	\$72,888	N/A	\$59,522
Average cost of full-time child care/month	\$577	N/A	\$632
• Percent of full-time minimum wage	N/A	34.5%	37.9%
Families receiving the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) (2019)	770	9.2%	15.1%
Families with high-cost housing (2019)	2,458	26.9%	26.7%

KIDS COUNT provides child advocates, agencies, public officials and legislators with the best available data, nonpartisan policy recommendations and tools to advance policies that benefit children.

Our data-based profiles help decision makers understand the educational, social, economic and physical well-being of children across the state.

KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR (2019)				
	NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	RATE CHANGE	MI RATE	TREND
	3- and 4-year-olds in preschool	270	59.9%	150	51.0%	-14.8%	47.5%
3rd graders proficient in English Language Arts, M-STEP (Base: 2015)	67	51.5%	49	42.6%	-17.3%	45.1%	●
8th graders proficient in Math, M-STEP (Base: 2015; Recent: 2018)	40	27.8%	42	33.9%	21.9%	32.7%	●
Students graduating on time (2020)	185	88.9%	137	79.7%	-10.4%	82.1%	●

ADDITIONAL DATA (2020 UNLESS NOTED)			
	NUMBER	RATE	MI RATE
Children receiving <i>Early On</i> services by ISD, ages 0–2	168	3.7%	2.9%
Students in Special Education	237	12.0%	14.5%
Students who are homeless by ISD, K–12	949	4.4%	2.1%
8th graders proficient in Math, PSAT (2019)	84	55.6%	41.4%
Students who drop out	15	8.7%	7.8%
Teens not in school or working, ages 16–19 (2019)	69	7.9%	6.8%

KEY ● = IMPROVING ● = LITTLE CHANGE ● = WORSENING

HEALTH & SAFETY	KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR (2019)				
		NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	RATE CHANGE	MI RATE	TREND
		Less than adequate prenatal care	58	34.2%	56	34.6%	1.2%	32.2%
Infant mortality <sup>^</sup>	1	*	0	*	*	6.6	—	
Child deaths, ages 1–14 <sup>*</sup>	0	*	0	*	*	18.5	—	
Teen deaths, ages 15–19 <sup>*</sup>	0	*	1	*	*	46.1	—	
Young adult deaths, ages 18–24 <sup>*</sup>	2	*	1	*	*	82.1	—	

ADDITIONAL DATA (2020 UNLESS NOTED)		NUMBER	RATE	MI RATE
Children with health insurance, ages 0–18 (2018)		3,442	94.1%	96.7%
Insured by Medicaid, ages 0–18		1,163	31.6%	46.3%
Low-birthweight babies (2019)		7	4.6%	8.7%
Fully immunized toddlers, ages 19–35 months		125	76.7%	70.7%
Children tested for lead, ages 1–2 (2019)		166	47.7%	40.9%
Children hospitalized for asthma, ages 0–14 <sup>1</sup> (2018)		*	*	10.3
Children with food insecurity, ages 0–17 (2018)		332	9.5%	14.7%
Mental health providers (ratio of population to provider) (2019)		11	1979:1	373:1

FAMILY & COMMUNITY	KEY TRENDS OVER TIME	BASE YEAR (2010)		MOST RECENT YEAR				
		NUMBER	RATE	NUMBER	RATE	RATE CHANGE	MI RATE	TREND
		Births to teens, ages 15–19 <sup>^</sup> (2019)	14	21.0	5	9.6	-54.1%	15.7
Child abuse/neglect, ages 0–17 (2020)								
• Children in investigated families <sup>^</sup>	351	82.8	148	42.4	-48.8%	95.9	●	
• Confirmed victims <sup>^</sup>	39	9.2	23	6.6	-28.3%	13.0	●	
• Children in out-of-home care <sup>^</sup>	22	5.2	5	*	*	4.7	—	

ADDITIONAL DATA (2019)		NUMBER	RATE	MI RATE
Living in high poverty areas, ages 0–17		0	0.0%	13.6%
Household structure, ages 0–17				
• Family with married parents		2,748	80.8%	66.5%
• Family with single parent		654	19.2%	33.5%
Poverty by household structure, ages 0–17				
• Family with married parents		63	2.3%	8.9%
• Family with single parent		111	17.0%	40.6%
English not spoken at home, ages 5–17		157	5.9%	10.6%
Children in homes with internet at home, ages 0–17		3,345	95.5%	89.9%

### An equitable, two-generation approach will help Michigan’s kids keep moving forward.

A child’s well-being should not be determined by their race, place or income, but data shows that this is the reality. That’s why our racial equity lens considers how policy decisions help or hinder outcomes. We also consider access to opportunity for the adults in kids’ lives when working to improve well-being.

<sup>^</sup>Rate per 1000   <sup>1</sup>Rate per 10,000   <sup>•</sup>Rate per 100,000

For all data definitions and sources, see the Data Definitions and Notes page.

More data (including nearly 100 indicators, trends, graphs, rates and more) are on the [Kids Count Online Data Center](#).

## MICHIGAN • 2019 COUNTY PROFILES

Counties are the core geography for ALICE data: They reveal variations often masked by statewide averages, and the data is reported regularly and reliably.

### ALICE IN LEELANAU COUNTY

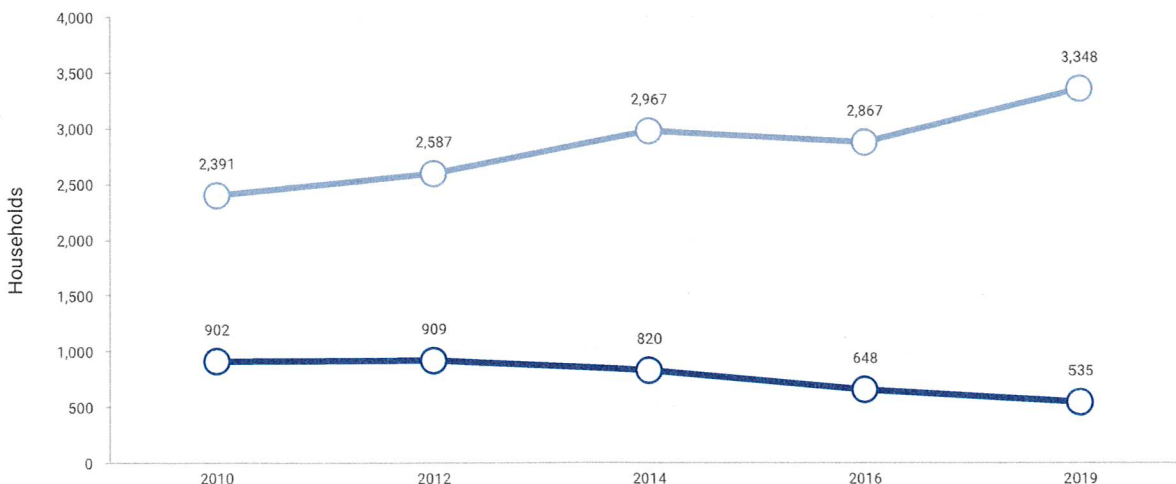
#### 2019 Point-in-Time-Data

<b>Population:</b>	21,652	<b>Number of Households:</b>	9,139
<b>Median Household Income:</b>	\$65,249 (state average: \$59,584)		
<b>Unemployment Rate:</b>	4.5% (state average: 5.0%)		
<b>ALICE Households:</b>	37% (state average: 25%)		
<b>Households in Poverty:</b>	6% (state average: 13%)		

[View Source](#)

### How Has the Number of ALICE Households Changed Over Time?

ALICE is an acronym for **A**sset **L**imited, **I**ncome **C**onstrained, **E**mloyed – households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county (the ALICE Threshold). While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan).



**Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**

UnitedForALICE.org

9,294

**Households**

9,267

**Total Households**

9,136

**Total Households**

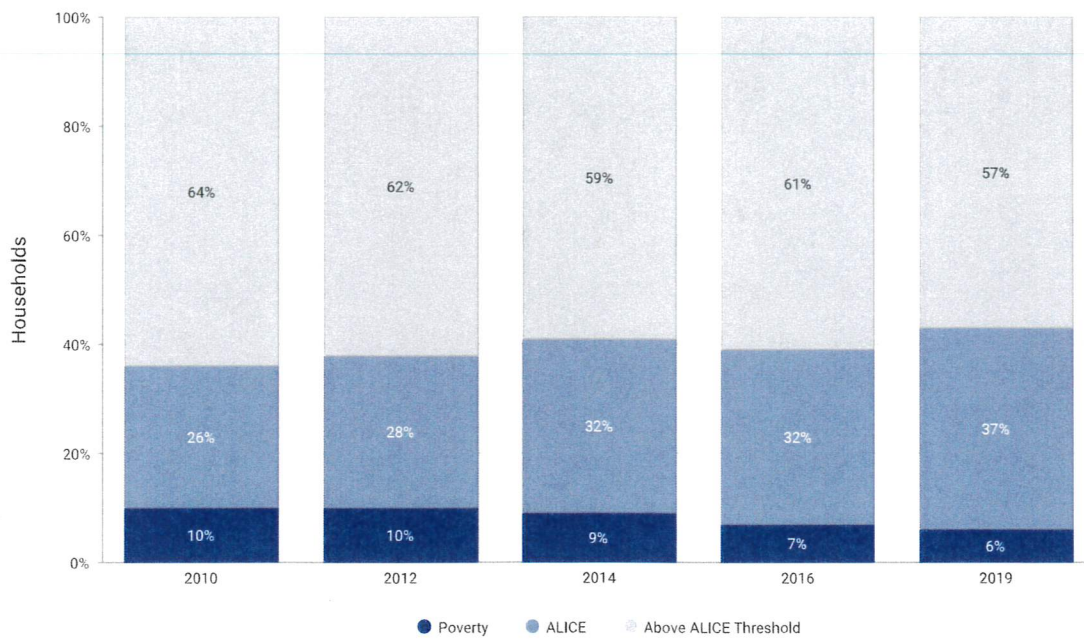
8,984



2,132

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

### ALICE and Poverty in Leelanau County Over Time...continued



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

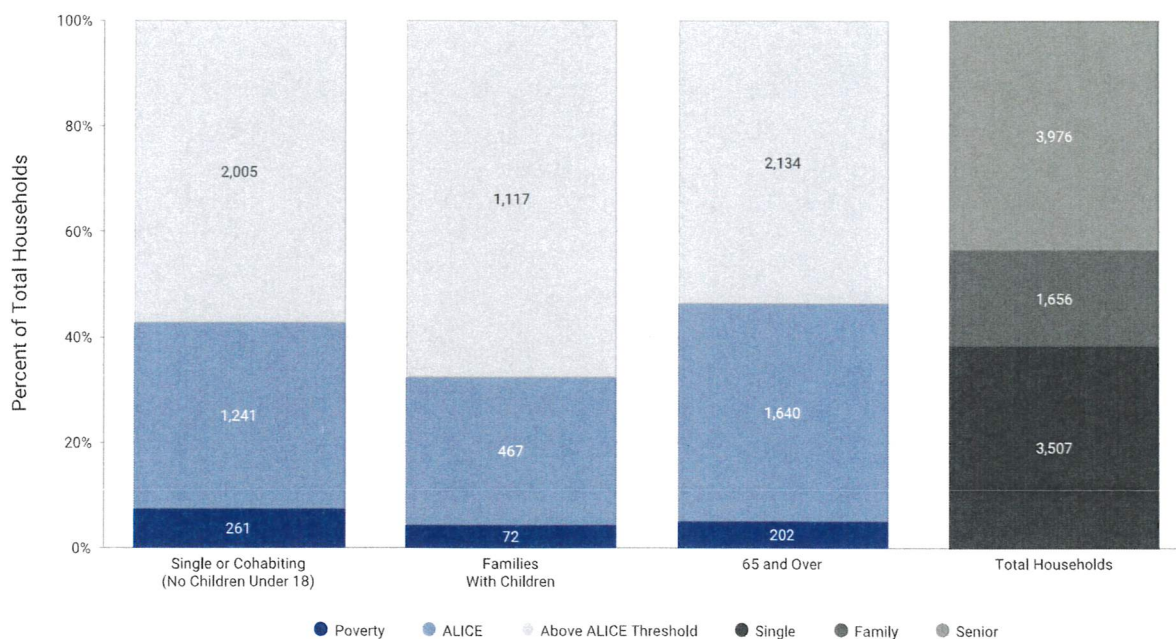
**Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed**

[UnitedForALICE.org](http://UnitedForALICE.org)



## What Types of Households Are Struggling?

In the past few decades, there have been major shifts in household composition. The share of American adults who have never been married is at a historic high, as is the number of senior households. There is also a growing number of people who live alone or with roommates, and an increasing share of grown



Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed

UnitedForALICE.org





## Why Do So Many Households Struggle?

### The cost of household basics outpaces wages...

The Household Survival Budget reflects the bare minimum cost to live and work in the modern economy and includes housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, technology (a smartphone plan), and taxes. It does not include savings for emergencies or future goals like college or retirement. In 2019, household costs were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$12,490 for a single adult and \$25,750 for a family of four.

	Single Adult	Two Adults	Two Adults Two School-Age Children	Two Adults Two in Child Care	Single Senior	Two Seniors
Housing	\$649	\$681	\$796	\$796	\$649	\$681
Child Care	\$0	\$0	\$389	\$1,056	\$0	\$0
Food	\$604	\$1,257	\$2,104	\$1,836	\$520	\$1,074
Transportation	\$457	\$647	\$929	\$929	\$406	\$545
Health Care	\$189	\$403	\$569	\$569	\$450	\$900
Technology	\$55	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$55	\$75
Miscellaneous	\$236	\$367	\$564	\$617	\$249	\$389
Taxes	\$405	\$610	\$782	\$912	\$412	\$610
Monthly Total	\$2,595	\$4,040	\$6,208	\$6,790	\$2,741	\$4,274
Annual Total	\$31,140	\$48,480	\$74,496	\$81,480	\$32,892	\$51,288
Hourly Wage	\$15.57	\$24.24	\$37.25	\$40.74	\$16.45	\$25.64

Sources: ALICE Household Survival Budget, 2019; Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics, 2019

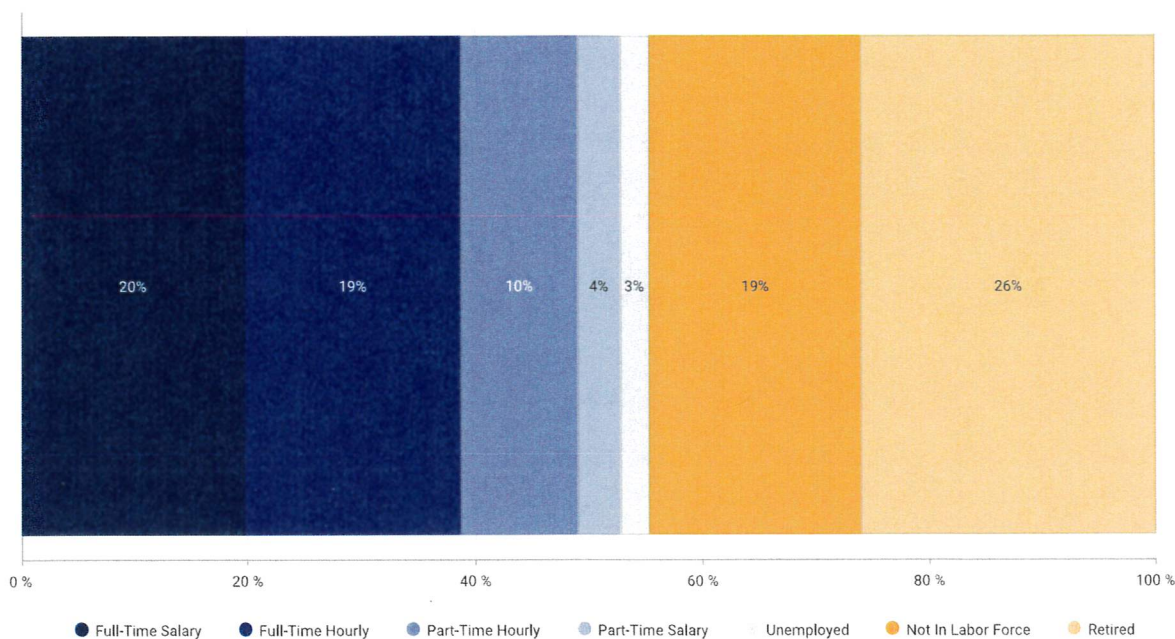
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### ...and the labor landscape is challenging for ALICE workers.

A breakdown of the labor force shows a small portion of adults (16 years and older) who are unemployed and a large number who are working. However, a significant portion of full- and part-time workers are paid by the hour; these workers are more likely to have fluctuations in income and less likely to receive benefits. There is also a high number of workers outside of the labor force (people who are not employed and not looking for work), which has helped keep wages low: When more workers are available, employers have less incentive to raise wages to attract employees.



*Note: Data for hourly full- and part-time jobs is only available at the national level, these national rates (51% of full-time workers paid hourly and 75% of part-time workers paid hourly) have been applied to the workforce at the county-level to calculate the breakdown shown in this figure. Because this figure sums county-level data (some using 1-year estimates and some using 5-year estimates), the state percentages may differ slightly from those shown in the 2020 Report. Full-time represents 35 hours per week or more at one or more jobs for 48 weeks per year.*

Sources: American Community Survey, 2019; Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, 2019

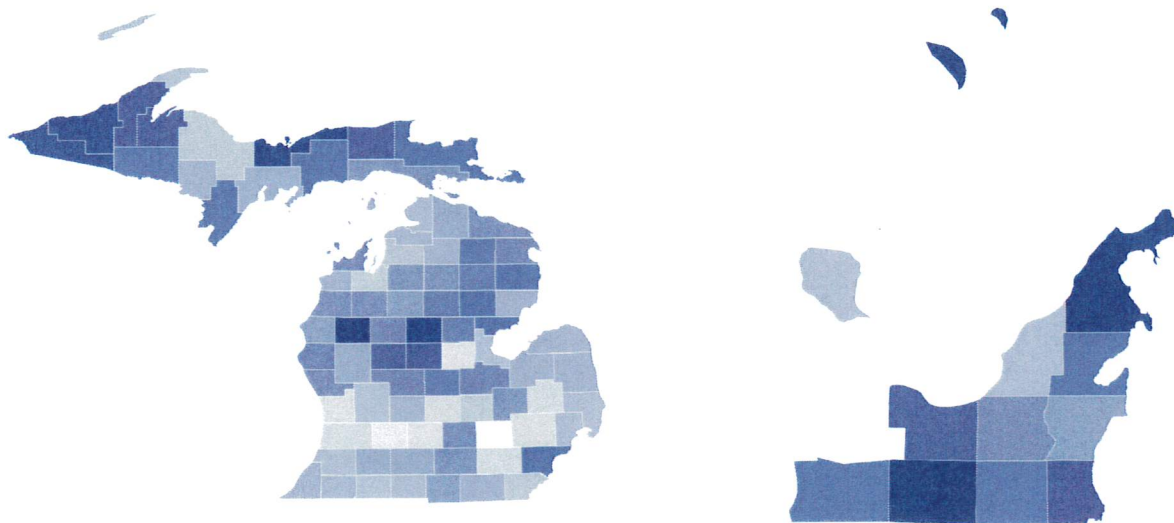
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### How Does the Number of ALICE Households Vary Within the County?

There is significant variation in the number of households who live below the ALICE Threshold within the county.



Source: ALICE Threshold, 2019; American Community Survey, 2019

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[UnitedForALICE.org](http://UnitedForALICE.org)



County Subdivision	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
Bingham township, Leelanau County, Michigan	1,078	38%
Centerville township, Leelanau County, Michigan	587	40%
Cleveland township, Leelanau County, Michigan	513	45%
Elmwood charter township, Leelanau County, Michigan	1,839	46%
Empire township, Leelanau County, Michigan	572	43%
Glen Arbor township, Leelanau County, Michigan	323	23%
Kasson township, Leelanau County, Michigan	593	52%
Leelanau township, Leelanau County, Michigan	938	50%
Leland township, Leelanau County, Michigan	756	34%
Solon township, Leelanau County, Michigan	676	43%
Suttons Bay township, Leelanau County, Michigan	1,180	43%

Sources: ALICE Threshold, 2007-2019; American Community Survey, 2007-2019

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The Poverty Task Force recommendations add to many other solid research reports and recommendations. The 2016 National Council of Counties' White House Council Poverty Summit, reported that the keys for rural counties' success are early childhood programming, strong schools, broadband access and an economic development plan. Thus, in addition to the priority you are already giving to broadband, thank you, early childhood programming is another key area to invest such funds. The earlier mentioned EPI article also highlighted that *"Providing safe, enriching, and accessible schools and other child care centers is critical for working parents, too. Child care and other learning centers account for a little less than 1% of state and local employment, but the importance of this workforce was made abundantly clear in the pandemic. State and local governments need to consider whether past resources provided for early child care education are really meeting the needs of working families in their communities."*

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Please ensure the population groups and recommendations of these reports are prioritized for your decisions in allocating the County's \$4.2 million American Rescue funds.

Thank you,  
Beth Verhey, Northport

### **References and links mentioned:**

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Northport

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From: **Beth Verhey** <[bethlverhey@gmail.com](mailto:bethlverhey@gmail.com)>

Date: Mon, Apr 26, 2021 at 6:01 PM

Subject: Please consult local stakeholders and newly released poverty reports to plan implementation of American Rescue Plan County \$4.2 million

To: <[rrobins@leelanau.gov](mailto:rrobins@leelanau.gov)>, <[drushton@leelanau.gov](mailto:drushton@leelanau.gov)>, <[wbunek@leelanau.gov](mailto:wbunek@leelanau.gov)>, <[twessell@leelanau.gov](mailto:twessell@leelanau.gov)>, <[psoutas-little@leelanau.gov](mailto:psoutas-little@leelanau.gov)>, <[gallgaier@leelanau.gov](mailto:gallgaier@leelanau.gov)>, <[mlautner@leelanau.gov](mailto:mlautner@leelanau.gov)>, Chet Janik <[cjanik@leelanau.gov](mailto:cjanik@leelanau.gov)>, Michelle Crocker <[mcrocker@leelanau.gov](mailto:mcrocker@leelanau.gov)>

Dear Commissioners, Administrator, neighbors,

I have been following your discussions regarding the \$4.2 million American Rescue Plan funds forthcoming to the County. While I understand you are waiting for further guidance, I am writing now to suggest the Board, and other local leaders, have an urgent opportunity to pro-actively seek recommendations from frontline organizations to ensure the funds prioritize your residents most in need.

I am writing directly as I hope you will reach out for such recommendations ahead of your May meetings; and also respectively request this email be shared for public comment linked to your May meetings.

While I appreciate Administrator Janik's updates in your April 13 meeting, including that the County is not yet receiving proposals, now is the time to seek stakeholder input to establish the priorities and mechanisms that will best reach households most affected by the pandemic, including economically.

National policy analysts and researchers are also pointing to the urgency and need to engage local, affected stakeholders. For example, an article entitled "**How should local leaders use their American Rescue Plan funding?**" from The Brookings Institution: "*The money needs to move fast and be deployed smartly and equitably. In 10 years, we may look back at this time and ask: Which places merely spent their money, and which places invested it?*"

Another article, "**The American Rescue Plan clears a path to recovery for state and local governments and the communities they serve**", by the Economic Policy Institute emphasizes that: "*Policymakers should talk to the people in the communities that have suffered the most; talk to the workers and families who have struggled to access public supports; talk to the parents who have had to juggle caring for and educating children while trying to work.....*" and the need to attend to the disadvantaged communities shown to have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic and growing income disparities, "*State and local tax policy and public investment decisions can and must be used to build more equitable and anti-racist communities.*"

In the last month, I have been struck by the irony of newly released reports on poverty in our County on the one hand, and waiting for external guidance to plan for the \$4.2 million "windfall" the County will receive as part of the American Rescue Plan. In Leelanau County **37% of households (3,348) are ALICE**, compared to 25% overall for Michigan. I attach the ALICE Leelanau County Profile for ease of reference.

The March 2021 ALICE Report highlights the 'impossibility' of 'middle class'. ALICE households are Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed; they earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the established basic cost of living. Two further details are important to bear in mind: 1) the data available to produce the 2021 ALICE report is mostly from 2019, thus pre-dates the impacts of the COVID pandemic, and 2) an additional 6% (535) of Leelanau County households are below the Federal Poverty Level, and thus struggling even more than ALICE households to make ends meet.

**A new report by the collaborative Michigan Poverty Task Force** presented 35 solutions, pointed out the "plague of structural" factors hindering poverty solutions, and highlighted the urgency of addressing child poverty.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Beth Verhey <bethlverhey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 2:09 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik; Michelle Crocker  
**Cc:** Debra Rushton; Will Bunek; Ty Wessell; psoutas-little@leelanau.gov; Gwenne Allgaier; Melinda Lautner  
**Subject:** Report noted in my call in today — Fwd: newly released poverty reports to plan implementation of American Rescue Plan County \$4.2 million  
**Attachments:** ALICE in Leelanau 2021.pdf; Kids Count Leelanau Profile 2021.pdf

Dear Administrator, Commissioners, all,

Thank you for taking my call in to your meeting today, and for advancing discussion and planning for the County's American Rescue funds.

As mentioned, below is the message I sent you all on this in April and attached is the new Kids Count Leelanau County profile. (For full Kids Count Michigan data and report - <https://mlpp.org/2021-kids-count-data-book-release/> )

To summarize my comments today:

- It is important to see the ARP funds as exceptional, a unique opportunity to meet the needs of some of our County's most struggling households; they are not normal budget streams that require tax or millage concerns in the future.
- The purpose of the funds is to support the multi-dimensional impacts of the pandemic on struggling households, meaning to catalyze improvements in their household circumstances and roles in the community and economy, as quickly as possible. Thus, while the legislation allows expenditure, etc in to 2024 and 2026, the priority is to get help to struggling households now, as quickly and flexibly as possible.
- I thus urge to Commissioners to reach out to County organizations and stakeholders that represent the most struggling households in our community, and based on such, establish the categories of support and most efficient agencies and mechanisms through which to channel the relief funds. Meaning, the process for the ARP funds should be to identify the priority categories of needs of our County's poor and ALICE households, and then allocate the funds to those categories and to the agencies/organizations that have the most direct reach to such households.

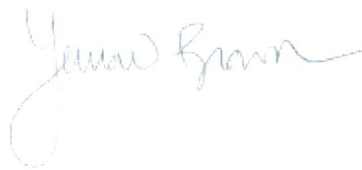
I would be happy to be part of further discussions,  
Thank you,  
Beth Verhey,

Housing North can be a resource and coordinator to help develop these tools in your community or work with existing organizations to make sure the dollars are put to programs that effectively meet your housing goals. By providing more options for our residents, we can help individuals, families, and communities build wealth, our workforce to have accessible, affordable housing, and our communities to thrive. Now is the time to act.

Please let us know if we can help you determine how best to create housing solutions.

Sincerely,

Yarrow Brown  
Housing North Executive Director



For more information email us at [yarrow@housingnorth.org](mailto:yarrow@housingnorth.org)

[www.housingnorth.org](http://www.housingnorth.org) [www.homesforourfuture.org](http://www.homesforourfuture.org)

Creating pathways and partnerships for housing in Northwest Michigan



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Yarrow Brown <yarrow@housingnorth.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 9, 2021 3:13 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan (ARP) Resources



July 9, 2021

Dear County Commissioners, Supervisors, and Administrators,

There is an anticipation that the allocation of millions of dollars in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to Cities across the state of Michigan will trigger countless well-deserving funding requests. We are writing to urge you to consider allocating a portion of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) dollars toward solutions for the housing crisis. Safe and stable housing supports the physical health of your citizens and increases their ability to hold a job and be gainfully employed. An adequate housing supply also means employers can recruit new workers.

As you are probably aware, Northwest Michigan has underinvested in housing for years, and the pandemic has intensified what was already a crisis-level shortage of affordable housing and access to housing resources. COVID-19 and the resulting shelter-in-place orders spotlighted the need for safe, affordable housing for our NW Michigan residents, as those experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity were more vulnerable to the impacts of the virus. Those who were struggling to afford housing costs before the pandemic were disproportionately affected by the economic downturn because of the pandemic. In addition, housing cost increases have far exceeded the increase in wages and have priced average families out of the market.

By making strategic investments with ARP dollars, we can support our most vulnerable populations and revitalize communities. By investing in affordable and workforce housing communities can:

1. Support businesses by ensuring their workforce can live in the community in which they work, reducing commute times and increasing employee retention.
2. Positively impact physical health, mental health, and education outcomes.
3. Demonstrate they are committed to building more equitable and thriving communities.

The following are programs your community can build upon with ARP funding that will help the housing crisis:

- Create a county-wide housing fund to leverage more housing investment. The Housing Fund could provide grants, low-interest loans and/or gap financing for projects that meet the county's housing goals.
- Incentive programs for workforce and affordable housing developments
- Participate in Land Bank or Brownfield Redevelopment projects as a partner
- Programs for home repairs and downtown revitalization
- Programs that provide Legal Services for Renters, Landlords, and Homeowners
- Programs that provide Transitional Supportive Housing
- Programs that support Hotel/Motel Acquisitions for Permanent workforce Housing

For each of these items listed there are local or regional organizations that can support these efforts. Included with this letter is [a list of these organizations and a link to their contact information](#). We are talking with other partners and housing agencies and will be working together to best coordinate efforts.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Bob Dekorne <bdkinmc@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 15, 2021 11:56 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Thank you for soliciting input

Hi Chet: I appreciate the efforts to solicit the opinions of your constituents as to where the "bonus" money should be spent. Here's mine, but first - have to start with the realization that we are truly fortunate that our Commission has kept Leelanau on track for so many years, and that these funds can be used for improvements rather than emergencies.

1. **Broadband Service for Everyone:** This is my #1 for personal reasons - my home on Wheeler Rd is in a terrible zone for cellular and all types of internet. So bad that during the pandemic, my daughter was forced to park at local businesses and friend's houses to do her homework. To work online from home, I had to buy both a satellite provider and a land line provider, and it still stinks. There is no cellular service on the north end of Wheeler at all. I'm quite sure that you have the cash to buy easements or land, put up the towers, and allow everyone the same opportunities.
2. **Speaking of opportunities, and equally important to me - movement and actions regarding the Anti-Racism Proclamation that the Commission issued after the Eckerle incident.** Now is the time to not just do the lip service but put some things into action! Please cooperate with the citizens working towards progress and healing and understanding - together, we can find the path towards fairness and equality and opportunity for all Leelanau citizens.

I look forward to the results of your interaction, and if you would like comments or support, I'd be glad to help. Thanks again!

Bob DeKorne  
4199 Wheeler Rd  
Maple City, MI 49664  
231 645 5776.....sometimes.....:)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Steve Hamilton <hamiltonsteve811@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 2:10 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan funds

Hello,

Although I have no specific plan or costs to offer, I would like to express my opinion that improved internet service should be a priority for use of new funds. It has been quite difficult to work and study at home, which became a necessity since the pandemic, and is likely to be increasingly important in the future in any case. Neither the cellular service nor the HughesNet satellite internet is satisfactory at our location. I cannot think of a better way to improve the lives of many of us who live in the rural countryside of Leelanau County.

I am aware of past and ongoing studies of this that should show options for the path forward.

Thanks for your attention,

Stephen Hamilton  
5685 E Amore Rd  
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

## Chet Janik

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**From:** MURRAY MCKEAN <mmckean261@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 3:25 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Distribution of ARPA Funds

### Suggestions:

Fully reimburse any individual, organization or business for expenses directly attributable to the "COVID" recovery operations. (Government bodies do not apply).

Apply a portion of the "funds" to applications within the County that will make us better equipped to deal with a similar situation in the future. Broadband Infrastructure is an obvious choice here.

Thank you fo your consideration'

Murray A. McKean  
788 W. Blackberry Ln.  
Suttons Bay.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** JudyLevin <judy@judylevin.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 6:50 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** My suggestions for the ARPA Funds

Dear Mr.Janik;

As a Professional and Resident of Leelanau County, without a doubt I propose the best Broadband Internet and expansion of municipal sewer and water for our residents. Our infrastructure must be brought into the 21st Century.

Respectfully

Judy Levin

4651 E Tall Cedar Trail

Lake Leelanau, Mi 49653

Sent from my iPhone

July 26,2021

Chet Janik

Leelanau County Administrator

RE: American Rescue Plan Funds

Dear Chet,

I would like to suggest a use of the funds for ALICE households, which should qualify. There are at last report, approximately 4000 households (3883) in this limited income category in our county. Each household should have a monthly electric bill. Assuming this is at least \$100 per month, this amounts to \$1200 per year. With 4000 households in this category times \$1200, the cost of subsidizing electricity for each would be \$4.8 million, far exceeding the expected funds. If only a portion of electric charges could be subsidized, it could still make an impact.

Seniors already are in a program where monthly support is offered. This new program could use the same guidelines and have the lowest households be eligible using similar criteria. It could easily be administered by your office. People would sign up annually and their eligibility be determined. The electric companies would be paid directly by the county.

This approach helps many who need it most and can be managed within the county structure. If not in your office, perhaps the Treasurer's office.

Regards,

Mary Tonneberger

Omena, MI

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Geoffrey Peckham <gpsafety@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2021 10:02 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Support for expanding Universal Broadband service throughout Leelanau County with ARP funds

Dear Mr. Janik,

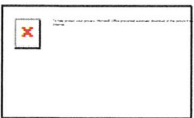
I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARP monies to expand Universal Broadband access to all of Leelanau County. As full time residents here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is 8mb/second and vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, have a norm of 160mb/second because of Broadband, the reality of the situation is frustration.

Without Broadband, we are not able to effectively work from home. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both of these things are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had Broadband service. This deficiency seriously undermines people's ability to love life here in Leelanau County. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Most sincerely,

Geoffrey Peckham  
Director - Tusen Takk Foundation  
5565 Leland Woods Drive  
Leland, MI 49654



[tusentakk.org](http://tusentakk.org)



## Chet Janik

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**From:** mckennaja <mckennaja@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 8:26 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act funds

Mr. Janik:

It is my recommendation that the American Rescue Act funds should be spent on the following, in priority order:

1. Broadband Infrastructure- the pandemic has shown us the glaring inequities that adversely impact those learning remotely;
2. Economic Hardship/Essential Workers- it is imperative that workforce housing be built and that all development in Leelanau County be approved only with the requirement that a percentage of said housing be permanently set aside for those meeting low income requirements;
3. Water and Sewer Infrastructure-aging roads, bridges and water and sewer must be repaired/replaced;
4. Public Health-initiatives such as vaccinations and preventative health initiatives such as dental clinics, screening mammograms must be funded. The Leelanau Health Department, in particular, must be funded to continue to do the EXTRAORDINARY job that they did in vaccinating residents during the pandemic resulting in Leelanau having the highest percentage of citizens vaccinated in the State.

I would vehemently oppose any monies given being given to individuals/groups to reward performance during the pandemic because it seems impossible to do so in a fair and equitable manner and to insure that no person or group is overlooked. There were many heroes who performed admirably during the pandemic. Additionally, I would strongly recommend that the Board look beyond proposals benefitting individuals/groups or those benefitting political or personal agendas to those efforts and initiatives that benefit the greatest numbers of Leelanau County residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jill A. McKenna  
Suttons Bay

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S9, an AT&T 5G Evolution capable smartphone

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Sergey Bogomolov <bogomoloff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 10:59 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA for Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy something needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Sergey Bogomolov

10697 S Newman Rd, Maple City, MI 49664

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Sergey Bogomolov  
[bogomoloff@gmail.com](mailto:bogomoloff@gmail.com)  
231-392-3212

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Michael Beno <michaelbeno@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 11:16 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Use ARPA money as seed money for Universal Broadband Access in Leelanau County

Dear Mr. Janik,

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating.

Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support.

Michael Beno  
2171 S Ridge Road  
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Cameron Garst <cdnmtc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 11:35 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Internet

Chet, Starlink in the future of rural internet. I have had it since February. Speeds rock at 100-260mbps. I live at 11572 S Cedar Rd.  
Cameron Garst.

Sent from my iPhone

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Ann Weber <weberam52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Funds for internet

How to spend the relief money issue?? I really would like to see some of the money go to individuals like myself towards the installation fees. I have signed up for Cherry Capital highspeed internet service last year. Last year the cost to sign up was \$350, today the cost to run the line and actually hookup to my house has gone up to \$1500! I can afford to have the line run at \$350 but I can't afford to actually hook up at the higher price, so its sort of useless to me. Please either allocate to them to reduce the installation and hookup costs or distribute to individuals like myself that would not have the ability to pay this very high hookup fee. If you have any questions, please contact me, be happy to discuss this. Thank you. Ann Weber (5451 N. Manitou Trail W, Leland MI.)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Meg Wilkes <meg.wilkesrealtor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Our lack of broadband

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Margaret Wilkes  
4260 Omena Point Rd  
PO BOX 143  
Omena, MI 49674

Meg Wilkes  
Licensed Realtor  
231.342.2975  
[meg.wilkesrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:meg.wilkesrealtor@gmail.com)  
Keller Williams - Grand Traverse

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Angelina Ninotti <angelina.ninotti@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

John and Angeline Ninotti

9551 N. Onominese Trail

Northport, MI. 49670

810-874-1266

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Mike Anton <mikeantontc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:27 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Our business is severely curtailed because business customers do not have sufficient WiFi speeds.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Mike Anton

Northport Bay Retreat

6512 N West Bayshore Dr.

Northport MI

231-392-9093



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Linda L. Zylstra <zsaway@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:33 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Joel & Linda Zylstra  
7011 N. Manitou Trail  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** David Magrini <ddmagrini5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:44 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access in our County

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident in Leelanau County, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy we need to get this done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully, let alone try to work from home in the new normal of COVID. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARPA funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

David Magrini

4096 Omena Point Road

Omena MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Maureen Watkins <maureen.k.watkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 12:59 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband

Dear Mr. Janik;

We wanted to write today to put our full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As residents here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

The Watkins

5683 leland woods dr

Leland mi 49654

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Maureen Watkins  
1111 Glen Cannon Drive  
Pisgah Forest, NC 28768  
828-966-9494  
828-553-2032  
[Maureen.k.watkins@gmail.com](mailto:Maureen.k.watkins@gmail.com)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Megan <megangrantdvm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 1:11 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Leelanau county internet access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Megan Grant, DVM

1095 S Windy Ridge Roada

Lake Leelanau, Michigan 49653

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Jim Walker <lelandjim@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 1:13 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA Funding

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARPA funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are impressed by Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we strongly suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Jim Walker  
5951 N Birchwood  
Leland 49654

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Jim

Do not regret growing older.....it is a privilege denied to many.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Gary Husted <gg.husted@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 2:35 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband internet

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your time.

Gary Husted

8908 E Erdt Rd

Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Bingham Twp.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Barbara Stark-Nemon <bstarknemon@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 1, 2021 12:59 PM  
**To:** Itsuper@leelanautwp.org; Chet Janik; ltclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** Use of ARPA funds for internet

Dear Mr. Janik, Mr. Sanders, and Ms. Diaz

I am a neighborhood "captain" for a group of homes on Elnora and Gardner Rds in Leelanau Township with seriously inadequate access to fast and reliable internet services. Our group represents 23 properties. As I'm sure you've heard from other neighbors, our internet service is unsustainable for households in 2021. We consider this situation a safety issue, an economic issue, and below the standard of public service that we believe we have the right to expect in Leelanau County. I want to join the chorus of voices requesting that the county use ARP funds to expand universal broadband access to our homes in hard-to-reach areas of the township. In addition to the economic and quality of life issues this would address, it would allow us access to cellular phone services which, as a senior citizen, I consider an important safety issue. I know that Cherry Capital Connections has been the most aggressive provider in filling this need in underserved areas of the county and while I support those efforts, the county should be planning on a broad scale how to create and implement the necessary infrastructure for any provider to access.

I would be happy to further describe both the inadequacy of current services, and the necessity of improved services if that would be helpful.

Sincerely,

Barbara Stark-Nemon  
13445 N. Gardner Rd  
Northport

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Melissa Chenault <mchenault@me.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 1, 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Internet

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Melissa Chenault  
4040 N. Omena Pt. Road  
Omena, Mi. 49674



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Rick Wilson <rickwilson.mi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 3:06 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** High speed broad band infrastructure

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

In addition, Leelanau County has permitted the use of our County Road right of ways for ATT to install their high speed fiber cable. This should be made accessible to the public. We own over 1300 feet of county road frontage (Kovarik Road) through which this fiber optic cable passes. Our legal description extends to the centerline of the road. We pay property taxes inclusive of this ROW. The public ROW is granted for PUBLIC transportation and PUBLIC utilities. ATT is not technically a public utility and this ROW use without compensation to private landowners may be questionable.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Richard & Barbara Wilson

5800 N. Jelinek Road

Northport, MI 49670

231-633-9475

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Pam Strawbridge <pstrawbridge@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 2:13 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband Infrastructure

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy, something needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. As of November, we will be full-time residents of Leelanau County, a move which has been predicated on having broadband services like we have had in Chicago for a few years.

Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would open opportunities for the area and be very much appreciated. Cherry Capital Connections has taken a lead role in delivering Universal Broadband access to our county, and we strongly suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Pam and Rich Mashke

6663 N. Omigisi Beach Rd.

Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Eric Moore <eric.v.moore@pm.me>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 2:02 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Fiber Optic / ARP Money

Hi Chet,

I think everyone in Leelanau is tired of the expensive "bamboo internet" we've lived with forever. It would be a boon to everyone's morale to have reliable buried fiber optic cable.

Hope you will apply for ARP funds to get the conduit and fiber in the ground for a community-owned and managed internet service.

Thank you.

Eric Moore  
4220 N Omena Pt Rd  
Omena, MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Jim Ham <hamj@gvsu.edu>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 31, 2021 9:43 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik; Ty Wessell  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Act Funds

I am responding to your request in the flyer included with your email of Friday July 2, 2021 regarding input on how the recently awarded American Rescue Plan funds should be spent. The Act has provided funding that can be used for a capital investment in broadband infrastructure.

Broadband internet access is lacking in large areas of Leelanau County. This inhibits students from participating in required school homework, particularly when they are kept at home during an epidemic such as the one we are facing now. It also prevents workers and businesses from participating fully in today's economy which depends more and more on fast reliable internet service. It prevents the interaction of patients with their medical providers via the internet.

Cherry Capital Connection is a leader in our area in providing fiber optic cable to the home, and has expressed great interest in expanding their operations to connect these areas which at present have no internet service. Because of the low population density of our county, and the low incomes of some of our residents, the large capital investment required to provide this service is unlikely without sources of public funding. The American Rescue Plan Act provides this funding, and I strongly suggest that you make every effort to secure Leelanau county's share and to use it for expanding fiber optic internet service to those areas of our county that need it most.

Sincerely  
James A. Ham  
9180 E. Onomonee Road  
PO Box 211  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** mcmurdan <mcmurdan@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 9:29 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Daniel and Madelyn McMurtrie  
11941 E. Kinnikinick Rd.  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Robert Di Loreto <Robert@diloreto.onmicrosoft.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 5:38 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 10Mbps x 1Mbps in vast areas of the State, including my home and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Current poor quality business-class satellite internet service costs over \$300.00 / month. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Robert Di Loreto, MD  
President, Wayne-Macomb Consuting, LLC  
13877 Ingalls Bay Rd. Box 270  
Omena, MI 49674

M 586.899.9360  
EM [Robert.diloreto@onmicrosoft.com](mailto:Robert.diloreto@onmicrosoft.com)

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** McCutcheon, Mike <mmccutcheon@deloitte.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 30, 2021 3:36 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA thoughts and considerations

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a significant portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a part time resident here (and FULL TIME taxpayer), we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking.

Top speeds in most cases are suboptimal. For example, I currently get 8mb download speeds assuming good weather and the satellite from the base of Sugar Loaf makes good contact over to Monroe, LA. When I do work from Michigan, I often hear.... 'you must be in Michigan' from my coworkers and clients alike.. I have up to this point cobbled together something but it isn't acceptable in terms of what is possible. There are full time residents that have to endure this daily, and it is a shame when it doesn't have to be this way.

Without high-capacity generational broadband, taxpayers are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. I've ordered the Elon Musk system as a stop gap, but I'm hopeful that is a short term fix (at same time, it hasn't arrived yet but I'm without any options without your assistance... I'm stuck at 8mb for the foreseeable future (which hasn't changed in the past 15 yrs).

We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing about your support in the Leelanau Enterprise,

Mike McCutcheon  
mmccutcheon@deloitte.com  
1381 E. Harbor Highway  
Cedar, Michigan 48621

### Mike McCutcheon

Partner – Deloitte RFA – Accounting & Internal Control  
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Tel: 214 840 7373  
Fax: 214 880 5919  
Mobile: 214 529 3664  
mmccutcheon@deloitte.com  
[www.deloitte.com](http://www.deloitte.com)

Suite 1600  
2200 Ross Ave  
Dallas, Texas 75201

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** Steven Brechin <srbrechin@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 1, 2021 1:22 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** fiber optics/broadband infrastructure in Omena

u.

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had a gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections' efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

All the best! Steve and Nancy

Steven R. Brechin/Nancy Cantor

5800 Meadow Lane

Omena, MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Diane Gordon <dinglecat999@netscape.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 1, 2021 1:51 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Expand Universal Broadband Access, PLEASE!

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Sincerely, Diane Gordon

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Cindy Standley <csstandley@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 1, 2021 8:27 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Dr. Jeffrey and Cindy Standley  
3390 North Omena Point Rd  
Omena, Michigan 49674

PS. Both of our children are in I.T. work (Cyber Security and Network). In the near future they will be able to work anyplace in the country, as long as they have excellent internet connections. They would bring high incomes to the area employing contractors and spending their incomes in local businesses.

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Cimbora, Dave <Dave.Cimbora@effem.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 6:45 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband infrastructure in Leelanau County

Dear Mr. Janik

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,  
Best regards  
Dave and Colleen Cimbora  
7187 N Christianson Rd.  
Northport MI  
49670

**Dave Cimbora**  
HIS Maintenance Coordinator  
2800 N. Route 47  
Yorkville Il, 60560

**Office: 630-553-4652**  
**Cell: 331-213-0561**

MARS/WRIGLEY

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Laurie Hyndman <lauriehyndman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 9:15 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA Funds

Dear Mr. Janik,

Please consider using ARPA funds to develop broadband access to everyone in Leelanau County. It has become such an essential part of our economy, educational access, and to tourism in the county. Everyone in this country deserves a level playing field. Accessing these funds for the benefit of everyone in the county will reap great rewards for this and many generations to come.

After all, the internet is integral to our economy and our ability to make a living and stay here and stay connected.

Broadband is so important in leveling the playing field for all Americans and Leelanau County would benefit exponentially with reliable communication access. No more mounting a receiver on a tree to get unreliable service from across the lake.

Thank you for your consideration.

Laurie

Laurie D. Hyndman  
6072 N. Anderson Rd.  
Omena, MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Michael O'Riordan <mworioran@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 9:34 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA money

Mr Janil

I am a customer of Cherry Capital Connections. I pay \$88 per month for their high speed internet program, with a speed of 8Mbps. While this allows for adequate access, I would like to see more options for me to purchase. Therefore, I hope you spend a good portion of the ARPA money on improving broadband access for all residents of Leelanau County.

Thanks for asking for input.

Mike O'Riordan  
Lake Leelanau

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Brice Weeks <brice.w.weeks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 9:35 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Itclerk@leelanautwp.org; Itsuper@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** Northport Internet Access - Cathead Bay

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including the cathead bay part of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. Additionally, people with disposable income and work from home abilities are unable to use this area suppressing local sales and real estate prices.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Brice and Stephanie Weeks

12131 E. Kinnikinick  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Joseph Geary <joe.geary@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 12:10 PM  
**To:** cjanik@leelanau.gov.  
**Cc:** Itsuper@leelanautwp.org; ltclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** County-Wide Internet and Cellphone Access

Dear Mr. Janik:

We are writing to you to indicate our full support, along with our Northport neighbors, for using a significant portion of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) monies to expand Universal Broadband Access within Leelanau County. Our family has maintained a seasonal residence in Leelanau Village for over 100 years and we have maintained a seasonal residence in Northport for nearly 50 years. As long time seasonal residents, we recognize that communication services are widely lacking compared to other rural areas and needed now more than ever. In recent years, and especially since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, the need for dependable internet and cellphone connectivity has proved to be vital. Northport no longer has a medical clinic with the nearest hospital now in Traverse City. A communications tower was constructed several years ago near the Leelanau Township Fire Department but there are no commercial services attached that provide internet or even basic cell phone service. Even the Northport library internet service is intermittent. We must travel miles from our North Gardner Road to connect to a reliable cellphone signal or gain internet access.

Currently there is very limited internet service within the county and permanent residents require access for basic safety, economic and quality of life reasons. Even long time seasonal residents would benefit from much wider connectivity which is typical in many rural areas of the U.S. Satellite service has proven to be unreliable, very slow when operational, and subject to failure during thunderstorms or derechos in summer and snowstorms in winter. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver fiberoptic Universal Broadband Access and we ask you to support their effort for permanent residents. Also for those who have a long term relationship with the county but are not permanent residents we welcome any efforts to encourage commercial cell phone and internet access via the existing tower infrastructures.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joseph and Suzanne Geary

Seasonal Residence:  
13385 North Gardner Road  
Northport, Michigan 49670

Permanent Residence:  
180 Hazel Avenue  
Mill Valley, California 94941-4218



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Kenneth VanElslander <kvan2@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 12:43 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Improved Internet Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy something needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating.

Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this anticipated support,

Sincerely,

Ken Van Elslander  
12671 East Magic Carpet Court  
Northport, Mi. 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Stuart Genschaw <[sgenschaw@chcwm.com](mailto:sgenschaw@chcwm.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 2:33 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Expand Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik,

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident of Northport, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support

Stuart Genschaw  
8634 North Dawn Haven Road  
Northport, Michigan 49670

Stuart Genschaw, MBA, CEO

*Cancer & Hematology Centers of Western Michigan*  
e: [sgenschaw@chcwm.com](mailto:sgenschaw@chcwm.com)

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** Paul Winston <pwinston3d@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 3:29 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Identifying uses for ARPA monies

Hi Chet,

I hope this email finds you well and enjoying summer (while it lasts). I am writing in response to the County's call for input on how proceeds from ARPA should be spent on County projects. While all the projects identified in the ad seem worthwhile, investing in efforts to expand broadband internet access in the County gets my vote.

Improved broadband availability would support so many other activities, such as education, business, communication, telehealth, information and entertainment. Expanding broadband makes other activities possible.

I also think it's a winning choice because there are already efforts under way to expand broadband within the County. Providing additional resources to those entities would allow them to accelerate and expand their work. Additional funding would put more fuel in the tank, whereas some of the other projects might need time to organize and plan how added resources could be used.

Full disclosure: I'm a member of the LIFT committee, so admittedly biased in favor of broadband, but hope you will consider my input nonetheless. Thank you for your consideration!

Best regards,

Paul D. Winston  
3071 E. Gousty Knowe Ln.  
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Jerrold Hall <hallj6056@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 3:41 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA/Broadband Funding

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Jerrold R. Hall  
6056 W. Woods Drive  
Empire, Michigan 49630

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Tricia Bosco <tricia@axisjet.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Matt Bosco  
**Subject:** broadband infrastructure in Omena

Dear Mr. Janik;

We are writing in full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARP monies to expand Universal Broadband Access in our area. As a summer resident here and working from home, I have been struggling throughout the day to maintain a consistent internet connection. This trouble impacts my ability to spend time in the area, however it is completely inequitable to the full-time residents of this area – especially students.

Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.  
Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Tricia and Matt Bosco  
4024 Omena Point Rd  
Omena, MI

## Chet Janik

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**From:** H Abbott <pabbott@english.ucsb.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 5:08 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband access

Chet Janik

Leelanau County Administrator

8527 E. Government Center Drive, Suite 101

Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Dear Mr. Janik;

We want to add our strong encouragement for the allocation of ARPA funding to provide robust broadband access throughout Leelanau County. We believe that an investment of this sort would, over time, pay for itself and more. It would be a key factor for attracting new business and keeping it here, while providing access for employees wherever they may want to settle and raise their families.

We have been clients of Cherry Capital Communications for the last 17 years, so naturally that service is much on our minds. We cannot vouch for other providers but would be happy to testify to the way in which Tim Maylone has built this service and continues to build it. To the extent that he would be involved, the money would be well spent.

Our credentials are simply that we have been homesteaded residents of Leelanau County since 2005, and before that had been coming up here regularly for a long time: one of us for 55 years, the other all his life.

Porter & Anita Abbott

7271 N. Gills Pier Rd

Northport, MI 49670

231-386-5391

## Chet Janik

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**From:** garyroll@mindspring.com  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 6:20 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA funds for Leelanau broadband infrastructure

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking.

When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating.

Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service.

Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated.

We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Gary Roll

4356 Omena Point Road  
PO BOX 243

Omena MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Tom Melville <Tom@greshaminjurylaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 8:52 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband in Leelanau County

Mr. Janik:

I write to lend my voice and support to expand Universal Broadband Access through Leelanau County. Cellular and communication services are lacking in Leelanau County in an age where business is done at high speed. The current “gig” economy requires better access to reliable high-speed broadband than currently available in Leelanau County. The federal government will be spending billions to upgrade infrastructure and an investment in universal broadband would bring Leelanau County into the commercial mainstream. It would allow the County to expand its tax revenue base through increased small business growth and the allure of the area to bring remote workers.

I know there are many businesses trying to bring broadband to the County. I support the County in pursuing vendors to ensure universal access to quality broadband services for the County’s citizens.

Thank you for your time and attention and here’s hoping that Universal Broadband is soon available in Leelanau County!

Thomas Melville

4186 N. Omena Point Rd.

Omena, MI 49670



## Chet Janik

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**From:** bob bullinger <bobbullinger@att.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 10:59 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Omena. Internet

Chet, my email bobbullinger@att.net, I support action for competitive internet survives.

Sent from my iPad

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Sunrise Landing <sunriselanding@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 1:25 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Sunrise Landing Motel asking for ARPA

Dear Mr. Janik;

For the past five years, I have been the owner of Sunrise Landing Motel.

During that time, my wife and I have updated/renovated every single room. We've put in new flooring, new furniture, new mattresses, new hardware, tvs, irrigation, a new roof, ect. We've made meaningful changes to the landscaping and every day put in real "thinking" time brainstorming ways to improve the vibe and make the place even better. It's been a labor of love and involves VERY long days, and you can imagine how much money. The money could have gone towards a newer car, vacations or, maybe my theoretical retirement account, but instead I continue to pour the funds back into the business. Why? Because my family believes that if we make a long-term investment in providing a great vacation experience, then our guests will keep coming back to us and the area again and again and again. I'm pleased to say that it seems to be working. So far, so good.

I'm writing today, because there is one factor that is outside of my control. One glaring roadblock that's getting harder and harder to excuse. No matter how much blood, sweat, and good intentions I put into this place, there is one service that falls far short of the expectations for my guests. I WANT to compete in the national and international tourist market. I want to leave people feeling genuinely rewarded for being able to stay in our area. But there's a sticking point: Fast internet.

They do not offer any reliable high speed internet on my road. When I persist and try to scratch out a little wiggle room, Charter politely gives me a middle finger and asks me to go away.

So, just so you know. I want to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**.

I'm sure you've heard many great arguments about modernization, utility not a luxury, yada yada yada. I'm just here to put in my two cents from my perspective. The tourists want fast internet and they are NOT going to put up with slow speeds for very much longer. It's become too important for both their business and their downtime. And, as much as we want to believe that our county is an indescribably exceptional gem (it is), when talking to their friends, the tourists will start to all point to the one bit of tarnish on the otherwise perfect polish.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Daniel J Tompkins

6530 North West Bayshore Drive

Northport MI, 49670

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Sunrise Landing | Lakeside Lodging

Direct Line: 231-386-5010

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Jenny (Steiner) Bradshaw <jenny@steinertractor.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 1:36 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Use ARPA money as seed money for Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr Janik,

I'm writing you today to advise my full support of the suggestion to use a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand Universal Broadband Access. As a new resident here, I recognize that communication services are painfully lacking, especially on my road. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the state, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps - 1000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy, progress needs to take place; improvement needs to happen.

The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment to our home. And/or, we are also not able to work efficiently from our homes. These examples are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues.

Use of the ARP funds for this purpose is very much appreciated. I am aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband Access and I suggest supporting their efforts.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,  
Jennifer Bradshaw  
11861 E Kinnikinick Rd  
Northport MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Chad Beers <beers210@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 3:33 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Chad L Beers

5170 E Gallivan Rd.

Cedar Mi

49621

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Richard Rethoret <richard.rethoret@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 5:03 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Fiber - ARPA Money

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Richard Rethoret  
5981 South French Rd  
Cedar, MI 49621

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Patty Barnes <pattybarnes@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 4, 2021 2:25 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had 1 gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated.

We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Patricia Barnes  
6615 N Omigisi Beach Road  
Northport MI. 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** John Freeman <Jfreeman13@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 4, 2021 4:12 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Support for Using ARPA Funds for Broadband Infrastructure

August 4, 2021

Mr. Chet Janik

Leelanau County Administrator

8527 E. Government Center Dr

Suttons Bay, MI 49682

Dear Mr. Janik,

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access in Leelanau County**.

As a resident in Northport, my family and I recognize that communication services are critical for work and for the enjoyment of a high quality of life in today's world. Unfortunately the current Internet service is sorely lacking.

When the top speed of our Internet service is at or below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in the area north of Northport, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable Internet to have Zoom Calls and to participate in other activities, something needs to be done as soon as possible to address this problem.

The Internet situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity broadband Internet, we are not able to participate in this economic world effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports programs to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had higher-level (1,000Mbps) broadband service.

Use of these ARP funds for laying fiber optic cable or for the adoption of technologies to upgrade Internet service would be an entirely appropriate use of these funds under the intent of the law and very much appreciated.

We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Broadband Internet access and we are in support of their effort. I would encourage you to support them as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

John Freeman



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Rick Petty <efpetty@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** itsuper@leelanautwp.org; itclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** High Speed Internet

Dear Mr. Janik;

Many residents of Leelanau county have been left behind in the age of the internet. As individuals have become increasingly dependent on high speed internet for work, education and entertainment, individuals that lack such services are placed at a major disadvantage. I would like to advocate using ARPA funds to expand Universal Broadband Access. I understand that Cherry Capital Connections is one such Internet Service Provider (ISP) that seeks to deliver Universal Broadband access.

I appreciate your consideration regarding this matter.

Regards,

Edmund Petty  
12689 E. Magic Carpet Court  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Eric Jorgenson <erjorgenson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Eric Jorgenson

14300 E Pinecrest Drive

Northport, MI 49670

Thank you!

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Online course about Leverage: [EJorgenson.com/leverage](https://EJorgenson.com/leverage)

First Book: [The Almanack of Naval Ravikant: A Guide to Wealth and Happiness](#)

On Twitter: [@EricJorgenson](#)

Projects & Writing: [EJorgenson.com](https://EJorgenson.com)

Independent, Unbiased Reviews of Online Courses: [CourseCorrectly.com](https://CourseCorrectly.com)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Clarence Heerema <clarenceheerema@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 2:20 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Interest in Fiber Broadband

Please support the development of a fiber broadband network for Bingham Township and the entire County.  
Signed, Clarence Heerema. 7359 S Whispering Hills Dr., Traverse City, Mi., 49684

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Beth Linnea Verhey <bethlverhey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Ann Marie Mitchell; Joan Moore; Ty Wessell  
**Cc:** Anne Harper; Brian Mitchell; Campbell McLeod; Chet Janik; Chris McCann; Cindy Edmunson; Cora Schaeff; Doug Scripps; Doug Whitley; Dr. Barb Conley; Elizabeth Ernst; Fred Steffens; Gary Frederickson; Gina Harder; Jane Gale; Janet Crane; Jessica Ornelas; Jim Neve; Joan Kalchik-Tenbrock; JoAnne Cook; Joe DeFors; John DeGroot; John Sanders; Karl Wizinsky; Kathy Garthe; Kevin Murphy; Kristi Fischer; Lisa Drummond; Mary Tonnenberger; Mike McMillan; Murray Georgie; Neil Wetherbee; Rick Foster; Stef Staley; Stephanie Rosiniski; Steve Wetherbee; Susan Ager; William Harper  
**Subject:** A follow up note re: Call for Inputs on the local American Rescue Plan funds — Re: Leadership Team Meeting Reminder 8:30am August 4th via zoom

Dear Ann Marie, Joan and Ty,

Sincere thanks for including me in the Leadership Team meeting, and to Joan and Ty for recommending I join. Leelanau township and Northport are very fortunate to have you all, and such a Team under the Foundation, seeking to ensure the best next steps for our community on so many key matters.

I was pleased Patricia Soutas-Little mentioned the County's \$4.2 million American Rescue Plan (COVID relief) funds, and hope it is alright that I follow up with you all to advocate your voices also respond to the Board of Commissioners Call for Inputs on a couple of other areas covered by the funds. (Leelanau Township should also be in receipt of these funds; albeit a much smaller amount.)

To help mobilize recommendations and suggestions, in my view it is relevant and important for individuals to respond to the Call for Inputs, as well as organizations. (Link to Call for Inputs which are due Friday August 13: <https://www.leelanau.gov/news.asp?aid=766>)

I myself am preparing something that will follow on my and Ty's essay on Poverty in Paradise/Invisible Leelanau, in the Collection of Policy Essays facilitated by Doug. I am aware Joan and the Foundation are looking at relevant options for a Foundation proposal, and overall rolls, which is absolutely important, and I will of course keep in touch with her as to what I find in my own research and advocacy.

Thus far I am seeing the priorities for these funds to support our poor and ALICE households to both:

- Mitigate the **ongoing, inter-connected public health impacts** of the pandemic: behavioral and mental health and other social services outreach;
- And start to **pivot from the economic impacts**: food, rent, utilities, home repairs and weatherization, vouchers and navigation support are all highlighted as eligible for households affected in various ways by the pandemic and the challenges of maintaining income to 'make ends meet'. Similarly towards enabling the pivot 'back to work' and economic recovery, the following child-focused services are noted to consider for new or expanded services: educational services such as tutoring or after school programs, child care and home visiting programs.

Overall, there are five broad categories for the allocations: 2 categories are public health and economic impacts as above, and 1 is "water, sewer and broadband infrastructure", under which, as noted by Patricia, the Commissioners have already agreed to devote some of the ARP funds following up on the great work by LIFT.

Some key resources to learn more include:

- Various resources on United Way ALICE pages - <https://www.unitedforalice.org/covid2019>
- Board of Commissioners is particularly looking to the guidelines from the National Association of Counties - [https://www.naco.org/sites/default/files/documents/NACo-Analysis-of-Fiscal-Recovery-Fund-Guidance\\_05-24-2021\\_rev.pdf](https://www.naco.org/sites/default/files/documents/NACo-Analysis-of-Fiscal-Recovery-Fund-Guidance_05-24-2021_rev.pdf)

Warm thanks and regards to all of you,  
Beth

## Chet Janik

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**From:** lynn sutton <lsnfiberartist@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 9:30 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Universal Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I want to ask for your support of the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we are well aware that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy, something needs to be done. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Lynn Spitznagel Sutton

3396 Omena Point Road,

Omena,MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Thomas Larkin <tr3s@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 10:33 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband internet service for Leelanau Co.

Dear Mr. Janik:

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. We live in the northernmost two miles of the peninsula near the state park. Internet service here has always been an issue. We are in an area that has been "forgotten" by internet service providers, since there aren't enough people here (especially in winter) to make speedy access profitable for them. That doesn't mean that the folks here don't need a faster service for home entertainment & homebound jobs that require fast (stream-able) internet service. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated.

Bottom line... "I have experienced faster & more reliable internet service in third-world countries than in parts of Leelanau County".

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Thomas Larkin  
13525 N. Lighthouse Point Rd.  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Nell Lickliden <nlickid@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband Access

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully **or securely**. **In addition, we may not be informed of dangerous weather events in time to secure our homes or ourselves**, We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Penelope Lickliden  
10955 E Elnora Dr  
Northport, MI 49670



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Doug Baker <dbaker1950@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 1:13 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Kathy Cole  
**Subject:** Broadband Internet

Hi Mr. Janik,

Let me add my voice to those calling for broadband Internet expansion and improvements in Leelanau County.

Currently, we live in Empire Township where no land line internet connection is available. We have been involved in volunteer projects that required extensive internet use for zoom meetings and handling photographic files. To get the Internet service we need, we must pay \$250 a month for satellite internet through Viasat. This service is metered, so there's a limit of 150GB per month before it slows down to a crawl.

I suspect that level of use is not extraordinary in many Leelanau County households, especially those that stream programs from providers like Netflix, as well as take care of business and schoolwork from home.

The current situation allows highway robbery by Viasat for service that would cost \$80 per month elsewhere in the County. It is time to fix this. I may have the means to cover these costs, but many others do not.

Broadband internet should be considered a basic service for all Leelanau County residents regardless of their means.

Doug Baker  
8825 W Deborah Ann Trail  
Empire, MI 49630  
(262) 496-1693

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Dave and Amy Prizlow <daveamy94@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 6, 2021 11:08 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Expanding Universal Broadband Access in Northport

Dear Mr. Janik,

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps to participate in our current economy, something needs to be done sooner rather than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

David and Amy Prizlow  
13255 Gardner Road  
Northport, Mi 49870

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Steve Luebkehan <steve.luebkehan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 10:15 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Support for Broadband Infrastructure

I am 100% in support of increasing viable internet access in Leelanau county, for three reasons. Healthcare is by far number one. We are full time residents now, with 88 and 89 year old neighbors. Access to telemedicine, especially in our county where there are few doctors and no mental health professionals, is a major opportunity for the county. Telemedicine, if we had reliable internet, would be a godsend.

The second reason is education. We have a high-school age son who could not always keep up with remote lessons if our internet access (line of sight cellular) went wonky. He has also attempted to take some on-line classes and has given up.

Finally, having reliable internet would help those of us who work from home or require good internet access for work. If I can work more I have more money to pump into the local economy. There are few businesses that don't rely on digital access..

Thanks

Steve Luebkehan  
14781 N Cathead Bay Drive  
Northport

## Chet Janik

---

**From:** Lori <Irfischer066@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 11:15 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Lori Fischer  
Gills Pier Rd  
Northport

Sent from my iPhone

## Chet Janik

---

**From:** Jim Moskalik <jmoskalik@centurytel.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 12:46 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA funding

Sir,

We live in Golden Valley Woods sub-division off of M-72 (4) miles east of Empire. Our internet provider is Centurylink. We have only 7 mbps upload speed. Our neighbors further away from the highway have even less. Our HOA connected with two other HOA's that are within 1/4 mile of Golden Valley Woods to asked Centerlink to upgrade our service. They said they have no plans to do so. Spectrum said we were on the bottom of there list for service. Cherry Capital indicated we were not in there service area and even though they have funding to expand service there were enough homes to make it economical.

With the ARPA funds I would ask that you require any provider that receives funding to expand there service to homes like ours and not to upgrade their existing networks only. We can't truly achieve universal broadband access if only areas that are economically viable are connected.

Everyone, no matter where they are , should have access to a high mbps service.

Thanks,  
Jim & Judy Moskalik

## Chet Janik

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**From:** John Ray <johnhray2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 3:57 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Michael Ray  
**Subject:** Broadband service

Dear Chet:

I am a summer resident of Leelanau County (Omena) and have been coming to the area for over 60 years. I understand that there are funds available through the American Rescue Plan for capital investment in the County.

I can think of no better application than expanded broadband service. This is a topic that has been talked about for years but the problem is that it's been a lot of talk and little or no action! And I'm not all that concerned about expanded and more accessible sports and entertainment availability, nice as that would be. I'm talking about just plain basic broadband service for routine personal and commercial correspondence. I'm on Omena Point and have trouble just getting on line during much of the day for basic internet service due to the high volume of demand coupled with the lack of broadband. I recognize that the problem is not county-wide, for there are many areas of cable and more rapid service. Similar service should be the norm for the entire county; we shouldn't be penalized in this manner due to our particular location. As a minimum, we should have one gig (1,000 Mbps) broadband service. As you probably are aware, Cherry Capital Connections has made efforts to provide this service; I urge you to support them in this endeavor.

Thanks for giving this matter your strongest consideration.

Sincerely,

John H. Ray  
Box 12  
Omena, MI 49674

## Chet Janik

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**From:** P.Michael and Kathryn May <mkmay@alldial.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 9, 2021 11:48 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Mike May  
**Subject:** ARPA Universal Broadband, Cherry Capital

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and are participating here on Gills Pier Rd.. We have been with Cherry Capital since they started wireless service here in our area and they have always worked to do the best with the technology available as a small local company. Please support their effort to expand county access to Universal Broadband. Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Phillip M. May  
8369 N. Gills Pier Rd.  
Northport, MI 49670

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Nancy Cooper <nrcooper25@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 9, 2021 2:56 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** ARPA

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Nancy Cooper

13549 E. Ingalls Bay Road

Omena, MI 49674



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Oran Hesterman <ohesterman@fairfoodnetwork.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 9, 2021 4:54 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Broadband Access in Omena

Dear Mr. Janik;

I am writing today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here in Omena, on Omena Point Road, our family recognizes that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy something needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We have two grandchildren who have been trying to learn remotely without good internet access and it is frustrating for everyone.

I am also the CEO of a major national nonprofit organization working from home, and it is at times impossible for me to fully function in my job because of slow or intermittent high-speed internet service. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Dr. Oran B. Hesterman  
4688 N. Omena Point Road  
Omena, MI 49674

### **Oran B. Hesterman, PhD**

Founder & CEO | Fair Food Network

office 734.213.3999 x201

[fairfoodnetwork.org](http://fairfoodnetwork.org) | [facebook](#) | [twitter](#) | [instagram](#)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Steven Popper <spopper956@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 9, 2021 10:08 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Itsuper@leelanautwp.org; Itclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** WE NEED BROADBAND INTERNET

Dear Mr. Janik;

My wife and I live in Leelanau Township approximately 6 months a year.

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we feel that communication services are sorely lacking. The reality of the situation is frustrating on a daily basis. We currently only have access to satellite internet which is very slow and erratic, often not working at all. Something needs to be done sooner than later. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service.

There are also issues of improved safety that relates to devices that are internet based as well as wifi cell phone calling insofar as many of us with no broadband access do not have cell phone coverage as well.

Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated.

We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support.

Steven and Janet Popper

13273 N Gardner Rd  
Northport, MI 49670

Dear Mr. Janik

08/10/2021

We the undersigned residents live off Kehl Road year-round and we are becoming a part of the aging community in the township. The past year and half of the pandemic has highlighted our need for Broadband for basic health care and quality of life. While doctors' offices were closed, telehealth became the only means of interacting with health care professionals and we did not have that capability from our homes. The pandemic also moved many employees out of offices and into their homes. Economic expansion and quality of life in our area depends on the ability to work from home. Spending time with our loved ones becomes untenable if the only way they can work while visiting is outside the library. This leads to isolation and the dangers associated. There will be a need in the future for our younger family members to assist with our care and without the ability for them to work their jobs remotely from our homes, it will become more difficult for us to stay in our homes. We urge you to use the ARPA monies available to expand **Universal Broadband Access** in our community.

Of course, there is the more obvious need to continue the County's quest for economic diversity. As working and attending school remotely has become the norm, and will continue to be post pandemic, access to high speed internet is crucial for the economic well-being of our county. If our goal overall in Leelanau County is to attract young families, this won't be possible unless those families have access to secure, high speed internet.

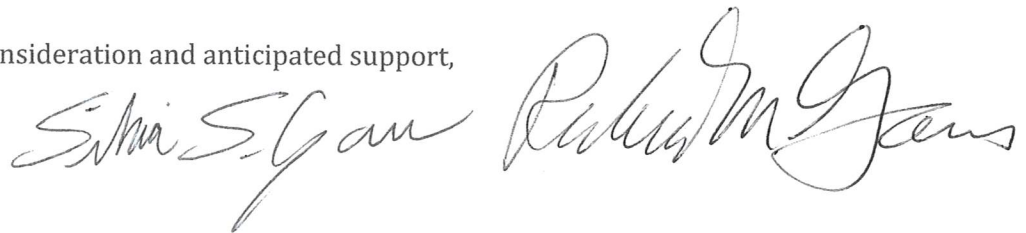
We reached out to Charter years ago when they were bringing fiber to Cherry Homes and were told it would cost us \$100,000 dollars to bring it 2 miles to our home. Since then, we have many more properties that are interested in Broadband off Kehl Road at the Magic Carpet Development. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver broadband access and are requesting that you support their efforts.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Silvia and Rick Gans

12771 N Kehl Road

Northport, MI 49670



Linda and Mike Birtles

12920 N Kehl Road

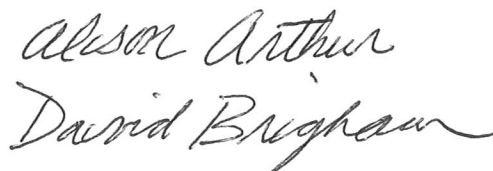
Northport, MI 49670



Alison Arthur and David Brigham

12750 N Kehl Road

Northport, MI 40670



**RECEIVED**

**AUG 11 2021**

**LEELANAU COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR 91**

## Chet Janik

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**From:** David Williams <dswill54@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 12:25 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik; cjanik@leelanautwp.gov; itsuper@leelanautwp.gov; itclerk@leelanautwp.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Action item- Improved Internet

I sent my letter on Friday  
Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 8, 2021, at 11:24 AM, David Williams <dswill54@icloud.com> wrote:

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Additionally it gives more people the ability to work effectively from home. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry

Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

David Williams

12673 East Magic Carpet Ct

Northport Mi

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** Charles Curmi <cjcurmi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 8:45 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** BROADBAND IN CLEVELAND TWP —ARPA

Dear Mr. Janik:

I live in section 22 of Cleveland Twp. and do not have broadband internet available. I have contacted Elevate Net for a year and a half without results.

Please consider using ARPA funds to bring internet to my location.

Regards,

Chuck Curmi  
5611 S. Hlavka Hills Drive  
Maple City, MI  
734-476-3791

Sent from my iPhone

## Chet Janik

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**From:** tom keck <tkeck478@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 7:29 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik

There is no question that broadband should be available for all residents of the county. Use the money to provide broadband for those that the commercial companies are not. They have decided they can make it profitable by adding certain areas. You should provide for the others

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Matt Prisk <priskfamily@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 9:23 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik

Dear Mr. Janik;

I wanted to write today to put my full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the ARPA monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we recognize that communication services are sorely lacking. When the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of this county, and we require 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps capable internet to participate in our current economy some needs to be done sooner than later. The reality of the situation is frustrating. Without high-capacity generational broadband, we are not able to participate in this economy effectively and fully. We are also not able to enjoy seamless delivery of entertainment and sports to our home. Both are the norm in much of this country and would be possible here if we had gig (1,000Mbps) capable broadband service. Entertainment and participation in our economy are quality of life issues. Use of these ARP funds for this purpose would be very much appreciated. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we suggest supporting their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

Matt and Kim Prisk

6805 Marja Drive

Northport, MI



## Chet Janik

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**From:** Ted Kraimer <twk886@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 10:11 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Melinda Lautner  
**Subject:** Leelanau American Rescue Plan Fund Idea/Suggestion

Dear Mr. Janik,

I am sure you have been overwhelmed with ideas and requests on how to spend Leelanau County's portion of the ARP funds, so I will be brief.

My wife and I live in Solon Twp. in a moderately populated region (there are nine houses in sight, plenty of others behind trees and ridges). Internet connectivity has been an issue since moving here three years ago which has only become more of an issue with work from home mandates/adjustments due to Covid. Simply put, the current 3-5 mbps speed beamed from towers is not enough, nor reliable, to perform most business applications via the internet.

An investment in broadband infrastructure in rural parts of the county - where people live and work, not vacation, is greatly needed; the APR funds seem an ideal way to help fund an initiative to bring this portion of the county in line with much of the world who already have good access to being on-line .

Thank you for your consideration/time.

Respectfully,

Ted Kraimer  
6464 E. Hillside Drive  
Cedar, MI 49621  
Twk886@hotmail.com

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Samantha Drow <samidrow@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 10:37 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** How Would You Spend Leelanau County's \$4.2 Million In American Rescue Plan Funds?

Good Day to you Sir,

I believe, it is imperative to invest in network infrastructure for the entire county. Amid the pandemic, many professionals are able to work from home, and are looking to relocate to our beautiful area. Furthermore, all students attending our county schools should be able to have access from home, welcoming virtual learning as a resource for absences. Thank you!

Samantha Steffens  
Suttons Bay

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Rob Foster <refoster61@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 11:01 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Valarie Miner; Robert Foster  
**Subject:** Use of ARPA Funds for Broadband Access in Leelanau County and Leelanau Township

Dear Mr. Janik,

I wanted to write today to offer our full support behind the idea of using a good portion of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) monies to expand **Universal Broadband Access to all homeowners in Leelanau County and Leelanau Township.**

We have lived in Leelanau County since 2002. While we have benefited from (and become quite dependent on) reasonable cable-based internet connection speeds living in more densely populated Lake Leelanau, we have recently relocated to N. Gardner Road northwest of Northport, and are shocked to find there is no cellular signal and no reliable access to broadband internet connection. What limited satellite coverage that is currently available is slow, unreliable, and prohibitively expensive to the point that everyday usage becomes problematic. Without the 100Mbps – 1,000Mbps speeds available to other residents of Leelanau County, we have come to the sad realization that we are not able to spend any meaningful time living, working, or recreating in Northport, let alone monitor our home on Gardner Road remotely. Without high-speed broadband, we are not able to participate in the local economy, as we spend little to no time in Northport proper to shop, recreate, or dine. At a higher level, our lack of connectivity on Gardner Road does not allow us to effectively and fully participate in the greater economy; we simply cannot work, do business, or conduct essential activities that require a robust online capability. Furthermore, this becomes a substantial safety issue; without cellular and without high speed internet access, the only way to connect with the outside world is with the very limited utility of a landline! With high speed internet access, at least wifi-assisted cellular calling can be done, greatly enhancing safety. This of course requires a robust land-based internet connection.

The bottom line is that lack of high speed broadband connectivity are substantial safety and quality of life problems for homeowners in more remote areas, negatively impacting virtually all Cathead Point residents, including residents living on Elnora, N. Cathead Point, W. Kinnikinick, Magic Carpet, N. Kehl and Gardner Roads.

We fully support the use of ARPA funds for the purpose of establishing universal broadband access to address these issues in Leelanau County and Leelanau Township. We are aware that Cherry Capital Connections is making meaningful efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we strongly suggest supporting and assisting their efforts.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Vera Hernandez <vhernan@umich.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 11:10 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Funds

Dear Mr. Janik,

It is no secret that Leelanau needs affordable housing and childcare to attract the workforce that is needed for our businesses here. Please allocate funds to these initiatives. Thank you for reading this message.

Best,

Vera Hernandez  
744 N. Dumas Rd.  
Suttons Bay, Mi.

## Chet Janik

---

**From:** Tom Nelson <tnelson@leelanauconservancy.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 11:44 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Funding

Dear Chet,

Thank you and our County Commission for putting the word out that you'd appreciate public input for the best use of the funding coming to Leelanau from the American Rescue Plan. What a wonderful opportunity for both public comment and future benefit to the community.

For the last several years, the Leelanau Conservancy's staff and board members have served on the County's Housing Action Committee. We understand that the scarcity of workforce is seriously affecting Leelanau citizens, and their families, who provide valued and essential services to us all. Hit-or-miss broadband service also creates disparities in opportunities for all. Another suggestion would be to incentivize septic inspections and remediation, especially on a sliding scale, to help those of lower or median income participate in protection of the clean water quality of our inland lakes and streams that we all cherish. Please consider utilizing American Rescue Plan funding to address and resolve these serious issues in Leelanau County.

Again, thank you so much for soliciting feedback from the greater community. I wish the Commission all the best in their decision-making process.

Sincerely,

---Tom

Thomas Nelson

Executive Director

Leelanau Conservancy

(231) 256-9665

[www.leelanauconservancy.org](http://www.leelanauconservancy.org)

*There's no place like Leelanau!*



Conserving the land,  
water, and scenic character  
of Leelanau County

August 11, 2021

Re: ARP funds

Dear Chet,

I would like to suggest that Leelanau County spend the ARP money in the following ways:

1. Improve Broad Band access to all in the county (addresses essential workforce and broadband infrastructure)
2. Improve Public Health capability to respond to public health threats. To me, this includes increased capability to see patients with common conditions who do not have a doctor; They are already providing some of this but there are some gaps I see: for example, transportation to appointments, needs for increased telemed, dental services and mental health services for ongoing treatment. (Addresses public health). Full disclosure – I am on the Board of Health.
3. Address food and housing insecurity (addresses economic hardship and essential workforce, because both exist here. Essential workers cannot find housing they can afford, and many are working at low wage jobs)
  - a. Increase support for food distribution, particularly from Leelanau Farms
  - b. Increase support for affordable workforce housing (addresses essential workforce)
4. Improve septic inspections and address costs for mitigation of bad septic systems.

Thank you

Barbara Conley

505 N. Mill St.

Northport, MI 49670

[Tel124now@aol.com](mailto:Tel124now@aol.com)

231-632-0453

T. Eric Blakely  
5223 Lime Lake Road, Cedar, Michigan 49621  
[teblakely@gmail.com](mailto:teblakely@gmail.com)  
cell: 231-645-8905 home: 231-228-5309

August 11, 2021

Leelanau County Board of Commissioners  
C/O Chet Janik, County Administrator  
8527 E. Government Center Drive  
Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI 49682

RE: Suggestions for use of American Rescue Plan Act funds


Dear Commissioners,

I would like to propose the idea of utilizing our county's township halls and other governmental buildings as hubs of emergency shelters and electronic communications.

During severe storms and power outages, many families in our county find themselves without heat in their homes and wi-fi connectivity to request medical assistance. By equipping these buildings with emergency generators, wi-fi service and cellphone signal boosters, all county residents would have access to a warm place to shelter in cold weather when they have lost electrical power. Residents could also charge their cellphones and laptops, providing a means to communicate. In addition, having wi-fi and cell signal boosters in normal times would provide our students, residents, and visitors with a reliable place to complete homework and work assignments.

Please consider allocating funds to equip county governmental buildings with emergency generators, wi-fi connectivity, and cellphone signal boosters.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

  
T. Eric Blakely

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Charles Godbout <chas.godbout@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Possible Funding project for \$4.2M Fed Fund

This is in response to an article in the Leelanau Ticker asking for individuals to submit suggestions for the utilization of the American Rescue Plan Funds.

My suggestion is the establishment of a revolving Low Interest or no interest Loan fund that can be accessed by Child Care Providers to update their facilities to meet Health Department and licencing requirements.

I think there is a need in the county for improved and increased Child Care services but don't know how much this Loan fund would need to be established at.

The funds of this program could also be made available to businesses to establish and provide in-house child care to their employees.

Providing better child care services within the county would improve the employment environment within the community.

Charlie Godbout



**Chet Janik**

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**From:** Beth Verhey <bethlverhey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 3:30 PM  
**To:** beth gmail  
**Subject:** Please send your input on ARP/COVID relief funds to Board of Commissioners - Due Friday August 13

<https://www.leelanauticker.com/news/how-would-you-spend-leelanau-countys-42-million-in-american-rescue-plan-funds/>

Dear neighbors, all,

As a concerned resident of Leelanau, I am sending this 'blast' outreach to encourage as many individuals, businesses and organizations of all types to send input to the Board of Commissioners towards priorities for our County's \$4.2 million American Rescue Plan Act funds. Thank you in advance for your patience with the 'mass-mail' approach.

*In addition to Federal resources, see guidelines from the National Association of Counties*

*- [https://www.naco.org/sites/default/files/documents/NACo-Analysis-of-Fiscal-Recovery-Fund-Guidance\\_05-24-2021\\_rev.pdf](https://www.naco.org/sites/default/files/documents/NACo-Analysis-of-Fiscal-Recovery-Fund-Guidance_05-24-2021_rev.pdf)*

Of the 5 categories, I personally advocate the following:

- All funds should be oriented to our federal poverty level and ALICE households; [Link: <https://www.unitedforalice.org/county-profiles/michigan> ]
- All funds should be dispersed through the most frontline organizations and mechanisms that reach them; which include non-profits as well as Departments, such as programs administered by the Health Department and Senior Services.

- At minimum, 80% of the County's funds should be allocated to the "public health" and "economic impacts" categories.

As the Commissioners agree such categories, criteria and principles, as above, more specific proposals with County departments and service organizations can be followed up.

Articles, data and various sources abound on Leelanau's crises in affordable housing, costs of living (childcare and other programs and services for children, food, utilities, transportation). All of these undermine the ability of Leelanau's workforce to "turn the tide on the pandemic, address its economic fallout and lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery." [*Quote from NACO guidelines linked above.*] These were crises before the pandemic, and now we hear more and more about the very over-stretched mental health resources in the County.

To further elaborate on the ARPA categories, consider advocating the following for prioritization by the Commissioners:

1. Support Public Health Response

*Mitigate the **ongoing, inter-connected public health impacts:** behavioral and mental health and other social services outreach;*

2. Address Negative Economic Impacts

*Pivot from the economic impacts: food, rent, utilities, home repairs and weatherization, vouchers and navigation support are all highlighted as eligible for households affected in various ways by the pandemic. Similarly towards enabling the pivot 'back to work', the following child-focused services are noted to consider for new or expanded services: educational services such as tutoring or after school programs, child care and home visiting programs.*

3. **Replace Public Sector Revenue Loss** – *the County Administrator has acknowledged that Leelanau County did not experience revenue loss.*

4. **Premium Pay for Essential Workers** – *all County employees already received \$500 premium pay in the previous COVID relief funds. Are there non-County emergency or other pandemic-specific workers who have missed out on previous premium pay programs?*

5. **Water, Sewer and Broadband Infrastructure** – *The BOC has already agreed to allocate some \$700,000 to improve broadband infrastructure in the County; which is a welcome development and previously acknowledged priority in the County. This leaves few remaining funds for water and sewer allocations, which are also an acknowledged priority in the County, yet I hope these allocations will be prioritized for the forthcoming new infrastructure bill funds.*

Best wishes,  
Beth Verhey  
Leelanau Township

<https://www.leelanauticker.com/news/whats-the-current-state-of-early-childhood-care-in-the-county/>

<https://www.leelanauticker.com/news/the-rescuers-how-leelanau-peninsula-grown-produce-is-getting-on-the-plates-of-its-own-struggling-families/>

<https://www.leelanauticker.com/news/can-the-countys-housing-crisis-be-solved-slowly-but-surely-says-housing-norths-yarrow-brown/>

Some other poverty data and reports:

- United Way's bi-annual ALICE reports - attached Leelanau Profile and link is: <https://www.unitedforalice.org/county-profiles/michigan>
- And United Way ALICE COVID pages - <https://www.unitedforalice.org/covid2019>
- Kids Count - <https://datacenter.kidscount.org/>
- Michigan Poverty Task Force: Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity. State of Michigan. "2021 Poverty Task Force Report." 17 February 2021. [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/LEO-Poverty\\_Task\\_Force\\_Report\\_716585\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/leo/LEO-Poverty_Task_Force_Report_716585_7.pdf).

<https://www.leelanauticker.com/news/how-would-you-spend-leelanau-countys-42-million-in-american-rescue-plan-funds/>

## Chet Janik

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**From:** JAMES.BEAUBIEN@lw.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Itsuper@leelanautwp.org; Itclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** ARPA Funds

Dear Mr. Janik;

I'm writing you today to communicate my full support for allocating an adequate portion of the ARPA funds to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we are well aware that communication services are sorely lacking. At least 100Mbps-1,000Mbps of capable internet is required to participate meaningfully in the current economy and engage in many aspects of ordinary life, yet the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of Leelanau County – and we need an urgent solution to this problem. As we have all learned over the last 18 months, adequate high-speed internet access is a necessity in today's world for education, work, shopping, entertainment, sports, news and many other aspects of meaningful participation in our 21<sup>st</sup> century society, and the County is increasingly disadvantaged if its residents do not have access to this critical resource. County residents need at least one gig (1,000Mbps) of capable broadband service. Use of the ARPA funds for this purpose would enhance the County's economy and the quality of life for its residents, and your constituents would welcome and support the use of ARPA funds for that purpose. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we urge you to support their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

James Beaubien  
12687 E Magic Carpet Court  
Northport, MI 49670

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** Katie Jensen <jensekj@merit.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2021 11:18 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Merit Michigan Moonshot Initiative - Leelanau County

Hi Mr. Janik,

I don't believe our paths have actually crossed, however, I know we've been in the same arenas! I am hoping you've heard of Merit Network, as we provide fiber internet to Charlevoix County Schools, Char-Em, and COPESD. I have been with Merit nearly five (5) years, and prior to this position, I worked at Northern Lakes Economic Alliance (NLEA).

I became aware of an advertisement from a local ISP in your area, Cherry Capital Connection, and their promotion of Broadband in Leelanau County. I understand the County has currently contracted with DCS Technologies for Data Collection - that's very exciting! The purpose of this email is to provide you with as many resources as possible on the future of Broadband in your area. Below is a link to Merit's Michigan Moonshot initiative, which has taken off with great success throughout the State.

<https://www.merit.edu/community/moonshot/>

Would you please consider allowing Merit to give a presentation to yourself and your Board of Commissioners, or Broadband Committee in an upcoming meeting? I think you will be pleasantly surprised at the partners, resources, tools, references, and success stories we can share.

Please let me know your earliest availability for a conversation. I thank you for considering Merit as a potential project partner.

Sincerely,

Katie  
**Katie Jensen**  
Northern Michigan Member Engagement Manager



[jensekj@merit.edu](mailto:jensekj@merit.edu) | 231.344.2030 p | 231.445.0795 c | 734.527.4125 f | [www.merit.edu](http://www.merit.edu)  
880 Technology Drive, Suite B | Ann Arbor, MI 48108-8963



[Learn More About Merit Services](#)

## Chet Janik

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**From:** JAMES.BEAUBIEN@lw.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 4:29 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** ltsuper@leelanautwp.org; ltclerk@leelanautwp.org  
**Subject:** ARPA Funds

Dear Mr. Janik;

I'm writing you today to communicate my full support for allocating an adequate portion of the ARPA funds to expand **Universal Broadband Access**. As a resident here, we are well aware that communication services are sorely lacking. At least 100Mbps-1,000Mbps of capable internet is required to participate meaningfully in the current economy and engage in many aspects of ordinary life, yet the top speed of our internet service is below 25Mbps x 5Mbps in vast areas of the State, including some parts of Leelanau County – and we need an urgent solution to this problem. As we have all learned over the last 18 months, adequate high-speed internet access is a necessity in today's world for education, work, shopping, entertainment, sports, news and many other aspects of meaningful participation in our 21<sup>st</sup> century society, and the County is increasingly disadvantaged if its residents do not have access to this critical resource. County residents need at least one gig (1,000Mbps) of capable broadband service. Use of the ARPA funds for this purpose would enhance the County's economy and the quality of life for its residents, and your constituents would welcome and support the use of ARPA funds for that purpose. We are aware of Cherry Capital Connections efforts to deliver Universal Broadband access and we urge you to support their effort.

Thank you for your consideration and anticipated support,

James Beaubien  
12687 E Magic Carpet Court  
Northport, MI 49670

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## Chet Janik

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**From:** John Sanders <sandman1oh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 6:30 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Money

High speed Internet seems to be the most requested. I concur and would hope to leverage our money with the county to get internet service.

Thanks Chet.

Sent from my iPhone

## Chet Janik

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**From:** Robert G Hoffman <squeezebugs@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2021 8:30 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** Spending \$4 million

A small amount of that money could be used to repave Lovers Lane out at the top of Stony Point in Leelanau Township. The pavement is missing in much of the road and is a concern to many of the residents and bike riders who use it frequently.

It may not survive another winter.

R.G. Hoffman  
550 N. Stony Point Road  
Suttons Bay

231-633-1414



## Chet Janik

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**From:** M Ames <due45north@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2021 2:13 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** American Rescue Plan Funds

Dear Administrator Janik,

Here are two suggestions for American Rescue Plan Funds:

\* Shed-type farmer's markets are commonplace in resilient communities. A weekly hub selling year-round farm produce in either heated or unheated sheds would support farmers and bolster the availability of fresh foods, particularly during winter months. Good public health starts with access to healthy foods. A location inside the county and reachable by public transportation, would help those in economic hardship. Sheds should be powered by the combined renewable sources of wind and solar energy. Multi-use hubs inside the county would also be beneficial in times of crisis for the distribution of essential supplies.

\* Broadband infrastructure improvements are sorely needed. Many of us live on routes that don't enjoy cable internet access. Rural customers must be able to access information, educational services, perform job duties and to participate in government/community events. Those of us who only have the option of expensive satellite dish service find this current option to be both expensive and unreliable. Please upgrade broadband internet access for all.

The spirit of these funds is for use to increase community resilience. Food access and broadband improvements are good places to start. Thank you for allowing input.

--Mary Ames  
Leelanau Township

## Laurel Evans

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**To:** Chet Janik  
**Subject:** RE: The Real Leelanau County

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**From:** Chet Janik <[cjanik@leelanau.gov](mailto:cjanik@leelanau.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 2:51 PM  
**To:** Laurel Evans <[levans@leelanau.gov](mailto:levans@leelanau.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: The Real Leelanau County

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**From:** Joyce Walter <[redwgnu4eah@aol.com](mailto:redwgnu4eah@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 8:02 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik <[cjanik@leelanau.gov](mailto:cjanik@leelanau.gov)>  
**Subject:** The Real Leelanau County

It's never too late to do something about this:



Robert Wood Johnson  
Foundation

Support for this research was provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the Foundation.

# How Far Did SNAP Benefits Fall Short of Covering the Cost of a Meal in 2020?

*Elaine Waxman*  
URBAN INSITUTE

*Craig Gundersen*  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

*Olivia Fiol*  
URBAN INSTITUTE

July 2021

In table 1, we list the 20 counties with the largest gap between maximum SNAP benefits and the average cost of a meal. These counties include high-cost urban areas, such as New York and San Francisco, as well as smaller rural counties with resort towns, such as Blaine County, ID; El Dorado County, CA; and Leelanau County, MI. In these 20 counties, average meal costs range from \$3.23 to \$6.16, which is 64 to 213 percent higher than the SNAP per meal benefit.

**TABLE 1**  
**Top 20 Counties of Biggest Gap between Maximum SNAP per Meal Benefit and Average Meal Costs**

County	Total SNAP participants	Meal cost	Meal cost minus SNAP benefit	Urban/rural designation
Leelanau County, Michigan	755	\$6.16	\$4.19	Rural
Klickitat County, Washington	3,322	\$4.05	\$2.08	Rural
New York County, New York	2,698,656	\$3.99	\$2.02	Urban
Nevada County, California	6,818	\$3.69	\$1.72	Rural
Pacific County, Washington	3,942	\$3.70	\$1.73	Rural
Blaine County, Idaho	529	\$3.62	\$1.65	Rural
Bristol County, Rhode Island	2,850	\$3.50	\$1.53	Urban
Calaveras County, California	4,685	\$3.50	\$1.53	Rural
Crook County, Oregon	4,355	\$3.46	\$1.49	Rural
Teton County, Wyoming	63	\$3.41	\$1.44	Rural
San Francisco County, California	44,932	\$3.37	\$1.40	Urban
Monroe County, Florida	5,629	\$3.37	\$1.40	Rural
El Dorado County, California	10,591	\$3.31	\$1.34	Urban
Marin County, California	9,129	\$3.31	\$1.34	Urban
Summit County, Utah	542	\$3.32	\$1.35	Rural
Summit County, Colorado	488	\$3.29	\$1.32	Rural
Barnstable County, Massachusetts	15,370	\$3.29	\$1.32	Urban
Chisago County, Minnesota	2,238	\$3.24	\$1.27	Urban
San Benito County, California	4,352	\$3.23	\$1.26	Urban
Charlottesville city, Virginia	3,900	\$3.23	\$1.26	Urban

**Source:** Author calculations, 2018 Census Bureau SAIPE estimates of SNAP participation by county; Feeding America’s Map the Meal Gap data, including NielsenIQ county-level food price data, adjusted for state and local taxes and OMB geographic classifications; 2020 USDA maximum benefit allotments.

We implement a 15 percent increase on the weighted average maximum benefit, following the temporary policy put in place during 2021 in response to the pandemic. With this boost, the share of all counties where the cost of a meal is not fully covered by SNAP benefits per meal falls to 40.5 percent. The number of counties where benefits are not enough to cover a minimally adequate diet drops to 1,271. On average, the gap between increased maximum SNAP benefits and the average cost of a meal is just \$0.13. But in Leelanau County, MI, where the largest gap exists, the shortfall is still about \$3.90 per meal. Urban areas also see large shortfalls. In New York County, the gap is \$1.73 per meal, and in San Francisco County, the gap is \$1.11 per meal.

A recent study found a shocking connection between Leelanau County and SNAP benefits.



The Urban Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based research nonprofit,

[found that in 2020](#)

the average meal in Leelanau County was 68% more than the SNAP benefit received.

“We live in the most beautiful county, but there’s a lot of people that can’t take advantage of the benefits because they’re just trying to make it by day by day,” said HelpLink Leelanau Director Jennifer Watkins.

HelpLink Leelanau is an organization that connects people who are struggling in the county with resources they need everyday.

This latest study says the average cost of a meal in Leelanau County is \$6.16, and the maximum SNAP Benefits a person gets is \$1.97.

HelpLink says that matches with what they see.

“If they’re covering their housing costs, they’re coming short on utilities, and especially goods and stuff that comes after you’ve paid the bills,” said Watkins. “We don’t have a big gap there for food and outside expenses.”

## Chet Janik

---

**From:** Maggie Bacon <magbacon@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** Chet Janik; Gwenne Allgaier  
**Subject:** Use of American Rescue Plan Act funding by Leelanau County

While I am an elected Village Trustee in the Village of Empire, I am writing to you today as a private citizen. The Village of Empire has submitted some suggestions to the County with regard to possible ARPA funding that would provide for storm water and other infrastructure improvements in the Village.

I ask that the County Commissioners consider two very large projects that would begin to address long-term issues affecting the entire county. On the one hand, I applaud your interest in hearing from all the various municipalities, non-profit groups and county officials on the use of the ARPA funds. On the other hand, using those dollars to make a **significant difference** - on a county wide basis - may be just what the doctor ordered!

First, we know the cost of a stable, reliable broadband/fiber optic network has been a constant source of frustration at the commission level as well as for many Leelanau County residents. In addition, a phone call to Northwest Ed (formerly TBAISD) could result in a very worthwhile conversation about how the Leelanau County schools are connected to one another and the need for upgrades to that backbone. Did you know, for example, that Glen Lake Schools is the first chain in the daisy chain connecting Leelanau County public schools to the Internet? If Glen Lake is without power or if their network goes down - Leland, Suttons Bay and Northport follow. Over the course of the last few years, some improvements in that system have been made. But, Northwest Ed and NMC have been looking for funding for a long term solution for many years. There have been and will continue to be "parts and pieces of various grants" yet it seems a larger influx of funding ((\$500,000 to \$1 million) is needed to "do it right". And, shouldn't we be doing it right for our county students and teachers?

Second, the need for workforce housing has been a long standing issue for this county. With the possible funding for Leelanau County estimated at \$4.2 million, imagine the boots on the ground work that could be done to work with developers to offset the cost of building safe, secure workforce housing throughout the County? I will admit to not being completely savvy with how something like this would work. But, it could go like this: county buys the land (several parcels throughout the county), identify a developer who will be reimbursed for the full cost of the building, the county takes the loss when it is sold at an "affordable" price to a landlord (if you build duplexes or other rentals) or to a homeowner (of course there are some agreements that would have to be developed about future sales, etc. That's why you might need all \$4 mil for this one.

Anyway, thank you for all you do for the residents of Leelanau County!

Maggie Bacon  
PO Box 99  
Empire, MI 49630  
231-383-5073

## Chet Janik

---

**From:** tim@cherrycapitalconnection.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2021 10:57 AM  
**To:** Chet Janik  
**Cc:** Melinda Lautner  
**Subject:** Roscommon county response to RDOF, ARPA, and NTIA.  
**Attachments:** Announcing Public-Private Partnership Roscommon County and CCC.pdf

Roscommon county commissioners and the ARPA committee have taken bold action to address the root cause of delivering broadband to the remote and rural areas of their county. The county has allocated \$1.2 million in funding to enable CCC to get this project moving forward while we worked on an the NTIA grant partnership.

The application is filled with economic and technical details we can share. I attached a three page summary for your review.

CCC's goal is to initiate a similar project in Leelanau County resulting in cost effective and reliable middle mile to support high capacity and reliable last mile fiber to the home. The enclosed technical model delivers 10Gig x 10Gig to every household and a 100Gig MPLS backbone.

Roscommon understood this bold response and the impact it will make on the economic recovery of Roscommon County.

It is our understanding that Roscommon is the only county that has allocated ARPA money to broadband.

The RDOF \$5.6 million over 10 years financing was the catalyst for the discussion resulting in an ARPA \$1.2 million allocation to CCC over 9 months enabled the project to start immediately. We hope the RDOF funding will spark a similar response in Leelanau County. Roscommon County understood that the NTIA process is not a guarantee but they understood getting this process started was important to their economic success.

Leelanau county may not have the NTIA grant but they have a consumer base in the Gills Pier area that have partnered with CCC and financially contributed at a \$300K level.

The consumers in the Omena area are strongly considering partnering with CCC to deliver fiber to every home at a \$1 million level.

Leelanau county is fortunate to have a great consumer support foundation to build on.

The CCC goal for Leelanau county is to connect all township halls and school districts to the County facility while connecting thousands of unconnected households to the middle mile backbone.

This middle mile project would be an economic enabler. \$2 million will not cover the cost. However, it is a great start and would provide the opportunity for thousands of households to start receiving 10G x 10G capable services.

Kind Regards,

Tim Maylone  
CEO and Managing Member, Cherry Capital Connection, LLC  
DBA: Cherry Capital Communications