

Houghton County
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Houghton County will conduct a public hearing on February 11, 2025 at 4:00 pm or as soon thereafter as possible at the Houghton County Courthouse, 401 East Houghton, Houghton, Michigan for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) loan to assist Gabby's Guppies. The Houghton County Board of Commissioners will consider submitting an application for approval to lend \$60,000 from the Houghton County RLF. The loan will assist Gabby's Guppies by providing permanent working capital and benefit at least 51% of low to moderate-income persons hired. No persons will be displaced as a result of the proposed project.

Further information, including a copy of Houghton County's community development plan and CDBG application is available for review during normal business hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday at the County Controller's office, 5th floor, 401 East Houghton, Houghton, Michigan. Comments may be submitted in writing through February 10 or made in person at the public hearing.

Jennifer Kelly
Houghton County Clerk
(906) 482-1150



TO: Chelsea Rheault, Administrator & Tom Tikkanen, Chairman
Houghton County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Sam Stonelake, Business Retention Specialist
Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance
RE: Houghton County Revolving Loan Fund (HCRLF) Loan Recommendation
DATE: February 6th 2025

The Houghton County RLF review committee at its January 29th meeting reviewed and is recommending approval of a \$60,000 working capital loan to Gabby's Guppies, LLC, a childcare center, located in Hancock Michigan and submitting the appropriate Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC). The loan will have an interest rate of 7% and be amortized over 10 years. The \$79,971.71 project is being supported with a \$19,971.00 grant from the SmartZone small business support hub grant program.

This project is a startup childcare center offering 46 desperately needed childcare slots. This project will create 10 new jobs.

If the County Board is in favor of making this loan, then the following approvals will be needed to comply with current MEDC guidelines for Houghton County's CDBG capitalized fund:

1. Approve the HCRLF committee's recommendation to make a \$60,000 M&E, working capital and building renovations loan to Gabby's Guppies, LLC under the terms and conditions approved by the Review Committee in their attached minutes.
2. Approve the attached Authorizing Resolution to submit the CDBG Application to the MEDC.

**HOUGHTON COUNTY
NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR
MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR QUINCY MFG**

Houghton County will conduct a closeout public hearing as part of the regularly scheduled Houghton County Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 4:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, on the 5th floor of the Houghton County Courthouse located at 401 East Houghton, Houghton, Michigan. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comment and a final report on the completion of the Quincy Mfg loan project and is being held as part of the close out of a Community Development Block Grant funded revolving loan fund project undertaken by the County.

Jennifer Kelly
County Clerk
906-482-1150

**HOUGHTON COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT LOAN
PROGRAM (CLP)
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION**

#25-02

The following is a copy of a resolution adopted by the Houghton County Board of Trustees during the regular County Board Meeting held at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday February 11, 2025, on the 5th floor of the Houghton County Courthouse, 401 East Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI 49931.

WHEREAS, assisting the startup, expansion, or location of companies that create new jobs is a priority for Houghton County; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Gabby's Guppies, LLC will assist the creation of new childcare jobs in the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) offers loans for assisting companies with working capital, machinery and equipment as well as building renovations; and

WHEREAS, Houghton County has requested Community Development Block Grant Loan Program funding authorization in the amount of \$60,000 from the MEDC; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the local community development plan as described in the application and that at least 51% of the beneficiaries of the proposed project would be low and moderate income persons; and,

WHEREAS, no project costs will be incurred prior to a formal loan award, completion of the environmental review procedures and a formal, written authorization to incur costs is received from the MEDC.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Houghton County Board of Commissioners authorizes submission of a CDBG Application in the amount of \$60,000 for Gabby's Guppies, LLC project.

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that Lisa Mattila, County Treasurer, is authorized to execute the application form and attachments on behalf of the County, sign the Loan agreement, and serve as the certifying officer for the environmental review.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Moved by Commissioner:

Supported by Commissioner:

Roll Call Vote:

Yes:

No:

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Tom Tikkanen, Chairman
Houghton County Board of Commissioners

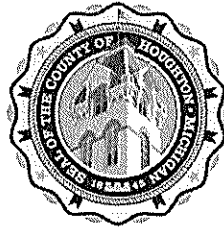
Date

I, Jennifer Kelly, Clerk of Houghton County, do hereby certify and set my seal to the above resolution as adopted February 11, 2025, at the Houghton County Courthouse, 401 East Houghton Avenue, Houghton, MI 49931.

Jennifer Kelly, Clerk

Houghton County Board of Commissioners

Houghton County Courthouse
401 East Houghton Avenue
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-8307



Tom Tikkanen *Chairman*
District 1
Roy Britz *Vice Chairman*
District 5
Joel Keranen *Commissioner*
District 2
Glenn Anderson *Commissioner*
District 3
Gretchen Janssen *Commissioner*
District 4

Houghton County Board of Commissioners:

Per the Recreation Authority Articles of Inc. and Bylaws, an odd number of board members is required.

A motion occurred at the Special January 30, 2025 meeting to (re)appoint Commissioner Anderson as the Member, and appoint Commissioner Keranen as the Alternate to the Recreation Authority Board.

JW
Jerald Wuorenmaa <jwuorenmaa@wuppdtr.org>
To: Chelsea Rheault
Cc: Glenn Anderson; Joel Keranen

☺ ← ↶ ↷ 📧 ...
Thu 2/6/2025 10:26 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization of Houghton County. Exercise **EXTREME** caution when opening external attachments or links from unknown senders.

OK... here's the thing. Since the Authority Board currently has an even number of members, the county needs to appoint an additional **regular – full-time**, if you will – member, not including an alternate. The Bylaws do not actually have a provision for alternates; I had just noted that unofficially since Tom said it at one of the early meetings.

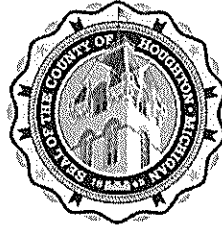
A motion is needed to formally appoint 1 member to serve as Houghton County's second regular member.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Rheault, County Administrator

Houghton County Board of Commissioners

Houghton County Courthouse
401 East Houghton Avenue
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 482-8307



Tom Tikkanen *Chairman*
District 1
Roy Britz *Vice Chairman*
District 5
Joel Keranen *Commissioner*
District 2
Glenn Anderson *Commissioner*
District 3
Gretchen Janssen *Commissioner*
District 4

Houghton County Board of Commissioners:

The email below was received:

Michigan 2-1-1 Community Organization Portal Invitation

Hello Jennifer Kelly,

Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress (UPCAP) / Upper Peninsula 2-1-1 Call Center partners with Michigan 2-1-1 to curate an accurate, comprehensive, and up-to-date Resource Directory. We are excited to invite HOUGHTON COUNTY GOVERNMENT to create your account for the new 2-1-1 Community Organization Portal, to manage your listing in our directory.

You might have seen our recent notices about our exciting new directory management software. You can read more by visiting:

<https://mi211.org/providers/portal>

Click the link below to get started:

CREATE ACCOUNT

Thank you for setting up your account,

Melissa Kositzky

2-1-1 Supervisor

Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress (UPCAP)

P.O. Box 606

Escanaba, MI 49829

906.217.3005 or 906.786.5853 (fax)

We can set up an account, if you so choose.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Rheault, County Administrator

WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT REGION

January 22, 2025

INVOICE – VIA: EMAIL

Bill To	
Contact	Chelsea Rheault
Company	Houghton County
Address	401 E. Houghton Ave., Houghton, MI 49931
Phone	(906) 482-8307
WUPPDR Contact	MaryEllen Hyttinen
Payment Terms	Net 30

Qty.	Description	Unit Price	Line Total
1	WUPPDR Member Contribution, Houghton County (WUPPDR FY 2024-25; 2 nd Qtr., Jan. 2025 – March 2025)	\$3,717.75	\$3,717.75
			\$3,717.75

Thank you for your business! Please send payment to:

Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region

400 Quincy St 8th Floor, Hancock, MI 49930 | www.wuppdr.org
 p. 906.482.7205 x117 | mhyttinen@wuppdr.org



Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance

P.O. Box 724

Houghton, MI 49931

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/1/2025	2126

Bill To
Houghton County Chelsea Rheault, Administrator 401 E. Houghton Ave. Houghton, MI 49931

Ship To

P.O. Number	Terms	Rep	Ship	Via	F.O.B.	Project
			1/1/2025			
Quantity	Item Code	Description			Price Each	Amount
1	Membership	2025 KEDA Membership Support			20,000.00	20,000.00
					Total	\$20,000.00



January 20, 2025

Chelsea Rheault
Houghton County
401 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931

RE: 2025 Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) Membership Support

Dear Ms. Rheault:

Attached is your invoice for the 2025 Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance membership dues. 2024 was another year of growth in our area economy and KEDA remained dedicated to keeping this growth moving forward. Your ongoing support provides the resources that will ensure that we can continue our efforts through another productive year for the Keweenaw.

Key Highlights of 2024:

- Retention visits to 350+ area companies with referrals to SBDC, MW!, PTAC, MEDA, MDARD, and others.
- Supported business expansion projects totaling \$57 million in private investments and \$12 million in federal, state, and local assistance, creating 100+ new jobs and retaining 85 over the next three years.
- Partnered with a local childcare team to develop a program to offer start-up assistance to home-based childcare businesses over the next three years.
- Working with the Houghton County Land Bank Authority, KEDA secured a \$500k State Land Bank grant for the demolition and stabilization of five buildings in Calumet, Laurium, Hubbell, and Chassell.
- In partnership with Hancock, KEDA secured a MEDC Strategic Site Readiness grant to cover \$969k in additional costs for the new Hancock Business & Technology Park.
- Raised another \$6,000 towards the Copper Shores-KEDA CTE Scholarship Fund to support one graduating senior from each local high school to pursue a certificate, one, or two-year skilled trades program.

In addition to our primary focus on delivering economic development services to our companies and communities, KEDA continues to work collaboratively with the Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce, Visit Keweenaw, FinnZone, Team Peninsula, Remote Workforce Keweenaw, and many others to move forward economic development initiatives that will have a regional impact.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me if you have questions about the organization, are looking for information, or have any business or community development issues you need assistance with. I can be reached at 989-350-1206 or jeff@kedabiz.com.

Reminder, KEDA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions to KEDA are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. If you wish to change your dues, please call me at the number listed above and I will take your information over the phone.

Sincerely,


Jeff Ratcliffe
Executive Director



Western Upper Peninsula Health Department

RECEIVED
JAN 13 2025

1/2/2025

Invoice 9250008

540 Depot St., Hancock, MI 49930
Phone (906) 482-7382, Fax (906) 482-9410

Houghton County
Houghton County Courthouse
Attn: Jennifer Kelly
401 E. Houghton Avenue
Houghton, MI 49931

Fiscal Year 2025 - Second Quarter
January - March 2025

Charge Date	Description	Qty	Unit Price	Amount
1/2/2025	Quarterly Appropriations - Houghton County, January - March 2025	0.00	0.00	\$68,960.00

Payment Terms: Net 30 Days

Please return bottom portion with your payment.

Total:

\$68,960.00

Customer ID HTN CTY

Invoice ID 9250008

Customer Name Houghton County

Invoice Date 1/2/2025

Charge Date	Description	Qty	Unit Price	Amount
1/2/2025	Quarterly Appropriations - Houghton County, January - March 2025	0.00	0.00	\$68,960.00

Payment Terms: Net 30 Days

Total:

\$68,960.00

Fiscal Year 2025 - Second Quarter
January - March 2025

Northwoods Rail Transit Commission

Members: Ashland, Douglas, Florence, Forest, Iron, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, Price, Rusk
Counties of WI & Baraga, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon Counties of MI.
Visit us at: www.ncwrpc.org/NorthwoodsRail/

February 5, 2025

Invoice No: 2025-10

Jennifer Kelly
Houghton County Clerk
401 E. Houghton Ave.
Houghton, MI 49931-2016

INVOICE

RE: Annual Administrative Fee
for 2025

\$400.00

Amount Due

\$400.00

*(Make checks payable to Northwoods
Rail Transit Commission)*

Thank you.

Northwoods Rail Transit Commission

* Due 30 days from statement date.

If you have any questions, contact:

Darryl L. Landeau
Senior Planner
(715) 849-5510, Ext. 308
dlandeau@ncwrpc.org