

THE BREMER EMERGENCY FUND

Helping Individuals and Families Navigate Crisis

Interim Report Based on a Survey of Grantees

December 2009

“We hope to move people from crisis to stability.”

—Bremer Emergency Fund grantee

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Introduction

About the Bremer Emergency Fund. The Bremer Emergency Fund was a joint response to the economic challenges of 2009 by the Otto Bremer Foundation and Bremer Banks. In January 2009 the Fund provided 81 grants totaling \$4,155,578 to enable community organizations in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin to provide emergency financial assistance to families and individuals struggling to provide basics such as food, warm and stable housing, health care, and reliable transportation.

The Foundation and the Banks recognized that timely financial assistance can sometimes make the difference between instability and security, enabling families and individuals to meet emergency needs and retain housing or jobs. Then, once people are able to meet their basic needs and avert a crisis situation, they are in a better position to access community programs that can help them achieve long-term economic stability.

The Bremer Emergency Fund honors the legacy and vision of Foundation and Bank founder Otto Bremer, who believed that people could survive and flourish if they had help at critical times.

About this report. This report, which was prepared for the Foundation by consultant Vicki Itzkowitz, collates and analyzes the information collected from Bremer Emergency Fund grantees in an interim survey completed in May and June 2009. The survey, administered through SurveyMonkey, intended to:

- Determine the type of information collected about grant beneficiaries
- Understand the types of follow-up and referral assistance provided to beneficiaries
- Determine whether and how grantees were preparing to measure the impact of the assistance they were providing
- Gauge unmet needs
- Assess grantee interest in connecting with other Bremer Emergency Fund grantees and sharing information and outcomes

Fifty-eight grantees¹ responded to the survey, an 84 percent response rate.

A final survey of grantees is planned at the end of the one-year funding period to collect additional information about the operation, impact, and lessons of the program.

¹ Sixty-nine grantees received the survey. Grant recipients included several branches of the Salvation Army, which elected to complete one survey for all participating branches.

Executive Summary

The Bremer Emergency Fund and This Report

The Bremer Emergency Fund was a joint response to the economic challenges of 2009 by the Otto Bremer Foundation and Bremer Banks. In January 2009 the Fund provided 81 grants totaling \$4,155,578 to enable community organizations in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin to provide emergency financial assistance to families and individuals struggling to provide basics such as food, warm and stable housing, health care, and reliable transportation.

This report analyzes the information collected from Bremer Emergency Fund grantees in an interim survey completed in May and June 2009. A final survey of grantees is planned at the end of the one-year funding period to collect additional information about the program's operation, impact, and lessons.

Key Survey Findings

1. Information Collection

The vast majority of grantees are collecting the following types of information on applicants/recipients of funds from their Bremer Emergency Fund grant: purpose and amount of assistance, family size, employment status, family income, form of assistance, gender, age, and race/ethnicity.

2. Follow-Up or Referral Services

Almost all Bremer Emergency Fund grantees are providing follow-up or referral services for clients for a wide range of additional short- and long-term challenges. Examples include budget and credit counseling, housing and food assistance, case management, health resources, employment services, language and citizenship classes, legal assistance, parenting and child support, transportation, clothing, and more.

3. Grant Impact

Grantees define grant impact in a variety of ways, including number of requests responded to, amount of assistance provided, and ability to keep clients in their homes, provide access to food, transportation, medical expenses, and help clients find or retain employment. The vast majority of grantees are tracking the impact of their support on recipients, using case notes, computer databases, surveys, follow-up meetings, and/or qualitative information.

4. Connecting with Community Resources

Almost all Bremer Emergency Fund grantees connect with other community resources for client identification, referral to supportive services, and other purposes. Community partners include Community Action Agencies; county, city, state, tribal agencies; nonprofit organizations; health clinics and pharmacies; churches; housing providers and property owners; legal services; electric and gas companies; schools and child care centers; civic groups and community members.

5. Resources and Unmet Needs

The vast majority of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees do *not* anticipate having more resources than they need for emergency assistance due to funds available from the stimulus bill. In fact, three-quarters of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees are seeing more unmet needs than they expected.

Many grantees are expending funds much more quickly than anticipated. Applicants for assistance are in deeper crisis than expected, with broader needs. More people are affected by job loss, and job searches are taking longer than in the past. Home owners as well as renters are in need of support. Areas with high poverty rates have been especially hard hit. The Foundation has been receiving inquiries from grantees about the possibility of additional funding as well as requests to reallocate funding to other purposes.

6. Interest in Information from Other Bremer Emergency Fund Grantees

Almost every Bremer Emergency Fund grant recipient expressed interest in information from fellow grantees. Areas of greatest interest include: how BEF grantees are assessing and tracking client impact, average size and form of assistance, purpose of assistance, follow-up/referral services provided, data about client impact, and lessons about providing emergency assistance.

7. Resources to Share

Over two-thirds of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees say they have information, tools, or other resources to share with other grantees, including: data collection and other forms; information about types and amount of assistance; eligibility guidelines; process descriptions; lists of agencies providing assistance; programs moving people toward self-sufficiency; lessons learned from prior experiences in providing emergency relief funding; and stories of impact funds have had on families.

8. Interest in Potential Support from the Foundation

Grantees express interest primarily in two types of non-grant support mentioned as possible by the Foundation: a template or spreadsheet for tracking the BEF data the Foundation is interested in and sharing of articles and information collected from the BEF grantee cohort. Fewer grantees are interested in quarterly teleconferences with other grantees on topics of interest.

9. Final Comments

In their final survey comments, grantees express enthusiasm and gratitude for the Bremer Emergency Fund, note its impact on their agencies and communities as well as individuals and families, and raise some questions about the future, especially about the possibility of additional support to meet ongoing need.

Our Commitment to Learning and Next Steps

Foundation staff have planned the following additional steps to collect and share information about the Bremer Emergency Fund:

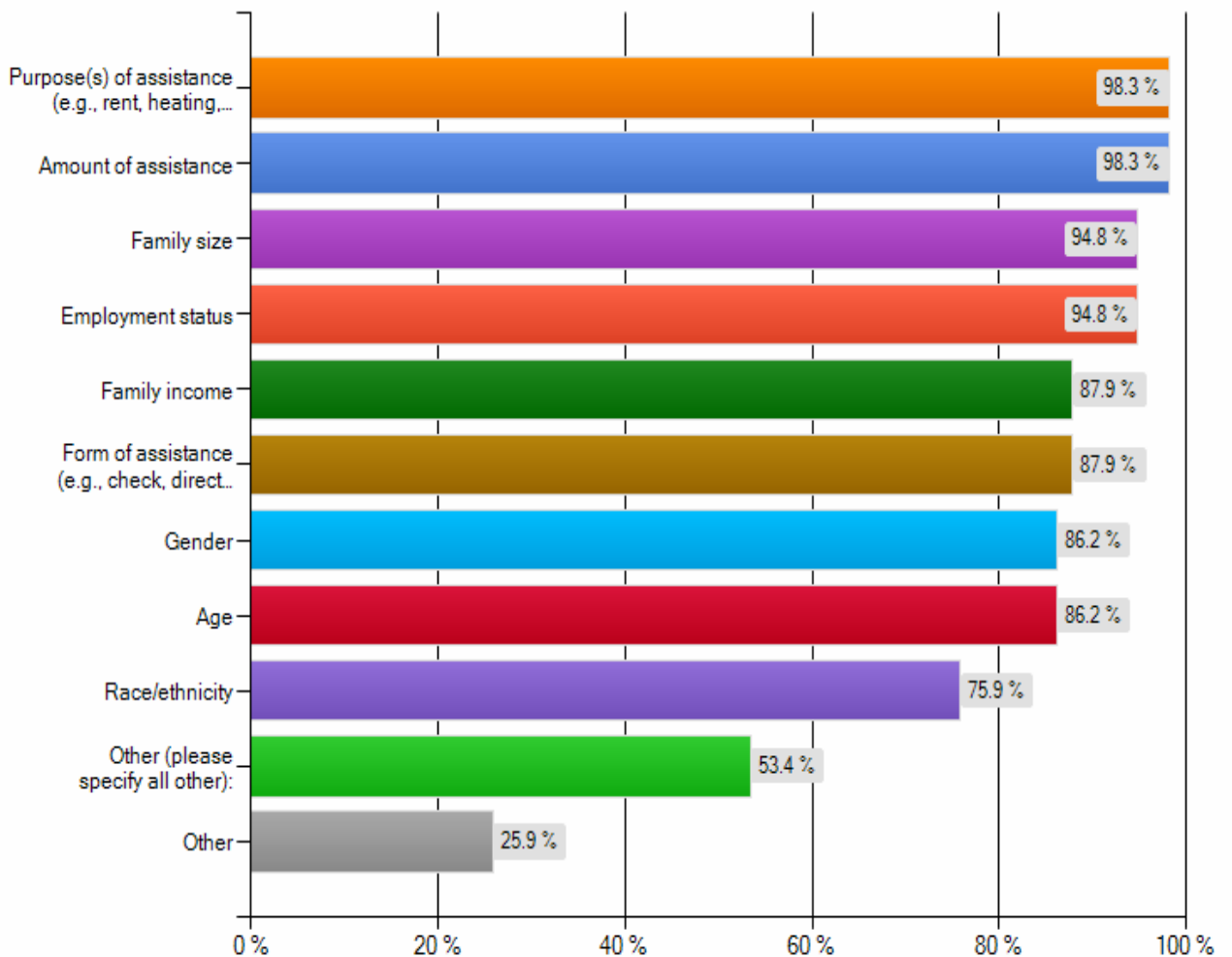
- Facilitate learning among Bremer Emergency Fund grantees by helping them connect to one another.
- Conduct a final grantee survey at the end of the funding period.
- Develop and distribute a final learning report on lessons and outcomes of the Bremer Emergency Fund.

Key Survey Findings

1. Information Collection

Over three-quarters of grantees are collecting the following types of information on applicants/recipients of funds from their Bremer Emergency Fund grant: purpose and amount of assistance, family size, employment status, family income, form of assistance, gender, age, and race/ethnicity.

What types of baseline information are you currently collecting for applicants and recipients of funds from your Bremer Emergency Fund (BEF) grant? Please check all that apply.



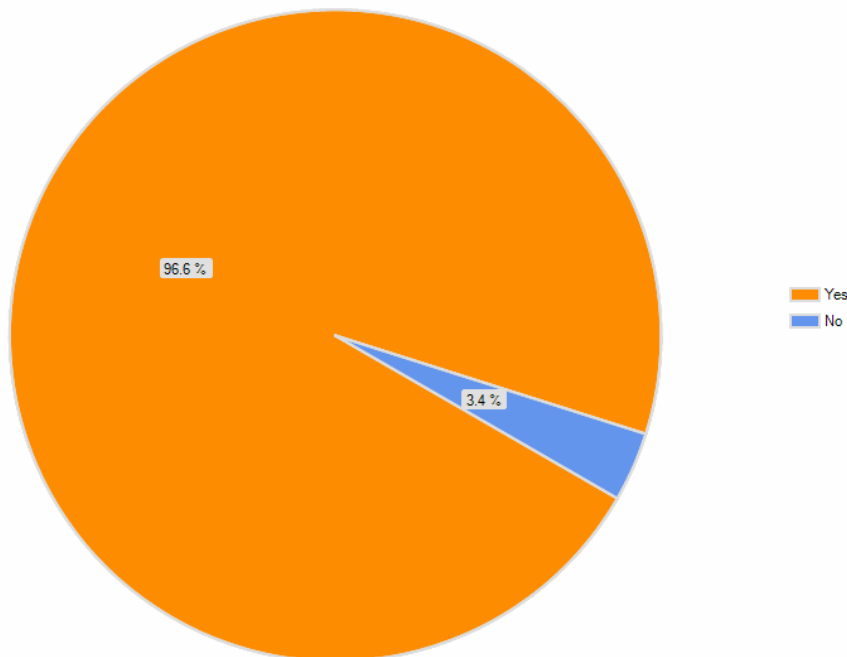
Other types of information collected include:

- Current address; length of time at current residence; home ownership/rent; whether applicant is homeless
- If the assistance is for an individual or if it is for a family; names and ages of all adults and children in household
- Level of education; religion; primary language; type of health insurance; veteran status; migrant status
- Information about the circumstances that led to the emergency financial need
- State and/or federal programs in which applicant or other household members participate
- Full financial picture that includes income as well as debt and other sources of income; itemized current monthly expenses
- Amount, type, purpose and source of any other emergency financial assistance they have received within the previous 12 months
- Release for exchange of information with other local nonprofit organizations, county human and social services office, and creditor
- Whether the applicant or household member has a disability
- Whether the applicant smokes and would like a referral for treatment
- Connectedness to other resources in community; who else has provided assistance
- General geographic information

2. Follow-Up or Referral Services

Almost all Bremer Emergency Fund grantees are providing follow-up or referral services for clients.

Are you providing follow-up or referral services to BEF recipients?



While a few grantees noted that they did not do follow-up because they were providing support for one-time emergency needs, the vast majority of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees provide or refer clients to a wide range of additional services for short- and long-term challenges, including:

- Financial: county public assistance, budget counseling, financial literacy, asset building, tax preparation, credit repair counseling
- Housing: foreclosure counseling, housing assistance, reverse mortgage, yard work, utilities (e.g., energy assistance), weatherization, shelters
- Food and nutrition: food shelf, food stamps
- Case management services: advocacy, referral to government and other support programs, life management, mentoring, problem solving, home visiting, follow-up to ensure crisis is resolved
- Health: mental and physical health resources, counseling, health insurance enrollment, prescription drugs, medical bills, exercise classes
- Employment services: job training and referral, computer classes
- Domestic violence prevention
- English language and citizenship classes
- Legal assistance
- Refugee resettlement assistance
- Parenting and child support: child care, youth after-school and summer programs, college preparation, youth recreational activities, and youth service learning programs
- Transportation
- Clothing, including clothing for employment
- Furniture

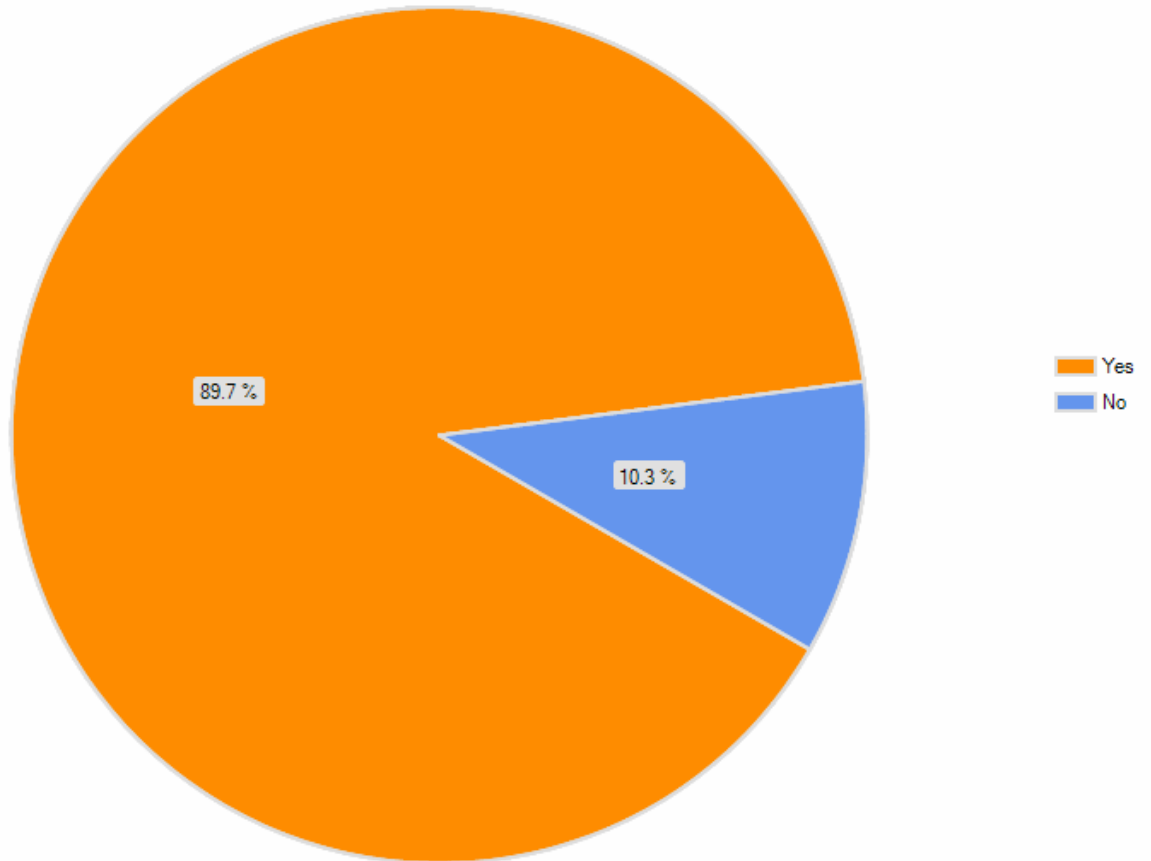
3. Grant Impact

Definition of grant impact. Bremer Emergency Fund grantees define grant impact in a number of ways, including:

- Increase in *number* of requests for emergency assistance the agency can now respond to
- Increase in *amount* of assistance agency can provide to each individual/family
- Percent of clients' needs agency could meet
- Ability to keep clients in their homes, with heating and lighting, and prevent homelessness
- Ability to provide access to food, assistance for transportation emergencies, help with medical expenses, including purchase of prescription drugs, shelter for homeless clients, assistance in budgeting
- Ability to help clients retain or find new employment
- Ability to help clients who have been turned away from all other forms of assistance
- Ability to help clients meet their goals, resolve the current crisis, prevent future emergency needs, improve family stability, and/or connect to long-term solutions
- Indirect impacts include preventing child abuse/neglect and domestic violence and ensuring school continuation for children

Tracking impact on recipients. The vast majority of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees are tracking the impact of their support on recipients:

Based on your definition of impact, are you tracking the impact of funds, follow-up services, and/or referral services on recipients?



Grantees are using the following tracking methods:

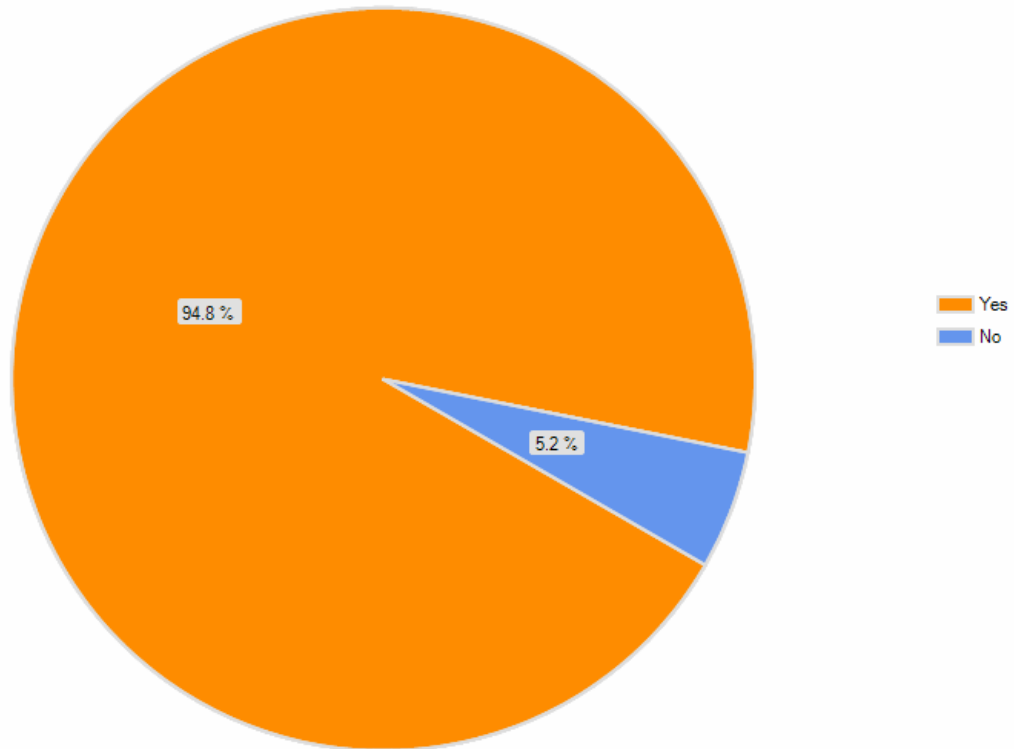
- Case notes/documentation and analysis
- Computer databases/programs
- Surveys
- Follow-up meetings/conversations
- Qualitative information

Several grantees noted that they do not track impact for one-time clients or do not have sufficient staff to follow-up on referral outcomes.

4. Connecting with Community Resources

Almost all Bremer Emergency Fund grantees connect with other community resources for client identification, referral to supportive services, and other purposes:

Are you connecting with other entities in the community to implement your BEF grant -- for identification of clients, referral for supportive services, or other purposes?



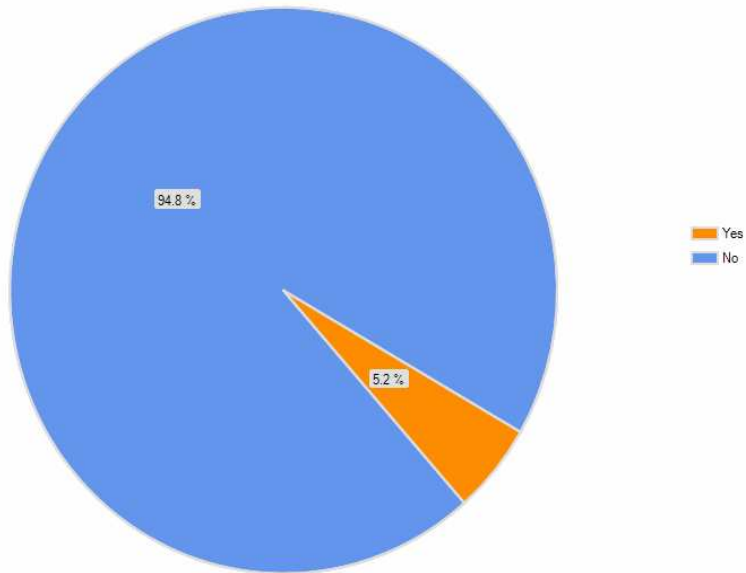
Primary community partners include:

- Community Action Agencies
- County human and social service agencies and other county offices, state and city government agencies, tribal agencies
- Nonprofit organizations, including other emergency service providers, employment and economic development agencies, shelters, community/family centers, refugee agencies, domestic violence programs, mutual assistance associations, food shelves, Boys and Girls Club, YWCA/YMCA
- Health clinics/providers, pharmacies
- Churches, Catholic Charities, Lutheran Social Services, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul
- Housing providers/coalitions, property owners
- Legal services
- Electric and gas companies
- Schools, university extension, Head Start, child care centers
- Civic groups and community at large

5. Resources and Unmet Needs

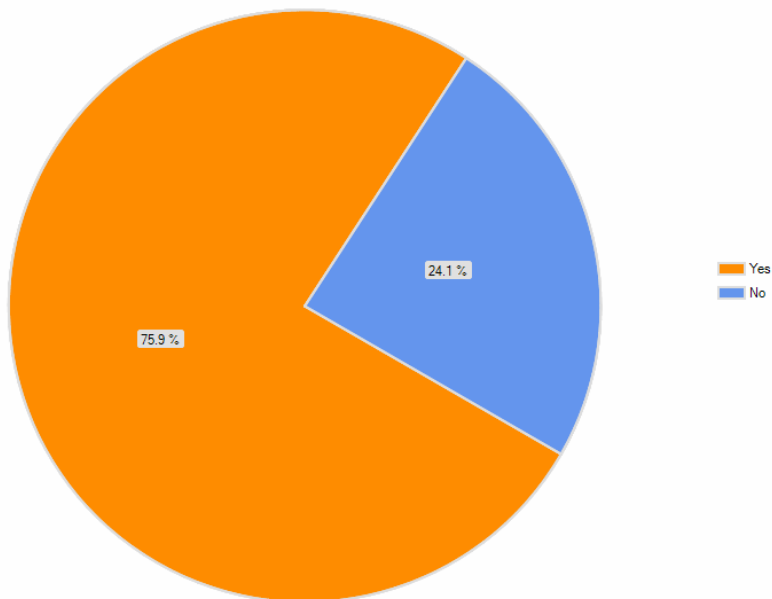
Available resources. The vast majority of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees do *not* anticipate having more resources than they need for emergency assistance due to funds available from the stimulus bill:

Do you expect to have more resources than you need for the type of emergency assistance you are providing through this grant due to dollars available from the stimulus bill?



Unmet needs. In fact, three-quarters of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees are seeing more unmet needs than they expected:

Is your program seeing more unmet needs than you expected?



Grantees note that:

- They are expending funds much more quickly than anticipated. Some were already out of grant funds when they completed the survey and others anticipated using all funds in the near future. Some grantees have reduced the amounts they provide in order to help more clients.
- Applicants are in deeper crisis than expected, with broader needs. More people are affected by job loss, and job searches are taking longer than in the past. Home owners as well as renters are in need of support.
- Areas with high poverty rates have been especially hard hit.
- Agencies are receiving requests from outside their primary service area from applicants without an agency in their immediate area that provides emergency assistance.

In addition, the Foundation has been receiving inquiries from grantees about the possibility of additional funding as well as requests to reallocate funding to other purposes.

Grantee Voices: “The Resources Available Have Not Kept Pace with the Need”

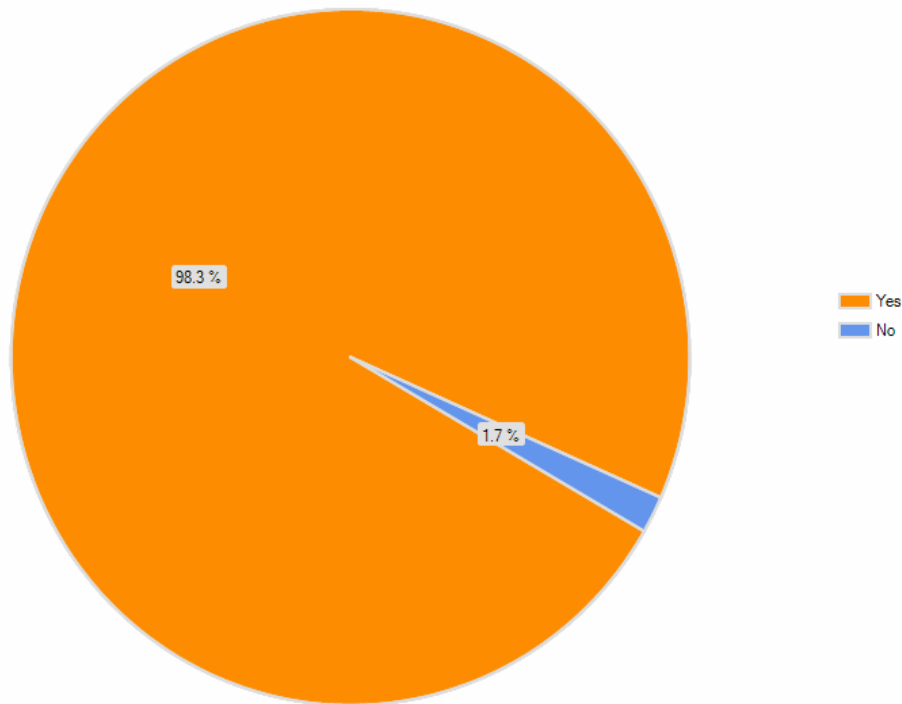
- *“Demand for our services has increased over 150 percent from last year. The majority of requests are for utility assistance and requests for transportation assistance have doubled. If the demand continues, we will be out of funds by September.”*
- *“We ran out of funds for transportation assistance on April 8...the need is just that great.”*
- *“The needs have compounded. People seem to need more than just rental assistance. Many need employment training and assistance, utility assistance, loan modifications and financial assistance towards mortgages, more affordable housing in general, and more income in most situations.”*
- *“The need in our service area continues to increase. Observations from our case managers in 2009 include the following:*
 - *Clients who have not accessed services in up to eight years are back.*
 - *Increases in clients accessing services because they have lost a job or had a reduction in hours.*
 - *Unemployed clients are job searching much longer.*
 - *Clients are accepting jobs that are a step down with less pay.*
 - *Clients who have not requested help in the form of gas cards are now asking.*
 - *Previous donors have become clients.*
 - *Clients who have in the past only accessed food are now requesting emergency financial assistance for things like rent, utilities, car repairs, etc.*
 - *Increases in the number of requested car repairs.”*
- *“Due to the declining economic condition and the unique needs of North Minneapolis, we are seeing clients with extremely large unpaid bills, and deeper and broader needs than before.”*
- *“We are seeing larger dollar amounts than expected and more mortgage needs vs rent than in the past.”*
- *“We are a tourist area.... The resorts, motels, restaurants, sports dealers, and retail will all be hit hard if we don't have a good tourist season. Many of our workers work for these services industries and will be either laid off or have their hours cut.”*

- *"We cannot fill the need for housing assistance in the American Indian community. The grant from Otto Bremer increases our ability to assist, but the need is overwhelming."*
- *"There are families/individuals applying for service that do not have a source of income and it is unlikely they will become employed within a reasonable length of time. So their need is greater than the resources. The remedy to their situation is a longer road."*
- *"There are many people who have lost their jobs and the unemployment system takes about 3-4 weeks before its payments start. People get behind and cannot catch up. Also, we are seeing fewer people find immediate re-employment than in past years. We are also seeing people who have never used any of the welfare or charity systems before and their lifestyle is geared to having wages. The transition to a poverty level budget has been difficult for this group."*
- *"We are getting huge numbers of calls from people who have lost their jobs or had their hours cut. This is a change in the demographics: more working people who are not on assistance are calling."*
- *"We turn [away] 39 out of 40 families looking for assistance with living expenses (rent, mortgage, utilities) because those folks do not qualify due to a lack of ability to sustain themselves after the assistance is provided."*
- *"Many of the individuals we are seeing, particularly those with larger families, are in deeper crisis than expected. For example, they have higher unpaid balances on utilities than expected and have a greater need for food because they have committed all of their resources to maintaining their home. Since most have little excess to handle such large bills, we would like to have more availability to help them get back on their feet."*
- *"We are seeing more single people who are not able to [find] a construction or labor job. Also, people who were affected by the Red River flooding and not yet helped by other monies but have an eviction notice. And those who may get through with a second part-time job but are no longer able to find those."*
- *"Community members have needs that do not revolve around job loss. Individuals/families are experiencing difficulties with housing and basic needs, even though they are employed and the household has income."*
- *"We have had many more people coming through our program needing assistance than expected. The grant money received will be spent by June 1, 2009. We had anticipated, based on previous experience, that this grant money would last the entire year."*
- *"We have seen an increase of 29 percent in the number of people requesting emergency assistance and a 150 percent increase in requests at our food shelves, from this time last year. As you may imagine, the resources available have not kept pace with the need."*

6. Interest in Information from Other Bremer Emergency Fund Grantees

Almost every Bremer Emergency Fund grant recipient expressed interest in information from fellow grantees:

Are you interested in information from other BEF grantees (e.g., about the processes they are using, the data they are collecting, and the lessons they are learning)?

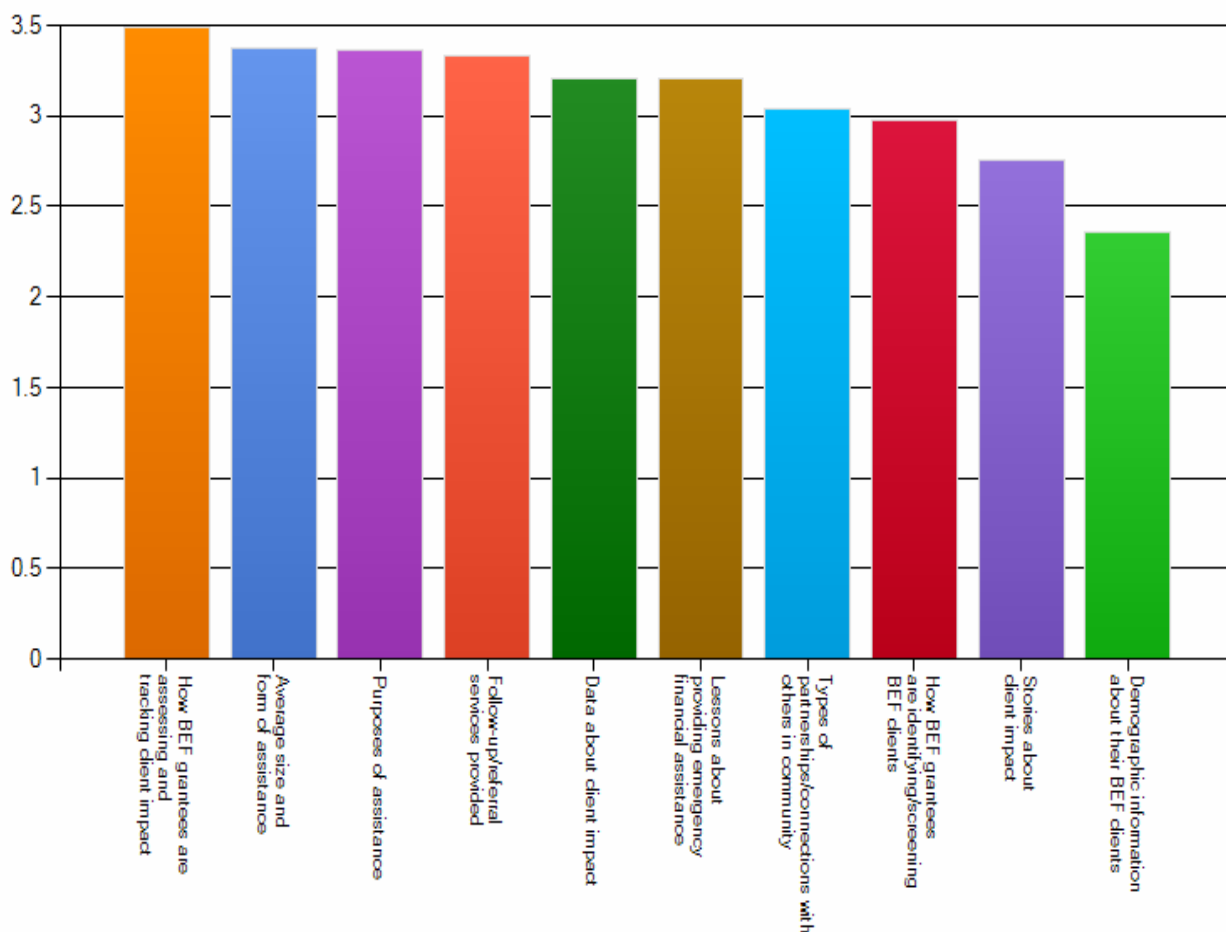


The areas of greatest interest for grantees include:

- How BEF grantees are assessing and tracking client impact
- Average size and form of assistance
- Purpose of assistance
- Follow-up/referral services provided
- Data about client impact
- Lessons about providing emergency assistance

The following chart notes respondents' ratings of interest in these and other areas:

If yes, what type of information would you want to learn? Please rate your level of interest in each:



7. Resources to Share

Over two-thirds of Bremer Emergency Fund grantees say they have information, tools, or other resources to share with other grantees. These resources include:

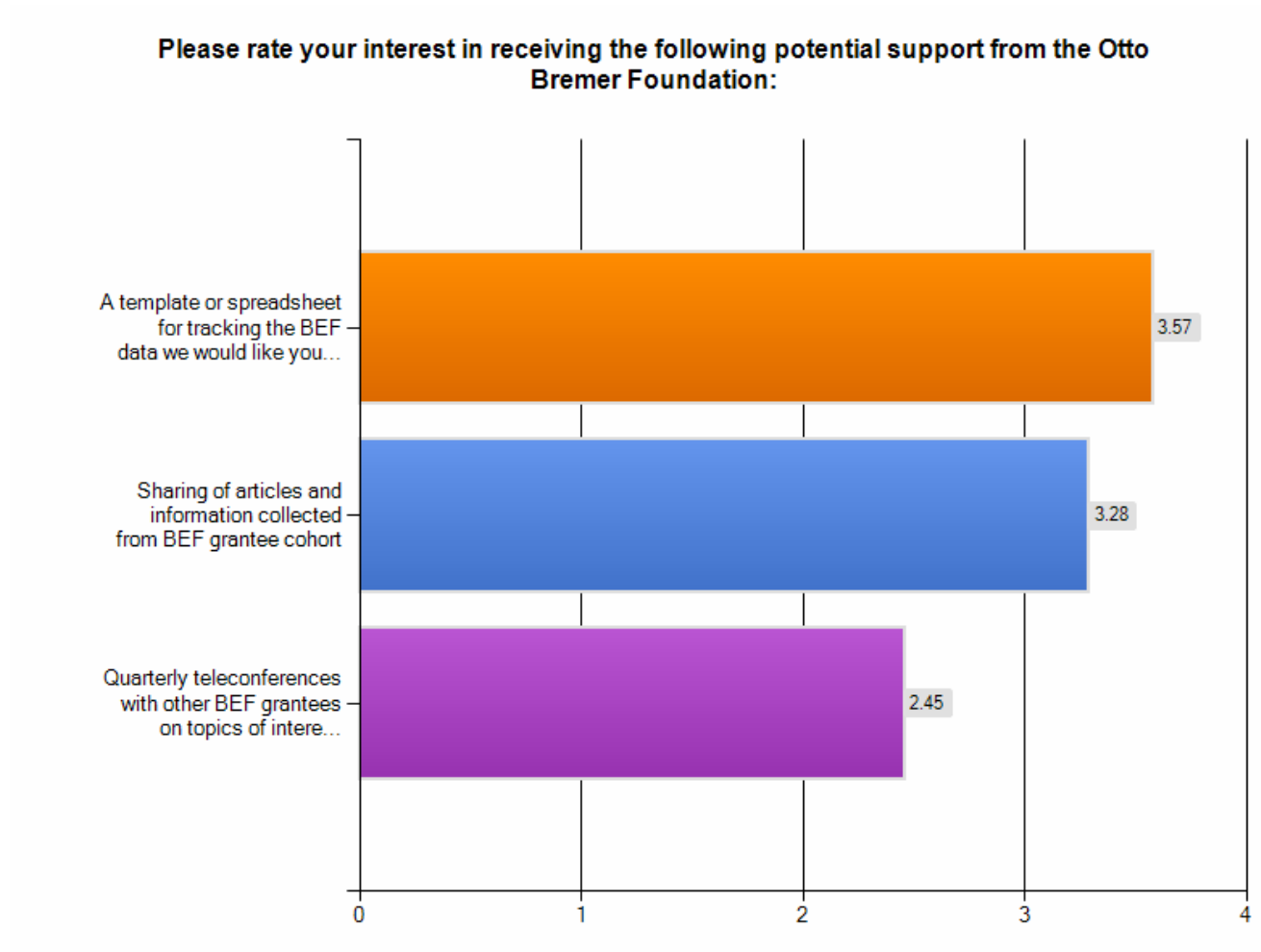
- Application, tracking, data collection, and other forms/databases
- Information about types and amount of assistance
- Demographic data about clients
- Eligibility guidelines
- Process descriptions
- Lists of agencies providing assistance
- Efforts and programs moving people toward self-sufficiency
- Lessons learned from prior experiences in providing emergency relief funding
- Stories of impact funds have had on families
- A curriculum teaching the rights and responsibilities of renters, which includes budgeting and referral information

8. Interest in Potential Support from the Foundation

As the following chart indicates, grantees express interest primarily in two types of support mentioned as possible by the Foundation:

- A template or spreadsheet for tracking the BEF data the Foundation is interested in
- Sharing of articles and information collected from the BEF grantee cohort

Fewer grantees are interested in quarterly teleconferences with other grantees on topics of interest.



Topics of interest to grantees include:

- Setting priority criteria when resources are limited and how others handle requests when they do not have enough funds
- Tool to determine amount of assistance to provide
- Creating a referral network, including referrals for help with mortgage foreclosure prevention, affordable health insurance options for those who do not qualify for public assistance, educational opportunities for clients, additional support services
- Changes in housing policy, credit issues, and affordable housing options

- Geographic trends in applications for emergency assistance
- Effective employment programs
- Housing for those with criminal backgrounds, bad credit, mental health challenges
- Utilization of volunteers in delivering emergency assistance
- Collaboration techniques with community agencies
- Creating solutions to persistent barriers (“changing the odds for people”)
- Strategies for follow-up and measuring long-term impact
- Success stories
- Otto Bremer Foundation “hopes and dreams” for the Bremer Emergency Fund
- Creating potential advocacy through what we have learned

Grantees also noted a number of specific ways they would welcome additional support from the Foundation, including:

- Additional grant assistance, ranging from general operating support to financial training for clients to a walk-in freezer for food storage
- Encouragement of collaboration
- Databank of information at the agency, county, and regional level
- Policy advocacy around homelessness
- Technology to facilitate ongoing activities

9. Final Comments

In their final survey comments, grantees express enthusiasm and gratitude for the Bremer Emergency Fund, note its impact on their agencies and communities as well as individuals and families, and raise some questions about the future, especially about the possibility of additional support to meet ongoing need.

Grantee Voices: Final Comments

Impact of funding

“Our agency has been able to assist folks that may have fallen through the cracks previously.”

“In the past, it has been extremely difficult for us to obtain grant awards for our emergency financial assistance program. The generous grant we received from the Otto Bremer Foundation has brought new life to our emergency fund program and we are all extremely grateful for your support.”

“It’s wonderful to be able to help more people!!”

“It’s working well and the funds are definitely needed to keep many families from ‘slipping over the edge.’ They just need a little help to maintain the household when emergencies arise.”

“This funding was a valuable asset to our communities. If we did not have the Bremer assistance we would have run out of emergency assistance funds in April.”

“The need is huge and there have been few if any community partners that have shown as great an interest in maintaining people in their homes and assuring that they can obtain and maintain jobs by assuring that all services necessary to do so are available. As an example: especially in suburban

Hennepin County, where transportation availability is scarce and not very good, your grant enabled us to assure people could get to jobs, medical appointments, and get to food.”

“Without this funding, families would become homeless and live in shelters, cars, or in other unsafe conditions. Sharing this grant with families helps us build relationships and strengthen our community.”

“This grant has saved many people from losing their homes or having their utilities shut off. We have been able to keep people working because we could repair their vehicles.”

“Having the ability to prevent homelessness for families is so important and helpful. The impact expands to include children’s well-being and education, reduced risk factors for sexual violence, increased ability to finish education and maintain employment. It is a simple way to have a long-term impact.”

“We have been able to say yes to folks who otherwise would not have been helped. It diversified our demographics, especially the Hispanic/Latino community, and has us considering a Spanish-speaking staff position in our Prevention program. Furthermore, it has given us lots of flexibility in working with the community. We used the resources very quickly due to need and now have opened a floodgate of on-going requests that we won’t be able to necessarily assist with. The process was very non-bureaucratic and we were able to use the funds very quickly and with minimal start-up issues.”

“We’ve served many that have never received help in the past. They have all been very appreciative. It’s even made a difference in the community for those that are not needing to access the funds as they are looking at your help as a wonderful support of their community.”

“Through this process we were able to collaborate with other organizations and form relationships.”

Questions, suggestions about the future

“We would like to understand the reporting process better. The guidelines on the Minnesota Common Report Form are a little vague and leave room for varied interpretation of how the reporting for this grant is to be carried out.”

“It would be great if we could gain insight from other organizations that also benefited from the funding.”

“Recommendations for the future (especially given the governor’s unallotment of health care funding) include pinpointing some funds for medications, dental, eye care for families with low income.”

“We see there is a large need in Indian country for financial literacy training. Also financial services that will not take advantage of their lack of understanding the financial system.”

“The only recommendation would be to make the grants available again if possible because the needs will still exist after this year.”

“We don’t know what the future will bring...with continued state cuts, etc. many more people may continue to feel the impact. Honestly, it would be a blessing to always have a fund that could help people in this way, but we’re very appreciative that this opportunity was available now.”

“The more flexibility we have with funding, the more people we are able to serve. Example: We ran out of prescription medication funds, but the flexibility we are allowed from one of our funders made it possible to move some money into that program instead of not being able to help with that service.”

“It is very difficult to do follow-up with our clients. We just don’t have the people power necessary to do that. For the most part we deal with emergency situations with folks that tend to be very transient.”

“Do we have flexibility to utilize these funds for a period greater than one year? What is the timeline for this period of time? Can we apply for additional funds if we deplete our current grant funds?”

“We look forward to accessing the information from Otto Bremer and others as mentioned in this survey.”

Thank you

"We applaud you for providing additional financial support to organizations that help Twin Cities residents with emergency needs. Your quick response helped set the standard for other foundations."

"The timing of the grant was great. The BEF funds allowed us to help clients deal with shut-off notices that occur at the end of winter. We were also able to help clients who had to move when the rental property they lived in went into foreclosure."

"We loved the flexibility for using these funds to meet the emergency needs of our residents. At this critical time in our economy these funds are much appreciated."

"The Bremer Emergency Fund could not have come at a better time. We appreciate the flexibility of the fund and the lack of lots of paperwork."

Our Commitment to Learning and Next Steps

Foundation staff have planned the following additional steps to collect and share information about the Bremer Emergency Fund:

- **Facilitate learning among Bremer Emergency Fund grantees by helping them connect to one another.** Staff will facilitate the sharing of information, tools, and questions among Bremer Emergency Fund grantees.
- **Conduct a final grantee survey at the end of the funding period.** A final grantee survey in early 2010 will build on the findings of the interim report and explore outcomes, impact, and lessons of the grant-supported initiatives and the program as a whole.
- **Develop and distribute a final learning report on the Bremer Emergency Fund.** The final report will include information about the creation, operation, impact, and lessons of the program.

Appendix A: Bremer Emergency Fund Grantees

MINNESOTA

American Indian OIC, Minneapolis, \$50,000
The Basilica of Saint Mary, Minneapolis, \$75,000
Bi-County Community Action Programs, Inc., Bemidji, \$26,400
Cass Lake/Bena Family Council, Cass Lake, \$99,800
Catholic Charities, Minneapolis, \$99,969
Central Minnesota Community Foundation, St. Cloud, \$100,000
Children's Home Society and Family Services, St. Paul, \$40,000
Church of St. Joan of Arc, Minneapolis, \$20,000
CLUES, Chicanos Latinos Unidos en Servicio, St. Paul, \$40,000
Community Action for Suburban Hennepin, Hopkins, \$71,300
Community Action Partnership of Ramsey Washington Counties, St. Paul, \$100,000
Dakota County Community Services, West St. Paul, \$100,000
Face to Face Health and Counseling Service, Inc., St. Paul, \$25,000
Hmong American Partnership, St. Paul, \$50,000
Interfaith Outreach and Community Partners, Wayzata, \$20,000
Jewish Family Service of St. Paul, St. Paul, \$25,000
Keystone Community Services, St. Paul, \$55,000
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc., Grand Rapids, \$20,000
Mahube Community Council, Inc., Head Start Program, Detroit Lakes, \$100,000
Merrick Community Services, St. Paul, \$40,000
Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Minneapolis, \$25,000
Neighbors, Inc., South St. Paul, \$20,000
NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center, Inc., Minneapolis, \$50,000
Otter Tail-Wadena Community Action Council, Inc., New York Mills, \$50,000
Pillager Family Council, Pillager, \$20,000
Pillsbury United Communities, Inc., Minneapolis, \$85,000
Pine River/Backus Family Council, Pine River, \$15,000
Pope County Human Services, Glenwood, \$30,000
Red Lake Homeless Shelter, Inc., Red Lake, \$75,175
Sabathani Community Center, Inc., Minneapolis, \$35,000
The Saint Paul Foundation, St. Paul, \$100,000
The Salvation Army, Brainerd Corps, Brainerd, \$20,000 (Crow Wing County)
The Salvation Army, Fergus Falls Corps, Fergus Falls, \$35,000
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$100,000 (Metro counties, including Sherburne, Wright and Chisago counties)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$6,000 (Aitkin County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$49,000 (Alexandria, Douglas County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$5,000 (Crookston, Polk County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$17,000 (Detroit Lakes, Becker County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$15,000 (Marshall, Lyon County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$20,000 (Milaca, Princeton, Mille Lacs County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$35,000 (Morris, Stevens County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$6,000 (Redwood Falls, Redwood County)
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$15,000 (Starbuck, Pope County)
The Salvation Army, St. Cloud Corps, St. Cloud, \$25,000
The Salvation Army, Willmar Corps, Willmar, \$50,000
Scott-Carver-Dakota CAP Agency, Shakopee, \$40,000
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, Inc., St. Paul, \$51,000
St. Louis Park Emergency Program, St. Louis Park, \$100,000
St. Stephen's Human Services, Inc., Minneapolis, \$80,000
Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc., Little Falls, \$48,300
Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc., Crookston, \$100,000
Urban Partnership and Community Development Center, St. Paul, \$50,248
Valley Outreach, Stillwater, \$57,600
West Central Minnesota Communities Action, Inc., Elbow Lake, \$100,000
Western Community Action, Inc., Marshall, \$100,000
White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, White Earth, \$99,923
Wilkin County Family Service Agency, Breckenridge, \$33,800
YWCA of St. Paul, St. Paul, \$50,000

NORTH DAKOTA

Community Action Partnership Minot Region, Minot, \$43,000
Community Violence Intervention Center, Inc., Grand Forks, \$3,500
Dakota Prairie Community Action Agency, Devils Lake, \$59,562
Northlands Rescue Mission, Grand Forks, \$5,000
Red River Valley Community Action, Grand Forks, \$60,000
Richland County, Social Services, Wahpeton, \$30,000
The Salvation Army, Fargo/Moorhead, Fargo, \$25,000 (Cass, Clay County)
The Salvation Army, Grand Forks, \$60,000
The Salvation Army, Minot, \$30,000
The Salvation Army, Roseville, \$100,000 (Benson, Foster, McLean, Pembina, Pierce, Ramsey, Ransom, Richland, Start and Walsh counties)
Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Fargo, \$25,000
Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Grand Forks, Grand Forks, \$70,000
Southeastern North Dakota Community Action Agency, Fargo, \$100,000
Village Family Service Center, Fargo, \$100,000

WISCONSIN

Bayfield County, Washburn, \$25,000
Dunn County Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, Inc., Menomonie, \$50,000
Indianhead Community Action Agency, Ladysmith, \$58,000
Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board, Hayward, \$10,000
The Salvation Army, Balsam Lake, \$70,000 (Polk County)
The Salvation Army, Balsam Lake, \$30,000 (Washburn)
The Salvation Army, Washburn, \$30,000 (Bayfield and Ashland counties)
The Salvation Army, Washburn, \$100,000 (St. Croix County)
West Central Wisconsin Community Action Agency, Inc., Glenwood City, \$100,000

Appendix B: Bremer Emergency Fund Survey

Bremer Emergency Fund Learning Survey	
Collection of Baseline Information	
1. What types of baseline information are you currently collecting for applicants and recipients of funds from your Bremer Emergency Fund (BEF) grant? Please check all that apply.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gender
<input type="checkbox"/>	Age
<input type="checkbox"/>	Race/ethnicity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Country of origin
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family size
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family income
<input type="checkbox"/>	Employment status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Purpose(s) of assistance (e.g., rent, heating, health care, transportation)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Amount of assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form of assistance (e.g., check, direct payment of bill)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify all other):
	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
Follow-up or Referral Services	
2. Are you providing follow-up or referral services to BEF recipients?	
<input type="radio"/>	Yes
<input type="radio"/>	No
If yes, what types of services are you providing or connecting recipients to?	
	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
Impact	
<input type="text"/>	

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Bremer Emergency Fund Learning Survey

3. How are you defining the impact you hope to make through the grant?

4. Based on your definition of impact, are you tracking the impact of funds, follow-up services, and/or referral services on recipients?

- Yes
 No

If yes, how are you collecting, tracking, and assessing impact information?

Connecting With Other Entities in the Community

5. Are you connecting with other entities in the community to implement your BEF grant -- for identification of clients, referral for supportive services, or other purposes?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please list your primary partners:

Resources and Unmet Needs

6. Do you expect to have more resources than you need for the type of emergency assistance you are providing through this grant due to dollars available from the stimulus bill?

- Yes
 No

Bremer Emergency Fund Learning Survey

7. Is your program seeing more unmet needs than you expected?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please explain.

Information From Other BEF Grantees

8. Are you interested in information from other BEF grantees (e.g., about the processes they are using, the data they are collecting, and the lessons they are learning)?

- Yes
 No

9. If yes, what type of information would you want to learn? Please rate your level of interest in each:

	1 (low)	2	3	4 (high)
How BEF grantees are identifying/screening BEF clients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Demographic information about their BEF clients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Average size and form of assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Purposes of assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Follow-up/referral services provided	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Data about client impact	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stories about client impact	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How BEF grantees are assessing and tracking client impact	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Types of partnerships/connections with others in community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lessons about providing emergency financial assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Resources to Share

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Bremer Emergency Fund Learning Survey

10. Do you have information, tools, or other resources to share with other BEF grantees?

Yes

No

If yes, please describe:

Potential Support From the Otto Bremer Foundation

11. Please rate your interest in receiving the following potential support from the Otto Bremer Foundation:

	1 (low)	2	3	4 (high)
Sharing of articles and information collected from BEF grantee cohort:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A template or spreadsheet for tracking the BEF data we would like you to report:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quarterly teleconferences with other BEF grantees on topics of interest (fill in your topics of interest below):	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Teleconference topics of interest:

12. If you are you interesting in receiving any other types of support from the Otto Bremer Foundation that are not listed above, please specify them here.

Experiences and Recommendations

Bremer Emergency Fund Learning Survey

13. Is there anything else you want us to know about your experience so far with the Bremer Emergency Fund or your recommendations for the future?

Information About You

We will not share your name, organization name, or your survey responses with anyone outside of the Otto Bremer Foundation's BEF and Communications Teams.

14. Name of person completing the survey

15. Position

16. Phone number:

17. Email address:

18. Organization

19. Five-Digit Grant Number