A Portrait of Clark County: Needs of a Community

Virtual Feedback Forum

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Co-sponsors

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Community Action Partnership

Welcome! Thank you for your flexibility. Here are a few pointers for our forum:

• Mute button turns red 🔋 when you are muted.

• Please raise your hand 👋 to ask a question, or you can type your question in the Q&A feature.

• This forum is being recorded to aid in information gathering. Personally identifying information will not be made public unless you speak your name.

• Several polls/surveys will pop up on your screen throughout the forum. We hope you will participate. All responses are anonymous.
Agenda

- Welcome
- “Getting to Know You” poll
- Brief presentation
- “Did you Know” poll
- Data walk virtual version
- Group discussions
- “Coming Together as a Community” poll
- Thank you and satisfaction survey
Getting to Know You Poll
Getting to Know You Poll

7. Have you or anyone in your family ever needed public services (food assistance, TANF, Medicaid, rental assistance)?
Getting to Know You Poll

8. Do you pay more than 30% of your income for housing?
Why are we doing this?
Background

• Clark County is the Community Action Agency for our area.

• The Community Needs Assessment (CNA) is a requirement of the Community Services Block Grant Act, Section 676(b)(11).

• The purpose of the CNA is to:
  • Collect and analyze data about the needs of people in our community that have low-incomes
  • Inform future funding decisions
  • Inform policy and program decisions
Required Components of Community Needs Assessment

• Quantitative Data
  • American Community Survey data
  • Clark County Survey of Needs
  • Other needs assessments, published documents

• Qualitative Data
  • Community feedback forums
  • Focus groups
  • Other needs assessments, published documents

• Demographic Information
  • American Community Survey data
  • Clark County Survey of Needs

• Causes and Conditions of Poverty
Survey of Needs

• Distributed from November 1, 2019 through January 31, 2020

• Survey was available in hard copy and online
  • Hard copies available in English, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese and Chuukese
  • Online available in English, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese

• Distributed through over 100 partner organizations

• Received 1,655 total responses
2017 Community Needs Assessment

Available on our website at:

https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-documents
Did you Know? poll
Did you know?

1. How much do you need to make per hour to afford a studio apartment in Clark County?
   - $13.50 (minimum wage)
   - $15.50
   - $18.75
   - $22.92
Did you know?

2. The Federal Poverty Threshold definition that is used to determine the Federal Poverty Level was designated as the official definition of poverty in what year?

- 1965
- 1969
- 1975
- 1989
Did you know?

3. Race impacts your chances of prosperity.
   - True
   - False
Did you know?

4. If every person in the US that is living in poverty lived in the same state, it would be the most populous state in the nation.

- True
- False
Did you know?

5. Nearly 1 of every 5 children in America live in poverty.
   
   o True
   
   o False
6. For the most part, people living in poverty do not work.
   - True
   - False
Data Walk
Survey respondents were asked to identify up to five needs or concerns that they, or someone in their family, were currently experiencing regarding employment. This figure shows that just under half of respondents with employment needs said that finding a job is a current need or concern. This is followed just slightly by getting a better job (45%) and transportation to and from employment (41%).
Did you know?
In Clark County, the highest median wage workers are software developers at $66.44 while the lowest median wage workers earn $13.43 at fast food establishments, a difference of $53 per hour.

Unemployment Rates
2015-2019
Education needs

This figure shows that half of respondents with education needs said that **financial assistance to go to college** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **post-secondary education supports** (36%) and **applying for financial aid/scholarships** and **access to college/trade/apprenticeships** (both at 35%).

*565 respondents citing education needs*
Did you know?
An estimated 2/3 of students who are unable to read with proficiency by the end of 4th grade are likely to end up on welfare or in jail.

Graduation Rates by District
2014-2019
Housing needs

This figure shows that almost 2/3 of respondents with housing needs said that **affordable housing** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **rent assistance** (49%) and **finding housing I can rent** (44%).
Did you know?

Nationally, there is a shortage of more than 7 million affordable homes for our nation’s 11 million plus extremely low-income families.

There is no state or county where a renter working full-time at minimum wage can afford a two-bedroom apartment.

In Washington State, you can make a request to change the date your rent is due. Under the law, a landlord must agree to your request if your main source of income is government assistance. If your income mainly comes from other sources, the landlord is not required to change the date.

To afford a two-bedroom apartment, a person would need to make $28.75 per hour in Clark County.
Income and asset building needs

This figure shows that over half of respondents with income and asset building needs said that **credit repair** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **financial planning/budgeting classes** (42%) and **financial assistance to buy a home** (39%).
Income and asset building

**Did you know?**
Rent prices have skyrocketed over the last few years making the cost of renting the same or more than a mortgage payment.

**Monthly Income Comparison**

- **Living Wage**
  - Living Wage (1 Adult)
  - Living Wage (1 Adult and 1 Child)
- **2-bedroom Housing Wage**
- **Full Time Minimum Wage**
- **Social Security**
- **TANF**
- **Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD)**

*(Living Wage is a wage that is high enough to maintain a normal standard of living.  
**Housing Wage is the amount a person must earn to afford fair-market rent without paying more than 30%)*
This figure shows that nearly half of respondents with physical health needs said that **seeing a dentist** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **paying for dental services** (44%) and **paying for health services** (30%).
Physical health

Did you know?
Vulnerable populations are particularly at risk for insufficient health insurance coverage; people with lower incomes are often uninsured, and minorities account for over half of the uninsured population.

Health Insurance Type by Household Income

- Under $25,000
- $25,000 to $49,999
- $50,000 to $74,999
- $75,000 to $99,999
- $100,000 or more

- Private Coverage
- Public Coverage
- No Coverage
Behavioral health needs

This figure shows that over 2/3 of respondents with behavioral health needs said that **access to mental health services** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **access to counseling** (55%) and **paying for services** (41%).
Did you know?

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people ages 15-34 in the United States.

Of the 283 million people in the United States age 12 and older, nearly 14% had a substance use disorder in 2018.

Nearly 10% of youth have severe major depression, but 60% of these youth do not receive mental health treatment.

10.8% of Americans with a mental illness are uninsured.

In Clark County, 40% of people counted in the 2020 Point-in-Time Count reported having a mental illness, but only 11% indicated it was a barrier to becoming permanently housed.
Support services needs

This figure shows that over half of respondents with support service needs said that **paying for vehicle costs** is a current need or concern. This is followed by **paying for transportation** (47%) and **information and referral services** (27%).
Support services

Did you know?
In 28 states, center-based childcare for infants and toddlers is more expensive than in-state tuition and fees at a public university.

Transportation Cost Comparison

Cost per Month

$- $100 $200 $300 $400 $500 $600 $700 $800 $900

Local Bus Pass  Regional Bus Pass  Express to Portland Bus Pass  Owning a Vehicle
Respondents were asked to identify the top five service area needs for their family from the list provided.

Nearly half of respondents who participated in this section of the survey mentioned housing assistance (49%).

Other top mentions include: food assistance (44%), asset building (35%), mental health supports (31%), employment services (30%), transportation assistance (27%), utility assistance (25%), education assistance (24%), physical health services (22%), youth activities (19%), legal assistance (19%), child care (18%), senior services (11%), substance use disorder services (7%), cultural supports (6%), LGBTQ+ services (4%), and DV/sexual assault services (3%).
Demographic Information

**Age**
1,403 responses

- 14-17: 3%
- 18-24: 5%
- 25-44: 6%
- 45-54: 6%
- 55-59: 9%
- 60-64: 18%
- 65-74: 9%
- 75+: 9%
- 75+: 9%

**Gender**
1,361 responses

- Male: 28%
- Female: 71%
- Genderqueer: 1%

**Race**
1,346 responses

- White: 100%
Demographic Information

**Housing Situation**
- 1,352 responses
- 50% Rent
- 25% Own
- 14% Houseless/homeless
- 11% Staying with friends/family

**Income**
- 1,168 and 1,206 responses

- Less Than 125% FPL: 738
- More Than 125% FPL: 430
- Less Than 200% FPL: 198
- More Than 200% FPL: 1,008

Total Responses 1,346
Group Discussion
How does racism impact Clark County?

• Racism is a driving force of the social determinants of health (like housing, education, transportation access and employment) and is a barrier to health equity.
How does racism impact Clark County?

- Vancouver Public School system’s review showed students of color 2.2 times more likely to be suspended or expelled than white students.

- Black people are 2.4% of the Clark County population but make up:
  - 9% of Clark County prison inmates
  - 12% of evictions
  - 16% of those entering the homeless crisis response system
How has COVID-19 impacted Clark County?


- 10,000 Clark County residents filed a continued unemployment claim in September 2020, 9.4% unemployment rate in August.

- Hispanic/Latinx community makes up 10.0% of Clark County population and represents 33.9% of confirmed cases with available ethnicity data.

- Leisure and hospitality industry largest loss at 25% decline, manufacturing and construction 10% loss in employment.

- 98,806 total tests as of September 29, 2,995 positive (3.03%)
Group Norms

• Assume goodwill

• Respect all ideas and opinions

• Listen for understanding

• Share the floor

• Honor confidentiality
Group Discussion Question #1

What do you think about when you see the information provided tonight?

Is there anything significant or interesting?
What do you think are the causes of poverty in our community?
Group Discussion Question #3

What programs/services do you think will help lift people out of poverty?
Group Discussion Question #4

Is there anything you think is missing from the information/discussion provided tonight?
Coming Together as a Community Poll
1. How do you think human services are best provided?
   - Faith-based organizations
   - Private donations to local charities
   - Government Assistance
   - Family/friends
   - Combination of the above
   - Not the community’s responsibility to provide human services.
2. Where would you direct more funding if you could?
   - Housing Assistance
   - Homeless Services
   - Education Services
   - Employment Services
   - Healthcare
   - Mental Health Services
   - Substance Use Services
   - Food Assistance
   - Senior Services
   - Youth Services
3. Our community is doing a great job helping those in need.

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
Thank you

We appreciate your time and perspective!

We will send you a link to complete a satisfaction survey. Please tell us how we did, provide additional information and sign up to receive the completed Community Needs Assessment.