

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

A budget hearing will be held on September 29, 2022 at 0930am for interested citizens of Houghton County. The following budgets are adopted for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022 and ending September 30, 2023.

**COUNTY OF HOUGHTON  
BUDGET SUMMARY  
GENERAL FUND**

	<b>REVENUES</b>		<b>EXPENDITURES</b>
TAXES	6,912,769	LEGISLATIVE	108,600
LICENSES AND PERMITS	14,800	JUDICIAL	1,703,100
FEDERAL SOURCES	313,000	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	1,989,318
STATE SOURCES	1,496,088	LAW ENFORCEMENT	1,702,229
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	1,478,100	CORRECTIONS	874,640
OTHER REVENUES	211,141	PROTECTIVE	94,940
INTEREST EARNINGS	227,533	HEALTH/WELFARE	171,000
TRANSFERS IN:	252,000	RECREATION/CULTURE	23,116
MARRIAGE COUNS. FUND	2,000	CAPITAL OUTLAY	325,673
DELINQ. TAX FUNDS	250,000	OTHER	2,578,735
		TRANSFERS OUT:	
		AIRPORT	0
		CHILD CARE	310,000
		C.C. MENTAL HEALTH	164,495
		DISTRICT HEALTH	272,098
		LAW LIBRARY	17,000
		TRI-CO. WORK CAMP	380,000
		SOCIAL WELFARE	5,000
		USDA GRANT FUND	58,000
		INDIGENT DEFENSE	120,238
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>10,905,431</b>		<b>10,898,182</b>

**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS**

BROWNFIELD	52,000	BROWNFIELD	39,121
BUILDING PERMIT FUND	376,050	BUILDING PERMIT FUND	376,050
CDBG HOMEBUYER*	0	CDBG HOMEBUYER	41,228
CHILD CARE	404,837	CHILD CARE	377,250
CORR. OFFICER TRAINING	6,000	CORR. OFFICER TRAINING	6,000
CCW BOARD*	20,000	CCW BOARD	13,970
DELINQ. TAX PROP. SALE	160,000	DELINQ. TAX PROP. SALE	140,000
ECON. DEV. REV. LOAN	40,200	ECON. DEV. REV. LOAN	35,000
FAMILY COUNSEL. SERV.	2,500	FAMILY COUNSEL. SERV.	2,500
FRIEND OF COURT	8,100	FRIEND OF COURT	8,000
HO. CO. ROD AUTOMATION*	30,000	HO.CO.ROD AUTOMATION	5,000
INDIGENT DEFENSE	680,300	INDIGENT DEFENSE	616,421
JAIL COMMISSARY	75,000	JAIL COMMISSARY	93,000
LAND BANK AUTHORITY	10,100	LAND BANK AUTHORITY	5,000
LAW LIBRARY	21,500	LAW LIBRARY	22,000

MI JUSTICE TRAINING	4,000	MI JUSTICE TRAINING	4,000
OTTER LAKE ASSESS DIST.	0	OTTER LAKE ASSESS DIST.	0
PROSECUTOR FORFEITURE	500	PROSECUTOR FORFEIT.	500
REGION 8- 2017 HOMELAND	0	REGION 8-2017 HOMELAND	0
REGION 8 – 2018 HOMLAND	0	REGION 8–2018 HOMELAND	0
RICE LAKE ASSESS DIST	0	RICE LAKE ASSESS DIST	0
SOCIAL WELFARE FUND*	5,000	SOCIAL WELFARE FUND	5,500
SPECIAL EQUIP/REWARD	1,000	SPEC. EQUIP/REWARD	5,000
TREATMENT COURT	238,700	TREATMENT COURT	269,104
TRI-CO. WORK CAMP	455,000	TRI-CO. WORK CAMP	512,682
TWIN LAKES ASSESS DIST*	0	TWIN LAKES ASSESS DIST	0
USDA RURAL GRANT	98,296	USDA RURAL GRANT	70,000
VETERANS' AFFAIRS	240,731	VETERANS AFFAIRS	240,575
TOTAL SPECIAL REV. FUNDS	2,929,814	TOTAL SPECIAL REV. FUNDS	2,887,901
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	13,835,245	TOTAL ALL FUNDS	13,786,083

**\*USE OF FUND BALANCE WILL BE USED TO BALANCE.**

The hearing will be held at the County Courthouse commencing at 9:30 A.M. for the purpose of discussion and for subsequent adoption immediately thereafter. The adopted budgets may be examined on weekdays in the Administrator's Office at the Courthouse 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

**Thomas Tikkanen, Chairman**  
**Houghton County Board of Commissioners**  
**Jennifer Kelly, Clerk**

PROJECT NOTES  
for  
**HOUGHTON COUNTY  
COURTHOUSE AIR CONDITIONER  
HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN**



September 9, 2022

## INVITATION TO BID

THE OWNER – Houghton County, Houghton, Michigan, hereby gives notice that sealed bids will be received for the following described project.

### PROJECT – ROOFTOP A/C REPLACEMENT

TIME Sealed bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. on September 27, 2022 at the office of the Architect/Engineer, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

BIDS Submit bid on the bid form provided. Bids shall include all applicable federal, state and local taxes, cash and contingency allowances, along with all other items expressed in the bidding documents.

All bids shall be addressed to: **Houghton County, 401 E. Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI.** Bids shall be sealed and shall have the name and address of the Bidder and the Contract for which the bid is being submitted on the outside of the envelope. All bidders shall bid in accordance with the Bid Form included in the Contract Documents.

BID SECURITY - Bidders shall provide bid security in the form of a bid bond in the amount of 5% of the project costs or as directed by the Owner.

BID REJECTION The Owner reserves the right to waive any informalities or to reject any or all bids.

SITE VISITATION Each Bidder is responsible for inspecting the site and for reading and being thoroughly familiar with the Contract Documents. The failure or omission of any Bidder to do any of the foregoing shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to his bid.

BID WITHDRAWAL No bidder may withdraw his bid within 30 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

EXAMINATION OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS The contract documents are available from **U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc., 100 Portage Street, Houghton, Michigan 49931.**

PROCUREMENT OF CONTRACT DOCUMENTS Contract Documents are available as PDF documents via email or as paper copy by contacting **U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc., [info@uneca.com](mailto:info@uneca.com), or (906) 482-4810.**

Signed:

Elizabeth Bjorn, Administrator  
Houghton County, Michigan



***U.P. Engineers & Architects, Inc.***

## GENERAL NOTES

### **BIDDING**

1. Bids will be accepted as described in the "Invitation to Bid."
2. Bidding documents may be obtained at the office of the Architect/Engineer as a PDF.
3. Bidders shall provide bid security in the form of a bid bond in the amount of 5% of the project costs or as directed by the Owner.
4. Submit bid on the bid form provided. Bids shall include all applicable federal, state and local taxes, cash and contingency allowances, along with all other items expressed in the bidding documents.
5. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, for any reason. The office of the Architect/Engineer takes no responsibility or liability for such action by the Owner.

### **CONTRACT**

1. Form of contract shall be a purchase order issued by the owner.
2. Contract documents include the purchase order, the bid form, and Project Manual.

### **INSURANCE, BONDS, PERMITS, UTILITIES**

1. Contractor shall maintain a minimum of \$500,000 General Liability and Workers Compensation insurance for the duration of the work. A current certificate shall be submitted no later than 15 days after signing of contract. Work shall not commence until the certificate has been received. The Contractor shall provide notice of any change in coverage or renewal to the Owner within 10 days of these changes.
2. Contractor shall obtain payment and performance bonds for the work in the amount of the contract, unless determined otherwise. The Contractor shall provide proof of bonds within 15 days of signing a contract for the work.
3. Contractor shall include the cost for all permits within the construction cost of the project unless determined otherwise.
4. Contractor shall coordinate all utility service installations and relocation of services. Contractor shall include the cost of utility service connections and fees in the cost of the work.

Specification/Bid Form:

All work performed and materials used shall be to the complete satisfaction of the Owner and Architect/Engineer.

All work provided by Contractor shall be guaranteed against all material and labor defects for a period of one year after the date of final acceptance. Defective work shall be redone at the Contractor's own expense and to the complete satisfaction of the Owner and Architect/Engineer.

Contractor shall furnish all labor, material, and equipment in order to perform the Work as depicted on the construction plans.

The Owner shall have salvage rights to all materials removed.

Other Contract Requirements:

- a. The Contractor may begin work any time after the contract date; which is expected to be within 30 days after bid date. The Contractor shall provide a Milestone Schedule for completion of the work for review and approval.
- b. The Contractor shall provide the Owner with a certificate of insurance covering comprehensive general liability and workers compensation prior to commencement of the work.
- c. Payments made to the Contractor shall include a retainage by the Owner of 10% until final acceptance of the work by the Owner and release of liens from the Contractor.

Site Visit Information:

- a. Contact Tom Bingham (906)370-8014 to arrange a site visit to look at the job.
- b. Any and all verbal communication and discussions of the project are not binding to the project, unless they are put into writing in the form of an Addendum.

Repairs/Renovations Specifics:

- a. Contractor may submit Voluntary Alternates to the work item proposed. Also, submit each voluntary Alternate with an associated bid price of "add", "deduct", or "no cost change".
- b. The Lowest Bid Contractor shall submit a bid breakdown after bid in order for the Owner to award the contract in the amount of their available funds.

AWARD OF CONTRACT:

This contract shall be awarded to the contractor with lowest responsive and responsible bid; either with or without any Alternates.

**BID FORM**

**TOTAL BASE BID**

\_\_\_\_\_ (\$ \_\_\_\_\_ )  
(Words) (Figures)

**ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Bidder acknowledges receipt of the following Addenda, which are reflected in the Bid Price.

Addendum No. . Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum No. . Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum No. . Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACTOR: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**OWNER ACCEPTANCE**

OWNER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

WITNESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)



## ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES

### APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT

1. Submit on AIA Form G702 - Application and Certificate for Payment and AIA G703 - Continuation Sheet for G702, or similar approved forms.
2. Content and format: utilize schedule of values for listing items in application for payment and submit updated construction schedule with each application.
3. Payment period: submit payment request with transmittal letter by the 5th day of the month, for payment within 30 days of submittal.

### SCHEDULE OF VALUES

1. Submit draft Schedule of Values on approved form within 15 days after Notice of Award.
2. Format: identify each line item with description of each component of the scope of work, supplier, or subcontractor. Include dollar value of the work component.
3. Revise schedule with each application for payment to include approved change orders.

### SCHEDULE FOR CONSTRUCTION

1. Submit schedule with separate line for each major portion of Work or operation.
2. Revisions to Schedules: Indicate progress of each activity to date of submittal, and projected completion date of each activity. Identify activities modified since previous submittal, major changes in scope, and other identifiable changes.
3. Prepare report to define problem areas, anticipated delays, and impact on Schedule. Report corrective action taken or proposed, and its effect.

### CHANGE PROCEDURES:

1. Submittals: submit name of individual responsible to process change documents and be responsible for informing others in Contractor's employ or subcontractors of changes to the work.
2. The Architect/Engineer may issue a proposal request or notice of change to advise of changes in the work, which may include change description, drawings, and/or specifications for executing the change. Contractor shall prepare and submit estimate within seven days.
3. Contractor may propose changes by submitting a request for change to Architect/Engineer, describing proposed change and its full effect on the work. Include a statement describing reason for the change, and effect on contract sum/price and contract time with full documentation and a statement describing effect on work by separate or other Contractors.
4. Change order: submit itemized account and supporting data after completion of change, within time limits indicated in conditions of the contract. Architect/Engineer will determine change allowable in contract sum/price and contract time as provided in contract documents. Architect/Engineer will issue change orders for signatures of both parties as provided in conditions of the contract.
5. Contractor shall not bill for Work that has not been approved by a fully-executed Change Order.

## PRODUCT AND QUALITY CONTROL

## SHOP DRAWINGS

1. Submit all shop drawings within ten days of the date of the Contract.
2. Shop drawings and product data shall indicate critical dimensions, attachment to adjacent construction, conditions of application, utility and electrical characteristics, connection requirements, and location of outlets for service of equipment. Include material safety data sheet if applicable.
3. Contractor shall review, for compliance with the contract documents, shop drawings, samples and product data. Indicate required field dimensions and note where product information varies from specifications. Prior to submitting to Architect/Engineer, mark each document as reviewed.
4. Architect/Engineer shall review submittals for limited purpose of checking for conformance with information given and design concept expressed in contract documents.

## SUBMITTAL PROCEDURES

1. Transmit each submittal electronically as a PDF with project ID, submittal number, and subject in the filename. Submit with Contractor's transmittal form. Sequentially number transmittals.
2. Identify variations from contract documents and product or system limitations which may be detrimental to successful performance of completed work.
3. Apply Contractor's approval stamp, indicating approval of submitting Subcontractor, if applicable.
4. Allow 15 days for each submittal excluding delivery time to and from Contractor. Contractor may request expedited review for time-sensitive submittals

## QUALITY CONTROL:

1. Monitor quality control over suppliers, manufacturers, products, services, site conditions, and workmanship, to produce work of specified quality. Comply with manufacturer's instructions including each step in sequence. Request clarification from Architect/Engineer when instructions conflict with contract documents.
2. Comply with specified standards as minimum quality for the work except where codes, industry standards, or specified requirements indicate higher standards or more precise workmanship.
3. Work shall be performed by persons qualified to produce required and specified quality. Field measurements shall be verified as indicated on shop drawings or as instructed by manufacturer. Products are to be secured in place with positive anchorage devices designed and sized to withstand stresses, vibration, physical distortion or disfigurement.
4. Work shall comply with state and local governing codes.
5. Work shall be done in a professional manner in accordance with trade quality standards.
6. Tolerances: adjust products to appropriate dimensions. Monitor fabrication and installation tolerance control of products to produce acceptable work. Comply with manufacturers tolerances. Position before securing products in place. Request clarification from Architect/Engineer when manufacturers tolerances conflict with contract documents. Do not permit tolerances to accumulate.

## DEFECT ASSESSMENT

1. Work not conforming to specified requirements shall be replaced. If it is not practical to remove and replace the work, the Architect/Engineer will direct appropriate remedy or adjust payment.

2. If instructed by the Architect/Engineer or Owner, the defective work may remain or may be partially repaired. Unit price will be adjusted to new price at Architect/Engineer /Owner's discretion. Individual specifications may modify these options or may identify specific formula or percentage sum/price reduction.
3. Authority of Architect/Engineer to assess defects and identify payment adjustments is final.
4. Nonpayment for rejected products: payment will not be made for rejected products for any of the following:
  - A. Products wasted or disposed of in a manner that is not acceptable.
  - B. Products determined as unacceptable before or after placement.
  - C. Products not completely unloaded from transporting vehicle.
  - D. Products placed beyond lines and levels of required work.
  - E. Products remaining on hand after completion of the work.
  - F. Loading, hauling, and disposing of rejected materials.

## CONDITIONS OF THE WORK AND TEMPORARY FACILITIES

### COORDINATION AND PROJECT CONDITIONS:

1. Contractor shall notify Architect/Engineer and Owner in writing of any discrepancies between these plans and existing conditions prior to construction.
2. Verify utility requirements and characteristics of operating equipment are compatible with building utilities. Coordinate work of various sections having interdependent responsibilities for installing, connecting to, and placing equipment in service.
3. Coordinate space requirements, supports, and installation of mechanical and electrical work indicated diagrammatically on drawings. Follow routing shown for pipes, ducts and conduit as closely as practicable. Utilize spaces efficiently to maximize accessibility for other installations, maintenance and repairs.
4. In finished areas conceal pipes, ducts, and wiring within construction. Coordinate locations of fixtures and outlets with finish elements.
5. Coordinate completion and cleanup of work of separate sections in preparation for substantial completion. Coordinate access to site to minimize disruption of Owners activities.

### CUTTING AND PATCHING:

1. Perform work in a manner and with such care as to avoid damage to other work and to provide proper surfaces to receive patching and finishing. Work shall be restored with new products in accordance with the requirements of the contract documents.
2. Cut masonry and concrete with masonry saw or core drill. Refinish surfaces to match adjacent finishes.
3. Maintain integrity of wall, ceiling, or floor construction. Completely seal voids. Fit work tight to pipes, sleeves, ducts, conduit, and other penetrations through surfaces,
4. At penetrations of fire rated walls, partitions, ceilings, or floor construction, completely seal voids with fire rated material to full thickness of penetrated element. Identify hazardous substances or conditions exposed during the work to Architect/Engineer for decision or remedy.

### TEMPORARY UTILITIES

1. Temporary electricity: complement existing power service capacity as required for construction operations. Provide power outlets with branch wiring and distribution boxes located as required for construction

operations. Provide flexible power cords as required for portable construction tools and equipment. Permanent convenience receptacles may be utilized during construction.

2. Temporary lighting for construction: provide temporary work lighting equal to 2 watts/s.f. from existing electrical system. Permanent building lighting may be utilized during construction. Maintain lighting and provide routine repairs as work progresses.
3. Temporary ventilation: ventilate enclosed areas to achieve curing of materials, to dissipate humidity, and to prevent accumulation of dust, fumes, vapors, or gases. Utilize existing ventilation equipment.
4. Temporary water service: provide suitable quality water service as needed to maintain specified conditions for construction operations. Permanent building domestic water may be used during construction.

#### **VEHICULAR ACCESS AND PARKING:**

1. Use existing on-site roads for construction traffic. Provide and maintain access to fire hydrants.
2. Use of existing parking facilities by construction personnel for parking or material storage is permitted only at locations approved by Owner.
3. Avoid traffic loading beyond paving design capacity. Tracked vehicles not allowed. Maintain traffic and parking areas in sound condition, repair facilities damaged by use.

#### **CONDITIONS AT THE SITE:**

1. General Contractor shall clean adjacent construction area of any and all construction debris as directed by Architect/Engineer or Owner. Return site and adjacent areas to the condition existing prior to the start of work.
2. During construction, General Contractor shall ensure safe passage of persons around construction area. Conduct operations to prevent injury to persons, properties, and existing construction.
3. General Contractor shall remove from site all debris, rubbish and other materials resulting from construction operations.
4. General Contractor shall maintain utilities to existing structure, keep in service and protect against damage during construction operations.
  - A. Disconnect and seal utilities serving structures to be demolished prior to start of demolition work.

#### **NOISE AND PEST CONTROL:**

1. Provide methods, means, and facilities to minimize noise produced by construction operations, and to prevent pest, rodents, and insects from entering facility.

#### **PRODUCT DELIVERY AND STORAGE:**

1. Materials removed from existing premises shall not be used in new construction unless specified by contract documents.
2. Transport and handle products in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Inspect shipments upon delivery to ensure the products comply with requirements and that the products are undamaged.
3. Store and protect products in accordance with manufacturer's instructions with seals and labels intact and legible. Store in weathertight, climate-controlled enclosure favorable to the product. Provide off-site storage if on-site storage is not permitted. Store loose granular materials on a solid flat surface in well-drained area to prevent mixing with foreign matter.

## COMPLETION OF THE WORK

### CLOSE-OUT PROCEDURES:

1. Remove temporary utilities, controls, equipment, and materials prior to completion of work.
2. Submit written certification that work has been completed and inspected in accordance with contract documents and ready for Architect/Engineer's review.
  - A. For work not completed, submit document identifying those items with proposed schedule for completion.
3. Submit final application for payment identifying total contract sum, previous payments, and sum remaining.

### FINAL CLEANING:

1. Clean interior and exterior surfaces exposed to view, remove all labels, stains, and foreign substances.
2. Clean all debris from site, remove all waste, rubbish, and construction facilities from site. Clean equipment and fixtures.

### GENERAL CONDITIONS:

1. Subcontractors shall inspect existing conditions prior to project start to locate any unusual conditions that may interfere with project interface and coordination.
2. The Architect/Engineer assumes no responsibility for deviations from the plans directed by the Owner or initiated by the Contractor for any reason.
3. The Owner reserves the right to change any aspect of the project for any reason before the project begins with proper notification to the building authority and to the bidding Contractors. If the Owner chooses to substitute any materials or services, they may do so without penalty if no delay is created. If the Owner directs any changes that delay the Contractor or subcontractors, the Contractor may request a contract change order for contract sum or schedule.
4. The Contractor shall be responsible for protection of new and existing construction from all types of weather.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

SECTION 23 81 03

PACKAGED ROOFTOP AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

- A. Section Includes:
  - 1. Packaged rooftop air conditioning unit.
  - 2. Roof curb.

1.2 REFERENCES

- A. National Fire Protection Association:
  - 1. NFPA 90A - Standard for the Installation of Air Conditioning and Ventilating Systems.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data: Submit data indicating:
  - 1. Cooling capacities.
  - 2. Dimensions.
  - 3. Weights.
  - 4. Rough-in connections and connection requirements.
  - 5. Duct connections.
  - 6. Electrical requirements with electrical characteristics and connection requirements.
  - 7. Controls.
  - 8. Accessories.
- B. Manufacturer's Installation Instructions: Submit assembly, support details, connection requirements, and include start-up instructions.
- C. Manufacturer's Certificate: Certify products meet or exceed specified requirements.
- D. Manufacturer's Field Reports: Submit start-up report.

1.4 CLOSEOUT SUBMITTALS

- A. Project Record Documents: Record actual locations of controls installed remotely from units.
- B. Operation and Maintenance Data: Submit manufacturer's descriptive literature, operating instructions, installation instructions, and maintenance and repair data.

1.5 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Cooling Capacity: Rate in accordance with ARI standards.
- B. Sound Rating: Measure in accordance with ARI 270.

- C. Insulation and adhesives: Meet requirements of NFPA 90A.
- D. Performance Requirements: Conform to minimum EER prescribed by ASHRAE 90.1 when tested in accordance with AHRI test standards.
- E. Outside Air Damper Leakage: Test in accordance with AMCA 500.

#### 1.6 QUALIFICATIONS

- A. Manufacturer: Company specializing in manufacturing products specified in this section with minimum three years experience.
- B. Installer: Company specializing in performing Work of this section with minimum three years experience.

#### 1.7 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

- A. Accept units on site. Inspect for damage.
- B. Protect units from damage by storing off roof until roof mounting curbs are in place.

#### 1.8 COORDINATION

- A. Administrative Requirements: Coordination and Project Conditions
- B. Coordinate installation of roof curbs with roof structure, roof deck and roof membrane installation.

#### 1.9 WARRANTY

- A. Furnish five-year manufacturers warranty for compressors.
- B. Furnish one year manufacturers warranty on the Complete Unit.

#### 1.10 EXTRA MATERIALS

- A. Furnish one set of filters for each unit.

### PART 2 PRODUCTS

#### 2.1 ROOFTOP AIR CONDITIONING UNITS

- A. Manufacturers:
  - 1. York
  - 2. Substitutions: Repairs/Renovations Specifics
- B. Product Description: Self-contained, packaged, factory assembled and wired, consisting of cabinet, supply fan, refrigerant cooling coil, compressor, refrigeration circuit, condenser, air filters, mixed air casing, controls, and accessories.



- C. Configuration: Downflow air delivery.
- D. Roof Mounting Curb: Provide roof curb modification per manufacturer's requirements.
- E. Cabinet:
  - 1. Designed for outdoor installation with weatherproof construction.
  - 2. Panels: Constructed of galvanized steel with baked enamel finish meeting salt spray test in accordance with ASTM B117. Furnish access doors or removable access panels.
  - 3. Insulation: Factory applied to exposed vertical and horizontal panels. one inch thick aluminum foil faced glass fiber with edges protected from erosion.
- F. Supply Fan: Forward curved centrifugal type, resiliently mounted with V-belt drive,. Motor permanently lubricated with built-in thermal overload protection.
- G. Evaporator Coil: Aluminum plate fins mechanically bonded to seamless internally enhanced copper tubes with all joints brazed. Special Phenolic coating shall be available as a factory option. Direct expansion, draw through design.
- H. Compressor: Hermetically sealed, resiliently mounted with positive lubrication, and internal motor overload protection. Furnish internal vibration isolators,.
- I. Refrigeration circuit: Furnish the following for each circuit fixed orifice control expansion device, thermal expansion valve, filter-drier, suction, discharge, and liquid line service valves with gauge ports, high and low pressure safety controls,. Dehydrate and factory charge each circuit with oil and refrigerant.
- J. Condenser:
  - 1. Condenser Fan: Direct drive propeller fans statically and dynamically balanced. Wired to operate with compressor. Motor permanently lubricated with built-in thermal overload protection.
- K. Air Filters: 4 inch thick glass fiber disposable media in metal frames.
- L. Mixed Air Casing:
  - 1. Outside Air Damper Leakage: Maximum 3.0 cfm per square foot at 1.0 inches wg pressure differential.
  - 2. Economizer: Fully modulating motorized outside air and return air dampers controlled by controller with minimum position setting. Provide economizer components and controls in accordance with ICC IECC.
- M. Controls:
  - 1. Furnish control to provide low ambient cooling to 0 degrees F.
  - 2. Furnish low limit thermostat in supply air to close outside air damper and stop supply fan.
  - 3. Furnish terminal strip on unit for connection of operating controls to remote panel.
- N. Accessories:
  - 1. Roof Curb Adaptor Package: Furnish duct support hardware to adapt unit to existing roof curb.
- O. Capacity:

1. Unit Sound Rating: Maximum 86 dBA measured 3 feet from casing.
2. Supply Fan:
  - a. Supply airflow: 3500 cfm.
  - b. Outside airflow: 100 cfm.
  - c. External static pressure: 0.9 inch wg.
  - d. Fan motor: 3 hp, 208 volts, three phase, 60 Hz.
3. Cooling Capacity:
  - a. Total net cooling capacity: 90.8 MBH.
  - b. Sensible cooling net capacity: 69.8 MBH.
  - c. Entering air temperature:
    - 1) 80 degrees F dry bulb.
    - 2) 67 degrees F wet bulb.
  - d. Condenser ambient air temperature: 95 degrees F.
  - e. Number of compressors: 2.
  - f. Capacity steps: 2.
4. Nominal Capacity: 7.5 tons.

## 2.2 ELECTRICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND COMPONENTS

- A. Electrical Characteristics: In accordance with Section 26 05 03 and the following:
  1. 45.8 minimum circuit ampacity.
  2. 208 volts, three phase, 60 Hz.
  3. 50 amperes maximum overcurrent protection.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

### 3.1 EXAMINATION

- A. Section 01 30 00 - Administrative Requirements: Coordination and project conditions.

### 3.2 INSTALLATION

- A. Roof Curb:
  1. Assemble roof curb.
  2. Install roof curb level.
  3. Install units on roof curb providing watertight enclosure to protect ductwork and utility services.
  4. Install gasket material between unit base and roof curb.
- B. Install units on vibration isolators.
- C. Connect units to supply and return ductwork with flexible connections.
- D. Install condensate piping with trap and route from drain pan to nearest roof drain.
- E. Install components furnished loose for field mounting.
- F. Install electrical devices furnished loose for field mounting.

- G. Install control wiring between unit and field installed accessories.
- H. Remove from roof and dispose off-site panels removed from units during installation of economizer and dampers.

### 3.3 MANUFACTURER'S FIELD SERVICES

- A. Section 01 40 00 - Quality Requirements: Requirements for manufacturer's field services.
- B. Furnish initial start-up and shutdown during first year of operation, including routine servicing and checkout.

### 3.4 CLEANING

- A. Section 01 70 00 - Execution and Closeout Requirements: Requirements for cleaning.
- B. Vacuum clean coils and inside of unit cabinet.
- C. Install new throwaway filters in units at Substantial Completion.

### 3.5 DEMONSTRATION

- A. Section 01 70 00 - Execution and Closeout Requirements: Requirements for demonstration and training.
- B. Demonstrate unit operation and maintenance.

### 3.6 SCHEDULES

- A. Rooftop Units:
  - 1. Design is based on York Model #ZJ090C00R2A1AAA1A3. Capacities and performances are as listed above.

END OF SECTION

SECTION 26 00 00

GENERAL ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 DESCRIPTION

- A. Work included: Provide electrical wiring as shown on the drawings, as specified herein, and as needed for a complete and proper installation including, but not necessarily limited to:
  - 1. Minor electrical demolition related to mechanical demolition.
  - 2. Installing branch circuit wiring for:
    - a. Circuits to Mechanical Equipment
  - 3. Installation of electrical equipment specified herein and in sections specifying related work.
  - 4. Electrical equipment and system testing, adjustments, marking, tagging, cleaning, painting, etc.

1.2 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Codes, Standards and Regulations:
  - 1. Provide electrical equipment and wiring devices which have been UL listed and labeled
  - 2. Comply with pertinent regulations of governmental agencies having jurisdiction.
  - 3. In the event of conflict between or among specified requirements and pertinent regulations, the more stringent requirement will govern when so directed by the Architect/Engineer.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.1 RACEWAYS

- A. General:
  - 1. All wiring shall be in conduit.
  - 2. Within the building conduit shall be electric metallic tubing.
  - 3. Exterior of the building conduit shall be electric metallic tubing and liquid tight flexible metal conduit.
- B. Electrical Metallic Tubing:
  - 1. Electrical metallic tubing shall be hot-dip galvanized and manufactured in accordance with Federal Specification WWC563 and American Standards Institute (ANSI) specification C80.3.

2.2 RACEWAY FITTINGS

- A. General - Fittings shall be suitable for the application and designed for the purpose for which they are used. Hot-dipped galvanized fittings and parts shall be used for RGS conduits.
- B. Unions - Threaded unions shall be Crouse-Hinds or equal Types UNF and UNY.
- C. Locknuts - Extra heavy, hot-dipped galvanized steel.

- D. Bushings – Hot-dipped galvanized iron with insulating collar.
- E. Hubs - Appleton or equal Uni-Seal for connection of conduit to sheet steel enclosures.
- F. Conduit Supports - One hole type, hot-dipped galvanized malleable iron.
- G. Electrical metallic tubing conduit fittings shall be set screw type. Cast body or indenter fittings are not permitted.
- H. Conduit Seal - Ferroalloy with cadmium zinc electroplate finish.

### 2.3 BOXES

- A. Junction and Pull Boxes within building: Galvanized steel units with screwed-on covers, sized and located as per NEC370.

### 2.4 WIRE AND CABLE

- A. Provide factory-fabricated wire of sizes, ratings, materials and types indicated here in and on the drawings. All conductors shall be insulated for min. 75 degrees C. and a minimum of 600 volts. All wire shall be copper conductors of the following types:
  - 1. General building Interior: Type THHN or THWN, suitable for operations of 600 volts as specified in the National Electric Code, at conductor temperatures not to exceed 90degrees C. in dry locations. Conductors shall be annealed copper, insulated with high-heat and moisture resistant PVC, jacketed with abrasion, moisture, gasoline and oil resistant nylon.
  - 2. Service Entrance and underground: Type XHHW or THWN, suitable for operations at 600 volts or less in wet or dry locations. Conductors shall be annealed copper, insulated with highheat and moisture resistant PVC, jacketed with abrasion, moisture, gasoline and oil resistant nylon.
  - 3. Grounding conductors
    - a. Insulated green copper conductors only.

### 2.5 DISCONNECT SWITCHES

- A. Motor circuit disconnect switches shall be heavy-duty fusible or non fusible as required, in a NEMA 3R enclosure for outdoor applications (rated as recommended by equipment manufacturer). NEMA 1 type is acceptable for interior, dry locations.

### 2.6 GROUNDING MATERIALS

- A. Equipment Grounding Conductors – Insulated, green in color, sized in accordance with the current State of Michigan Electrical Code.

## PART 3 EXECUTION

3.1 GENERAL

- A. When work must be performed on energized equipment or circuits, follow all guidelines and requirements of OSHA and NFPA 70E.

3.2 RACEWAYS AND FITTINGS

- A. Exposed conduit in building shall be installed in neat symmetrical lines parallel with the center lines of the structure and adjacent to beams, walls, etc.
- B. Exposed conduit is only acceptable in mechanical spaces; provide concealed conduits for all finished spaces (within walls and above drop ceilings).

3.3 PULL BOXES

- A. Install where necessary to terminate, tap off, or redirect multiple conduit runs. Locate so that covers are accessible after completion of construction. Support pull boxes independently of conduits entering them.

3.4 WIRE CONNECTORS AND TERMINATING DEVICES

- A. Splices will be permitted only in junction and outlet boxes. All splices shall be firmly bonded together and taped or shall be made with mechanical connectors.
- B. Any splicing of dissimilar metals shall be rated as such. Use appropriate anti-oxidization paste or other approved method as recommended by manufacturer for locations of splices of dissimilar metals.

3.5 GROUNDING AND BONDING

- A. Equipment Grounding – Motors shall be grounded by means of a separate green insulated equipment grounding conductor run in the conduit with the phase conductors. The panel board shall be provided with a grounding bus for connection of equipment grounding conductors.

3.6 TESTING

- A. All wiring shall be proof-tested for shorts, opens, and ground as a completed system.

END OF SECTION

## PURCHASE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, by and between **THE FIRST APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOUGHTON, F/K/A THE FIRST APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HANCOCK, and A/K/A THE FIRST APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CONGREGATION OF HANCOCK**, an ecclesiastical corporation, whose address is 601 West Sharon Avenue, Houghton, Michigan 49931, hereinafter "Seller", and **THE COUNTY OF HOUGHTON**, a municipal corporate body organized and existing pursuant to Article VII, Section 1 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, whose address is 401 E. Houghton Avenue, Houghton, Michigan 49931, hereinafter "Purchaser":

WITNESSETH:

1. Property to be Sold:

The Seller agrees to sell and the Purchaser agrees to buy that real estate, including all improvements and appurtenances, if any, situated in the Township of Portage, County of Houghton, and State of Michigan, more particularly described as follows:

Parcel A, a parcel of land in the North 1/2 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 2, T45N, R34W, Portage Township, Houghton County, Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of said Section 2; thence South 89°57'30" East, along the North line of said Section 2, 934.21 feet to the P.O.B. of Parcel "A" herein described; thence South 89°57'30" East, along the North line of said Section 2, 183.17 feet to the South Right-Of-Way line (100 feet R.O.W.) of Sharon Avenue; thence on a 2341.83 feet radius curve to the left, along the South R.O.W. line (100 feet R.O.W.) of Sharon Avenue, 216.83 feet (arc distance), (long chord: South 80°25'2" East, 216.75 feet) to the West line of the Plat of Village of Huron, Portage Township, Houghton County, Michigan; thence South 10°09'30" East (previously recorded as South 10°12' East) along the West line of said Plat, 581.40 feet to a point which is the point of intersection of the West line of said Plat and the prolongation of the North line of Horatio Street in said Plat; thence North 89°57'30" West, parallel to the North line of said Section 2, 499.89 feet; thence North 00°02'30" East, 608.09 feet more or less to the Point of Beginning; said Parcel "A" contains 6.12 acres more or less,

AND

A parcel of land in the S 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Section 35, T55N, R34W. Commencing at the S 1/4 corner of said Section 35, thence South 89°57'30" East along the South line of said Section 35, 934.21 feet the Point of Beginning; thence North 00°02'30" East to Sharon Avenue right-of-way; thence Southeasterly along Sharon Avenue to a point 183.17 feet South 89°57'30", East of the Point of beginning, thence West along the section line to the Point of Beginning.

Together with and subject to any and all restrictions, reservations, easements or rights-of-way appearing in the record chain of title.

2. Purchase Price and Terms of Payment:

The purchase price of said property shall be the total sum One Million Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,200,000.00) in cash at the time of closing.

3. Contingencies:

- a. This property is being purchased for the purpose of relocating certain County offices and facilities, some of which are required to be located within the County seat, which is identified as the City of Houghton. This Agreement to purchase the above described property is contingent upon the Township of Portage and the City of Houghton entering into a conditional land use transfer of the property pursuant to Public Act 425 of 1984, MCL 124.21, et seq., referred to as an "Act 425 Agreement" with an initial duration of 9 years, or alternatively annexation of the property into the City of Houghton, upon terms and conditions that are satisfactory within the sole and absolute discretion of Purchaser. Purchaser shall initiate the request for approval of a satisfactory Act 425 Agreement or annexation as soon as possible.
- b. Purchaser retains the right to revoke this Purchase Agreement without further obligation to Seller if the contingency contained in Paragraph a above is not met in its entirety to the sole and absolute satisfaction of Purchaser, unless Purchaser agrees in writing to modify or waive the above contingency.

4. Present Title of Seller:

It is understood that the Seller owns the property free and clear of material encumbrances, except any which will be discharged at or before closing.

5. Taxes and Assessments:

The parties acknowledge that both Seller and Purchaser are tax exempt entities, such that it is unlikely that any taxes have become a lien upon the property, or will need to be prorated at closing. The parties are also not currently aware of any special assessments which have become a lien upon the property. Nonetheless, any assessments which have become a lien upon the property, whether recorded or not recorded, at the date of closing shall be paid by the Seller. Seller shall also pay its prorated share of any additional assessments which have been assessed or levied, but which have not yet become a lien upon the premises.



6. Evidence of Title:

The Seller shall, no later than thirty (30) days prior to the date of closing, deliver to Purchaser a title insurance commitment containing a current tax history, certified to a day subsequent to the date of this Purchase Agreement, in the full amount of the purchase price, to be issued subsequent to closing at no cost to the Purchaser.

7. Title Failure:

The Seller shall be allowed a reasonable extension of time for correction of defects in title, if any. In the event the Seller is unable, after using its best and reasonable efforts, to convey marketable title free and clear of encumbrances to said property at the time of closing or at such extended time as the parties may by supplemental agreement agree upon, then neither party shall be bound hereby, unless Purchaser elects to accept the property subject to such encumbrances, and this Agreement shall be deemed terminated.

8. Conveyance:

Conveyance shall be by Warranty Deed executed by the Seller to the Purchaser, together with and subject to any and all restrictions, reservations, easements or rights-of-way appearing in the record chain of title.

9. Access, Time for Closing and Possession:

This sale shall be closed within thirty (30) days after notification by Purchaser that contingencies listed in Paragraph 3 have been satisfied, no later than November 30, 2022.

Seller shall be permitted to use the premises for usual and customary church purposes after closing until not later than August 31, 2026, without payment of rent. Purchaser shall be permitted access at reasonable times that do not interfere with regularly scheduled services, for soil borings, non-destructive testing, and for the purpose of creating architectural renderings for renovations necessary for reuse. Purchaser may also commence site preparation and initial construction of an additional building structure while Seller still occupies the existing structure. Construction activity shall not occur on Sundays, and shall not unreasonably interfere with Seller's continued use of the existing structure as a church, to the extent possible.

Full and permanent possession shall transfer to Purchaser when Seller's new church structure on different property is ready to be occupied, or until August 31, 2026, whichever

occurs sooner. Seller shall pay all utilities used on the premises until Seller completely vacates the premises. Seller shall be responsible for insuring its contents kept in the premises after closing. Purchaser shall insure the building structure after closing.

10. Personal Property and Contents:

Seller will retain and remove all personal property from the building, including but not limited to pews, tables, chairs, organ, and other items, upon vacating the property. Seller will also remove the storage building upon vacating the property.

11. Miscellaneous Costs:

Purchaser shall pay the cost of preparing the Purchase Agreement, Warranty Deed, and costs of any surveys, inspections or tests Purchaser may desire.

Seller shall pay the cost of title insurance, all costs required to clear title, and/or other documents necessary to convey clear title, and cost of recording the deed.

Seller and Purchaser agree to equally share the customary closing fees charged by the title company upon closing the transaction.

12. Waste and Risk of Loss:

Risk of loss is to be borne by Seller until sale is closed, and if the subject property is not in substantially its present condition, Purchaser may declare this Agreement null and void. Insurance obligations after closing, but until Seller fully vacates the premises, shall be as set forth in Paragraph 9, above.

13. Real Estate Brokers:

The parties represent to one another that no real estate brokers are involved in this transaction. Each party indemnifies the other against the claims of any brokers and sales people who allege that they represented a party or are entitled to a commission or fee as a result of the transaction.

Purchaser hereby discloses that two members of its governing Board of Commissioners, Thomas Tikkanen and Gretchen Janssen, are licensed realtors in the State of Michigan, but further disclose that they are not acquiring any personal ownership interest in the property which is subject to this Purchase Agreement, and are not providing professional services in their capacity as licensed realtors in this transaction.

14. Notices:

All notices required by this Agreement shall be sent to the other party in writing. The notices shall be delivered either personally or by first class mail.

15. Time is of the Essence:

Time is of the essence in the performance of this Agreement.

16. Amendment:

This Agreement may not be amended except in writing by the party against whom enforcement of any waiver, change or discharge is sought.

17. Entire Agreement:

This Agreement contains all the representations by each party to the other and expresses the entire understanding between the parties with respect to the contemplated transaction. All prior communications concerning the subject matter are merged in or replaced by this Agreement.

18. Applicable Law:

This Agreement shall be construed and enforced according to Michigan law. Any action to enforce this Agreement shall be brought in Houghton County, Michigan.

19. Conditions:

The conditions of this Purchase Agreement extend to and bind the heirs, administrators, successors and assigns of the parties hereto.

Executed by the Seller on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022:

**THE FIRST APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH OF HOUGHTON**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Executed by the Purchaser on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022:

**THE COUNTY OF HOUGHTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: THOMAS P TIKKANEN  
Its: Board of Commissioners, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: JENNIFER KELLY  
Its: Clerk

Early Childhood Care and Education in Houghton County  
Investing in Early Childhood and its Long-Term Economic, Educational and Social Impact

**The Need**

Houghton County is facing a significant shortage of early childhood care and education (child care) slots.

Needs Analysis by First Children's Finance showed:

- 1,302 children under age 5 with all adults in the household in the workforce reside in Houghton County.
- Houghton County only has 300 licensed childcare slots that operate year around
- An Additional 350 slots are available Monday-Thursday during the school year through Head Start / Early Head Start or Great Start Readiness Program (state funded 4-year-old preschool).
- Head Start/Early Head Start and Great Start Readiness have income-eligibility requirements that exclude moderate income level households from having access
- **This leaves over 600 children without access to licensed childcare programs.**

The cost of care is burdensome to families:

- Average cost of care for a home-based program in Michigan is \$640 per month for each child
- That amount increases to \$853 for a center-based program
- A high-quality program like Little Huskies at MTU is close \$1,000 per month for a single child
- 7.5% of a household's income is considered affordable by the State of Michigan
- The state offers several childcare assistance programs, they often have income caps making them in not accessible to some working families
- A family making \$100,000 per year with 2 children in care can expect to pay 15-25% of their income each month.

**The Impact of Childcare Shortages**

This childcare shortage has a far-reaching impact on our community's economy, education system and social well-being. Without high-quality early childhood care and education, employers are unable to recruit and retain high quality staff, working parents are not able to access and maintain employment and our children are less prepared to succeed in school and in tomorrow's workforce.

Many staff either quit or work on a limited basis due to lack of childcare services. Recruitment efforts have also failed due to lack of childcare and/or housing in our area.

It also has a direct impact on our community's ability to provide necessary services to those most at

– Kim Salmi, Canal View Administrator

risk. Houghton County's long-term care facility, Canal View has struggled to retain and recruit staff due to the inability of parents to find safe, affordable, quality care for their children.

Canal View is not the only employer impacted by the lack of child care. We see the shortage impact in the public schools, medical services, the universities, large and small businesses, mental health services and the community as a whole. Living in a childcare desert is known to affect labor force participation, which hurts the overall economy.

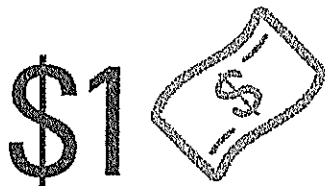
## Proposed Project Summary

We propose to build a model childcare facility that provides affordable, high-quality early childhood care and education to working families in Houghton County. The 50-60 slot childcare center would be located on property owned by the county adjacent to Canal View's current facility. The county would maintain ownership of the new building and partner with a local early childhood organization to operate the center. We estimate 30% of childcare slots would be utilized by Canal View staff. The remaining 70% would be available to the other working families in the region.

The cost of operating the center would be covered by blending and braiding multiple private and public revenue sources. The center would charge families a sliding rate based on their household income. Eligible families would work state and federal subsidy programs to offset the cost of care. Project partners and the Keweenaw Area Community Foundation is exploring a community campaign fund to further support sustaining an affordable, high-quality program. This type of endowment fund would allow consistent long-term funding for continued investment in early childhood in Houghton County.

For several years, Canal View has been investigating the ability and sustainability of creating on-site childcare services specifically designed to meet the needs of healthcare workers who have unique demands related to work schedules and patient staff ratios. The proposed childcare center would partner with Canal View to meet these unique needs while also expanding access to child care for the greater community. This facility would be a sustainable model that could be replicated to further additional opportunities to increase access to affordable, high-quality programs. The aim would be to ensure critical county services are able to operate effectively by providing working families with access to child care that supports their children's early development. On-site child care also brings the added benefit of offering multigenerational activities and interactions for Canal View residents and the children (as COVID and infection prevention protocols allow).

## Projected Impact and Return on Investment



**INVESTED IN EARLY  
CHILDHOOD YIELDS A  
\$16 RETURN**

### INCREASED

- High School Graduation
- College Matriculation
- Economic Development & Personal Income

### DECREASED

- Special Education/Remediation
- Dependence on Social Welfare
- Crime-related Costs & Incarceration Rates

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

Investing in quality care and education today reduces long-term costs to the public and private sectors. Research by James Heckman, Nobel Prize-winning economist showed that every \$1 invested in quality early childhood programs can yield returns between \$4 and \$16. Money spent on early childhood increases school readiness, high school graduation, economic development and personal income. It also decreases the amount a community has to invest in special education, social welfare and incarceration. This return on investment is well established and recognized as an economic development strategy (*Investing in early childhood, 2022*).

90% of brain development happens before children enter Kindergarten. Numerous studies show that children who participate in high-quality early childhood programs demonstrate higher school readiness skills when entering Kindergarten. This school readiness equates to improved school performance and increased workforce skills later in life. Firstthingsfirst.org stated, “the skills and abilities employers are looking for — focus, self-discipline, motivation and collaboration — all start to take root in the first five years of life.”

**Our Ask**

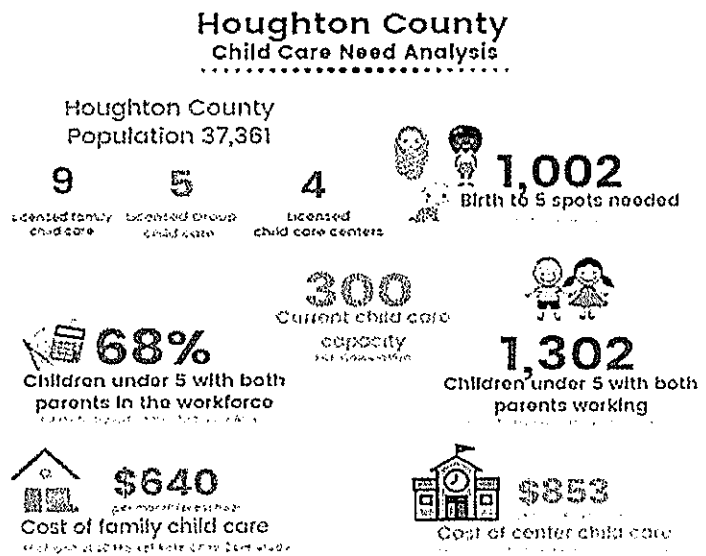
Houghton County needs to make a significant investment in early childhood to help resolve the childcare shortage that our community is facing. We are requesting that a portion of the county’s American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“ARPA”) be set aside to fund the building of the new childcare facility, required playground and fencing. The facility will be collaborating with various community partners for the development, licensing and operations of the facility. We estimate the cost of building the new facility and initial start up costs for the center to be between \$1.8 million and \$2 million. While the investment is substantial it will have a long impact and high rate of return.

The county would see additional return on the investment by maintaining ownership of the new facility. Furthermore, the county would be supporting Canal View residents, working families with young children and early childhood non-profit organization. The investment will also help us leverage the community to raise additional funds to develop an early childhood endowment fund that provides long-term support for this and other early childhood programs and services.

This investment would play an important role in helping us address the childcare desert that is hurting our local economy. Many of our businesses and organizations including Canal View are short staffed due to our lack of safe, affordable, quality child care. In addition, many households have been forced to have one parent exit the force or work limit hours because of the shortage. It is hard to go to work if you cannot find anyone to take care of your child.

**References:**

First Things First. (2022, April 26). Investing in early childhood. First Things First. Retrieved September 26, 2022, from <https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/early-childhood-matters/investing-in-early-childhood/>



**What Houghton County Residents Are Saying:**

“As a family with two working parents, it has been very hard to find childcare in the local area. The availability of licensed centers/in-care homes is limited as many people don't want to go through the licensing process and others are now retiring. A lot of the daycare centers we do have in the area have income limitations that we exceed. Our family has had to make hard financial decisions on whether to leave the workforce or be able to afford a nanny”

– Taylor Auguston, Houghton County Parent of Two

“As one of the larger employers in the Copper Country, it is critical that staff at UP Health System Portage, including providers, technicians and every position in between, have access to high quality early childhood care and education. Recruitment and retention of high performing talent at Portage depend on it.”

Angela Luskin, Community Health Coordinator, UP Health System – Portage

“The Copper Country ISD supports the expansion of high-quality early childhood care and preschool within the region. In order to maintain a stable workforce, early childhood options are crucial. Parents need reliable, high quality care for their precious little ones and without it, many parents are unable to fully succeed to their potential in their positions. As a parent and grandparent who's lived the struggle of finding and maintaining high quality care for my children and grandchildren, there is nothing more stressful relative to keeping a job.”

Carla Strome, Director of General Education, Copper Country ISD

“Our teachers can testify to the value of young students experiencing quality early childhood experiences. The COVID-19 shutdown illustrated how much can be lost without these programs. We are also experiencing the value of these programs to new teachers we are bringing from outside the area. We have opened up our own daycare to accommodate their children, which has almost become a condition of employment. We have countless families we have turned down referred to us by local employers that hired them, due to lack of program capacity. We do plan on opening additional sections of the program next year, but staffing is an obstacle in this effort.”

Dr. Steve Patchin, Superintendent, Hancock Public Schools