VILLAGE OF Springville AND TOWN OF Concord

NOVEMBER 2019

2,146 live in or near poverty

Since 2011, poverty decreased by 12%, while total population has increased by 1%.
Community Snapshot: Village of Springville & Town of Concord, November 2019

About this Report
This report offers a snapshot of findings for the Village of Springville and Town of Concord (Springville-Concord), with new data on the community's population that lives in or near poverty. It includes the perspectives of human services providers, the landscape of providers, and strategies that could strengthen the safety-net for individuals and families.

Research in this report was led by the University at Buffalo Regional Institute in partnership with the Mobile Safety-Net Team. It was commissioned by The John R. Oishei Foundation. This work updates and expands upon a community report completed by the research team in 2014.

Defining Need
Over 2,100 residents in the Town of Concord and Village of Springville live in or near poverty with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty line.

The federal poverty line (FPL) is $12,490 for a household of one, $16,910 for a two-person household, $21,330 for a family of three and $25,750, for a family of four. A single parent of two who works full time, year round at the minimum wage in NYS ($11.10 per hour or $23,088 a year) earns an income just above the FPL in 2019.

The FPL is adjusted annually by the federal government and varies by household size. It is often used to determine eligibility for programs that assist individuals and families with basic living expenses such as food, utilities, and rental housing. Households with incomes that exceed two hundred percent of the FPL (up to $51,500 for a family of four) generally do not meet income guidelines for most programs.

Federal Poverty Guidelines, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Federal Poverty Level</th>
<th>200% of Federal Poverty Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Person Household</td>
<td>$12,490</td>
<td>$24,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Person Household</td>
<td>$16,910</td>
<td>$33,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Person Household</td>
<td>$21,330</td>
<td>$42,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Person Household</td>
<td>$25,750</td>
<td>$51,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Visit NumbersInNeed.org
Reports for this Community

This report is part of a comprehensive suite of reports for the Village of Springville and Town of Concord, one of 12 representatives communities in the Buffalo Niagara Region selected for assessment and investment as part of the Numbers in Need project.

Each of these reports for this community is available online at NumbersinNeed.org

Community Snapshot

This report, Community Snapshot, presents an overview of findings from the research in this community, with new data and information on the people living in or near poverty, their barriers to programs and services, the landscape of service providers, and strategies for strengthening the community so that all residents can thrive economically. This report draws from more detailed findings available on the Numbers in Need website, as well as from Insights from Residents and Insights from Providers. Agency and community leaders can use this report to understand key findings and identify topics for further exploring.

Insights from Residents

Insights from Residents presents a more detailed look at the community's vulnerable populations, their needs, urgent concerns, and barriers to programs and services. A survey of residents and conversations with residents inform findings in this report. Agency and community leaders can use this document as they develop programs and services that respond to the needs of residents and remove barriers to jobs, programs and services faced by residents.

Insights from Providers

Insights from Providers explores the perspectives of service providers in the community with respect to gaps in the landscape of services, barriers to reaching residents, promising developments, and strategies for strengthening the landscape of programs and services. A focus group with agency leaders informed the findings presented in this document. Agency and community leaders can use this report to shape programs and services that respond to identified gaps and barriers, while leveraging system strengths and promising developments.

Visit us online at NumbersinNeed.org

NumbersInNeed.org is an online tool that leaders can use to understand economically vulnerable populations in the Buffalo Niagara Region, their urgent needs and concerns, barriers to services and factors that matter such as access to good paying jobs, educational attainment, and transportation options. The website features individual stories, community and regional indicators, interactive lists and maps of service providers, strategies for strengthening communities and models to consider.
Population In or Near Poverty Across Springville and Concord

Population In or Near Poverty, 2017
- 0%-25%
- 26%-50%

Among the total population of 8,550

9% ARE IN POVERTY
714
live on incomes below the federal poverty level.

+ 17% ARE NEAR POVERTY
1,432
aren’t in poverty but are close to it with incomes between 100%-200% of poverty.

26% ARE IN OR NEAR POVERTY
2,146
residents are doing poorly or struggling financially.

Source: 2017 American Community Survey (5 year estimates)

More than a quarter of the population, over 2,100 residents, live in or near poverty in Springville-Concord.

The poverty rate is fairly low (9%) in the community. But many residents still struggle financially, living near poverty, or on incomes between 100% and 200% of the poverty line. Overall, there are twice as many residents living near poverty than there are residents below the poverty line. Poverty is most concentrated in the village, particularly north of Main Street where nearly half of all the community’s residents in poverty live. Since 2011, poverty rates decreased or held constant in all parts of the community. But the number living near poverty increased on the north side of the town and in the southern part of the village. Factors that may have contributed to this include retirements, unemployment, or changes in household structure, such as divorce.
**Poverty, Need and Economic Vulnerability**

Strictly based on the numbers, the level of need in Springville-Concord is on the decline. As new residents moved into the community, the number of residents living in or near poverty dropped, meaning the overall percentage of people living below 200% of the poverty line has also declined. Nevertheless, there are still residents whose situations make them more vulnerable to poverty, specifically, children, refugees and immigrants, and single parents. Over 200 children and 91 single parents in the community live in or near poverty.

**About 11% of children are in poverty.** Children of single parents are more vulnerable to poverty. Access to quality affordable childcare and expanded career pathways could help lift more single parents out of poverty.

**Vulnerable Populations In Poverty, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>8,482</td>
<td>8,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In or Near Poverty</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>1,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Poverty</td>
<td>806</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% In or Near Poverty</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**The population in or near poverty declined by 10%, while the total population inched up slightly since 2011.**

**Vulnerable Populations In Poverty, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population Category</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children Under 18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Parents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refugees &amp; Immigrants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married Couples with Children</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Adults (25-34)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seniors 75+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Factors That Matter**

Economic vulnerability can be attributed to a wide variety of factors, from job opportunities and education, to residents’ housing situation and ability to get around affordably and comfortably.

Residents who continue their education beyond high school, either in trade school or college, earn significantly more than residents who stop their education at high school.

Job opportunities at the community’s largest employers cover a variety of industries. However, those who don’t work in healthcare, education, or manufacturing may find steady work more difficult to come by, since several of the top employers are in the retail and tourism industries, where employment is seasonal or part-time.

Although 86% of commuters drive to work alone, and 94% of all households have a car, nearly one in ten householders over 65 doesn’t have a car. Public transit doesn’t exist, and non-medical transportation options are limited, so seniors are more at risk for isolation and difficulty accessing services.

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**Community Data**

*Visit us online at NumbersInNeed.org*

Explore more about this community and others in Buffalo Niagara through interactive features and stories.

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**ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY**

The top 10 employers provide more than half of jobs in the community and generate employment in tourism, retail, health care, education and manufacturing.

**EDUCATION**

Those who continue their education beyond high school can expect to earn at least 28% more than those with only a high school diploma.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Educational Attainment and Median Earnings of Adults Age 25+, 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>less than High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$38,375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HOUSING**

Renters are more likely to be cost-burdened than homeowners, despite lower rents compared to the region.

% Lower-Income Households (earning less than $35k/yr) that are Cost-Burdened, 2017

- Homeowners: 54%
- Renters: 65%

**TRANSPORTATION**

Older residents are less likely to have a car.

% of Residents Without a Vehicle

- UNDER 65yr: 5%
- OVER 65yr: 9%

**CRIME**

Springville-Concord is becoming safer. Juvenile arrests are at a 5-year low. The variety of youth activities may contribute. Since 2010, violent crime rates decreased by 64% and property crime rates declined by 38%.

Juvenile Arrests, 2013-2017

- 2013: 44
- 2014: 38
- 2015: 42
- 2016: 22
- 2017: 20

Source: NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services, Niagara County and Erie County, 2013-2017.
The Landscape of Providers

29 SERVICE PROVIDERS in the Village of Springville and Town of Concord

See more online to view additional maps and the listing of service providers.

Visit NumbersInNeed.org

Population In or Near Poverty, 2017
0%-25%
26%-50%

Types of services provided, by %

- 34% Education/Training
- 34% Info/Referral
- 31% Seniors
- 31% Food
- 28% Youth
- 24% Health/Wellness
- 17% Transportation
- 10% Clothing
- 10% Crime/Juvenile
- 7% Teen Parents
- 7% Veterans
- 7% Homeless Services
- 7% Financial Literacy
- 7% Mental Health/Addiction
- 3% Legal
- 3% Housing/Utility

Many adults could benefit from additional training, but there are limited opportunities for adult education in the community.

Although education is one of the most common services in Springville-Concord, it is less common here than in most other communities in the region. Ten providers in Springville-Concord offer education and training, but almost all are for youth. Schools and early childhood programs are a great community asset, but adult education is largely absent. The Springville-Griffith school district has community education, but programs are limited. Libraries are another resource, but they do not offer formal training. More workforce training and continuing education options could improve the earning potential for many of the nearly 3,000 adults in the community with no education beyond high school.

Hundreds of households in the community are burdened by housing costs, but only a couple of providers offer housing or financial services.

The percentage of households burdened by housing costs is relatively low in Springville-Concord. Still, over 700 households spend 30% or more of their income on rent or mortgage payments. These residents could benefit from financial assistance or services that help cover the costs of housing and utilities. But residents have only two providers in the community that can connect them with these types of services—Love INC, and through the Community Action Organization of WNY which runs the local Head Start program. These organizations are in the village of Springville, where cost-burdened households are concentrated.
What’s happened over the past 5 years?
Over the past several years, the population in Springville-Concord grew, while the number of individuals living in or near poverty declined. Although these shifts could potentially decrease demand for services, Springville-Concord’s small but strong base of services remains a service hub for residents within the community as well as those in need from outside the community, including areas in Cattaraugus County, which borders the Town of Concord. Springville-Concord’s footprint as a place for services may grow, as the hospital expands and attracts more residents to the community for services. The community’s growing population has increased demand for housing and put upward pressure on housing prices. With over half of low-income residents paying nearly a third or more of their income on housing, providers see demand rising for other basics such as food, child care, and transportation. Limited options for transportation and affordable vehicle ownership create barriers to jobs as well as services outside the community.

<- Available online at NumbersInNeed.org

Gaps that Exist
Providers say the numbers don’t capture the growing prevalence of disability they see among children. The presence of a disability can put a strain on families and require additional resources from providers.

There are no options for affordable daycare for families with young children who do not meet the income requirements to qualify for Early Head Start and Head Start.

Many services are not located in the community. Services that are lacking or limited include homeless services, parenting classes, mental healthcare, and a local site for applying for social services.

There is no public transit available in the community. Some organizations provide transportation, but there are gaps in accessible transportation for individuals with limited mobility as well as transportation to work and/or to services in Buffalo.

Barriers Providers Face
Providers say there is plenty of room to develop and address housing demand and shortages, but the cost of water and sewer infrastructure is an impediment. This is exacerbated by law which prohibits a village from forming a water district and dispersing infrastructure costs.

Providers say transportation is a barrier to jobs for those without a car. The cost of maintaining and repairing a vehicle is a financial barrier to vehicle ownership for residents in lower-wage jobs.

Providers say transportation is a barrier to local services for individuals with limited mobility who cannot use volunteer vans. Providers say all residents without a vehicle face barriers to services located outside the community.

Lack of public transit is a barrier to economic development funding, which could help leaders create more local jobs.

Promising Developments
Bertrand Chaffee Hospital is expanding its footprint in Springville as well as its offering of primary and specialty healthcare services that are currently not available in the community.

The Springville Regional Service Coalition is tackling substance use and addiction.

Additional senior housing is planned for Springville. This could help address the housing shortage in the community and the upward pressure on housing prices.

A new 27-mile trail could connect Springville with Orchard Park, expanding opportunities for residents to engage in health promoting activities.

A new food pantry at the elementary school in Springville-Griffith Institute CSD meets tangible family needs for food and connects families with additional services.
Numbers in Need  |  Community Snapshot: Village of Springville & Town of Concord, November 2019

Survey Results of Economically Vulnerable Residents

111 residents in need took the survey.

Many survey respondents are dealing with challenges in their lives, but some challenges are more pressing than others; about one in three respondents said they had an urgent concern. By a large margin, outstanding debt was the most common concern, followed by the cost and availability of child care and utility shut-offs. About a third of respondents also said they need some kind of healthcare they cannot afford, even though 92% of respondent households are covered by health insurance.

The debt problem among respondents can be broken down further into consumer debt, student loans, and medical bills. Nearly all respondents drive a car they own, and nearly half said they experience car issues such as unaffordable repairs and failed inspections.

Read more Insights from Residents

A detailed report exploring the community’s vulnerable populations, their needs, urgent concerns and barriers to support services.

HEALTH CARE NEEDS

32% of vulnerable residents are in need of some type of healthcare but can’t afford it.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Need Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical care</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prescription medicine</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health care or counseling</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation to appointments or services</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8% reported that at least one adult in their household lacks health insurance, but none of the children in respondent households lack insurance. Despite relatively broad coverage, many residents still have medical needs they cannot afford.

TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

How respondents get around

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own Vehicle</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family/Friends</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike/Walk</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxi/Rideshare/Medicaid Van/ Volunteer Service</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As a rural, low-density community, privately-owned vehicles are the only practical option for most residents to get around, as long as one can afford a car. Only a few respondents use alternative means of transportation; four percent get help from family and friends, and one percent get around by bike or on foot.

FINANCIAL NEEDS

Three quarters of respondents said their household faces a financial challenge. Reflecting respondents’ urgent concern about debt, the top financial challenges are consumer/credit card debt, student loans, and medical bills.

Top 5 Financial Challenges in Household

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consumer/credit card debt</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student loan debt</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical bills</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child support</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Regional Strategies and Models to Consider

Finding solutions to community challenges begins with laying out strategies for addressing their root causes. Strategies outline potential action steps for implementing. They also identify the kinds of organizations and agencies that could help carry out their implementation. Models to Consider from other places across the region, country, and world show how other communities have tackled similar strategies and achieved measures of success.

The following strategies and models are examples of all the possible solutions to Springville-Concord’s challenges. Please visit NumbersInNeed.org to view a more comprehensive collection of strategies and models that cover a broader range of topics.

See more online
Visit NumbersInNeed.org to view a comprehensive collection of strategies and models that cover a broader range of topics.

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**Bring health and mental health services to residents in need through community outreach, mobile services, and online tools.**

For many residents, access to healthcare services can be limited, especially those without a vehicle, in rural areas far from doctors and hospitals, and others facing economic, social, or language barriers. Across the Buffalo Niagara region, thousands of residents face such obstacles—over 60,500 households do not own a car, nearly 36,000 people with a disability live in poverty, and over 18,000 individuals have limited English fluency. Mobile health clinics can overcome these barriers by bringing essential health care services directly to residents in need where they live and work. Similarly, proactive community outreach by medical professionals, and online tools and resources can increase awareness and access to healthcare services, especially for those who face physical, cultural, or financial barriers.

**Potential Action Steps**

Operate mobile health clinics that travel to communities lacking convenient access to key health services. These can provide low-cost alternatives to primary care, screening and testing, mental health counseling, and other important services, including care outside of normal business hours.

Leverage data to determine where and how mobile health clinics can best reach underserved populations.

Travel to workplaces, and contact businesses, to directly reach people in need of health care services.

Consult with individuals experiencing financial, legal, cultural, or psychological barriers to accessing health care.

Provide consultation services to increase enrollment in health insurance, set up appointments with primary care or other physicians.

Advocate for policies that can facilitate the adoption of information technology for health solutions.

**Potential Actors in the Community**

- Hospitals
- Health clinics
- Physicians
- Healthcare providers
- Health insurance companies
- Local governments
- Colleges and universities

**Models to Consider**

- The Health Wagon - Various Locations in Virginia
  thehealthwagon.org/hwwp

- Mobile York South Simcoe (MOBYSS) - Ontario, Canada
  cmha-yr.on.ca/programs/youth/mobyss
Expand affordable, quality daycare options that increase opportunities for parents to work more flexible hours.

Insights from residents show that parents are concerned over the cost of childcare, as well as the quality of care available. According to research by ChildCare Aware of America, single parents in New York State paid an estimated 56% of their income on center-based childcare, or 41% of income for home-based childcare in 2017. These high costs force some parents to make a hard choice between working full-time and paying for costly childcare they might not entirely trust, or working part-time, or not at all, to care for their children at home. By expanding affordable childcare options, parents, especially single parents, will have a better opportunity to work, leaving them with additional money that can be spent on food, clothing, and housing for their children.

Potential Action Steps
Increase awareness of existing programs that provide family leave or financial assistance to parents for childcare.

Foster stronger partnerships between employers and childcare providers to find ways to provide affordable, quality childcare for employees.

Advocate for policy changes that would guarantee affordable or free quality childcare for all residents regardless of income or employment status (whether full- or part-time).

Identify and fill in gaps in areas across the region where there are childcare deserts where parents lack access to high-quality, affordable childcare close to where they live and work.

Potential Actors in the Community
Elected officials and policymakers
Childcare providers
Employers
Head Start programs

Models to Consider
Quebec Parental Insurance Plan - Quebec, Canada
rqap.gouv.qc.ca/en/what-is-the-quebec-parental-insurance-plan

Jeremiah Program - Minneapolis, MN and various locations across the U.S.
jeremiahprogram.org
Data Sources & Notes

Cover

Defining Need, Page 2
Minimum Wage: New York State Department of Labor, Minimum Wage (effective 12/31/18).

Poverty Map, Page 4
US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), 5-Year Estimates, 2017. The percentage of people in and near poverty is calculated using the population for whom poverty status is determined by the ACS. For 2017, the ACS determined the poverty status for 8,389 of the total population of 8,550 in Springville-Concord.

Poverty, Need and Economic Vulnerability, Page 5

Factors that Matter, Page 6
Top employers were first downloaded from ReferenceUSA and mapped to confirm location within the boundaries of the 12 communities. Top businesses by number of employees were cross-referenced with the Buffalo Business First Book of Lists (2018) to ensure accuracy in number of employees at the business location, when available.
Education: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2017. All income by education numbers are actual medians except those for graduate or professional degrees; these have been calculated by weighted averages of the medians, because combined medians were not available via Social Explorer.
Housing: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2017. Low-income households in this instance are defined as households with incomes below $35,000/year.

In 2017, NYS passed Raise the Age legislation that deals with non-felony offenses committed by 16- and 17-year olds outside of the criminal justice system. The law went into effect for 16 year olds on October 1, 2018 and will be effective for 17 year olds on October 1, 2019. While this law did not affect the juvenile arrest data shown in this report, it may affect trends in future years, beginning in 2018.

The Landscape of Providers, Page 7
Provider Data: Information submitted by agency providers through a provider questionnaire updated a listing of providers developed for the 2014 community report for the Village of Springville and Town of Concord. Providers provided information on program and service locations, agency location, geographic scope and more. Most service providers are not-for-profit and public sector providers.

Strategies and Models to Consider

Tax records available through the IRS and National Center for Charitable Statistics were used to identify new not-for-profits with locations in the community since 2014.

Provider Services and Needs of Residents, Page 8
Provider Data: See note for page 6.

Opportunities and Challenges for Providers, Page 9
Insights from Providers, Village of Springville and Town of Concord, October 2019. Provider insights come from an agency focus group held in July 2019 with seven provider representatives.

Survey Results of Economically Vulnerable Residents, Page 10
Insights from Residents, Village of Springville and Town of Concord, October 2019. Survey findings come from 111 surveys completed at 8 locations between May and July 2019.

Numbers in Need | Community Snapshot: Village of Springville & Town of Concord, November 2019
COMMUNITY SNAPSHOTS
Village of Springville and Town of Concord

NOVEMBER 2019

Visit us online to learn more about this and other communities in need across Buffalo Niagara.

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