



Needs Assessment Study of Low-Income North Dakota Individuals and Families

Final Report

Prepared for the Community Action Partnership of North Dakota (CAPND)

Prepared by: North Dakota State University (NDSU)

Department of Construction Management and Engineering

Principal Investigator: Dr. Yao Yu

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Zhili (Jerry) Gao

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NDSU NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

Prepared by:

Dr. Yao Yu, Principal Investigator
Dr. Zhili (Jerry) Gao, Co-Principal Investigator
Rui Miao, NDSU student
Xiaoou Hu, NDSU student

North Dakota State University
Department of Construction Management and Engineering
NDSU Dept. 2475, P.O. Box 6050
Fargo, ND, 58108-6050, USA
Phone: 701-231-8822
Fax: 701-231-7431
Email: yao.yu@ndsu.edu

Prepared for the Community Action Partnership of North Dakota (CAPND)

Andrea Olson, MS, CCAP & NCRT/NCRI | Executive Director
Community Action Partnership of North Dakota
3233 University Drive South
Fargo, ND 58104
Tel: 701-232-2452
Fax: 701-298-3115
Email: andrea@capnd.org

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Executive Summary

This project is intended to conduct a study on the statewide needs assessment of low-income people in North Dakota by means of surveys, questionnaires, and statistical analysis methods. The North Dakota Community Action Agencies (CAAs), as nonprofit organizations, were originally established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's war on poverty. The most recent statewide needs assessment study of low-income people in North Dakota sponsored by the CAAs was performed more than ten years ago in 2006. Apparently, its results are outdated, and it is urgent for CAAs to carry out a new round of needs assessment with the goal of better understanding the current and real needs of people experiencing poverty, so that the CAAs may adjust and/or improve their existing services/programs, if needed, to best serve and assist these people in our state. Additionally, the new National Community Action Organizational Performance Standards requires that the CAAs conduct needs assessments on a regular basis. Simultaneously, CAAs follow an ongoing evaluation process that puts a tremendous weight on the needs of the community; and collecting the assessment is one of the first steps in the process. The results of the assessments are intended to drive programming at each of the local CAAs.

The needs assessment study was accomplished through the collaboration of the CAAs and North Dakota State University (NDSU) by means of several kinds of surveys (such as online or paper surveys, etc., depending on the suitability of these survey methods to different respondent groups) to low-income individuals and families across the state of North Dakota. In the study, the survey data were organized and analyzed in a statistical way to find out the priority needs of these people. The survey responses from low-income respondents were separated from the responses from non-low-income participants, which allows the research team to compare them and then identify the similarity, difference, and uniqueness of them in order to ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey study and avoid bias. Additionally, two comparison methods were used in the study, including cross-sectional and longitudinal comparisons. These methods allow the research team not only to identify the top specific needs under the seven need categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement, and Other Supports*, through the cross-sectional comparison, but also to be able to find out the top specific needs regardless of which categories these needs belong to through the longitudinal comparison.

Key Takeaways

- The most frequently mentioned needs for the low-income people today have been significantly changed from the previous needs of “*Food*”, “*Utilities*”, and “*Dental Health Care*”, as identified in the 2006 needs assessment study. The key findings of the priority needs are summarized below, as well as in the following table.
- “**Rental Assistance**” becomes the **1st priority need** of people experiencing poverty across the state under the category of “**Housing**”. This need, however, would represent their immediate (short-term) need, which could be partially or significantly affected by the pandemic of COVID-19, meaning that it would not represent the top need before (e.g., in 2019) or after the pandemic. It is difficult to predict how long the negative impact of

COVID 19 on the community will last, and thus continuous monitoring of the needs of low-income people across the state is recommended.

- Inconsistencies between the responses from low-income or non-low-income respondents were found, which represent the different needs of these two groups of people. For example, the **1st priority need** for the non-low-income respondents is “**Mental Health Service**”, whereas “**Rental Assistance**” is the **top need** for the low-income people. For the community (including both low-income and non-low-income people), the **1st priority need** is “**Dental Issuance/Affordable Dental**”.
- The results in the table below include those for low-incomes, non-low-incomes, or the community, and obtained from the cross-sectional and longitudinal comparison methods. How these results should be used depends on what the CAAs focus on, e.g.,
 - Use the results for low-income people, if the CAAs focus on people experiencing poverty,
 - Use the results for non-low-income people, if the CAAs focus on the people with higher household incomes than the 125% poverty line,
 - Use the results for the community, if the CAAs care more about the entire community as a whole (including low-income and non-low-income people),
 - Use the results obtained from the cross-sectional comparison method, if the CAAs focus more on the seven categories of needs than the specific needs,
 - Use the results obtained from the longitudinal comparison method, if the CAAs focus more on the top specific needs regardless of which categories these needs belong to.

More detailed results for each CAA region can be found in Section 3.4 of the report. The needs assessment result can also be shared with other organizations to maximize the impact of benefit of the study.

- The frequently mentioned causes of poverty across the state identified by analyzing the qualitative data collected are:
 - Bad Record/Background
 - Family Instability
 - Disability, Mental Illness, Severe Anxiety/Depression, etc.
 - Childcare Issue for Working Parents
 - Fewer/No Skills for Jobs (with better pay and benefits)
 - COVID-19
 - Lack of Affordable Transportation (to and from work)
 - Lack of Education
 - Generational Poverty
 - Lack of Employment Opportunities.

The causes of poverty are fluid and would change on a regular basis, and secondary statistical data from other organizations, such as the data from the most recent statewide workforce studies, housing needs assessments, US census, etc., are needed in order to

further narrow down the causes of poverty through a comprehensive analysis of poverty characteristics.

- For the CAA regions 6, 7, and 8, the results for low-income people in these regions would not be that accurate to reflect their real needs due to the high margin of error (>10%).

Three most frequently mentioned overall need categories (with the top specific need under each category) identified through cross-sectional comparison method		
For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
1. Housing – Rental Assistance 2. Income and Asset-Building – Financial Issues 3. Employment – Finding a Job .OR. Health and Social/Behavior Development – Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental .OR. Education – Paying for Education	1. Housing – Decent Affordable Houses to Buy 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development – Mental Health Service 3. Employment – Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits	1. Housing – Rental Assistance 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 3. Employment - Finding a Job .OR. Income and Asset-Building – Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling
Three specific needs identified through longitudinal comparison method		
For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
1. Housing - Rental Assistance 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 3. Other Needs - Food	1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care 3. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling	1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service

1. Background

Low-income individuals and families need a variety of supports to meet their needs, including housing, employment, health care, transportation, food, child and family development, education, etc. A comprehensive low-income needs assessment was conducted by Danielson and Associates in 2006, which was sponsored by the North Dakota Community Action Agencies (CAAs) that are nonprofit organizations and were originally established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's war on poverty. The new National Community Action Organizational Performance Standards requires that the CAAs conduct needs assessments on a regular basis. Simultaneously, CAAs follow an ongoing evaluation process that puts a tremendous weight on the needs of the community; collecting the assessment is one of the first steps in the process. Once the needs are established, the planning can begin, i.e., the results of the assessments are intended to drive programming at each of the local CAAs. The current assessment process in North Dakota is in desperate need of an overhaul and redesign. The results extracted from the previous needs assessment are more than ten years old and are obviously unable to reflect the current and real needs of low-income people due to the significant changes of North Dakota during these 10+ years in terms of demography, economic climate, employment trend, etc. Since then, the CAAs have been utilizing a survey tool that was developed in-house. Although it captures some valuable data, the tool is not enough to capture the true needs across the state. CAAs need a credible tool that provides a level of confidence that the data collected is accurate and pointed in its focus. Additionally, not all the agencies conduct the assessment in the same way; and the CAAs need help establishing a process that ensures data is able to be collected in a streamlined manner. Therefore, the CAAs enlisted the help of NDSU (North Dakota State University) to reevaluate the current needs of low-income individuals and families through a needs assessment survey. The roles of the NDSU team are to provide 1) guidance on how to implement a sophisticated process for administering the needs assessment that is consistent amongst all CAAs across the state, and 2) technical support to the needs assessment study, including survey questionnaire preparation, statistical analysis of data, and report preparation.

The goal of this project is to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of low-incomes in North Dakota following the "Community Assessment Organizational Standards" ^[1] and the "A Community Action Guide to Comprehensive Community Needs Assessments" ^[2] by the National Association for State Community Services Programs (NASCSPP). The assessment result is expected to be used by the Community Action Partnership of North Dakota (CAPND) and its community partners for planning to provide high-quality services to families and communities with low-incomes.

2. Methodology

The comprehensive needs assessment was accomplished through surveys and focus groups in order to collect both quantitative and qualitative data. The surveys consist of both multiple-choice and open-ended questions with the intention of capturing both quantitative and qualitative data,

¹ <https://nascsp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/CNA-Checklist-Final-May-2017.pdf>

² <https://nascsp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/needs-assessment-final-8.22-print-to-pdf.pdf>

and the focus groups are used to better understand the depth and breadth of the issue focusing on the collection of qualitative data. These two types of assessment instruments used in this project are discussed in detail below.

2.1 Survey Instrument

The survey questionnaire was developed by the NDSU team and consists of three sections with totally 24 questions, including Section 1 – Basic Demographic Information, Section 2 – Specific Needs, and Section 3 – Additional Feedback. Section 1 was designed to collect the basic demographic information of the respondents, such as gender, age, household, race/ethnicity, income, level of education, employment status, role in the community, etc. More specific need assessment questions are asked in Section 2 under seven need categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement and Community Involvement, and Other Supports*, along with a question (Question 2.8) to allow respondents to indicate three most important needs for them, their families, and/or their communities among these seven need categories. Additionally, under each need category, respondents are offered an opportunity to provide their comments and/or indicate other need(s) that is not included/listed in this category, which allows the surveyors to collect not only quantitative but also qualitative survey data. Section 3 also gives respondents an opportunity to leave their feedback or comments regarding the survey and to ask them if they are willing to be contacted to further discuss needs in their communities through focus groups or phone interviews.

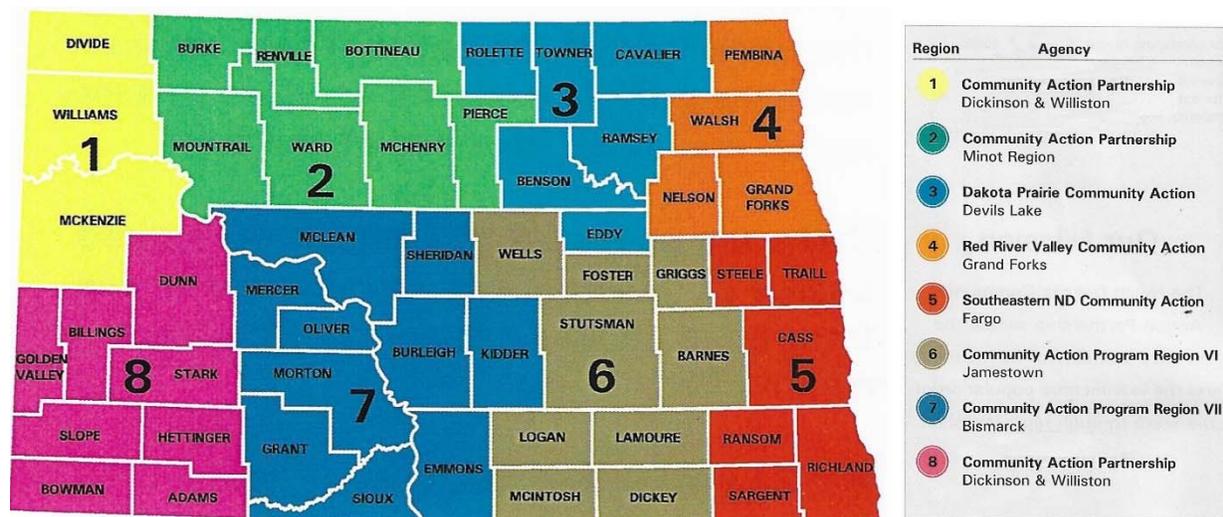


Figure 1: North Dakota CAAs

There are eight CAA regions across the state, including 53 counties, which are served by seven community action agencies, as shown in Figure 1. To show the uniqueness of each region by looking at the programs/services currently offered to local low-incomes, eight survey forms were created with all the questions kept the same except Question 2.9 in Section 2 that was designed specifically for each region to answer the question, “*What are the MOST important programs/services you would like to see continued in your community?*” This is to ensure that each survey is individualized to the specific target group. The survey questionnaire for Region 1 is

shown in Appendix A of the report as an example, and the eight survey questionnaires are available online (See Appendix C).

To ensure the validity of the survey, the minimum number of survey respondents for each region was determined, as shown in Table 1. These numbers were determined based on the 2018 census data (Column A in Table 1) and the poverty percentages (Column B in Table 1 - determined in 2012 based on the 2010 census data), and by using the following statistic formula:

$$Ns = \frac{Np \times p \times (1-p)}{(Np-1) \times (B/C)^2 + p \times (1-p)} \quad (\text{Equation 1})$$

where Ns = the completed sample size needed for the desired level of precision (Column D in Table 1)

Np = the size of the population (Column C in Table 1)

p = the proportion of the population expected to choose (we used 50/50 Split – the most conservative value possible.)

B = margin of error (we used ±5%/10% as the target, which determines the accuracy of the survey result.)

C = Z score associated with the confidence level (typically 1.96 with a commonly used confidence level of 95%)

These minimum numbers were selected to guarantee that the confidence level about the analysis results for any conclusion being made is at 95% within the given confidence intervals, i.e., ±5% or ±10% points, which is the common statistical analysis practice. This means that, for example, if 60% of the respondents say “Housing” is one of their critical needs, one could state with 95% confidence that between 55% and 65% (for ±5% margin of error) or between 50% and 70% (for ±10% margin of error) of the entire low-income population has the need for “Housing”, assuming there is no error from nonresponse, measurement, or coverage.

Table 1: Minimum survey number for each region

	Total Population (A)	Low-income percentage (B)	Total Low-incomes (C)	Min. number of survey respondents (D)	
				±5% Margin of Error	±10% Margin of Error
Region 1 (Williston)	51,265	8.67%	4,445	354	94
Region 2 (Minot)	98,744	13.41%	13,242	373	95
Region 3 (Devils Lake)	41,078	10.58%	4,346	353	94
Region 4 (Grand Forks)	91,253	15.00%	13,688	374	95
Region 5 (Fargo)	216,802	25.67%	55,653	382	96
Region 6 (Jamestown)	54,317	7.74%	4,204	352	94
Region 7 (Bismarck)	159,954	18.92%	30,263	379	96
Region 8 (Dickinson)	46,664	8.67%	4,046	351	94
			Sum of 8 Regions	2,918	758

The survey process started around 01/20/2020, and the number of survey responses up to 11/12/2020 is summarized in Table 2 (more detailed results by county can be found in Appendix B), which were collected through paper and online surveys that were distributed across the state by the seven CAAs. The links of the online surveys (on SurveyMonkey) and the corresponding QR codes can be found in Appendix C.

As shown in Table 2, none of the regions reaches the $\pm 5\%$ margin of error (Region 5 is close), but Region 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 reach the $\pm 10\%$ margin of error. The corresponding margins of error to the current number of low-income responses are determined and shown in Table 2 (Column F), which indicate that the results drawn from the survey data for Region 6, 7, and 8 would have a higher margin of error, especially for Region 6 with $\pm 22.4\%$. For the entire state of North Dakota, however, $\pm 3.0\%$ margin of error is achieved, which ensures the accuracy and validity of the statewide survey result.

Table 2: Number of total responses collected between 01/20/2020 and 11/12/2020

Region	Total Responses	Number of Completed Surveys	Number of Effective Non-Low-Income Responses	Number of Effective Low-Income Responses	Total Sample Size Required in Each Region (Table 1)		Current Margin of Error
	*[A]	*[B]	*[C]	*[D]	*[E]		*[F]
					$\pm 5\%$ Margin of Error	$\pm 10\%$ Margin of Error	
Region 1	220	203	107	96	354	94	$\pm 9.9\%$
Region 2	399	358	258	100	373	95	$\pm 9.8\%$
Region 3	534	521	244	277	353	94	$\pm 5.7\%$
Region 4	449	409	265	144	374	95	$\pm 8.1\%$
Region 5	1040	937	589	348	382	96	$\pm 5.2\%$
Region 6	154	145	126	19	352	94	$\pm 22.4\%$
Region 7	306	270	217	53	379	96	$\pm 13.4\%$
Region 8	356	327	278	49	351	94	$\pm 13.9\%$
Total	3458	3170	2084	1086	2918	758	$\pm 3.0\%$

*[A]: Number of total responses collected on SurveyMonkey and From Shared Folder

*[B]: Number of effective survey responses that can be used, i.e., completed surveys without including incomplete survey responses that will not be counted.

*[C]: Number of effective survey responses completed by non-low incomes, such as agency board members, agency volunteers, representatives of a government entity, a private organization, a faith-based organization, or a community-based organization, or general public people whose household incomes are higher than the 125% of poverty.

*[D]: Number of effective survey responses completed by low incomes (determined by looking at the answers of Question 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, and 1.13, based on 125% of poverty).

*[E]: Required number of survey responses from low-income people in each region

*[F]: Current margin of error based on the number of survey responses from low-income people in each region

The goal of this assessment was to collect as many responses as possible for an overview of the needs across North Dakota to ensure the agencies are able to respond to the highest needs faced by those experiencing poverty. We were especially interested in collecting responses from the low-income population, although we also targeted members across the community at large. At the initial starting point of the needs assessment, the CAAs focused on collecting responses from each of their respective communities. Each agency disseminated the survey via a multitude of platforms:

- Distributed it throughout CAA programs including Weatherization, Head Start, and Self-Sufficiency
- In-person distribution to clients and partner agencies
- Social media and websites
- Listservs and large group emails
- Partner agencies, including statewide partners
- Distribution of QR code in invoices sent to vendors and staff paystubs
- Asked staff to share the assessment with their family, friends, and networks.

Preliminary results in the first weeks of data collection were promising, and it appeared that we would easily be able to collect an adequate amount of responses in all regions of the state by mid-summer. At the height of the data collection for the assessment, the efforts were abruptly halted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The CAAs had to pivot their focus almost entirely on emergency responses across North Dakota. People experiencing poverty were deeply impacted by the pandemic and found themselves in need of basic assistance such as food, rental, and utility assistance. Due to the concern of contamination via paper and electronic devices (laptops in waiting rooms), the needs assessment was only disseminated via websites, social media, and word-of-mouth, which deeply impacted the ability to collect data and resulted in far fewer responses than we had hoped for early in the process.

In addition to much more limited distribution methods, many of the agencies were unable to devote the same employee resources to soliciting responses to the needs assessment questionnaire. These employees were instead needed on the front lines to assist clients throughout the pandemic. While we recognized the importance of data collection across the state, some agencies simply could not devote the same resources due to the heavy need for immediate responses in their community. Each agency responded according to their capabilities and available resources at the time. Despite extending the deadline for data collection, we still fell short of our goal to achieve a precision of around $\pm 5\%$ using the 95% level of confidence in several regions. Fortunately, we were still able to collect enough responses to have figures that meet the threshold for a $\pm 10\%$ precision in most of the regions.

The pandemic also extended the duration of the United States Census. Community organizations, including CAAs, were simultaneously promoting the Census and Needs Assessment; in other words, it was a big ask of people to complete both surveys amid a global emergency. So, while we did not meet our target goal in every region, we were still able to collect over 3,000 usable surveys, and over 1,000 of those were from low-income respondents. These figures represent a massive undertaking across our state during a pandemic, which ensures that the estimate at the level of the entire state of North Dakota is within $\pm 3\%$ points of the true population value, as shown in Table 2.

2.2 Focus Groups

Focus groups are small-group discussions guided by a leader that focuses on specific topics to allow collecting qualitative data. The Focus Group questions used in this study are shown below,

- 1) How do you define poverty?

- 2) What are the conditions and causes of poverty in our community?
- 3) What keeps families in poverty?
- 4) What would our community look like with 25%/50% reduced poverty?
- 5) What can Community Action do to support the community to achieve the outcomes to eliminate poverty in your county?
- 6) Identify programs, strategies, and initiatives that have been successful in reducing poverty.

The focus group face-to-face meeting was organized by the CAA Region 5 on February 19, 2020, which had two sections (morning and afternoon) with totally three participants (two in the morning section and one in the afternoon). The small number of participants is due to the concern of COVID 19. Instead, more qualitative data were obtained through phone interviews, where the CAA staff from Region 5 called people individually who participated in the survey and provided their contact information in Section 3 of the survey questionnaire (See Appendix A). The above focus group questions were asked during the phone calls, and responses were collected and compiled, which are analyzed and shown in the following section.

3. Assessment Results and Discussions

In this section, the key findings in terms of the demographic information, the priority needs of the low-incomes and the community (including low-incomes and non-low-incomes) in each CAA region, the statewide needs and priorities, the specific needs, the causes and conditions of poverty, etc., are identified and discussed here after deep analyses on both the quantitative and qualitative data collected.

In the figures shown in this section, the differences between “Low-Income Responses”, “Non-Low-Income Responses”, and “Total Responses” are described below.

- “Low-Income Responses” represent the survey responses from low-income people (the answers to Question 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, and 1.13 in the survey questionnaire are used to identify whether a respondent is a low-income or not, based on the 125% of the 2020 Federal Poverty Guideline ^[3])
- “Non-Low-Income Responses” represent the survey responses from the respondents other than the low-incomes identified, including agency board member, agency volunteer, representative of an educational institution, representative of a government entity, representative of a private organization, representative of a faith-based organization, representative of a community-based organization, general public, etc.
- “Total Responses” represent the overall survey responses from both the low-income and non-low-income respondents.

3.1 Results Drawn from Section 1 – Basic Demographic Information

The scope of the survey covers all the 53 counties of the state. As shown in Figure 2, about 70% of the survey respondents are female, where low-income respondents account for about 62%. Male respondents account for 26.5%, and 32.5% of them are low-income respondents.

³ <https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

By looking at the age distribution of these respondents from Figure 3, only 0.5% of low-income respondents are under 18 years of age; 45.9% is 18-39 years of age; about 32% is 40-64 years of age; and about 20% is 65 years and older. For non-low-income respondents, 0.2% is under 18 years of age; about 41% is 18-39 years of age; about 47% is 40-64 years of age; and about 9% is 65 years and older. This means that proportionately more aged low-income people (65 years and older) with 20% participated in the survey than the non-low-income respondents with the age of 65 years and older (9%), which would reflect from one aspect of the statewide distribution of low-income people by age.

Figure 4 shows the responses to the survey question, “Do you or a member of your household have child(ren) under age 18 years old?”. As shown in the figure, about 40% of the respondents (low-income and non-low-income) have child(ren) under age 18 years old in their households, and about 60% do not.

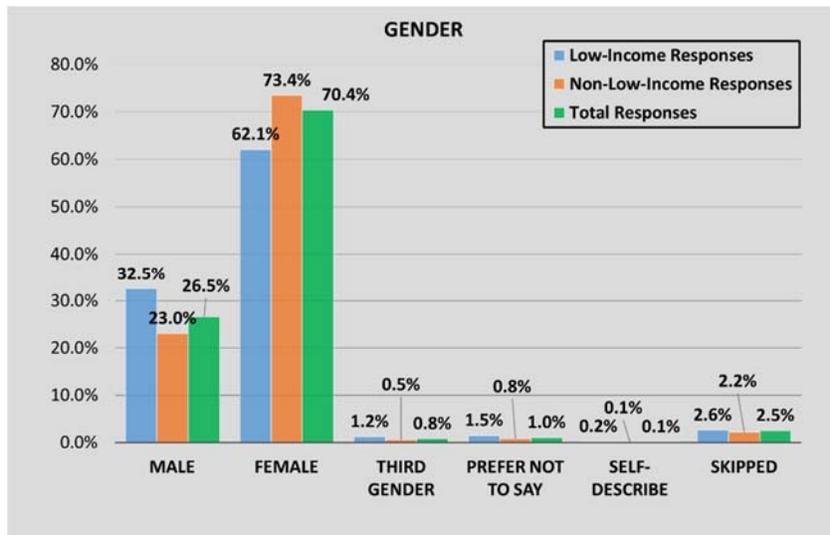


Figure 2: Gender distribution of survey respondents

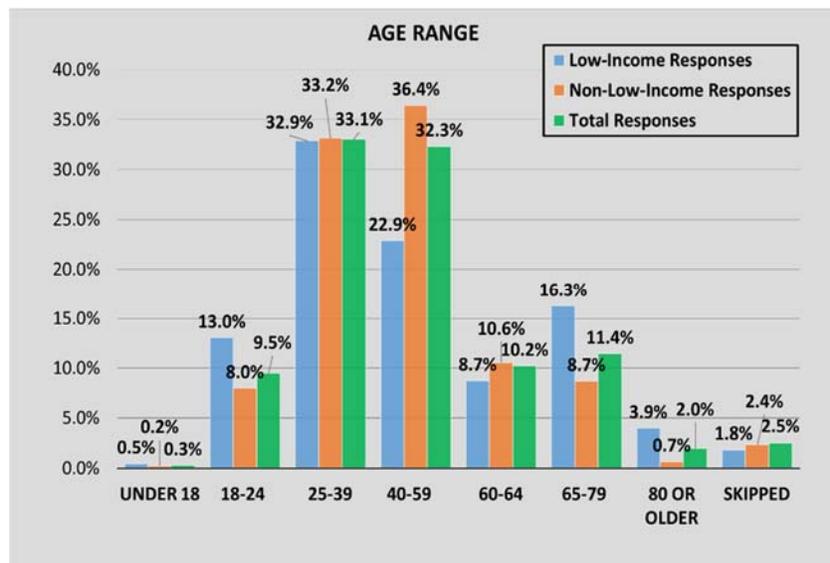


Figure 3: Age distribution of survey respondents

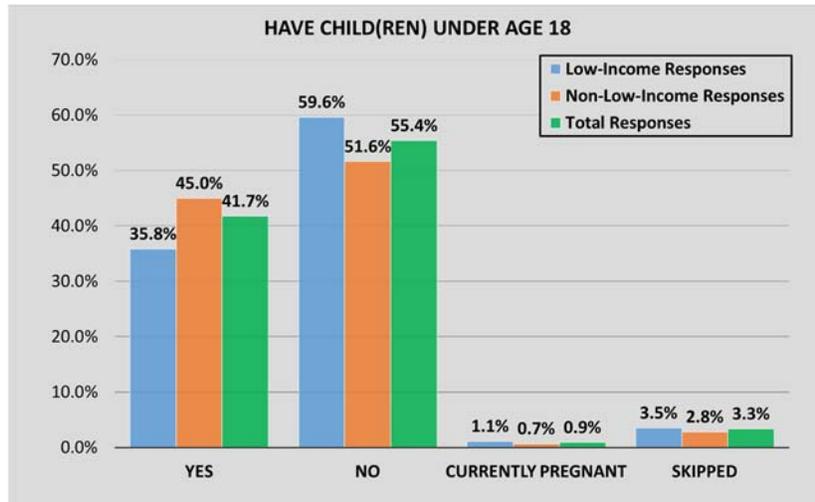


Figure 4: Have child(ren) under 18 in household?

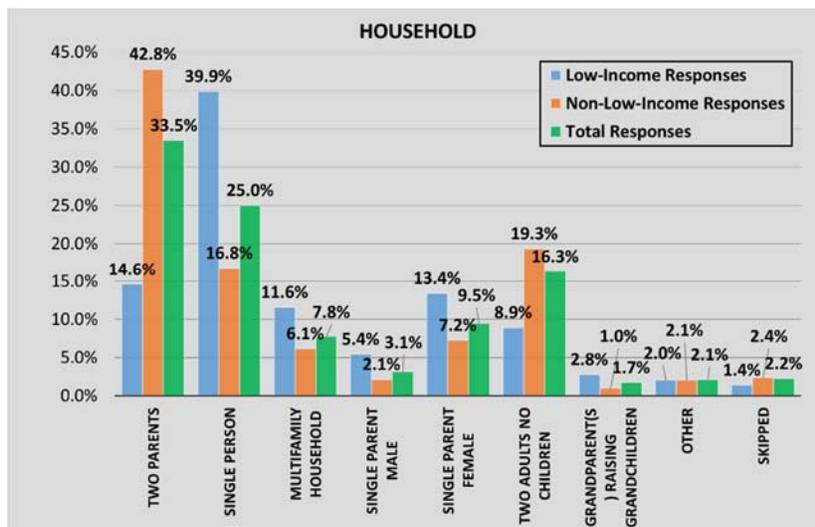


Figure 5: Description of household

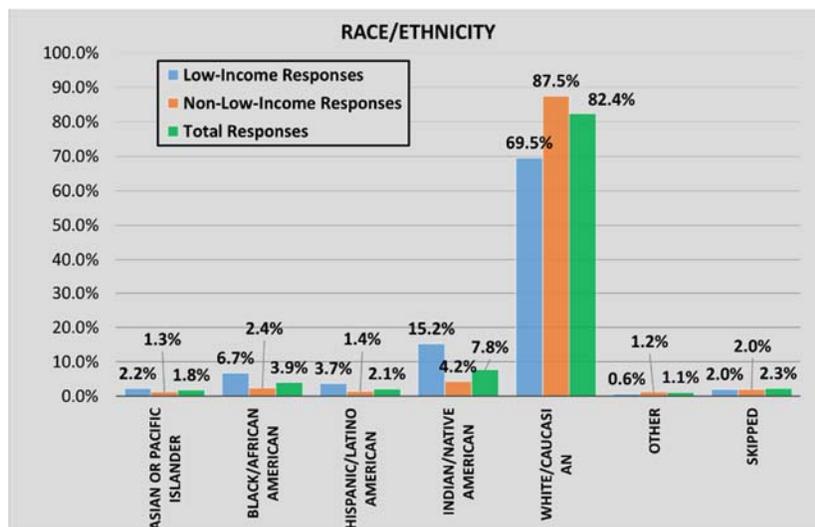


Figure 6: Race/Ethnicity

Among the low-income respondents, about 40% indicate “Single Person” in their households, but only about 17% of non-low-income respondents indicate this, as shown in Figure 5. Most of the non-low-income respondents described their households with “Two Parents” (42.8%) or “Two Adults No Children” (19.3%). This implies that the different family structures between low-income and non-low-income people could be part of the conditions and causes of poverty in our community. Especially, it is noticed that the proportion of low-income respondents who indicated “Single Parent Female” (13.4%) is significantly higher than the non-low-income people (7.2%), as shown in Figure 5.

Among the non-low-income survey respondents, there is little racial diversity, and about 87.5% of them are “White/Caucasian”, which is consistent with the 2019 census result from the US Census Bureau [4]. For the low-income respondents, about 70% is “White/Caucasian”; 15% is “Indian/Native American”; 6.7% is “Black/African American”; 3.7% is “Hispanic/Latino American”; and 2.2% is “Asian or Pacific Islander” (Figure 6). Additionally, as shown in Figure 7, more than 90% of the respondents speak English in their homes (about 96% for low-income respondents).

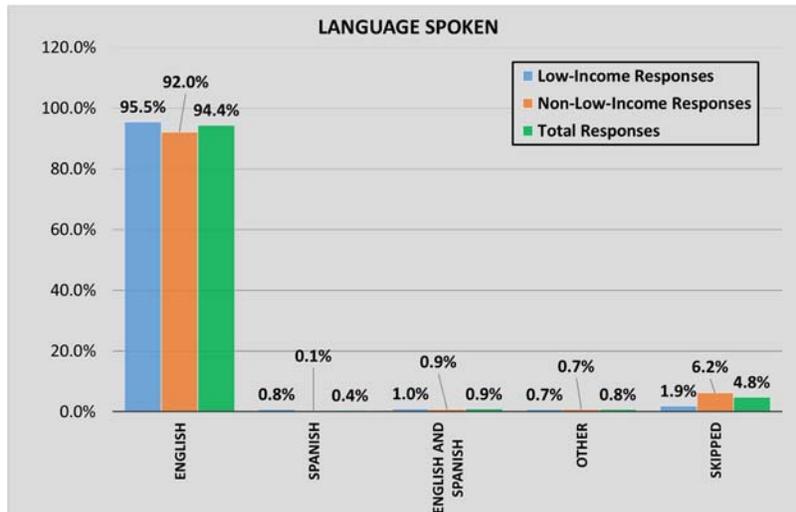


Figure 7: Language Spoken at home

Figure 8 shows the total household incomes last year (2019) of the respondents, and this result is used as one of the parameters by the research team to separate the low-income responses from the non-low-incomes’. As shown, most of the low-income respondents (70.4%) are less than \$20,000, where about half of them (37.6%) have household incomes less than \$10,000. In contrast, about 40.7% of non-low-income respondents indicated in the survey that their total household incomes are more than \$70,000.

The significant difference in terms of the total household income between low-incomes and non-low-incomes could be explained by the survey results shown in the following figures. Figure 9 shows the respondents’ highest levels of education completed, and Figure 10 illustrates their employment status. As shown in Figure 9, about 60% of low-income respondents have no

⁴ <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/ND>

education beyond high school, and about 18% of them have less than high school education. The education situation is significantly different for non-low-income respondents. For example, about 33% of them hold bachelor's degrees, and the percentage of the non-low-income respondents who have education beyond high school is much higher (about 80%) than that of low-income respondents (about 40%).

The employment status is another indicator that reflects the distinct household incomes between the non-low-income and low-income respondents. As shown in Figure 10, about 67% of the non-low-income respondents have full-time jobs, but only 16.8% of the low-income respondents indicated that this is the case for them. 16.5% of the low-income respondents indicated that they have part-time jobs; 22.6% indicated they are not working but looking for jobs; 10.8% indicated they are not working/looking for jobs; and about 17.1% are retired. By looking at the three figures (Figure 8, 9, and 10), the potential relationship can be established among Education, Employment, and Income, where a higher level of education contributes to a better employment opportunity/status, which thus contributes to a higher household income.

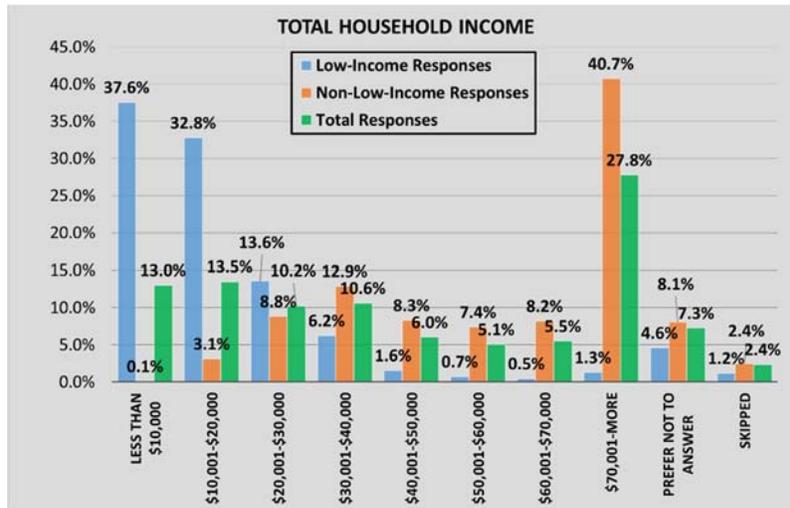


Figure 8: Total household income

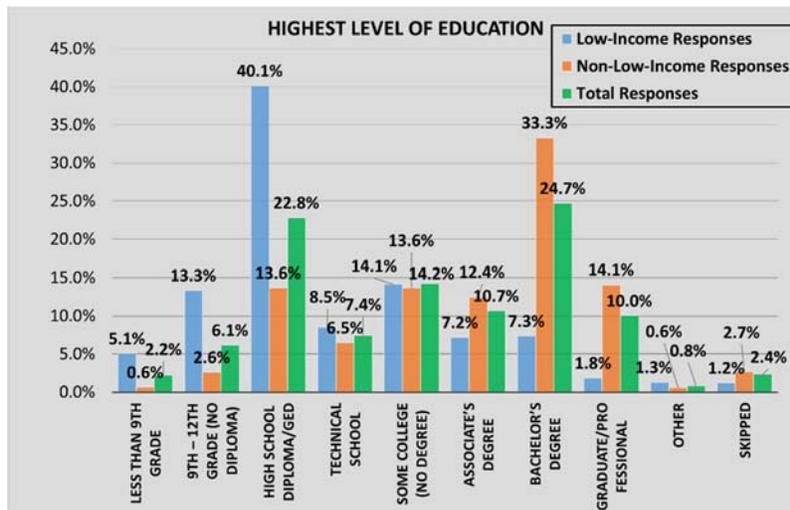


Figure 9: Highest level of education completed

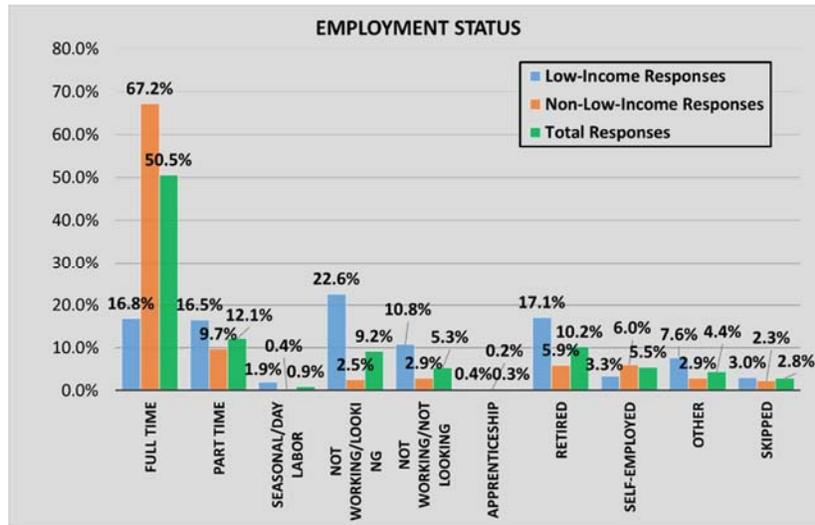


Figure 10: Current employment status

The different housing statuses, as shown in Figure 11, are also potentially dependent on the distinct household incomes between the low-income and non-low-income respondents. As shown, about 68% of the non-low-income respondents indicated their housing statuses with “Own”, but this number drops to about 26% for low-income respondents. About half (51.6%) of low-incomes indicated they “Rent”, 6.4% of them are homeless, and about 9% are living and staying with their friends.

Figure 12 shows the roles of the respondents in the community, and this result is also used as one of the parameters by the research team to separate the low-income responses from the non-low-incomes’. This figure indicates that the roles of most of the low-income respondents in the community are either the clients of the CAAs or the general public who are not the clients of the CAAs. The non-low-income respondents are mainly from the general public (39.2%), the representatives of an educational institution (7.1%), the representatives of a government entity (20.5%), and the representatives of a community-based organization (15.4%).

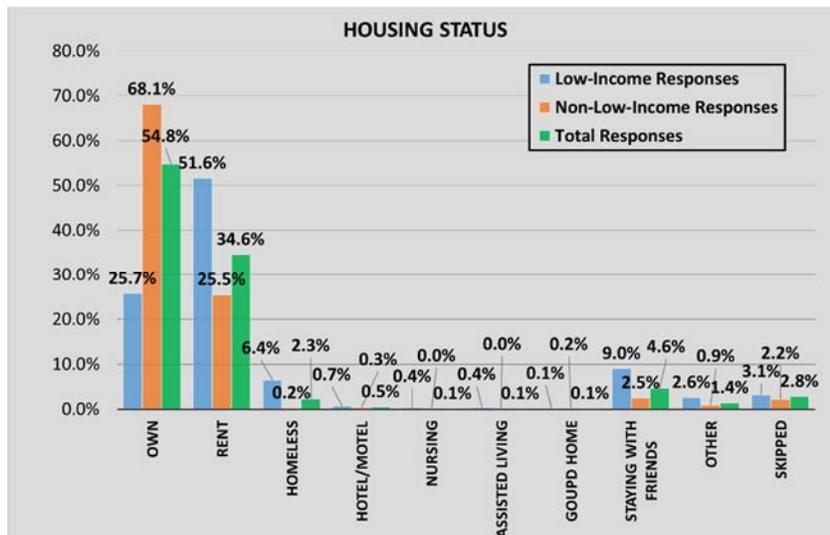


Figure 11: Housing status

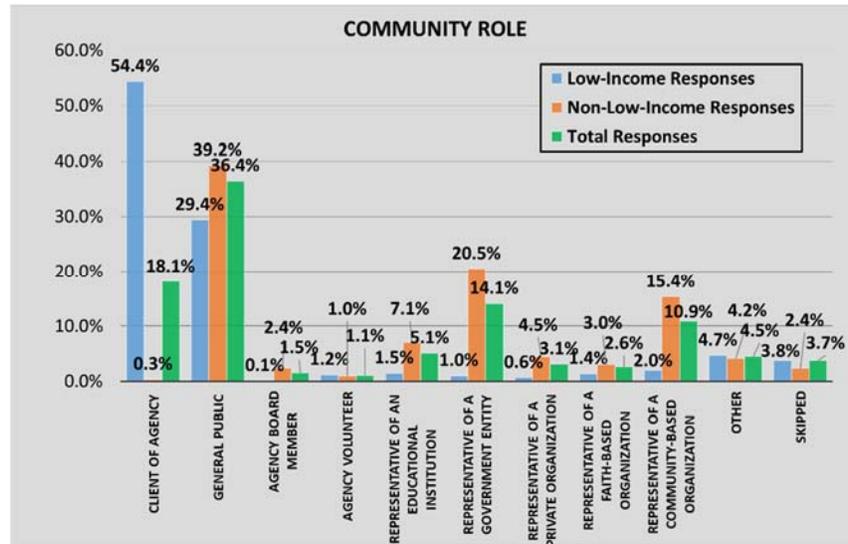


Figure 12: Role in the community

3.2 Results Drawn from Section 2 – Specific Needs

3.2.1 Results Drawn from Quantitative Data

The specific needs identified from the seven categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement and Community Involvement, and Other Supports*, are shown below from Figures 13~19, respectively. In these figures, (a) represents the proportions of the respondents who have or do not have needs under a category, and (b) represents the specific needs of those respondents who indicated that they have needs under the category.

3.2.1.1 Employment

As shown in Figure 13 (a), about 37% of the low-income respondents indicated that “Employment” is a need for them, their families, and/or their communities, meaning that a majority of them (63%) believe “Employment” is not a priority need. A similar conclusion can be drawn from the survey result of non-low-income respondents, as shown in this figure.

For those low-income respondents who indicated “Employment” is a need for them, the three most frequently mentioned needs under this category, as shown in Figure 13 (b), are

1. “Finding a Job” (71.5%),
2. “Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits” (53.1%),
3. “Job Training” (50.5%).

The identified top needs for the non-low-income respondents are similar to those for the low-incomes, i.e., “Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits” (61.5%), “Finding a Job” (48.5%), and “Job Training” (44.2%). The only difference between the low-income and non-low-income respondents is that non-low-incomes see “Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits” as their top need, whereas most of the low-incomes just want to find a job, including “Finding a full-time job”,

“Applying for jobs”, “Writing a resume”, “Interviewing for a job”, and/or “Getting appropriate clothing for a job”, as listed in the survey questionnaire.

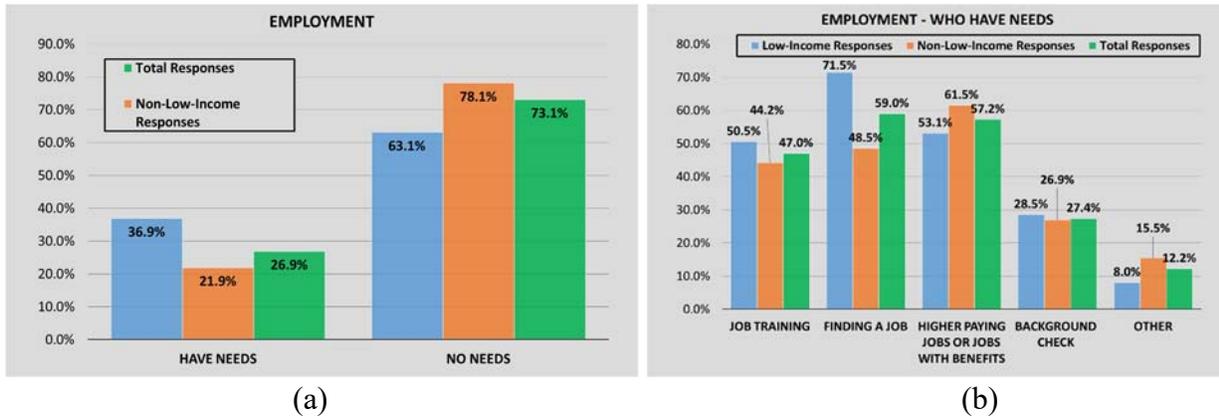


Figure 13: Employment (based on 1,046 identified low-incomes and 2,003 non-low-incomes)

3.2.1.2 Income and Asset-Building

More than half (53.2%) of the low-income respondents identified a need for “Income and Asset-Building”, but interestingly, only about 30% of the non-low-income respondents indicated this is a need for them (Figure 14 (a)). This demonstrates the inconsistency between the responses from low-income and non-low-income respondents, as well as the necessity to separate them to avoid bias.

As shown in Figure 14 (b), for those low-income respondents who identified a need under this category, the three most frequently mentioned needs for them are

1. “Financial Issues” (54.8%),
2. “Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling” (46.6%),
3. “Free Income Tax Preparation” (30.9%).

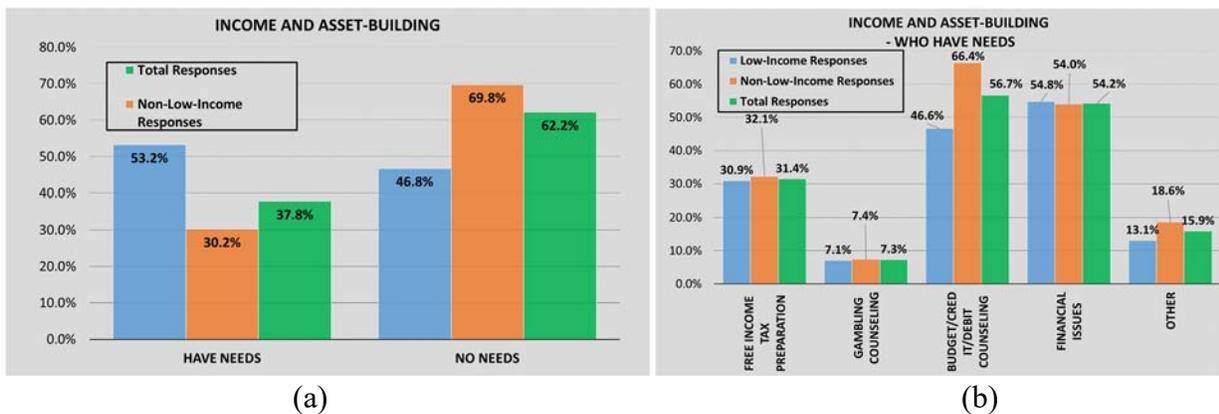


Figure 14: Income and Asset-Building (based on 1,063 identified low-incomes and 2,008 non-low-incomes)

The identified top needs for the non-low-income respondents are similar to those for the low-incomes, i.e., “Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling” (66.4%), “Financial Issues” (54%), and “Free Income Tax Preparation” (32.1%). The only difference between the low-income and non-low-income respondents is that non-low-incomes see “Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling” as their top

need, whereas most of the low-incomes concern more about their “Financial Issues”, such as “Divorce problems”, “Child support problems”, “Problems with utility or telephone company”, and/or “Education on how to build assets”, as listed in the survey questionnaire.

3.2.1.3 Education

Most of the survey respondents, including low-incomes (64.5%) and non-low-incomes (73.3%), did not see “Education” as a need for them (Figure 15 (a)), but inconsistencies exist between the responses from low-income or non-low-income respondents when they identified their specific needs under this category (Figure 15 (b)). For example, the three most frequently mentioned needs identified by low-income respondents are

1. “Paying for education” (50%),
2. “Technical and Vocational Training” (46.3%),
3. “GED Classes” (33.7%).

Nevertheless, the non-low-income respondents indicated that the followings are their top needs.

1. “Paying for education” (53.7%)
2. “Childcare” (47.6%)
3. “Technical and Vocational Training” (39.9%) or “Early Childhood Education Programs” (39.9%)

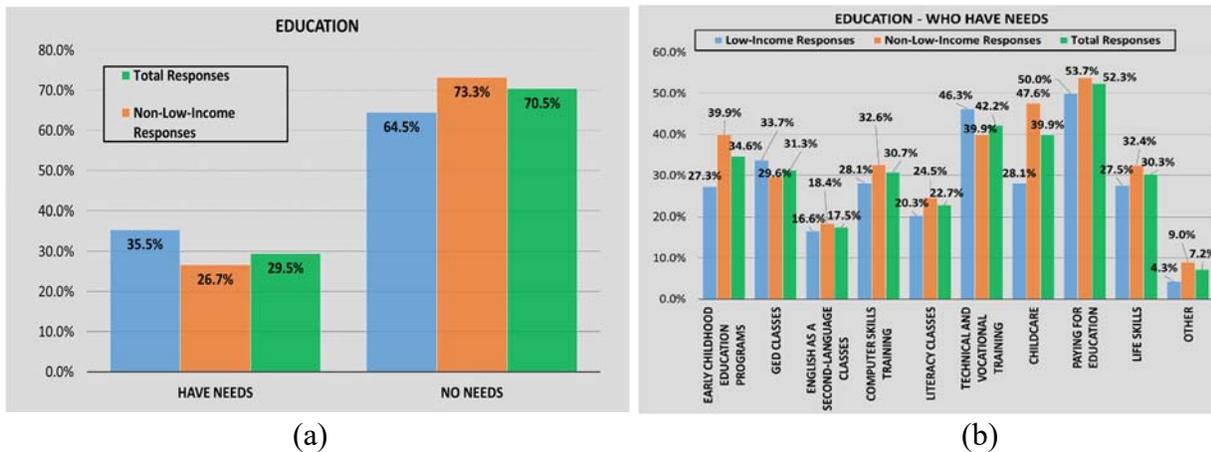


Figure 15: Education (based on 1,055 identified low-incomes and 2,000 non-low-incomes)

3.2.1.4 Housing

Apparently, more than half (56.9%) of the low-income respondents identified a need for “Housing”, but interestingly, only 30.7% of the non-low-income respondents indicated this is a need for them (Figure 16 (a)).

As shown in Figure 16 (b), “Rental Assistance” (57.5%), “Decent Affordable Houses to Rent” (43.5%), and “Utility Assistance” (40.1%), are the three most frequently mentioned needs for the low-income respondents who indicated “Housing” as a need for them under this category. For the non-low-income respondents, the most frequently mentioned needs are

1. “Decent Affordable Houses to Buy” (54.8%)
2. “Rental Assistance” (53.1%)

3. “Home Repair” (49.3%) or “Decent Affordable Houses to Rent” (47.5%)

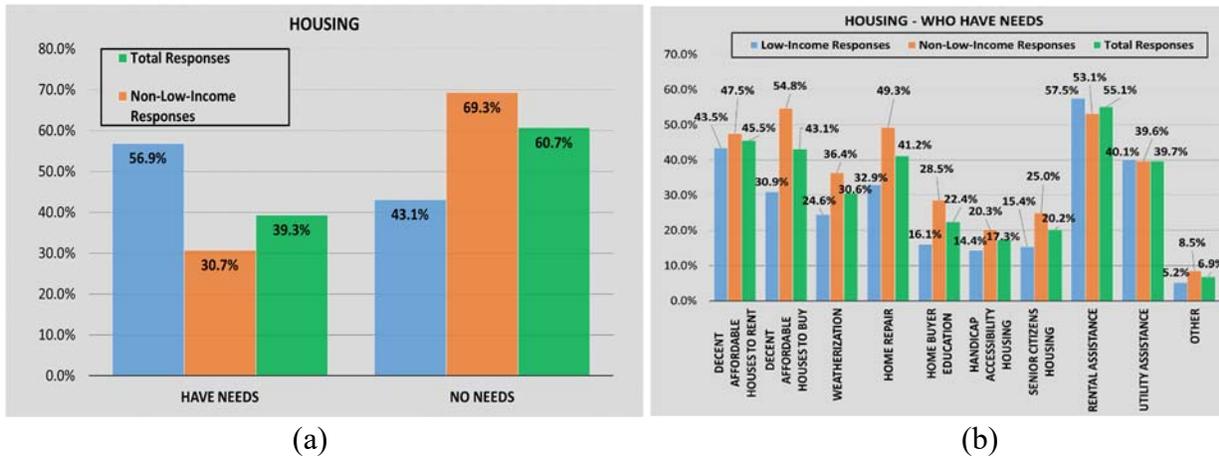


Figure 16: Housing (based on 1,051 identified low-incomes and 2,021 non-low-incomes)

The inconsistent responses between the low-incomes who need more supports of finding/renting an affordable place to live and the non-low-incomes who need more supports of buying/owning an affordable living place can be explained by the housing status result shown in Figure 11, i.e., a majority of the non-low-income respondents “Own” the places where they live, but more than half of the low-incomes indicated they “Rent”.

3.2.1.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development

“Health and Social/Behavior Development” is another category, where inconsistent responses exist between the low-income and non-low-income respondents, as shown in Figure 17 (a). 54.5% of the low-income respondents indicated that they have needs under this category, but only 37.3% of non-low-income indicated this is the case for them.

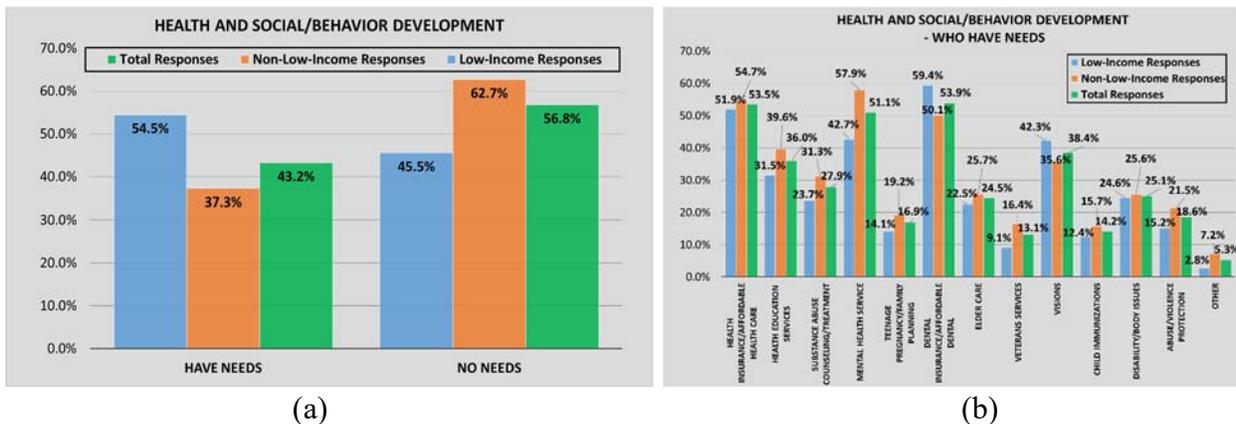


Figure 17: Health and Social/Behavior Development (based on 1,053 identified low-incomes and 2,010 non-low-incomes)

The most frequently mentioned needs for the low-income respondents are

1. “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” (59.4%)
2. “Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care” (51.9%)

3. “Mental Health Service” (42.7%) or “Visions” (42.3%)

The most frequently mentioned needs for the non-low-income respondents are

1. “Mental Health Service” (57.9%)
2. “Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care” (54.7%)
3. “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” (50.1%)

3.2.1.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement

The low-income and non-low-income respondents have consistent responses, as shown in Figure 18 (a), when they were asked “if they have any community needs?” in the survey, i.e., about 56% of them said “No”.

The specific needs identified by both low-income and non-low-income respondents under this category are shown below.

The most frequently mentioned needs for the low-income respondents are

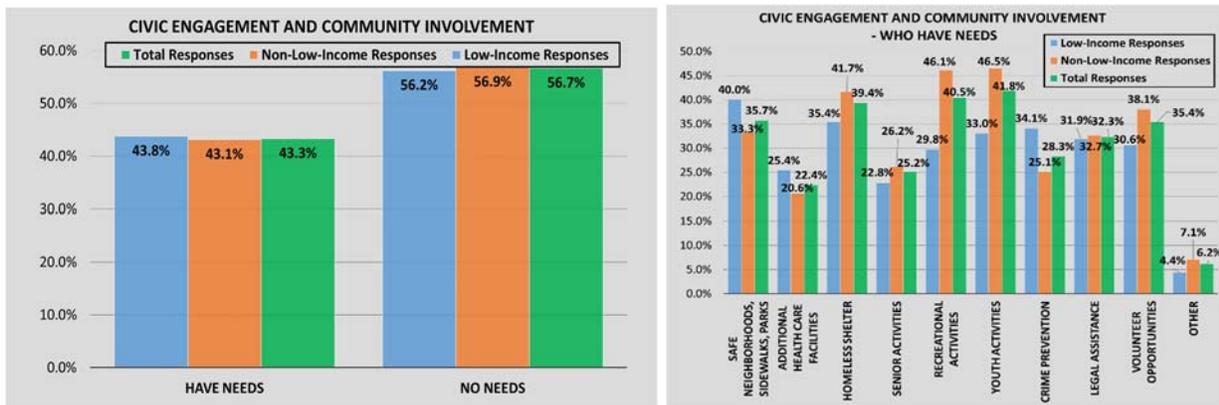
1. “Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks” (40%)
2. “Homeless Shelter” (35.4%)
3. “Crime Prevention” (34.1%)

It follows “Youth Activities” (33%), “Legal Assistance” (31.9%), “Volunteer Opportunities” (30.6%), and “Recreational Activities” (29.8%), which are also very close to each other.

The most frequently mentioned needs for the non-low-income respondents are

1. “Youth Activities” (46.5%)
2. “Recreational Activities” (46.1%)
3. “Homeless Shelter” (41.7%)

It follows “Volunteer Opportunities” (38.1%), “Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks” (33.3%), and “Legal Assistance” (32.7%), which are also very close to each other.



(a)

(b)

Figure 18: Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (based on 1,044 identified low-incomes and 1,980 non-low-incomes)

This survey result indicates that the low-income people concern more about the safety issues of the communities where they are living, whereas the non-low-income people care more about the youth and recreational activities offered/supported by their communities.

3.2.1.7 Other Supports

The other supports specified by the low-income and non-low-income respondents are summarized below, and, as shown in Figure 19 (b), “Food” and “Public Transportation” are the top needs for the low-income and non-low-income respondents, respectively.

The most frequently mentioned needs for the low-income respondents are

1. “Food” (54.9%)
2. “Public Transportation” (40.7%)
3. “Access to services (WIC, SNAP, SSI, etc.)” (37.6%)

It follows “Vehicle Repair Assistance” (35.7%), “Clothing” (33.4%), and “Availability/Access to food (grocery store)” (32.3%), which are also very close to each other.

The most frequently mentioned needs for the non-low-income respondents are

1. “Public Transportation” (49.8%)
2. “Vehicle Repair Assistance” (41.8%)
3. “Access to services (WIC, SNAP, SSI, etc.)” (33.7%)

It follows “Food” (32.6%), “Community Gardens” (29.3%), and “Availability/Access to food (grocery store)” (28.3%), which are also very close to each other.

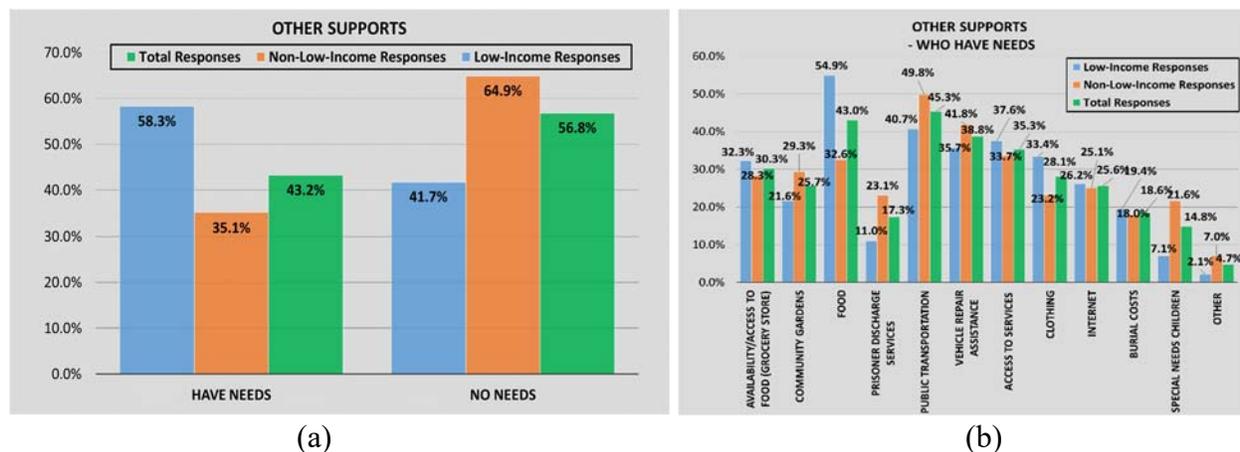


Figure 19: Other Supports (based on 1,042 identified low-incomes and 1,951 non-low-incomes)

Table 3 summarizes the discussions above by listing the specific needs under each category in order of priority. It includes the needs for low-incomes (based on the “Low-Income” responses to the survey), for non-low-incomes (based on the “Non-Low-Income” responses to the survey), and for the community, including both low-incomes and non-low-incomes (based on the “Low-Income” and “Non-Low-Income” responses). This table demonstrates the distinct needs identified for low-incomes, non-low-incomes, and the community in our state.

Table 3: Specific needs by category

Category	Specific Needs		
	For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
Employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finding a Job 2. Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits 3. Job Training 4. Background Check 5. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits 2. Finding a Job 3. Job Training 4. Background Check 5. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finding a Job 2. Higher Paying jobs or jobs with benefits 3. Job Training 4. Background Check 5. Other
Income and Asset-Building	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial Issues 2. Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling 3. Free Income Tax Preparation 4. Other 5. Gambling Counseling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling 2. Financial Issues 3. Free Income Tax Preparation 4. Other 5. Gambling Counseling 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling 2. Financial Issues 3. Free Income Tax Preparation 4. Other 5. Gambling Counseling
Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paying for education 2. Technical and Vocational Training 3. GED Classes 4. Computer Skills Training 5. Childcare 6. Early Childhood Education Programs 7. Life Skills 8. Literacy Classes 9. English as a 2nd-language classes 10. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paying for education 2. Childcare 3. Technical and Vocational Training (or Early Childhood Education Programs) 4. Computer Skills Training 5. Life Skills 6. GED Classes 7. Literacy Classes 8. English as a 2nd-language classes 9. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paying for education 2. Technical and Vocational Training 3. Childcare 4. Early Childhood Education Programs 5. GED Classes 6. Computer Skills Training 7. Life Skills 8. Literacy Classes 9. English as a 2nd-language classes 10. Other
Housing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rental Assistance 2. Decent Affordable Houses to Rent 3. Utility Assistance 4. Home Repair 5. Decent Affordable Houses to Buy 6. Weatherization 7. Home Buy Education 8. Senior Citizens Housing 9. Handicap Accessibility Housing 10. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decent Affordable Houses to Buy 2. Rental Assistance 3. Home Repair 4. Decent Affordable Houses to Rent 5. Utility Assistance 6. Weatherization 7. Home Buy Education 8. Senior Citizens Housing 9. Handicap Accessibility Housing 10. Other 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rental Assistance 2. Decent Affordable Houses to Rent 3. Decent Affordable Houses to Buy 4. Home Repair 5. Utility Assistance 6. Weatherization 7. Home Buy Education 8. Senior Citizens Housing 9. Handicap Accessibility Housing 10. Other
Health and Social/Behavior Development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 2. Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care 3. Mental Health Service 4. Visions 5. Health Education Services 6. Disability/Body Issues 7. Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment 8. Elder Care 9. Abuse/Violence Protection 10. Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning 11. Child Immunizations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mental Health Service 2. Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care 3. Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 4. Health Education Services 5. Visions 6. Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment 7. Elder Care 8. Disability/Body Issues 9. Abuse/Violence Protection 10. Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning 11. Veterans Services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 2. Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care 3. Mental Health Service 4. Visions 5. Health Education Services 6. Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment 7. Disability/Body Issues 8. Elder Care 9. Abuse/Violence Protection 10. Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning 11. Child Immunizations 12. Veterans Services 13. Other

	12. Veterans Services 13. Other	12. Child Immunizations 13. Other	
Civic Engagement and Community Involvement	1. Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks 2. Homeless Shelter 3. Crime Prevention 4. Youth Activities 5. Legal Assistance 6. Volunteer Opportunities 7. Recreational Activities 8. Additional Health Care Facilities 9. Senior Activities 10. Other	1. Youth Activities 2. Recreational Activities 3. Homeless Shelter 4. Volunteer Opportunities 5. Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks 6. Legal Assistance 7. Senior Activities 8. Crime Prevention 9. Additional Health Care Facilities 10. Other	1. Youth Activities 2. Recreational Activities 3. Homeless Shelter 4. Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks 5. Volunteer Opportunities 6. Legal Assistance 7. Crime Prevention 8. Senior Activities 9. Additional Health Care Facilities 10. Other
Other Supports	1. Food 2. Public Transportation 3. Access to services 4. Vehicle Repair Assistance 5. Clothing 6. Availability/Access to Food (Grocery Store) 7. Internet 8. Community Gardens 9. Burial Costs 10. Prisoner Discharge Services 11. Special Needs Children 12. Other	1. Public Transportation 2. Vehicle Repair Assistance 3. Access to services 4. Food 5. Community Gardens 6. Availability/Access to Food (Grocery Store) 7. Internet 8. Clothing 9. Prisoner Discharge Services 10. Special Needs Children 11. Burial Costs 12. Other	1. Public Transportation 2. Food 3. Vehicle Repair Assistance 4. Access to services 5. Availability/Access to Food (Grocery Store) 6. Clothing 7. Community Gardens 8. Internet 9. Burial Costs 10. Prisoner Discharge Services 11. Special Needs Children 12. Other

3.2.1.8 Priority Categories of Needs

In the survey form, there is one question (Question 2.8) that was designed specifically to identify the priority needs from the seven needs assessment categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement, and Other Supports*. In this question, the survey respondents were asked to “mark **THREE** most important needs to you, your family, and/or your community” from the seven categories.

Figures 20 and 21 show the statewide priority categories of needs identified from all of the eight regions of CAAs, where Figure 20 shows the survey results from “Low-Income” and “Non-Low-Income” respondents, and Figure 21 shows the overall survey results, including both “Low-Income” and “Non-Low-Income” responses, called “Total Responses”.

The comparison between “Low-Income” and “Non-Low-Income” responses in Figure 20 allows us to identify the different needs/perspectives between these two groups of respondents. For example, 62.1% of low-income respondents (674 of 1,086 low-income respondents) indicated a need for “Housing”, but a smaller percentage of non-low-income respondents (50% with 1,042 of 2,084 non-low-income respondents) indicated that “Housing” is a need for them, their families, and/or their communities. Another example is for “Civic Engagement”. 12.5% of low-income respondents indicated they have a need for that, but a higher percentage of non-low-income respondents (22.9%) identified “Civic Engagement” as a need for them or their communities.

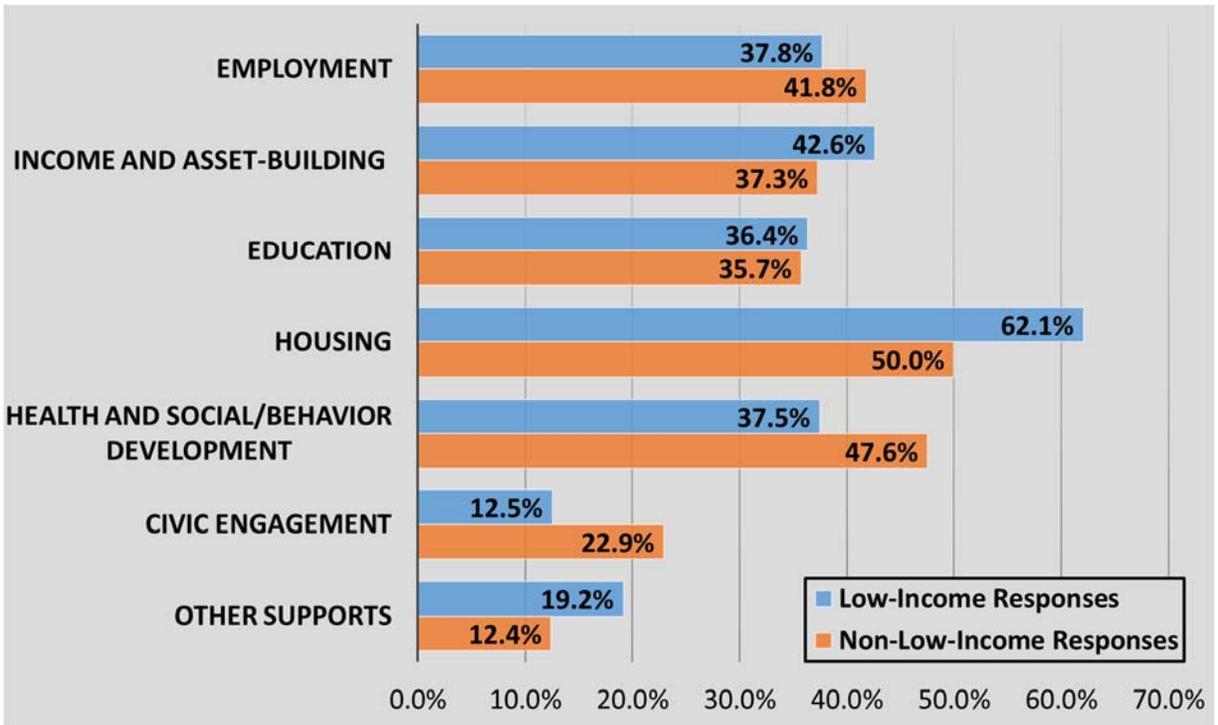


Figure 20: Statewide Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 1,086 identified low-incomes and 2,084 non-low-incomes)

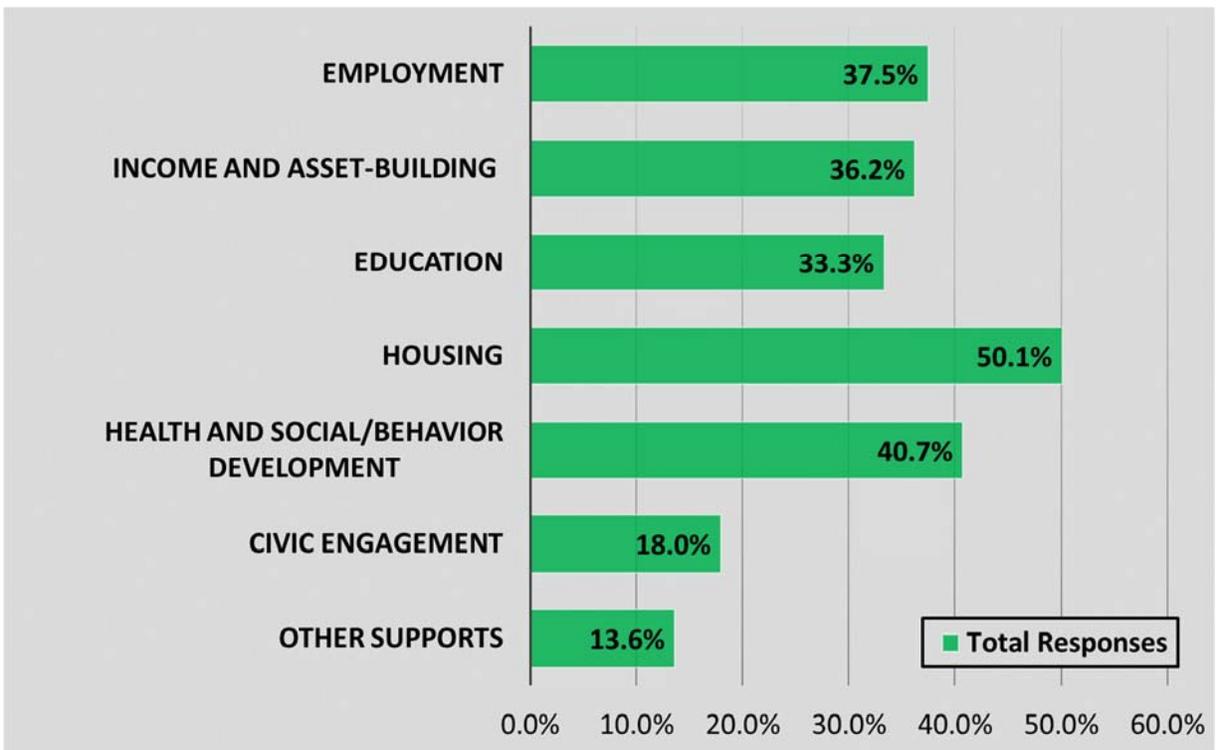


Figure 21: Statewide Needs identified from all respondents (based on 3,458 respondents including 1,086 low-incomes, 2,084 non-low-incomes, and 288 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Table 4 shows the need categories that were mentioned by the low-income, non-low-income, and community (low-income + non-low-income) respondents in the survey. As shown, both low-incomes and non-low-incomes care most about “Housing”, but low-incomes care more about “Income and Asset-Building” than “Employment”, “Health and Social/Behavior Development”, or “Education”, whereas it appears that “Health and Social/Behavior Development” is more important for non-low-incomes than “Employment”. The needs for the community are identical to those for the non-low-incomes, mainly caused by the greater portion of the non-low-income respondents (2,084) compared to the low-incomes (1,086) in the survey.

Table 4: Overall need categories

Overall Need Categories		
For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
1. Housing (62.1%)	1. Housing (50.0%)	1. Housing (50.1%)
2. Income and Asset-Building (42.6%)	2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (47.6%)	2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (40.7%)
3. Employment (37.8%)	3. Employment (41.8%)	3. Employment (37.5%)
4. Health and Social/Behavior Development (37.5%)	4. Income and Asset-Building (37.3%)	4. Income and Asset-Building (36.2%)
5. Education (36.4%)	5. Education (35.7%)	5. Education (33.3%)
6. Other Supports (19.2%)	6. Civic Engagement (22.6%)	6. Civic Engagement (18.0%)
7. Civic Engagement (12.5%)	7. Other Supports (12.4%)	7. Other Supports (13.6%)

3.2.2 Results Drawn from Qualitative Data

Qualitative data were also collected and used in the analysis to augment the numerical data, which offer a rich picture and help provide insight into the depth and breadth of an issue. The qualitative data collected through phone interviews conducted in Region 5 are listed in Appendix D, and the qualitative data collected through surveys (from Section 2 and Section 3 of the survey questionnaire – See Appendix A) can be found in Appendix E (by category/section) and Appendix G (by region). Tables 5 and 6 below summarize the qualitative data from phone interviews and surveys, respectively.

Table 5: Summarized qualitative data collected from phone interviews

Question 1: How do you define poverty?
Most of the responses for the definition of poverty are similar in that they define it as not having enough income to meet basic needs. <i>For example:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Not having enough income to meet current needs or save for future needs. Thus, many more people are in poverty than it appears.” • “When you can't afford your basic needs.” • “Being below a certain income, income guidelines, being poor, dealing with job loss.”
Question 2: What are the conditions and causes of poverty in our community?
Lack of education was a reoccurring response as well as programs that are restrictive and a lack of programs for in between services. <i>For example:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Some causes of poverty are lack of education, which leads to lower paying jobs.” • “Lack of accessible programs without such red tape.” • “Those who have a lack of education are more at risk for being impoverished. Not being encouraged to attend school or college.”

<p>Question 3: What keeps families in poverty?</p> <p>Lack of education was again a reoccurring response. Generational poverty and not being taught valuable skills to overcome poverty.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Lack of access to education to improve skills can also be a factor.” • “Lack of education.” • “The generational mindset, this is what my parents did so this is what I know and will do. It is a cycle that just continues through generations.”
<p>Question 4: What would our community look like without poverty (or with 25%/50% reduced poverty)?</p> <p>Most didn’t have an answer for this question or didn’t think it was possible, but it was concluded that the community would be greatly improved without poverty.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The stability that would result in family's lives due to ending poverty would be amazing!” • “I think it would lead to a happier and more peaceful community.” • “Unsure. It's always going to occur. There is always going to be people who rely on public benefits to live and that is not living a life of quality.”
<p>Question 5: What can Community Action do to support the community to achieve the outcomes to eliminate poverty in your county?</p> <p>Many responses included some form of education or skill learning.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “More training to be responsible.” • “Teach them skills to survive without just giving them financial assistance.” • “I really appreciate the large variety of services that Community Action provides. Many do not know they might be eligible for some services, and they might fear the stigma of having someone know their income level.”
<p>Question 6: Identify programs, strategies, and initiatives that have been successful in reducing poverty.</p> <p>Various responses are received.</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Parenting classes can be a great way to also address marriage issues.” • “The housing program I was awarded and keeping in touch with clients.” • “I also think the idea of skills workshops to help people increase their marketability and increase job earnings could be a great idea.”

Appendix E also shows the comments/needs identified by level (Family, Community, or Agency). In general, most of the needs identified from the low-income respondents are the Family-Level needs, whereas the needs identified from the non-low-income respondents are more likely the Community-Level needs. The Agency-Level needs can be identified through the survey responses to Question 2.9 - “What are the MOST important programs/services you would like to see continued in your community?”.

Table 6: Summarized qualitative data collected from surveys

Summarized Qualitative Data by Need Category		No. of Effective Comments Received
Employment		
Low-incomes	<p>Most frequently mentioned issues or needs are 1) vehicle issues and transportation needs to help on employment, 2) childcare for working parents, 3) employment opportunities/resources during COVID 19, 4) Concerns about bad background/record to find a job, and 5) training to find jobs. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) “Transportation to and from work.” 2) “Need to get children into a state approved day care so I can start working again” 	26

	<p>3) <i>“Contract opportunity due to COVID”</i></p> <p>4) <i>“have a hard time finding a job because of my record”</i></p> <p>5) <i>“While I have enough degrees and am basically computer literate, I need specific skill such as Excel Spread sheets training and skills in order to apply for most jobs. I might also need some basic skills in accounting to be able to use Excel Spread Sheets.”</i></p>	
<p>Non-low-incomes</p>	<p>Most of non-low-income respondents talked more about the needs of their communities, rather than themselves. The needs or concerns to be focused on are (See Appendix E for more details),</p> <p>1) Employers need to find skilled workers with clean backgrounds, but low-income people who do not have required skills and/or have poor/bad backgrounds are suffering from finding jobs. <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Although I do not have any employment needs it is a need in my community - particularly under employment and also as an employer not having adequate pools of staff at times.”</i> • <i>“Community needs employers willing to give applicants with past felony charges / addiction issues a second look, as rehabilitation and recovery can only be successful if there is hope for self-sufficiency. Also needs to be more supports for those who have limited job skills and social skills. Job services used to provide, but are limited now.”</i> • <i>“Many of the people I see in my role at a community direct services organization have backgrounds that would prohibit them from housing or employment, additionally childcare is a huge obstacle. Training opportunities are needed to enhance their skills and fill needed roles in our community.”</i> <p>2) Training opportunities are needed. <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Community also needs training on how to keep a job; things that are appropriate to do at a job, what you shouldn't do at a job, etc.”</i> <p>3) Impacts of COVID19 on employment. <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Self employed & Covid has pretty much shut our business down.”</i> • <i>“self employed business owner unable to work due to Covid-19”</i> • <i>“COVID has caused all the adults in the house to not have work.”</i> <p>4) Improvement of services. <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Better training most government or public related job services have very poorly trained personnel with no notion of what "Customer Service" mean, please reeducate the current working population so that the Next generation does not become a failure.”</i> • <i>“Job service in this area is overwhelmed and the material to apply for services is horribly written and confusing. When a person requests help they are told that the staff doesn't help with applying for services.”</i> <p>5) Needs after getting a job. <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“The money to purchase work clothes including shoes to remain/keep my job. Hair cuts. Having to rely on food pantries for food, not having the extra money to get extra food, like fresh produce, milk, and perishables. The way these question are worded it does not address the needs of those who have a job and still struggle. Most of the time in silence because "you have a job!" and the community looks at that as you are now set, you have money. Gas, vehicle up keep. Just because you have a job doesn't mean you have a better lifestyle, jobs create more expenses sometimes.</i> 	<p>59</p>
<p>Income and Asset-Building</p>		
<p>Low-incomes</p>	<p>Needs from low-income respondents mentioned in this category are various, including payments for rents, utility bills, food, house repairs, medical, prescriptions, etc. (See Appendix E for more details) <i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Financial issues relating to rental needs of \$540 a month, electric for heat and cooling, and telephones.”</i> • <i>“I'm just having a hard time right now- disabled too old to work. Just need help with my light bill.”</i> • <i>“Living paycheck to paycheck. No savings. No prospects for improving income and benefits. Need education and/or training, but can't afford it. Would like a house, but no down payment. Want to start a family, but can't afford it and don't have sufficient medical coverage.”</i> 	<p>62</p>

<p>Non-low-incomes</p>	<p>The needs mentioned by non-low-income respondents are slightly different from those from low-incomes, including paying rents/rental deposits, bills (utility, medical, etc.), student loans, education, financial assistance for farmers, house maintenance, repairing, and/or improvement, retirement planning, impacts of COVID19 on incomes, financial literacy/planning, etc. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Community resources for rental/utility (other than heat/electric) assistance shrinking and/or have wait lists. Community members unaware of credit counseling resources available to them free of charge.” • “Have home improvements needs and financially cant afford to fix it. Super old trailer and please help. Mold” • “House needs the heater worked on high heat bills, help with all bills, newer car with less mileage, kids need jeans and clothes, food, all house needs repair” 	<p>104</p>
<p>Education</p>		
<p>Low-incomes</p>	<p>The needs mentioned by low-income respondents under this category are listed below. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Additional training/schooling to further career” • “Need assistance to learn Excel programs and Spread Sheets to be able to qualify for any number of jobs that require those skills.” • “Plenty of preschool opportunities, but parents not participating, as not accepting of paying a fee, nor the help that it would provide their children in this day and age. Most kids seem to have access to computers etc, but whether they are using it to advance themselves that is another question. No one is trained about etiquettes of phone usage, etc. Most kids, and due to most adults as well, are like mice, in different social tests - hear a ding and answer.” 	<p>14</p>
<p>Non-low-incomes</p>	<p>Among the non-low-incomes’ responses, “affordable childcare” is the one that was most frequently mentioned. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Affordable childcare is a HUGE need in our area. One child averages around \$1000/month which is not affordable at all, for anyone.” • “Although my household does not need childcare assistance at this time, I recognize that SAFE & affordable childcare options are needed in Dickinson. As we are working towards transitioning into a household with children we are trying to identify if it would be more financially sound for me to continue working or if I should stay home. Unfortunately, a large portion of my take home paychecks would go towards childcare.” • “There is a lack of available in-home childcare options, particularly for children under age 2.” 	<p>40</p>
<p>Housing</p>		
<p>Low-incomes</p>	<p>Needs for paying rents and bills, affordable housing, house repairing, etc., were frequently mentioned. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I own a mobile home that needs some rebuilding.” • “One can have above programs available, but as with anything, people have to take the first step and seek out the information or help. Rental properties are hard to come by and what is available is high rent due to having one large employer who pays better. I do not know that there is much discrimination, as much as no decent additional affordable housing.” • “Vouchers for the mentally disabled to be able to be able to receive home repairs covered under Medicaid. -OR more services offered for this option (more of a concern in Mandan).” 	<p>28</p>
<p>Non-low-incomes</p>	<p>For the non-low-income respondents, the frequently mentioned needs/concerns include affordable housing to rent/buy for more people (beyond ADA, single parents, elderly population, felons and families with felon, etc.), house repairing, missing rights and responsibilities between landlords and renter, high cost of property tax, mortgage insurance, or realtor fees, etc. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Accessible housing needs to go beyond ADA...and we need lots more of it!” • “Affordable housing and homelessness are major community needs and should be prioritized.” 	<p>50</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Homeowners are overburdened with property tax and special assessments”</i> 	
Health and Social/Behavior Development		
Low-incomes	<p>Under this category, dental needs, looking for a good doctor, and other special needs were frequently mentioned. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Bridging the Dental Gap is sliding Fee but payments need to be made up front. Payment plans need to be brought back in order for the service to be able to assist all populations.”</i> • <i>“My son has special needs (Spina Bifida) but only qualifies for MA for 3 yrs. We will be seeing specialists way beyond 3 yrs and private insurance only covers a portion. Highly disappointed he is not automatically qualified for life, like he would be in MN</i> • <i>“Seniors really need this service many do without dental needs due to cost”.</i> 	13
Non-low-incomes	<p>The frequently mentioned needs/concerns include the needs of affordable health care and insurance with low co-pay for adults and children, many concerns and needs about mental health especially for children/teenagers, individuals with disabilities, and/or rural areas, dental needs (more dental providers taking Medicare/Medicaid), free gym membership for low-income to stay healthy, especially for winter, hearing assistance for (non-elderly) adults, etc. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Affordable healthcare & insurance is needed to keep a community healthy & productive. Many residents do not see out help or those needs due to financial repercussions!”</i> • <i>“mental health assistance for teenagers. help in motivating, teaching responsibility, and learning to understand emotions.”</i> • <i>“we need more dental providers to take Medicare/Medicaid...so people with special needs don't have to travel to Bismarck for dental care. Even with insurance Health care is too expensive on every level.”</i> 	50
Civic Engagement and Community Involvement		
Low-incomes	<p>The needs under this category are various, as listed below. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“More Emergency Shelters that will provide shelter for people that are using drugs and alcohol.”</i> • <i>“Providing and opening community centers for disabled but ambulatory persons to play games converse, learn new skills or watch television with semi supervisory needs.”</i> • <i>“Rural schools need to be more special needs friendly. No accessible playground in Kindred.”</i> 	14
Non-low-incomes	<p>Similarly, the needs/concerns mentioned by the non-low-income respondents are various from a concern about road/sidewalk conditions to a need for homeless shelter/affordable youth sports activities, or from a need for a better public transportation system to library access or more education on gun safety, etc. (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Affordable youth sports activities that are more formally coordinated rather than a parent creating traveling teams made up of their friends' children. Low-income/underserved populations are missing opportunities to play because our programs are not affordable and are not driven by groups completely open to the public.”</i> • <i>“Community needs a better public transportation system- and a school bus system, as our city has grown and the concept that schools are "neighborhood schools" is a thing of the past. There needs to improved resources for those leaving jail or the prison system to help them assimilate better into the community. Many financial assistance program are unable to assist with the cost of vehicle repair and many clients have unreliable vehicles with no money to fix them when they break down.”</i> • <i>“Some sidewalks in Grand Forks, especially along Washington are terrible.”</i> 	61
Other Supports		
Low-incomes	<p>The needs under this category are various, such as (See Appendix E for more details)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“This is much needed reduced cost for seniors. There is telephone help but cheaper internet is a need”</i> • <i>“Tires are bald, drivers door handle broke off, oil change. Apt assistance: electric, internet, car insurance, phone”</i> • <i>“with utility, and water bills and help with getting a vehicle”</i> 	12

Non-low-incomes	A variety of transportation needs were most frequently mentioned by the non-low-income respondents. (See Appendix E for more details) <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Improved bus services: more routes, increased frequency of routes, better coverage of routes.”</i> • <i>“This community needs more affordable public transportation (I do not personally need this but the clients I serve do. Same for people exiting corrections settings.”</i> • <i>“Transportation in and from rural areas.”</i> 	46
Local Program		
Low-incomes	See Appendix E or G for more details	-
Non-low-incomes	See Appendix E or G for more details	-
Additional Feedback		
Low-incomes	Many types of needs mentioned in other categories are repeated here, such as the needs for housing, paying rents, youth activities, etc. Additionally, many thanks are given to the CAAs for their assistance for low-incomes in North Dakota with some suggestions for further improvement. (See Appendix E for more details) <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Thanks for the help my family and I really appreciate it.”</i> • <i>“Seniors are afraid to ask for help they will do w/o rather than ask. An lots of seniors don't know to ask either.”</i> • <i>“They need to make more programs accessible to the community. And if they are programs that are granted for their work then the work should get done right, not wrong! For instance replacing the board or plywood the hot water heater sat on but not bringing it to the home owner's attention that the hole floor was rotted. As a mother living deprived and not having the funds to fix it, there's things that need to be addressed. It doesn't make sense you qualify for one program but not the other. Like weatherization but not for rehab cause you don't have homeowners ins”</i> 	50
Non-low-incomes	Similarly, many types of needs/concerns mentioned in other categories are repeated here, such as the needs for homeless, more youth activities, and affordable housing (to buy/rent), childcare, transportation, medical service, and daycare, the concerns about high housing and health care costs, low-paying jobs, addiction, substance abuse, and behavioral and mental health for adults and/or youth, and a need to create a nice and safe social environment/community with effective communication, organization collaboration, community outreach, public announcements, and enhancement in law enforcement. (See Appendix E for more details) <i>For example:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Behavioral health for youth and Mental health needs for adults and youth. The access to these services is very limited and is needed desperately as the rise in behavioral issues in children has been evaluated.”</i> • <i>“I think a huge problem is that there are plenty of jobs, but not decent paying jobs. Housing costs are too high - people have to work 2-3 jobs to make it.”</i> • <i>“Three things that I see as major challenges in my community are: 1. Low paying jobs. Working poor. Many people work two jobs but still cannot make a living. 2. High cost of health care. Much of the cost is hidden, such as taking deductions out of social security to pay for Medicare and the cost of the supplemental policies. Elderly living on social security can be very difficult. 3. Addiction issues are taking it's toll on families. Children being abused and left unattended. Domestic violence issues, often spurred on by poverty.”</i> 	135

3.3 Data Analysis and Discussion

3.3.1 Statewide Priority Categories of Needs

The three most frequently mentioned need categories drawn from Table 4 for low-incomes, non-low-incomes, and the community (low-incomes + non-low-incomes) across the state are shown in

Table 7. The top specific needs under each of these identified categories are discussed below, and Table 8 summarizes these top specific needs.

Table 7: Three most frequently mentioned need categories

Three Most Frequently Mentioned Need Categories		
For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing 2. Income and Asset-Building 3. Employment or Health and Social/Behavior Development or Education 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development 3. Employment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development 3. Employment or Income and Asset-Building

1st Priority Category of Need:

- For Low-Incomes or the Community: “Housing” is the most frequently mentioned need category by the survey respondents across the state, and under this category, “Rental Assistance”, which may include, but are not limited to, “Rent deposits”, “Rent payments”, “Renter/tenant rights and responsibilities education”, and/or “More monthly rental assistance programs”, is the top priority for low-income people in the state (as shown in Table 3).
- For Non-Low-Incomes: “Decent Affordable Houses to Buy” is listed as the top priority for the non-low-income people, which may include, but are not limited to, “Mortgage assistance”, “Counseling resources for homeowners”, “A down payment/closing costs to buy a home”, and/or “Qualifying for a loan to buy a home”.

2nd Priority Category of Need:

- For Low-Incomes: The second priority need category for low-incomes is “Income and Asset-Building”, where “Financial Issues” are a big concern (as shown in Table 3), which may include, but are not limited to, “Divorce problems”, “Child support problems”, “Problems with utility or telephone company”, and/or “Education on how to build assets”.
- For Non-Low-Incomes: Nevertheless, the second priority category of need for the non-low-income respondents is “Health and Social/Behavior Development”, where “Mental Health Service” is paid more attention (as shown in Table 3), including, but not limited to, “Stress, depression, or anxiety” and/or “Post-Traumatic Stress Discover (PTSD)”.
- For the Community: The second priority need category for the community is “Health and Social/Behavior Development”, where “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” stands out from the rest, which may include, but are not limited to, “Payment assistance programs for adult dental services” and/or “Paying for regular dental checkups”.

3rd Priority Category of Need:

- For Low-Incomes, Non-Low-Incomes, or the Community: The third priority need category is “Employment”, where low-incomes and the community care more about “Finding a job”, but the non-low-income respondents pay more attention on “Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits” (as shown in Table 3). Please note, “For Low-Incomes” or “For the Community” in Table 7, several needs are listed together in parallel with “Employment”, e.g., “Health and Social/Behavior Development” and “Education” (under the “For Low-Incomes”) or “Income and Asset-Building” (under the “For the Community”). This is due

to the fact that the corresponding percentages of these needs are very close to each other, i.e., the differences between them are within the $\pm 3.0\%$ precision. Hence, statistically speaking, any of these needs could be the one that reflects the truth in reality. Therefore, the third priority need for low-incomes could also be “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” under the category of “Health and Social/Behavior Development” or “Paying for education” under the category of “Education”. For the community, it could also be “Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling” under the category of “Income and Asset-Building”.

Table 8: Top specific needs under the priority categories identified

Top Specific Needs			
	1 st Priority Category of Need	2 nd Priority Category of Need	3 rd Priority Category of Need
For Low-Incomes	<u>Housing: Rental Assistance</u> , such as rent deposits, rent payments, renter/tenant rights and responsibilities education, more monthly rental assistance programs, etc.	<u>Income and Asset-Building: Financial Issues</u> , such as divorce problems, child support problems, problems with utility or telephone company, education on how to build assets, etc.	<u>Employment: Finding a job</u> , such as finding a full-time job, applying for jobs, writing a resume, interviewing for a job, getting appropriate clothing for a job, etc. .OR. <u>Health and Social/Behavior Development: Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental</u> , such as payment assistance programs for adult dental services, paying for regular dental checkups, etc. .OR. <u>Education: Paying for education</u> , such as paying for post-secondary education programs, completing college aid forms, etc.
For Non-Low-Incomes	<u>Housing: Decent Affordable Houses to Buy</u> , such as mortgage assistance, counseling resources for homeowners, a down payment/closing costs to buy a home, qualifying for a loan to buy a home, etc.	<u>Health and Social/Behavior Development: Mental Health Service</u> , such as stress, depression, or anxiety, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), etc.	<u>Employment: Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits</u> , such as more jobs with better pay and benefits, etc.
For the Community (Low-Incomes + Non-Low-Incomes)	<u>Housing: Rental Assistance</u> , such as rent deposits, rent payments, renter/tenant rights and responsibilities education, more monthly rental assistance programs, etc.	<u>Health and Social/Behavior Development: Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental</u> , such as payment assistance programs for adult dental services, paying for regular dental checkups, etc.	<u>Employment: Finding a job</u> , such as finding a full-time job, applying for jobs, writing a resume, interviewing for a job, getting appropriate clothing for a job, etc. .OR. <u>Income and Asset-Building: Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling</u> , such as information on how to access free credit counseling, opening a checking or savings account, financial literacy/planning, understanding credit scores, anonymous and confidential savings counseling, anonymous and confidential budget counseling, foreclosure/bankruptcy/repossession problems, etc.

Table 8 allows the research team to perform the cross-sectional comparison among the seven needs assessment categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement, and Other Supports*. This type of comparison focuses on the overall need categories, which thus allows the CAAs to identify, in

general, which category among the seven is the most important one for the low-income people or the community. The top specific need(s) identified under each of the priority categories, e.g., “Rental Assistance” under “Housing”, provides more detailed information to the CAAs about the effective allocation of resources under these categories.

However, the cross-sectional comparison does not allow the CAAs to identify the top specific needs, regardless of which categories these needs belong to. For example, “Food” under the category of “Other Needs” was mentioned a number of times by the low-income respondents, but it was still ignored in the cross-sectional comparison since “Other Needs” was not identified as the priority need category. In order to offer the CAAs insight into the depth and breadth of the survey, a longitudinal comparison was also conducted, whose results are shown in Table 9. In this table, the numbers shown in the parentheses are the counts of the specific needs mentioned by the low-income or the non-low-income respondents. As shown, “Rental Assistance” is still listed as the top need for low-income people, which follows “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” and “Food”. For the non-low-income respondents or the community, “Health and Social/Behavior Development” is the most frequently mentioned need, including “Mental Health Service”, “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental”, and “Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care”.

Table 9: Specific needs identified through longitudinal comparison

Specific Needs Identified Through Longitudinal Comparison		
For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
1. Housing - Rental Assistance (344)	1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (434)	1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (718)
2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (341)	2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (410)	2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (713)
3. Other Needs - Food (333)	3. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (403)	3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (680)
4. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (310)	4. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (397)	4. Housing - Rental Assistance (674)
5. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (298)	5. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (394)	5. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (671)
6. Employment - Finding a job (276)	6. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (376)	6. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (642)
7. Income-Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (264)	7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (356)	7. Other Needs-Public Transportation (589)
8. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (260)	8. Other Needs - Public Transportation (341)	8. Other Needs - Food (558)
9. Other Needs - Public Transportation (247)	9. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to buy (340)	9. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (556)
10. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (245)	10. Housing - Rental Assistance (330)	10. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement -Youth Activities (550)
11. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Visions (243)	11. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (328)	11. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (532)
12. Housing-Utility Assistance (240)	12. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Volunteer Opportunities (325)	12. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to buy (527)
13. Other Needs - Access to services (228)	13. Housing - Home Repair (306)	13. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (518)
14. Other Needs - Vehicle Repair Assistance (217)		
15. Employment - Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits (205)		
16. Other Needs - Clothing (203)		
17. Housing-Home Repair (197)		

18. Other Needs - Availability/Access to food (grocery store) (196)	14. Health - Health Education Services (297)	14. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Visions (512)
19. Employment - Job Training (195)	15. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (295)	15. Housing-Home Repair (504)
20. Education-Paying for education (187)	16. Education - Paying for education (287)	16. Other Needs - Vehicle Repair Assistance (504)
21. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to buy (185)	17. Other Needs - Vehicle Repair Assistance (286)	17. Employment - Finding a job (502)
22. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Safe neighborhoods, sidewalks, parks (183)	18. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Safe neighborhoods, sidewalks, parks (284)	18. Employment - Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits (487)
23. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Education Services (181)	19. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Legal Assistance (279)	19. Housing - Utility Assistance (486)
24. Income and Asset-Building - Free Income Tax Preparation (175)	20. Employment - Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits (270)	20. Education - Paying for education (479)
25. Education - Technical and Vocational Training (173)	21. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Visions (267)	21. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Education Services (479)
26. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (162)	22. Education - Childcare (254)	22. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Safe neighborhoods, sidewalks, parks (470)
27. Other Needs - Internet (159)	23. Housing - Utility Assistance (246)	23. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Volunteer Opportunities (466)
28. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Crime Prevention (156)	24. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment (235)	24. Other Needs - Access to services (459)
29. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (151)	25. Other Needs - Access to services (231)	25. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Legal Assistance (425)
30. Housing - Weatherization (147)	26. Housing - Weatherization (226)	26. Employment - Job Training (400)
31. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Legal Assistance (146)	27. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Senior Activities (224)	27. Other Needs - Availability/Access to food (grocery store) (393)
32. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Disability/Body Issues (141)	28. Other Needs - Food (223)	28. Education - Technical and Vocational Training (386)
33. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Volunteer Opportunities (140)	29. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Crime Prevention (214)	29. Housing - Weatherization (374)
34. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment (136)	30. Employment - Finding a job (213)	30. Income and Asset-Building - Free Income Tax Preparation (372)
35. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (136)	31. Education - Early Childhood Education Programs (213)	31. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment (372)
36. Other Needs - Community Gardens (131)	32. Education - Technical and Vocational Training (213)	32. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Crime Prevention (372)
37. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Elder Care (129)	33. Other Needs - Community Gardens (201)	33. Education - Childcare (365)
38. Education - GED Classes (126)	34. Income and Asset-Building - Free Income Tax Preparation (195)	34. Other Needs - Clothing (365)
39. Other Needs - Burial Costs (118)	35. Employment - Job Training (194)	35. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Disability/Body Issues (334)
40. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Additional health care facilities (116)	36. Other Needs - Availability/Access to food (grocery store) (194)	36. Other Needs - Community Gardens (334)
41. Employment - Background Check (110)	37. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Elder Care (193)	37. Other Needs - Internet (333)
42. Education - Computer Skills Training (105)	38. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Disability/Body Issues (192)	38. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Senior Activities (331)
43. Education - Childcare (105)	39. Housing - Home Buyer Education (177)	39. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Elder Care (327)
44. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Senior Activities (104)	40. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Additional health care facilities (176)	40. Education - Early Childhood Education Programs (317)
45. Education - Life Skills (103)	41. Education - Computer Skills Training (174)	41. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Additional health care facilities (294)
	42. Education - Life Skills (173)	42. Education - GED Classes (286)
	43. Other Needs - Internet (172)	43. Education - Computer Skills Training (281)
	44. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Abuse/Violence protection (161)	44. Education - Life Skills (277)

46. Education - Early Childhood Education Programs (102)	45. Other Needs - Clothing (159)	45. Housing - Home Buyer Education (274)
47. Housing - Home Buyer Education (96)	46. Education - GED Classes (158)	46. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Abuse/Violence protection (248)
48. Housing - Senior Citizens Housing (92)	47. Other Needs - Prisoner Discharge Services (158)	47. Housing - Senior Citizens Housing (247)
49. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Abuse/Violence protection (87)	48. Housing - Senior Citizens Housing (155)	48. Other Needs - Burial Costs (241)
50. Housing - Handicap Accessibility Housing (86)	49. Other Needs - Special needs children (148)	49. Employment - Background Check (233)
51. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning (81)	50. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning (144)	50. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning (225)
52. Education - Literacy Classes (76)	51. Education - Literacy Classes (131)	51. Other Needs - Prisoner Discharge Services (225)
53. Income and Asset-Building - Other (74)	52. Housing - Handicap Accessibility Housing (126)	52. Housing - Handicap Accessibility Housing (212)
54. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Child Immunizations (71)	53. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Veterans Services (123)	53. Education - Literacy Classes (208)
55. Other Needs - Prisoner Discharge Services (67)	54. Other Needs - Burial Costs (123)	54. Other Needs - Special needs children (192)
56. Education - English as a Second-Language Classes (62)	55. Employment - Background Check (118)	55. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Child Immunizations (189)
57. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Veterans Services (52)	56. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Child Immunizations (118)	56. Income and Asset-Building - Other (188)
58. Other Needs - Special needs children (43)	57. Income and Asset-Building - Other (113)	57. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Veterans Services (175)
59. Income and Asset-Building - Gambling Counseling (40)	58. Education - English as a Second-Language Classes (98)	58. Education - English as a Second-Language Classes (160)
60. Employment - Other (31)	59. Employment - Other (68)	59. Employment - Other (104)
61. Housing - Other (31)	60. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Other (61)	60. Income and Asset-Building - Gambling Counseling (86)
62. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Other (20)	61. Health and Social/Behavior Development - HEALTH Other (54)	61. Housing - Other (84)
63. Education - Other (16)	62. Housing - Other (53)	62. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Other (81)
64. Health and Social/Behavior Development - HEALTH Other (16)	63. Education - Other (48)	63. Health and Social/Behavior Development - HEALTH Other (70)
65. Other Needs - Other (13)	64. Other Needs - Other (48)	64. Education - Other (66)
	65. Income and Asset-Building - Gambling Counseling (45)	65. Other Needs - Other (61)

3.3.2 Comparison Between Quantitative and Qualitative Data

The similarities and/or differences between what the numerical data says (quantitative data in Table 3) and what the people are voicing (qualitative data in Table 5 and 6) are summarized in Table 10. As shown, the results extracted from the quantitative and qualitative data are similar and consistent for most of the categories, especially the ones that are identified as the priority categories of needs.

Table 10: Similarities and/or differences between quantitative and qualitative data

		Priority Needs (Quantitative Data)	Most frequently mentioned issues or needs (Qualitative Data)	Comments/Notes
Employment	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finding a Job Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits Job Training 	Lack of employment, vehicle issues and transportation need to help on employment, childcare for working parents, employment opportunities/resources during COVID 19,	The results are similar and consistent.

			concerns about bad background/record to find a job, and training to find jobs.	
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits Finding a Job Job Training 	Skilled workers needed by employers, training opportunities, impacts of COVID 19 on employment, improvement on services, and needs after getting a job.	The results are similar and consistent.
Income and Asset-Building	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Issues Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling Free Income Tax Preparation 	Payments for rents, utility bills, food, house repairs, medical, prescriptions, etc.	The results are similar and consistent.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling Financial Issues Free Income Tax Preparation 	Paying rents/rental deposits, bills, student loans, education, financial assistance for farmers, house maintenance, repairing, and/or improvement, retirement planning, impacts of COVID 19 on incomes, financial literacy/planning, etc.	The results are similar and consistent.
Education	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paying for education Technical and Vocational Training GED Classes 	Training opportunities, lack of access to education.	The results are similar and consistent.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paying for education Childcare Technical and Vocational Training (or Early Childhood Education Programs) 	Affordable childcare, lack of access to education.	The results are similar and consistent.
Housing	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental Assistance Decent Affordable Houses to Rent Utility Assistance 	Paying rents and bills, affordable housing, housing repairing.	The results are similar and consistent.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decent Affordable Houses to Buy Rental Assistance Home Repair 	Affordable housing to rent/buy, house repairing, missing rights and responsibilities between landlords and renter, high cost of property tax, mortgage insurance, or realtor fees, etc.	The results are similar and consistent.
Health and Social/Behavior Development	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care Mental Health Service (or Visions) 	Dental needs, looking for a good doctor.	The results are similar and consistent.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Service Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental 	Mental health, especially for children/teenagers, individuals with disabilities, and/or rural areas, affordable health care and insurance, dental needs, free gym membership.	The results are similar and consistent.
Civic Engagement and Community Involvement	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safe Neighborhoods, Sidewalks, Parks Homeless Shelter Crime Prevention 	Case management/assistance, emergency shelters, community centers for disabled, playground for rural schools.	The results are similar and consistent.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Activities Recreational Activities Homeless Shelter 	Road/sidewalk conditions, homeless shelter, affordable youth sports activities, public transportation, education on gun safety.	The results are similar and consistent.
Other Supports	Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Public Transportation Access to Services 	Car repairing, telephone and internet for seniors, utility bills.	The results are slightly different.
	Non-Low-Incomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Transportation Vehicle Repair Assistance Access to Services 	Bus services, transportation in and from rural areas, etc.	The results are similar and consistent.

3.3.3 Causes and Conditions of Poverty

The previous needs assessment study conducted in 2006 indicated that the three most frequently mentioned needs are “Food”, “Utilities”, and “Dental Health Care”. The priority needs for the low-income people today, however, have been changed. As shown in Table 9, “Rental Assistance” under the category of “Housing” becomes the top priority need for low-income people in the state, and it follows “Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental” and “Food”, which would represent the immediate (short-term) needs of low-income people, since this result could be partially or significantly affected by the pandemic of COVID 19, meaning that it would not represent the needs before (e.g., in 2019) or after the pandemic. It is difficult to predict how long the negative impact of COVID 19 on the community will last, and thus continuous monitoring of the needs of low-income people across the state is recommended.

As shown in Table 5, “Poverty” was defined by low-income participants through phone interviews as “Not having enough income to meet basic needs”. Therefore, “Employment - Finding a Job” is listed as one of the top specific needs for low-income people among the 65 various needs, as shown in Table 9. This need is more likely one of the long-term needs for them, as long as the short-term (immediate) needs are met, considering the possible causes and conditions of poverty identified in the state through analyzing the qualitative data collected, as shown in Table 11. In summary, the followings are the possible negative factors that would create or foster short-/long-term barriers to self-sufficiency and/or reduce access to resources in communities in the state of North Dakota, where low-income individuals live, including

- Bad Record/Background
- Family Instability
- Disability, Mental Illness, Severe Anxiety/Depression, etc.
- Childcare Issue for Working Parents
- Fewer/No Skills for Jobs (with better pay and benefits)
- COVID-19
- Lack of Affordable Transportation (to and from work)
- Lack of Education
- Generational Poverty
- Lack of Employment Opportunities.

Please note, secondary statistical data from other organizations, such as the data from the most recent statewide workforce studies, housing needs assessments, US census, etc., are needed in order to further narrow down the causes of poverty through a comprehensive analysis of poverty characteristics.

An interesting situation was found that the comments (listed in Appendix E under the category of Employment) left by some employers indicate that a gap/mismatch exists between employers who need to find skilled workers with clean backgrounds and low-income job seekers who do not have the required skills and/or have poor/bad records/backgrounds. This indicates that one possible way to fill the gap is to aid low-income people with the required skills for job hunting, especially for those who do not have clean records/backgrounds.

Table 11: Causes and conditions of poverty

<p>Bad Record/Background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“have a hard time finding a job because of my record”</i> • <i>“Community needs employers willing to give applicants with past felony charges / addiction issues a second look, as rehabilitation and recovery can only be successful if there is hope for self-sufficiency.”</i> • <i>“Employment for Felons.”</i> • <i>“jobs for person with felony”</i> • <i>“Many of the people I see in my role at a community direct services organization have backgrounds that would prohibit them from housing or employment, additionally childcare is a huge obstacle. Training opportunities are needed to enhance their skills and fill needed roles in our community.”</i> • <i>“More transparency for job seekers with criminal backgrounds. Many companies treat as either a case by case basis or simply refuse to interview anyone with a criminal history.”</i> • <i>“There is a need for work with employers who will hire people with criminal backgrounds. There is a need for vocational education.”</i> • <i>“We seem to have a lot of families that are on welfare with background issues. We do not have a lot of job here. The younger kids are beginning to see a cycle and are accepting and preferring welfare as a way of life. We have a family here that doesn't care if their kids quit school, live on welfare, just pool the food stamps, and play computer games.”</i> • <i>“work for a felon that is a living wage with benefits”</i>
<p>Family Instability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“My son is 16 years old and was home everyday all day and because of that it cost extra to feed him and I found myself stocking up on items when I went to the grocery store not knowing when the next time I was going back to the store. Especially when I am use to buying one item at a time!!! I was buying him extra snacks to have throughout the day!! I am also going through a divorce in which we are hoping to hear from the judge by the end of June hopefully.”</i> • <i>“Continue to survive a brutal domestic violent past relationship”</i> • <i>“Currently a Full-time student at Minot State and paying for Tuition and gas to get back and forth and a full time mother struggling to make ends meet.”</i> • <i>“I am misplaced due to a domestic violence situation and I do not have any place to live or stay after Sunday.”</i> • <i>“If my partner did not work in the energy industry, I suspect I would have many of these barriers. A divorce left me in significant financial hardship after supporting his treatment, medical care and many other pieces. He struggled with addiction and I did not believe it was right to leave someone for having a condition. Once his behavior escalated to violence, I had to leave. However, I had taken on and continued to be obligated to his financial obligations. I imagine other people in our region experience these issues.”</i> • <i>“A huge piece of what causes poverty is divorce. Women and children are more likely to live in poverty after a divorce.”</i> • <i>“If the parent has a disability making it so they can't work.”</i> • <i>“Instability in the family unit is a cause of poverty and continued poverty.”</i>
<p>Disability, Mental Illness, Severe Anxiety/Depression, etc.</p>

- *“I want to have employment right now, but my disability prevents my capability of doing so.”*
- *“Filed for Disability due to health problems, waiting on them. I could not wait any longer to have surgery on my cervical spine so I had to have it done. Now I am unable to work and at risk of losing everything. I also have to have another spinal surgery after I recover from this one.”*
- *“I’m just having a hard time right now- disabled too old to work. Just need help with my light bill.”*
- *“Unable to work due to severe depression/ anxiety, cant qualify for assistance/ unemployment because i quit my job after a breakdown.”*
- *“Mental illness, brain injuries, and disabilities all contribute.”*

Childcare Issue for Working Parents

- *“childcare for working parents”*
- *“Need to get children into a state approved day care so I can start working again”*
- *“Short-term childcare for job interviews is needed. Families cannot get childcare assistance unless they have a job and often do not have resources for their children when interviewing for jobs.”*
- *“All of the above are very important programs if our neighbors are to successfully better their circumstances and that of their family. Early childhood education, affordable quality childcare, and English as a second language are all areas that are lacking funding thus access to the programs. Without quality affordable childcare, many single parents are prevented from working and providing for themselves and their families. Without early childhood education, not all children reach kindergarten on the level of learning. Literacy and English as a second language and extremely important to completing or continuing your education and succeeding in life.”*

Less/No Skills for Jobs (with better pay and benefits)

- *“While I have enough degrees and am basically computer literate, I need specific skill such as Exel Spread sheets training and skills in order to apply for most jobs. I might also need some basic skills in accounting to be able to use Excel Spread Sheets.”*
- *“Also needs to be more supports for those who have limited job skills and social skills. Job services used to provide, but are limited now.”*
- *“Many job openings, but people cannot find employment. People continue to come to area expecting to find work in the oil field. Work is now much more technical than during early boom. Employers way more selective about hiring. Criminal or drug background also interferes with hiring.”*
- *“I think a huge problem is that there are plenty of jobs, but not decent paying jobs. Housing costs are too high - people have to work 2-3 jobs to make it.”*
- *“Our community cannot fill unskilled jobs that are available in restaurants, gas stations and the grocery store. People who are unskilled feel they aren't paid enough and would rather just not work. They seem to feel they should be paid the same as those who attended college. If so, the rest of us should be paid much more in our jobs as bookkeepers, bankers and other positions that require education.”*

COVID-19

- *“COVID has caused all the adults in the house to not have work.”*
- *“finding a job as due to covid my husbands job will no longer be needed.”*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Self-employed & Covid has pretty much shut our business down.”</i> • <i>“self employed business owner unable to work due to Covid-19”</i> • <i>“Reduced income due to COVID”</i> • <i>“reduced income due to covid infection”</i> • <i>“Retraining for job placement after losing employment due to COVID19”</i>
<p>Lack of Affordable Transportation (to and from work)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Transportation to and from work.”</i> • <i>“Affordable transportation to & from job site, especially hours that don't coincide with Cities Area Transit”</i> • <i>“Lack of transportation.”</i> • <i>“Transportation to employment is a huge issue.”</i> • <i>“A lot of families get stuck in poverty if there is not an easier way of transportation.”</i>
<p>Lack of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Some causes of poverty are lack of education, which leads to lower paying jobs.”</i> • <i>“Those who have a lack of education are more at risk for being impoverished. Not being encouraged to attend school or college.”</i> • <i>“Lack of access to education to improve skills can also be a factor.”</i> • <i>“Giving people handouts and not teaching them skills to recover from poverty.”</i>
<p>Generational Poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Generational poverty plays a part.”</i> • <i>“The generational mindset, this is what my parents did so this is what I know and will do. It is a cycle that just continues through generations.”</i>
<p>Lack of Employment Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“Lack of employment opportunities that provide a livable wage. I am personally employed in a very good job but I am speaking for the general situation within Rolette County.”</i> • <i>“The lack of job service and employment training is a unacceptable in the 10th largest county in ND and highest unemployment !!!”</i>

3.4 Needs and Priorities by Region

Appendix F shows the detailed result in terms of the needs and priorities by region. The regional needs related to the currently available programs/services are summarized in Table 12, which are identified through the survey responses to Question 2.9 - *“What are the MOST important programs/services you would like to see continued in your community?”* This table allows the CAAs to identify which programs/services offered by each CAA region are more necessary for the local low-income people.

Table 13 describes the regional need categories in order of priority (similar to Table 4, but by region), which allows each CAA region to identify, in general, which category among the seven is the most important one for the local low-income people or the community.

Table 14 lists the regional top specific need under each of the top three priority categories identified through the cross-sectional comparison (similar to Table 8, but by region), which provides more detailed information to each CAA region about the effective allocation of resources under these categories.

Table 15 lists the regional specific needs identified through the longitudinal comparison (similar to Table 9, but by region with only the top three specific needs shown), where the numbers in the parentheses are the counts of the specific needs mentioned by the low-income or the non-low-income respondents in each region. Again, the longitudinal comparison allows the CAAs to identify the top specific needs, regardless of which categories these needs belong to.

Appendix G includes the qualitative data collected through surveys by region, which are useful for the CAAs to grasp the whole picture of the needs of the local people experiencing poverty in great depth and breadth.

Table 12: Regional needs for the current programs/services

Region	Regional Needs for the Current Programs/Services		
	For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
Region 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (53.1%) 2. Representative Payee Case Management (50%) 3. Energy Share (44.8%) 4. Commodity Senior Foods Program (39.6%) 5. Weatherization program (29.2%) 6. Home Rehabilitation (25.0%) 7. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (24.0%) 8. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (18.8%) 9. Senior Companions Program (18.8%) 10. Victim Impact Panel (7.3%) 11. Other (1%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (57.9%) 2. Energy Share (42.1%) 3. Weatherization program (37.4%) 4. Commodity Senior Foods Program (37.4%) 5. Senior Companions Program (33.6%) 6. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (29.9%) 7. Representative Payee Case Management (28.0%) 8. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (25.2%) or 9. Home Rehabilitation (25.2%) 10. Victim Impact Panel (16.8%) 11. Other (0.9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (51.4%) 2. Energy Share (40.0%) 3. Commodity Senior Foods Program (35.5%) 4. Representative Payee Case Management (35.5%) 5. Weatherization Program (30.9%) 6. Senior Companions Program (24.5%) 7. Home Rehabilitation (23.2%) 8. Supportive services for Veteran Families (22.7%) 9. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (22.7%) 10. Victim Impact Panel (11.8%) 11. Other (0.9%)
Region 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Program (71.0%) 2. Self Sufficiency (63.0%) 3. Emergency Program (58.0%) 4. Energy Conservation (31.0%) 5. Other Supports (1.0%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self Sufficiency (73.3%) 2. Housing Program (66.7%) 3. Emergency Program (63.2%) 4. Energy Conservation (54.3%) 5. Other Supports (3.9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self Sufficiency (64.4%) 2. Housing Program (62.7%) 3. Emergency Program (56.4%) 4. Energy Conservation (44.1%) 5. Other Supports (2.8%)
Region 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Assistance (67.5%) 2. Housing (65.0%) 3. Self-Sufficiency Services (47.3%) 4. Home Weatherization on Service (45.5%) 5. Nutrition Service (45.5%) 6. Information and Refer (39.7%) 7. School Supplies (35.7%) 8. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (34.7%) 9. Holiday Projects (29.6%) 10. Other (0.4%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (81.1%) 2. Emergency Assistance (68.0%) 3. Home Weatherization on Service (61.1%) 4. Self-Sufficiency Services (60.2%) 5. Nutrition Service (43.9%) 6. School Supplies (42.6%) 7. Holiday Projects (34.8%) 8. Information and Refer (32.4%) 9. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (27.9%) 10. Other (0.4%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (70.8%) 2. Emergency Assistance (66.1%) 3. Self-Sufficiency Services (52.1%) 4. Home Weatherization on Service (51.5%) 5. Nutrition Service (43.6%) 6. School Supplies (38.0%) 7. Information and Refer (35.4%) 8. Holiday Projects (31.3%) 9. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (30.7%) 10. Other (0.4%)
Region 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nutrition (57.6%) 2. Weatherization (46.5%) 3. Emergency Services (44.4%) 4. Housing (42.4%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Services (59.2%) 2. Housing (53.6%) 3. Nutrition (48.7%) 4. Weatherization (46.4%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Services (49.7%) 2. Nutrition (48.3%) 3. Housing (45.7%) 4. Weatherization (43.2%)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Seniors (38.9%) 6. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (37.5%) 7. Education (34.0%) 8. Case Management (30.6%) 9. Home Cents (30.6%) 10. Information & Referral and Linkages (28.5%) 11. Legal Aid (25.0%) 12. Federal Home Loan Bank (11.1%) 13. Other (0.7%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Case Management (46.0%) 6. Seniors (44.5%) 7. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (42.3%) 8. Home Cents (37.0%) 9. Education (36.6%) 10. Information & Referral and Linkages (28.7%) 11. Legal Aid (26.4%) 12. Federal Home Loan Bank (15.5%) 13. Other (2.6%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Seniors (39.6%) 6. Case Management (37.9%) 7. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (37.2%) 8. Education (32.7%) 9. Home Cents (32.3%) 10. Information & Referral and Linkages (26.5%) 11. Legal Aid (24.1%) 12. Federal Home Loan Bank (12.7%) 13. Other (1.8%)
Region 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-Sufficiency (56.0%) 2. Development of Affordable Housing (46.8%) 3. Home Improvement (37.6%) 4. Child and Adult Care Food Program (35.6%) 5. Early Childhood Education Programs (35.1%) 6. Other (2.6%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Childhood Education Programs (57.6%) 2. Self-Sufficiency (54.8%) 3. Development of Affordable Housing (45.8%) 4. Child and Adult Care Food Program (45%) 5. Home Improvement (44.7%) 6. Other (4.4%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Self-Sufficiency (50.5%) 2. Early Childhood Education Programs (45.0%) 3. Development of Affordable Housing (42.5%) 4. Home Improvement (38.7%) 5. Child and Adult Care Food Program (38.3%) 6. Other (3.4%)
Region 6*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Head Start (52.6%) 2. Emergency Services (47.4%) 3. Food Pantry (47.4%) 4. Head Start (47.4%) 5. Weatherization Programs & Services (42.1%) 6. Energy Share (31.6%) 7. Financial Counseling (21.1%) 8. Other (0%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Pantry (66.7%) 2. Early Head Start (62.7%) 3. Head Start (61.1%) 4. Emergency Services (56.3%) 5. Weatherization Programs & Services (51.6%) 6. Energy Share (44.4%) 7. Financial Counseling (34.9%) 8. Other (5.6%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Pantry (61.0%) 2. Early Head Start (58.4%) 3. Head Start (56.5%) 4. Emergency Services (52.6%) 5. Weatherization Programs & Services (50.0%) 6. Energy Share (40.9%) 7. Financial Counseling (31.8%) 8. Other (5.2%)
Region 7*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Assistance Programs (69.8%) 2. Housing Programs (62.3%) 3. Energy Efficiency Program (52.8%) 4. Rehabilitation/Accessibility Programs (50.9%) 5. Other (5.7%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Assistance Programs (74.2%) 2. Energy Efficiency Program (50.7%) 3. Housing Programs (44.2%) 4. Rehabilitation/Accessibility Programs (40.6%) 5. Other (6.0%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency Assistance Programs (65.4%) 2. Energy Efficiency Program (45.8%) 3. Housing Programs (42.8%) 4. Rehabilitation/Accessibility Programs (37.9%) 5. Other (5.2%)
Region 8*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (51.0%) 2. Weatherization Program (42.9%) 3. Energy Share (40.8%) 4. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (36.7%) 5. Community Action Partnership (36.7%) 6. Home Rehabilitation (30.6%) 7. Commodity Senior Foods Program (30.6%) 8. Prairie Rose Recovery Center (28.6%) 9. Representative Payee Case Management (24.5%) 10. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (24.5%) 11. Victim Impact Panel (22.4%) 12. Other (6.1%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (50.0%) 2. Community Action Partnership (47.8%) 3. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (46.4%) 4. Weatherization Program (41.0%) 5. Energy Share (38.8%) 6. Commodity Senior Foods Program (38.5%) 7. Prairie Rose Recovery Center (33.1%) 8. Home Rehabilitation (29.9%) 9. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (27.0%) 10. Representative Payee Case Management (25.9%) 11. Victim Impact Panel (24.8%) 12. Other (2.9%) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing Stabilization Assistance (46.3%) 2. Community Action Partnership (42.7%) 3. Supportive Services for Veteran Families (41.9%) 4. Weatherization Program (38.2%) 5. Energy Share (36.5%) 6. Commodity Senior Foods Program (34.8%) 7. Prairie Rose Recovery Center (30.3%) 8. Home Rehabilitation (28.1%) 9. Representative Payee Case Management (23.9%) 10. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (24.7%) 11. Victim Impact Panel (22.8%) 12. Other (3.4%)

*with >10% margin of error

Table 13: Overall need categories by region

Region	Overall Need Categories		
	For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
Region 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (63.5%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (51.0%) 3. Income and Asset - Building (34.4%) 4. Employment (26.0%) 5. Other Supports (24.0%) 6. Education (22.9%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (19.8%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (56.1%) 2. Employment (49.5%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development (41.1%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (41.1%) 5. Education (27.1%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (22.4%) 7. Other Supports (15.9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (55.0%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (42.3%) 3. Employment (35.5%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (35.0%) 5. Education (23.2%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (19.5%) 7. Other Supports (18.2%)
Region 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (58.0%) 2. Income and Asset - Building (43.0%) 3. Employment (43.0%) 4. Health and Social/Behavior Development (30.0%) 5. Education (25.0%) 6. Other Supports (23.0%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (10.0%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (50.8%) 2. Housing (49.2%) 3. Employment (37.6%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (36.8%) 5. Education (28.7%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (25.2%) 7. Other Supports (15.5%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (47.6%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (40.6%) 3. Employment (35.8%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (35.6%) 5. Education (25.8%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (18.8%) 7. Other Supports (15.8%)
Region 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (77.6%) 2. Income and Asset - Building (55.2%) 3. Education (54.2%) 4. Employment (39.0%) 5. Health and Social/Behavior Development (35.7%) 6. Other Supports (19.9%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (9.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (66%) 2. Education (55.7%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development (50.0%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (48.8%) 5. Employment (38.5%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (15.6%) 7. Other Supports (5.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (70.4%) 2. Education (53.6%) 3. Income and Asset - Building (50.9%) 4. Health and Social/Behavior Development (41.4%) 5. Employment (37.8%) 6. Other Supports (12.9%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (12.4%)
Region 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (56.9%) 2. Education (40.3%) 3. Income and Asset - Building (38.2%) 4. Health and Social/Behavior Development (37.5%) 5. Employment (22.9%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (9.7%) 7. Other Supports (7.6%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (55.5%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (52.8%) 3. Education (38.5%) 4. Income and Asset-Building (37.7%) 5. Employment (37.0%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (19.2%) 7. Other Supports (12.5%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (51.9%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (43.9%) 3. Education (35.9%) 4. Income and Asset-Building (35.2%) 5. Employment (29.6%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (14.7%) 7. Other Supports (9.8%)
Region 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (57.2%) 2. Employment (44.3%) 3. Income and Asset - Building (37.4%) 4. Health and Social/Behavior Development (34.5%) 5. Education (29.3%) 6. Other Supports (21.6%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (13.5%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (47.5%) 2. Employment (43.8%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development (40.7%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (38.7%) 5. Education (30.7%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (20.5%) 7. Other Supports (13.6%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (46.3%) 2. Employment (40.2%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development (35.0%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (34.9%) 5. Education (27.7%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (16.4%) 7. Other Supports (15.1%)

Region 6*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (47.4%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (47.4%) 3. Income and Asset - Building (42.1%) 4. Employment (42.1%) 5. Education (31.6%) 6. Other Supports (10.5%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (10.5%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (56.3%) 2. Housing (43.7%) 3. Employment (44.4%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (29.4%) 5. Education (26.2%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (26.2%) 7. Other Supports (12.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (52.6%) 2. Housing (42.9%) 3. Employment (42.2%) 4. Income and Asset - Building (29.9%) 5. Education (26.6%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (23.4%) 7. Other Supports (12.3%)
Region 7*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (60.4%) 2. Employment (45.3%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development (41.5%) 4. Education (39.6%) 5. Income and Asset - Building (35.8%) 6. Other Supports (26.4%) 7. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (11.3%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (52.1%) 2. Housing (47.9%) 3. Employment (46.1%) 4. Education (31.3%) 5. Income and Asset - Building (30.4%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (27.2%) 7. Other Supports (11.1%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing (44.8%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development (44.4%) 3. Employment (40.5%) 4. Education (29.1%) 5. Income and Asset - Building (27.8%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (21.2%) 7. Other Supports (12.4%)
Region 8*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (49.0%) 2. Income and Asset - Building (44.9%) 3. Housing (36.7%) 4. Employment (30.6%) 5. Education (22.4%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (22.4%) 7. Other Supports (10.2%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (46.7%) 2. Education (43.5%) 3. Employment (41.3%) 4. Housing (38.8%) 5. Income and Asset - Building (31.5%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (31.5%) 7. Other Supports (12.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development (43.6%) 2. Employment (37.1%) 3. Education (37.1%) 4. Housing (35.7%) 5. Income and Asset - Building (30.9%) 6. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement (28.0%) 7. Other Supports (11.6%)

*with >10% margin of error

Table 14: Top specific needs under the priority categories identified

Region	Top Specific Needs under the Priority Categories Identified		
	For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
Region 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (75.0%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (73.3%) 3. Income and Asset - Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (61.1%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Rent (52.4%) 2. Employment - Finding a Job (69.0%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health service (55.3%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (62.8%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health service (63.0%) 3. Employment - Finding a Job (76.5%)
Region 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (52.5%) 2. Income and Asset - Building - Financial Issues (40.0%) 3. Employment - Finding a Job (70.6%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (60.8%) 2. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Buy (52.4%) or Rental Assistance (52.4%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Job or Jobs with Benefits (82.9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (52.4%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (59.2%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Job or Jobs with Benefits (59.7%)

Region 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Rent (61.7%) 2. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (64.2%) 3. Education -Technical and Vocational Training (56.0%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Home Repair (60.0%) or Decent Affordable Houses to Buy (60.0%) 2. Education - Technical and Vocational Training (57.8%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Education Services (67.9%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Rent (58.8%) 2. Education - Technical and Vocational Training (56.6%) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (70.1%)
Region 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (57.6%) 2. Education - Paying for Education (61.9%) 3. Income and Asset - Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (66.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Home Repair (63.6%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (57.8%) 3. Education - Paying for Education (54.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Home Repair (55.5%) or Rental Assistance (55.5%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (54.9%) 3. Education - Paying for Education (58.5%)
Region 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (59.3%) 2. Employment - Finding a Job (61.9%) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (53.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (53.8%) 2. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (66.7%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (55.4%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (56.3%) 2. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (60.6%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (56.5%)
Region 6*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Home Repair (60%) or Utility Assistance (60%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (70%) or Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (70%) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (66.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (58.2%) 2. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Buy (58.1%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (87%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (55.4%) or Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (55.4%) 2. Housing - Home Repair (55.6%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (86.2%)
Region 7*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Home Repair (58.3%) 2. Employment - Finding a Job (55.6%) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (91.3%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (57.9%) 2. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to Buy (61.4%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (41.2%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Dental Affordable Houses to Buy (48.8%) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (64.6%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (41.6%)
Region 8*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (52.9%) or Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (52.9%) or Visions (52.9%) 2. Income and Asset - Building - Financial Issues (60.0%) 3. Housing - Rental Assistance (66.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (71.8%) 2. Education - Childcare (89.1%) 3. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (70.7%) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (63.5%) 2. Employment - Higher Paying Jobs or Jobs with Benefits (68.6%) 3. Education - Childcare (72.6%)

*with >10% margin of error

Table 15: Specific needs identified through longitudinal comparison by region

Region	Specific Needs Identified Through Longitudinal Comparison		
	For Low-Incomes	For Non-Low-Incomes	For the Community (including Low-Incomes and Non-Low-Incomes)
Region 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other Needs - Food (58) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (44) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (42) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (26) 2. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (22) 3. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to buy (22) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other Needs - Food (73) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (68) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (61)
Region 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other Needs - Food (37) 2. Employment-Finding a job (24) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (23) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (56) 2. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (53) 3. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (51) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (71) 2. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (71) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (65)
Region 3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (124) 2. Housing - Rental Assistance (113) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (104) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (89) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Education Services (76) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (74) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Decent Affordable Houses to rent (183) 2. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (178) 3. Housing - Rental Assistance (176)
Region 4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (58) 2. Housing - Rental Assistance (53) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (51) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (78) 2. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (75) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (74) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (135) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (129) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (116)
Region 5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing - Rental Assistance (99) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (95) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (94) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (93) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (91) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling (87) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (186) 2. Housing - Rental Assistance (184) 3. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (164)
Region 6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (8) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (7) 3. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (33) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (32) 3. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (32) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (36) 2. Health and Social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (36) 3. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (36)

	Insurance/Affordable Dental (7)		
Region 7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (21) 2. Housing - Home Repair (14) 3. Health and social/Behavior Development - Visions (14) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (49) 2. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Homeless Shelter (47) 3. Health and social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (44) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Health and social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (64) 2. Health and social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (56) 3. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (53)
Region 8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Income and Asset-Building - Financial Issues (9) 2. Health and social/Behavior Development - Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care (9) 3. Health and social/Behavior Development - Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental (9) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (66) 2. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (62) 3. Health and social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (56) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Recreational Activities (72) 2. Civic Engagement and Community Involvement - Youth Activities (70) 3. Health and social/Behavior Development - Mental Health Service (61)

4. Conclusions

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are required to conduct community needs assessments, which must be done by the agencies every three years to determine the underlying causes and conditions of poverty within the community they serve and identify the available resources to address the community's most vulnerable residents' unmet needs. The community needs assessment ensures that CAAs have the information they need to plan and deliver the best services to assist their communities.

The key findings and conclusions from the needs assessment study, along with considerations, recommendations, and/or suggestions, are summarized below.

- In the study, the survey responses from low-income respondents were separated from the responses from non-low-income participants, which allows the research team to compare them and then identify the similarity, difference, and uniqueness of them in order to ensure the validity and accuracy of the survey study and avoid bias.
- Two comparison methods were used, i.e., cross-sectional and longitudinal comparisons, which allows the research team not only to identify the top specific needs under the seven need categories, including *Employment, Income and Asset-Building, Education, Housing, Health and Social/Behavior Development, Civic Engagement, and Other Supports*, through the cross-sectional comparison, but also to find out the top specific needs, regardless of which categories these needs belong to, through the longitudinal comparison.
- The previous needs assessment study conducted in 2006 indicated that the three most frequently mentioned needs are “*Food*”, “*Utilities*”, and “*Dental Health Care*”. Apparently, the priority needs for the low-income people today have been changed.

- **“Rental Assistance”** becomes the **1st priority need** of people experiencing poverty across the state under the category of **“Housing”**. This need, however, would represent their immediate (short-term) need, which could be partially or significantly affected by the pandemic of COVID-19, meaning that it would not represent the top need before (e.g., in 2019) or after the pandemic. It is difficult to predict how long the negative impact of COVID 19 on the community will last, and thus continuous monitoring of the needs of low-income people across the state is recommended.
- Inconsistencies between the responses from low-income or non-low-income respondents were found, which represent the different needs of these two groups of people. For example, the **1st priority need** for the non-low-income respondents is **“Mental Health Service”** under the category of **“Health and Social/Behavior Development”**. For the community (including both low-income and non-low-income people), the **1st priority need** is **“Dental Issuance/Affordable Dental”** under the category of **“Health and Social/Behavior Development”**.
- Which result should be used by the CAAs (i.e., the results for low-incomes, non-low-incomes, or the community, or the results obtained from the cross-sectional and longitudinal comparison methods) depends on what the CAAs focus on, e.g.,
 - Use the results for low-income people, if the CAAs focus on people experiencing poverty.
 - Use the results for non-low-income people, if the CAAs focus on the people with higher household incomes than the 125% poverty line.
 - Use the results for the community, if the CAAs care more about the entire community as a whole, including low-income and non-low-income people.
 - Use the results obtained from the cross-sectional comparison method, if the CAAs focus more on the seven categories of needs than the specific needs.
 - Use the results obtained from the longitudinal comparison method, if the CAAs focus more on the top specific needs regardless of which categories these needs belong to.

The needs assessment result can also be shared with other organizations to maximize the impact of benefit of the study.

- The frequently mentioned causes of poverty across the state identified by analyzing the qualitative data collected are listed below. Secondary statistical data from other organizations, such as the data from the most recent statewide workforce studies, housing needs assessments, US census, etc., are needed in order to further narrow down the causes of poverty through a comprehensive analysis of poverty characteristics.
 - Bad Record/Background
 - Family Instability
 - Disability, Mental Illness, Severe Anxiety/Depression, etc.
 - Childcare Issue for Working Parents
 - Fewer/No Skills for Jobs (with better pay and benefits)
 - COVID-19

- Lack of Affordable Transportation (to and from work)
 - Lack of Education
 - Generational Poverty
 - Lack of Employment Opportunities.
- For the CAA regions 6, 7, and 8, the results for low-income people in these regions would not be that accurate to reflect their real needs due to the high margin of error (>10%).

Appendix A: Survey Questionnaire Example

North Dakota Community Needs Assessment Questionnaire (For Region 1 - Williston)

We would appreciate it if you would please complete the needs assessment questionnaire on the following pages. The information that you provide is confidential, so please do not put your name on the survey. The following questionnaire will take about 10 minutes or less to complete. The results of the survey will be used to help the North Dakota Community Action Agencies (CAAs) in evaluating the needs of and services for low-income individuals and families.

The survey questionnaire was developed by North Dakota State University (NDSU), who helps CAAs by providing technical support to the needs assessment. Both CAAs and NDSU would like to acknowledge the support of the Consensus Council, Inc. (in partnership with the Bush Foundation) through the Community Innovation Grants on this survey.

To answer the survey question, please check the small box in front of each need (see an example below). The bulleted list under each need provides more information/explanation for the need.

- Finding a job
- Finding a full-time job
 - Applying for jobs
 - Writing a resume
 - Interviewing for a job
 - Getting appropriate clothing for a job
- Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits
- More jobs with better pay and benefits

You may also scan the QR code below and work on the survey online.



Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us: Yao Yu at yao.yu@ndsu.edu or 701-231-8822.

Section 1 – Basic Demographic Information: (Check the respond that best represents you)

- 1.1 Do you live in State of North Dakota?** Yes No
- 1.2 What county is your household living in?** _____
- 1.3 What is your gender?**
 Male Female Non-binary/third gender
 Prefer to self-describe _____ Prefer not to say
- 1.4 What is your age range?**
 Under 18 18-24 25-39 40-59
 60-64 65-79 80 or older
- 1.5 Do you or a member of your household have child(ren) under age 18 years old?**
 Yes No Currently pregnant
- 1.6 What best describes your household?**
 Two parents Single person Multifamily household
 Single parent Male Single parent Female Two adults no children
 Grandparent(s) raising grandchildren Other _____ (Please specify)
- 1.7 What is your race/ethnicity?**
 Asian or Pacific Islander Black/African American
 Hispanic/Latino American Indian/Native American
 White/Caucasian Other _____ (Please specify)
- 1.8 What is your TOTAL household income last year, including any type of financial aid for disabilities, social security, child support, food stamps, etc.?**
 Less than \$10,000 \$10,001-\$20,000 \$20,001-\$30,000
 \$30,001-\$40,000 \$40,001-\$50,000 \$50,001-\$60,000
 \$60,001-\$70,000 \$70,001-More Prefer not to answer
- 1.9 What language is spoken in your home?**
 English Spanish English and Spanish
 Other _____ (Please specify)
- 1.10 What is your highest level of education completed?**
 Less than 9th grade 9th – 12th grade (no diploma)
 High School Diploma/GED Technical School/Vocational Technical School
 Some college (no degree) Associate's degree
 Bachelor's degree Graduate/Professional
 Other _____ (Please specify)
- 1.11 What is your current employment status?**
 Full time Part time Seasonal/day labor
 Not working/looking Not working/not looking Apprenticeship
 Retired Self-employed Other _____ (Please specify)
- 1.12 What is your current housing status?**
 Own Rent Homeless Hotel/motel
 Nursing/long term care Assisted living Group home
 Staying with friends/family Other _____ (Please specify)

1.13 What is your role in the community? (Please select the best choice which fits your role when completing this survey)

- Client of agency
(Have received service from agency. Example – Tax Preparation)
- Agency Board Member Agency Volunteer
- Representative of an educational institution General Public
(Public or private school, college, technical school etc.) (Have NOT received services from agency)
- Representative of a government entity Representative of a private organization
(City, county, state, or federal) (Business, local civic group)
- Representative of a faith-based organization Representative of a community-based organization
(Church or other religious organization) (Nonprofit entities providing direct service)
- Other _____ (Please specify)

Section 2 – Specific Needs: (Please check all the boxes that indicate the needs for you, your family, and/or your community.)

2.1 EMPLOYMENT

- DO NOT have any employment needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.2)

.OR.

- DO have employment needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Job Training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Career path services introduction• Technical skills to find work• Soft skills to keep a job (e.g., good communication skills, etc.)• Training for the types of jobs available in the area• Knowledge of available employment resources• Readiness skills to be able to work
<input type="checkbox"/> Finding a job <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finding a full-time job• Applying for jobs• Writing a resume• Interviewing for a job• Getting appropriate clothing for a job
<input type="checkbox"/> Higher paying jobs or jobs with benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More jobs with better pay and benefits
<input type="checkbox"/> Background Check <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Criminal background• Offender status
<input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.2 INCOME AND ASSET-BUILDING

DO NOT have any financial needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.3)

.OR.

DO have financial needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Free Income Tax Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Filling out tax forms
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambling Counseling
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget/Credit/Debit Counseling <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on how to access free credit counseling• Opening a checking or savings account• Financial literacy/planning• Understanding credit scores• Anonymous and confidential savings counseling• Anonymous and confidential budget counseling• Foreclosure/bankruptcy/repossession problems
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divorce problems• Child support problems• Problems with utility or telephone company• Education on how to build assets
<input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.3 EDUCATION

DO NOT have any education needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.4)

.OR.

DO have education needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Education Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preschool activities for child(ren) to develop school readiness skills
<input type="checkbox"/> GED Classes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting a high school diploma or GED (General Education Development)/HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma)• High school transition coordination
<input type="checkbox"/> English as a Second-Language Classes
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills Training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learning how to use a computer
<input type="checkbox"/> Literacy Classes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improving communication or language skills
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical and Vocational Training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting a two-year college degree• Choosing a technical school program• Counseling to prepare students for technical school or college• Certificate/degree programs offered locally
<input type="checkbox"/> Childcare <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parenting Education• Affordable high-quality childcare options

<input type="checkbox"/> Paying for education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paying for post-secondary education programs (e.g. Associate's, Bachelor's Degrees) • Completing college aid forms (including FAFSA forms (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)) <input type="checkbox"/> Life Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help choosing a career • Character education (i.e. anti-bulling, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.4 HOUSING

DO NOT have any housing needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.5)

.OR.

DO have housing needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Decent Affordable Houses to RENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing housing discrimination <input type="checkbox"/> Decent Affordable Houses to BUY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortgage Assistance • Counseling resources for homeowners • A down payment/closing costs to buy a home • Qualifying for a loan to buy a home <input type="checkbox"/> Weatherization (home energy improvement) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants to provide services that reduce energy cost <input type="checkbox"/> Home Repair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs to provide free home repair • Long-term care/home care services • Basic home repair/property maintenance skills <input type="checkbox"/> Home Buyer Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home ownership education <input type="checkbox"/> Handicap Accessibility Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to my home for a person with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Income based rental housing for seniors <input type="checkbox"/> Rental Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent deposits • Rent payments • Renter/tenant rights and responsibilities education • More monthly rental assistance programs <input type="checkbox"/> Utility Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utility deposit programs <input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>
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2.5 HEALTH AND SOCIAL/BEHAVIOR DEVELOPMENT

DO NOT have any health needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.6)

.OR.

DO have health needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Health Insurance/Affordable Health Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paying for medicine and prescriptions• Long-term health care• Chronic Illness• AIDS/HIV• STD's (Sexually Transmitted Diseases)
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Education Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nutritional counseling• Healthy eating habits• Early childhood nutrition education• Education on maintaining personal hygiene• Answering health insurance questions• Preventative healthcare
<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Abuse Counseling/Treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug or alcohol problem
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stress, depression, or anxiety• Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
<input type="checkbox"/> Teenage Pregnancy/Family Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Birth control• Good medical care before baby is born
<input type="checkbox"/> Dental Insurance/Affordable Dental <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Payment assistance programs for adult dental services• Paying for regular dental checkups
<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Care <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hypertension (High blood pressure)• Diabetes• Hearing care• Heart Disease
<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans Services
<input type="checkbox"/> Visions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vision assistance programs for adults• Paying for glasses
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Immunizations <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccines for children regular check-ups, developmental screens, or physicals
<input type="checkbox"/> Disability/Body Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assistance for child diagnosed with disability• Assistance for adult diagnosed with disability• Prosthesis• Medical equipment (i.e. wheelchair, crutch, hearing aids, etc.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Abuse/Violence protection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection in domestic violence situations • Physical, emotional, or sexual abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.6 CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

DO NOT have any community needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.7)

.OR.

DO have community needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Safe neighborhoods, sidewalks, parks <input type="checkbox"/> Additional health care facilities (Doctor's offices, Clinics, Pharmacies) <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless Shelter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting emergency shelter • Community supports for homeless families <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Activities <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Prevention <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family/Child Abuse • Citizenship classes • Deportation or immigration issues <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge on civic activities • Joining neighborhood associations, community boards, advisory groups or similar organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.7 OTHER SUPPORTS

DO NOT have any other supporting needs right now (If so please skip this section and go to Section 2.8)

.OR.

DO have other supporting needs right now (If so, please check all that apply below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Availability/Access to food (grocery store) <input type="checkbox"/> Community Gardens <input type="checkbox"/> Food <input type="checkbox"/> Prisoner Discharge Services <input type="checkbox"/> Public Transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Transportation to work, school, health service, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Repair Assistance
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<input type="checkbox"/> Access to services (WIC, SNAP, SSI, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children) • SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) • SSI (Supplemental Security Income) <input type="checkbox"/> Clothing <input type="checkbox"/> Internet <input type="checkbox"/> Burial Costs <input type="checkbox"/> Special needs children <input type="checkbox"/> Other needs or comments under this category (Please specify): <hr/> <hr/>

2.8 OVERALL NEEDED (Please mark **THREE** most important needs to you, your family, and/or your community)

- Employment
- Income and Asset-building
- Education
- Housing
- Health and Social/Behavior Development
- Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
- Other Supports

2.9 The current programs/services provided by your local CAA are listed below. What are the MOST important program/services you would like to see continued in your community? (Please check all that apply)

- Housing stabilization assistance
 - Provides a variety of services intended to stabilize the housing situation for a low-income individual or family, including rent assistance, past-due utility assistance and rental security deposit assistance.
- Energy Share
 - Assists with a household's past-due gas/electric bills. Qualified individuals must be qualified for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) through their local county Social Service Office.
- Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
 - Promotes housing stability among very low-income veteran families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. SSVF supports a Housing First approach by helping the veteran family meets its primary need of housing, while addressing barriers to housing stability.
- Weatherization program
 - Helps eligible low-income households reduce their energy consumption and make the home safe, comfortable and energy efficient. The program serves renters or owners who live in mobile homes, traditional wood framed homes, or apartments.
- HOME Rehabilitation
 - Preserves and extends the life of existing homes in rural North Dakota.
- Representative Payee case management
 - Provides financial case management to Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities to ensure that the basic needs of the clients are met – food, clothing, and shelter. Each client is guided by staff to establish a monthly budget, pay the monthly bills
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
 - Offers free tax preparation services for low income individuals, individuals with a disability and elderly. This program generally runs from the beginning of February through April 15th.

- Commodity Senior Foods Program
Distributes non-perishable, shelf-stable commodity foods to low income elderly households.
 - Victim Impact Panel (VIP)
A court-ordered program that provides the victim perspective to individuals convicted of drinking while driving offenses.
 - Senior Companions Program
Volunteers age 60 and older aid and provide friendship to seniors and other individuals who have difficulty with daily living tasks.
 - Other programs/services expected from your local CAA .OR. any other comments (Please specify):
-
-

Section 3 – Additional Feedback:

3.1 Any additional feedback or comments related to needs in your community?

3.2 Are you willing to be contacted by NDSU on behalf of Community Action Agencies to further discuss needs in your community? Yes No

If yes, please provide your contact information, such as phone number and/or email address.

Thank you for your participation!

Appendix B: Number of Total Responses Collected up to 11/12/2020

Region	County	Total Responses	Number of Completed Surveys	Number of Effective Non-Low-Income Responses	Number of Effective Low-Income Responses	Total Sample Size Required in Each Region
		[A]*	[B]*	[C]*	[D]*	[E]*
Region 1 - Williston	Divide	12	11	7	4	354
	Williams	153	144	67	77	
	Mckenzie	29	27	22	5	
	Unknown	26	21	11	10	
	Total	220	203	107	96	
Region 2 - Minot	Bottineau	11	11	10	1	373
	Burke	17	16	16	0	
	McHenry	36	29	22	7	
	Mountrail	10	7	7	0	
	Pierce	4	3	3	0	
	Renville	7	6	6	0	
	Ward	284	258	180	80	
	Unknown	29	25	13	12	
	Total	399	358	258	100	
Region 3 - Devils Lake	Benson	91	90	34	56	353
	Cavalier	5	5	4	1	
	Eddy	25	23	8	15	
	Ramsey	176	173	87	86	
	Rolette	128	123	51	72	
	Towner	28	28	14	14	
	Unknown	81	79	46	33	
	Total	534	521	244	277	
Region 4 - Grand Forks	Grand Forks	258	234	178	56	374
	Nelson	24	23	11	12	
	Pembina	48	41	18	23	
	Walsh	50	48	23	25	
	Unknown	69	63	35	28	
	Total	449	409	265	144	
Region 5 - Fargo	Cass	618	553	317	241	382
	Ransom	40	37	24	13	
	Richland	81	75	40	35	
	Sargent	37	34	26	8	
	Steele	10	10	9	1	
	Traill	101	92	78	14	
	Unknown	153	131	95	36	
	Total	1040	937	589	348	
	Barnes	15	14	12	2	

Region 6 - Jamestown	Dickey	4	3	3	0	352
	Foster	6	6	6	0	
	Griggs	7	7	6	1	
	LaMoure	17	16	15	1	
	Logan	1	1	1	0	
	McIntosh	8	8	7	1	
	Stutsman	79	75	64	11	
	Wells	4	4	4	0	
	Unknown	13	11	8	3	
	Total	154	145	126	19	
Region 7 - Bismarck	Burleigh	184	164	134	30	379
	Emmons	4	4	3	1	
	Grant	11	11	9	2	
	Kidder	6	5	5	0	
	McLean	14	12	11	1	
	Mercer	17	17	14	3	
	Morton	32	31	23	8	
	Oliver	3	3	3	0	
	Sheridan	4	3	3	0	
	Sioux	7	5	2	3	
	Unknown	24	15	10	5	
	Total	306	270	217	53	
Region 8 - Dickinson	Adams	16	14	11	3	351
	Billings	2	2	1	1	
	Bowman	8	7	5	2	
	Dunn	16	15	14	1	
	Golden Valley	8	7	6	1	
	Hettinger	17	17	11	6	
	Slope	1	1	0	1	
	Stark	245	232	204	28	
	Unknown	43	32	26	6	
	Total	356	327	278	49	
Total	3458	3170	2084	1086	2918	

*[A]: Number of total responses collected on SurveyMonkey and From Shared Folder

*[B]: Number of effective survey responses that can be used, i.e., completed surveys without including incomplete survey responses that will not be counted.

*[C]: Number of effective survey responses completed by non-low incomes, such as agency board members, agency volunteers, representatives of a government entity, a private organization, a faith-based organization, or a community-based organization, or general public people whose household incomes are higher than the 125% of poverty.

*[D]: Number of effective survey responses completed by low incomes (determined by looking at the answers of Question 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, and 1.13, based on 125% of poverty).

*[E]: Required number of survey responses from low-income people in each region

Appendix C: Online Survey Links and QR Codes

Region 1 – Williston

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region1>

QR Code:



Region 2 – Minot

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region2>

QR Code:



Region 3 – Devils Lake

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region3>

QR Code:



Region 4 – Grand Forks

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region4>

QR Code:



Region 5 – Fargo

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region5>

QR Code:



Region 6 – Jamestown

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region6>

QR Code:



Region 7 - Bismarck

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region7>

QR Code:



Region 8 - Dickinson

Survey Monkey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDCAA-Region8>

QR Code:



Appendix D: Qualitative Data Collected through Phone Interviews

<p>Question 1: How do you define poverty?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not having enough income to meet current needs or save for future needs. Thus, many more people are in poverty than it appears. • When you can't afford your basic needs. • We don't truly know the meaning until we live in a 3rd world country however, the US/poverty specifically Cass county, as a single parent just struggling to make ends meet, figuring out if a child qualifies for some form of disability, are struggles a lot of parents have. • Being below a certain income, income guidelines, being poor, dealing with job loss • Living crisis to crisis.
<p>Summary: Most of the responses for the definition of poverty are similar in that they define it as not having enough income to meet basic needs.</p>
<p>Question 2: What are the conditions and causes of poverty in our community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some causes of poverty are lack of education, which leads to lower paying jobs. • A huge piece of what causes poverty is divorce. Women and children are more likely to live in poverty after a divorce. • Lack of accessible programs without such red tape. • A lot of families get stuck in poverty if there is not an easier way of transportation. • If they are just pure lazy (not trying to be judgmental). • If the parent has a disability making it so they can't work. • Generational poverty plays a part. • Mental illness, brain injuries, and disabilities all contribute. • There is no grace period for getting off programs, no leeway. There is no time to catch up or save up between being kicked off a program for making too much and actually getting back on their feet. • Those who have a lack of education are more at risk for being impoverished. Not being encouraged to attend school or college.
<p>Summary: Lack of education was a reoccurring response as well as programs that are restrictive and a lack of programs for in between services.</p>
<p>Question 3: What keeps families in poverty?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families borrow on credit to avoid going further into poverty, but then cannot pay things back, and that can keep people just barely treading water. • Instability in the family unit is a cause of poverty and continued poverty. • Lack of access to education to improve skills can also be a factor. • Lack of employment. • The generational mindset, this is what my parents did so this is what I know and will do. It is a cycle that just continues through generations. • Surrounding yourself with people who are not going to support you in succeeding. • Lack of education. • Giving people handouts and not teaching them skills to recover from poverty.
<p>Summary: Lack of education was again a reoccurring response. Generational poverty and not being taught valuable skills to overcome poverty.</p>
<p>Question 4: What would our community look like without poverty (or with 25%/50% reduced poverty)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stability that would result in family's lives due to ending poverty would be amazing!

- I think it would lead to a happier and more peaceful community.
- Unsure. It's always going to occur. There is always going to be people who rely on public benefits to live and that is not living a life of quality.

Summary: Most didn't have an answer for this question or didn't think it was possible, but it was concluded that the community would be greatly improved without poverty.

Question 5: What can Community Action do to support the community to achieve the outcomes to eliminate poverty in your county?

- Helped us to be prosperous.
- In my eye's you guys have done a lot already for my family with continued support.
- You guys are extremely patient kindhearted people! My little family and I will be extremely grateful forever that you guys have been one of our biggest steppingstones to get our life back on track!
- I really appreciate the large variety of services that Community Action provides. Many do not know they might be eligible for some services, and they might fear the stigma of having someone know their income level.
- What Community Action can do to help families and individuals goes a long way towards creating that family stability and pride in their home, job, etc.
- More training to be responsible.
- The only thing we could use is a vehicle as we either take a cab or have to ride share vehicles, there is no way I'd be able to work full time hours and still make it back to pick up my kiddos from school!
- Community Action does a good job getting people access to resources they need.
- Help them find employment.
- Teach them skills to survive without just giving them financial assistance.
- Don't put a band aid on the obvious problem but fix the underlying issue.

Summary: Many responses included some form of education or skill learning.

Question 6: Identify programs, strategies and initiatives that have been successful in reducing poverty.

- I'm not sure about this one, but I do tend to think that programs that educate people about successful marriage, whether faith-based or secular, have significant promise.
- Access to counseling.
- Parenting classes can be a great way to also address marriage issues.
- I also think the idea of skills workshops to help people increase their marketability and increase job earnings could be a great idea.
- The housing program I was awarded and keeping in touch with clients.
- Ticket to work is a great program for those trying to get off disability. the program offers a grace period where they can receive some benefits while working to see if they are able to go back to work full time. The program exempts them from doing a medical review for 5 years so if they need to be back on disability benefits, they don't have to reapply.
- Self-sufficiency programs that have supported employment, housing, peer support, education. Fargo has done a great job with collaboration amongst agencies, which is a necessity. Not seen so much in other counties or cities in North Dakota

Appendix E: Qualitative Data Collected through Surveys

- indicates responses from low-income people.
- indicates responses from non-low-income people.
- indicates responses from people whose roles cannot be identified.

From Section 2.1 Employment
childcare for working parents (Family Level Need)
Contract opportunity due to COVID (Family Level Need)
employment card (Family Level Need)
Figuring out options for taxes, benefits, how to file, deductions, or other community resources available. Relocating (Family Level Need)
Getting assistance to get my charges differed like they are supposed to be. (Family Level Need)
have a hard time finding a job because of my record (Family Level Need)
Home modifications (Family Level Need)
Hoping to work from home, severe anxiety/ depression (Family Level Need)
I going through something now but don't know if it's going to effect my background (Family Level Need)
I want to have employment right now, but my disability prevents my capability of doing so. (Family Level Need)
I'm apply for ssi/ssd (Family Level Need)
In transition for new employment (Family Level Need)
Looking for a part time job (Family Level Need)
Mentoring of some kind to aid in knowing what to do with finding employment and budgeting with the dollars once employment is found. Obviously most are poor, or do not understand the resources available, and cannot afford to pay for this, but should be available in the rural areas, not just large urban. Question, who is going to pay for it then? (Community Level Need)
My vehicle needs a transmission rebuild kit. (Family Level Need)
Need a job so I can afford to live. (Family Level Need)
Need gas money for transportation (Family Level Need)
Need help paying my utility bill (Family Level Need)
Need to get children into a state approved day care so I can start working again (Family Level Need)
Private studies in pharmacology to assist the unique individuals as All LIVES important and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect! (Family Level Need)
Reliable vehicle or even help with vehicle maintenance (Family Level Need)
resources for COVID-19 (Community Level Need)
Safety wear and equipment for adequate protection for unique individual and self. (Family Level Need)
Transportation to and from work. (Community Level Need)
While I have enough degrees and am basically computer literate, I need specific skill such as Exel Spread sheets training and skills in order to apply for most jobs. I might also need some basic skills in accounting to be able to use Excel Spread Sheets. (Family Level Need)
Working with voc rehab (Family Level Need)
A public service for buying and selling homes under \$150,000 in value. Many persons in this category do not have the time or means to understand all the problems or the assets to pay the fees involved. (Community Level Need)
ACTUALLY GOV. Programs in North Dakota that actually will approve people in need of help I have been disapproved many many times from this program and other programs that are supposed to be helping people especially during this covid-19 situation I was declined a total of four times to ask when

this company into times from the other company that the government gave birth to go to access to to help families in need of help with housing (Agency Level Need)
Additional part time job/s (Community Level Need)
ADEQUATE NUMBER OF STAFF FOR OUR PROGRAM (Agency Level Need)
Affordable transportation to & from job site, especially hours that don't coincide with Cities Area Transit (Community Level Need)
Although I do not have any employment needs it is a need in my community - particularly under employment and also as an employer not having adequate pools of staff at times. (Community Level Need)
always looking for advice on retirement planning (Family Level Need)
Applicants for job openings in all fields of business. (Community Level Need)
Better training most government or public related job services have very poorly trained personnel with no notion of what "Customer Service" mean, please reeducate the current working population so that the Next generation does not become a failure. (Agency Level Need)
Community also needs training on how to keep a job; things that are appropriate to do at a job, what you shouldn't do at a job, etc. (Community Level Need)
Community and region needs are huge and unmet (Community Level Need)
Community needs employers willing to give applicants with past felony charges / addiction issues a second look, as rehabilitation and recovery can only be successful if there is hope for self-sufficiency. Also needs to be more supports for those who have limited job skills and social skills. Job services used to provide, but are limited now. (Community Level Need)
COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HEALTH CARE/INSURANCE!! (Family Level Need)
COVID has caused all the adults in the house to not have work. (Community Level Need)
Currently under restrictions for work (Family Level Need)
Employment for Felons. (Community Level Need)
ESL teacher, need reliable internet access (Family Level Need)
Filed for Disability due to health problems, waiting on them. I could not wait any longer to have surgery on my cervical spine so I had to have it done. Now I am unable to work and at risk of losing everything. I also have to have another spinal surgery after I recover from this one. (Family Level Need)
finding a job as due to covid my husbands job will no longer be needed. (Family Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
FULL TIME JOB (Family Level Need)
human service career seekers (Family Level Need)
I am currently looking (Family Level Need)
I am in school to change my career from administration to clinician. I have experience in direct crisis services and a license to practice at an entry level, but not to bill insurance. I require a field placement (full time for 6 months) and then 3,000 hours of supervised practice. I need help finding a placement that is paid or partly paid to fulfill these requirements and to support my family. My being able to satisfy these needs will help address the behavioral health needs of the community, but the barriers to licensure are great and persist, even after completing a degree and examination etc. the clinical supervision required is difficult and is not available in many settings. (Family Level Need)
i have no needs at this time
I just want to know what It would look like when go back to school.
Information on retiring and Medicare/Social Security benefits in regard to part time employment (Community Level Need)
I've been applying for jobs and do not require assistance

Job service in this area is overwhelmed and the material to apply for services is horribly written and confusing. When a person requests help they are told that the staff doesn't help with applying for services. (Agency Level Need)
jobs for person with felony (Family Level Need)
Jobs that pay enough for a family to live on. (Family Level Need)
Lack of employment opportunities that provide a livable wage. I am personally employed in a very good job but I am speaking for the general situation within Rolette County. (Community Level Need)
Lack of transportation. (Family Level Need)
Many job openings, but people cannot find employment. People continue to come to area expecting to find work in the oil field. Work is now much more technical than during early boom. Employers way more selective about hiring. Criminal or drug background also interferes with hiring. (Community Level Need)
Many of the people I see in my role at a community direct services organization have backgrounds that would prohibit them from housing or employment, additionally childcare is a huge obstacle. Training opportunities are needed to enhance their skills and fill needed roles in our community. (Community Level Need)
More transparency for job seekers with criminal backgrounds. Many companies treat as either a case by case basis or simply refuse to interview anyone with a criminal history. (Community Level Need)
My son is 16 years old and was home everyday all day and because of that it cost extra to feed him and I found myself stocking up on items when I went to the grocery store not knowing when the next time I was going back to the store. Especially when I am use to buying one item at a time!!! I was buying him extra snacks to have throughout the day!! I am also going through a divorce in which we are hoping to hear from the judge by the end of June hopefully. (Family Level Need)
Need accommodations (Family Level Need)
Need help with damage deposit and first month rent (Family Level Need)
Need job seekers to contact us for employment opportunities. (Community Level Need)
Need workforce to fill many open jobs. (Community Level Need)
One of the things I hear from employers is difficulty finding skilled workers who will pass drug screens or not quit after a day on the job because the work is "too hard". Even employers of unskilled workers say they have difficulty with people quitting after a few days or just not returning. (Community Level Need)
Our community cannot fill unskilled jobs that are available in restaurants, gas stations and the grocery store. People who are unskilled feel they aren't paid enough and would rather just not work. They seem to feel they should be paid the same as those who attended college. If so, the rest of us should be paid much more in our jobs as bookkeepers, bankers and other positions that require education. (Community Level Need)
Quicker access to employment services rather than lengthy eligibility determination periods. (Agency Level Need)
Self-employed & Covid has pretty much shut our business down. (Family Level Need)
self employed business owner unable to work due to Covid-19 (Family Level Need)
Services for small businesses - how to start, how to market, how to merchandise, etc. (Agency Level Need)
Services in all of the above categories are necessary if homeless or those living in poverty are able to improve the situation for their family and themselves. (Agency Level Need)
short term assistance (Family Level Need)
Short-term childcare for job interviews is needed. Families cannot get childcare assistance unless they have a job and often do not have resources for their children when interviewing for jobs. (Community Level Need)
Supplemental Retirement income in the next year or two and insurance. (Family Level Need)
The businesses I advocate for could use some help finding employers.

The money to purchase work clothes including shoes to remain/keep my job. Hair cuts. Having to rely on food pantries for food, not having the extra money to get extra food, like fresh produce, milk, and perishables. The way these question are worded it does not address the needs of those who have a job and still struggle. Most of the time in silence because "you have a job!" and the community looks at that as you are now set, you have money. Gas, vehicle up keep. Just because you have a job doesn't mean you have a better lifestyle, jobs create more expenses sometimes. (Community Level Need)
There is a need for work with employers who will hire people with criminal backgrounds. There is a need for vocational education. (Community Level Need)
to continue to administer the local Victim Impact Panel class (Community Level Need)
WE have a shortage of addiction counselors (Community Level Need)
We seem to have a lot of families that are on welfare with background issues. We do not have a lot of job here. The younger kids are beginning to see a cycle and are accepting and preferring welfare as a way of life. We have a family here that doesn't care if their kids quit school, live on welfare, just pool the food stamps, and play computer games. (Community Level Need)
work for a felon that is a living wage with benefits (Community Level Need)
Would like to work a few hours a week in the nursing profession as that is what my education is in. Would need an updated resume (Family Level Need)
Furthering private studies and will require financial assistance in purchasing safety gear and equipment. (Family Level Need)
Need ID and Social Security Card (Family Level Need)
Retired
Transportation to employment is a huge issue. (Community Level Need)

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
CNA training (Family Level Need)
Assistance with rent. (Family Level Need)
Becoming homeless and no money for food, shelter or necessities (Family Level Need)
Bill payment not enough to cover everything (Family Level Need)
Bills (Family Level Need)
Cannot afford transportation (Family Level Need)
Cannot pay for cell phone. (Family Level Need)
Childcare (Family Level Need)
Continue to survive a brutal domestic violent past relationship (Family Level Need)
I do have a home-schooled high school diploma but it won't get me into any college except for Texas online state classes (Family Level Need)
Currently a Full-time student at Minot State and paying for Tuition and gas to get back and forth and a full time mother struggling to make ends meet. (Family Level Need)
deposit help unable to renew lease (Family Level Need)
Disabled (Family Level Need)
Dont know
Expenses exceed income (need a job) (Family Level Need)
Financial issues relating to rental needs of \$540 a month, electric for heat and cooling, and telephones. (Family Level Need)
Food (Family Level Need)
Food (Family Level Need)
Help with bills and house repairs (Family Level Need)

Help with payment for tickets (Family Level Need)
Homeless and on foot. Suspended driver's license. (Family Level Need)
homeless, staying where ever i can, need housing so i can become more stable (Family Level Need)
Housing resources, tenant rights, credit resolution, loans, home/ vehicle, life planning (Family Level Need)
I am misplaced due to a domestic violence situation and I do not have any place to live or stay after Sunday. (Family Level Need)
I do not have a back account as of now, will like to learn how to build my credit (Family Level Need)
I get \$773 a month and would love to get help to get a place (Family Level Need)
I need assistance with utilities and Cell phone payments. Until I can find suitable employment, assistance with mortgage payments on a short-term basis might be necessary. (Family Level Need)
I'm just having a hard time right now- disabled too old to work. Just need help with my light bill. (Family Level Need)
Job (Family Level Need)
Job (Family Level Need)
Lights (Family Level Need)
Living paycheck to paycheck. No savings. No prospects for improving income and benefits. Need education and/or training, but can't afford it. Would like a house, but no down payment. Want to start a family, but can't afford it and don't have sufficient medical coverage. (Family Level Need)
Medical (Family Level Need)
Medical insurance including prescription drugs. (Family Level Need)
Need assistance to build wheel chair ramp (Family Level Need)
Need Assistance with my utility bill (Family Level Need)
Need help budgeting money n paying bills and rent currently homeless (Family Level Need)
Need help in getting a wheelchair ramp built (Family Level Need)
Need help with Mortgage and utility payments. (Family Level Need)
Need help with rent (Family Level Need)
Need home repaired (Family Level Need)
need more money (Family Level Need)
Need rental assistance (Family Level Need)
Need Shingles put on my Garage. (Family Level Need)
No money for food or rent (Family Level Need)
Old housing bill (Family Level Need)
Prescriptions (Family Level Need)
relocated to attend college, my housing fell through so I was in need of anything since semester already was staying in subletting a room which later ended up being a scam which cost me every material thing, so I had money put away for permanent housing which I paid landlord two and a half weeks, which ended up being more taking from me landlord Jason Tester moving (Family Level Need)
Rent (Family Level Need)
Rent (Family Level Need)
Rent assistance (Family Level Need)
Rent, utility bills (Family Level Need)
Rental assistance (Family Level Need)
Stimulus money (Family Level Need)

Student loan debt (Family Level Need)
Trying to find housing, I have low credit scores and need safer housing environment other than this hotel (Family Level Need)
Unable to work due to severe depression/ anxiety, cant qualify for assistance/ unemployment because i quit my job after a breakdown. (Family Level Need)
Upgrade and utilize skills to return to Traffic Control and will require proper safety gear and equipment. (Family Level Need)
victim of domestic abuse and local agencies do not help (Agency Level Need)
Weatherization (Family Level Need)
Window and door locks (Family Level Need)
Rent and deposit assistance (Family Level Need)
Community and region needs are huge and unmet (Community Level Need)
As I draw closer to 65, knowing more about Social Security, when to file and what is the best plan with Medicare. How to best use my retirement as I look into working full or part time when I am 65. (Family Level Need)
Assistance for covid19 victims (Family Level Need)
assistance with rental deposit...even the money to pay for background checks for every family member every time I apply for an apartment is out of reach (Family Level Need)
Behind on rent and bills (Family Level Need)
Cannot maintain rent and/or need assistance with deposit and application fees (Family Level Need)
can't pay for prescription medicine (Family Level Need)
Clients could benefit from help for all the needs checked above. (Community Level Need)
Closing cost troubles on new home (Family Level Need)
Community resources for rental/utility (other than heat/electric) assistance shrinking and/or have wait lists. Community members unaware of credit counseling resources available to them free of charge. (Community Level Need)
I have some college my struggle is figuring out how I learn to be able to keep up and maintain the information. (Family Level Need)
Debt paying due to surgeries over years and getting behind (Family Level Need)
Do not receive child support, how to go about removing parent from birth certificate? (Family Level Need)
Emergency rent assistance (Family Level Need)
Farm finances (Family Level Need)
Farming income drastically reduced. (Community Level Need)
Financial issues while one parent is incarcerated (Family Level Need)
Financial problems due to disability (Family Level Need)
First time home buyers counseling (Family Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
Getting current with all of my bills (Family Level Need)
Hard to build assets when you are having trouble getting food, gas, etc. Hard to get better education, you have a job so now you can pay for it. (Family Level Need)
Have home improvements needs and financially cant afford to fix it. Super old trailer and please help. Mold (Family Level Need)
Heavily burdened by student loans. (Family Level Need)
Help for farmers dealing with financial downturn (Family Level Need)

Help paying electricity bill (Family Level Need)
Help paying my rent (Family Level Need)
Help with student loans (Family Level Need)
High farm debt due to poor crop years/prices. (Community Level Need)
Home needs roof, siding/painting, and sealing (Family Level Need)
Home ownership (Family Level Need)
Home repairs (Family Level Need)
House needs the heater worked on high heat bills, help with all bills, newer car with less mileage, kids need jeans and clothes, food, all house needs repair (Family Level Need)
House repairs (Family Level Need)
housing costs to expensive (Community Level Need)
how to get a decent pay raise (Family Level Need)
how to get out of debt (Family Level Need)
I am managing my money like an adult (Family Level Need)
I am older. So my needs are how to pay off a boat load of financial aid, help with that. (Family Level Need)
I applied for rent bridge but I wasn't eligible. I was looking to see if I could get help with June's rent and I don't have utilities to pay they are included and n the rent. (Family Level Need)
I don't get paid enough. I have a full time job working for the people of Richland County as a parent aide. I work very hard to make ends meet but am always struggling. My husband is a first generation farmer. (Family Level Need)
I get a lot of calls from people needing help to stay current or get caught up on utilities and rent, or saying they are on the verge of getting shut off or evicted. Yet when we refer them to agencies they say they have tried and that they don't qualify for assistance. (Agency Level Need)
I have received utility assistance through this program
I just need to get past being behind on all my bills (Family Level Need)
If my partner did not work in the energy industry, I suspect I would have many of these barriers. A divorce left me in significant financial hardship after supporting his treatment, medical care and many other pieces. He struggled with addiction and I did not believe it was right to leave someone for having a condition. Once his behavior escalated to violence, I had to leave. However, I had taken on and continued to be obligated to his financial obligations. I imagine other people in our region experience these issues. (Family Level Need)
I'm always broke. (Family Level Need)
In debt because of medical bills and partners lawyer fees for divorce and work (Family Level Need)
Investing in real estate. Understanding equity. (Family Level Need)
Living in separate households- food and daycare assistance (Family Level Need)
Looking at increasing our financial intelligence and education; looking at building assets. (Family Level Need)
Many members of our community should have budgeting classes; needs vs wants; how to make money last the month, etc. (Community Level Need)
Many people in our community need help understanding and handling their finances. Education in all the categories above would help folks better manage their finances as they lift themselves out of poverty or homelessness. (Community Level Need)
Medical (Family Level Need)
medical bills (Family Level Need)
Medical Bills (Family Level Need)

Medication prices (Family Level Need)
Mentoring for money management skills (Family Level Need)
Need a new furnace chimney no good furnace to old (Family Level Need)
Need help paying bills. (Family Level Need)
Need rental assistance (Family Level Need)
Need support system to get and stay out of poverty. Always living in fear of being homeless. (Family Level Need)
Need to be able to work from home (Family Level Need)
Need to get my spouse employed (Family Level Need)
NEED TO REPLACE MOLDY WINDOWS IN HOME AND FRONT AND BACK DOOR (Family Level Need)
Paying for higher education and various bills. (Family Level Need)
People do not possess basic skills to management their income; unable to prioritize spending; too hard to change spending habits. (Community Level Need)
people need training on what their responsibilities are to be a citizen. We can give FREE tax prep, we can GIVE counseling on gambling, budgets, credits...etc. But where is our education on people's responsibilities to be a citizen of this country, state, town, etc. (Community Level Need)
Planning for retirement (Agency Level Need)
Problems getting insurance coverage through employer (Family Level Need)
Reduced income due to COVID (Family Level Need)
reduced income due to covid infection (Family Level Need)
rent in this county is too high and I have lived here since 1984. (Community Level Need)
Rent and phone payment need help (Family Level Need)
Rent Assistance (Family Level Need)
Rent food (Family Level Need)
Rent help due to eviction noticed after becoming disabled Dec 2019 (Family Level Need)
Rent is too high (Community Level Need)
Retirement planning (Agency Level Need)
Ruined markets impacting agriculture commodities thus leading to uncertain income. (Community Level Need)
Security and Servallance needs to be updated (Community Level Need)
seems 'small' to someone with money but I can't afford multiple background checks for family so I can't move to a better place (Family Level Need)
Small business startup help, and assistance during the first year or two. The community needs help with economic development. (Community Level Need)
social security been short every year (Community Level Need)
Some back tax's and getting and completing Divorce. (Family Level Need)
Staying within our household budget, paying OFF bills while trying to maintain our savings accounts for household emergencies. (Family Level Need)
Student debt payments take up 1/5 of our monthly income, roughly the same as our mortgage payment. (Family Level Need)
Student Loan debt counseling/assistance (Agency Level Need)
Student loans (Family Level Need)
supportive housing (Agency Level Need)
Suppressed farm economy causing financial pressure (Community Level Need)

Tax preparation by Community Action is a valuable service. Other community needs include budgeting, education and asset building. (Agency Level Need)
Teaching people how to live and eat on the money they earn to a better level. (Agency Level Need)
The community needs these indicated above. Gambling and drug counseling. Financial literacy- how to work and pay bills. (Agency Level Need)
The lack of job service and employment training is a unacceptable in the 10th largest county in ND and highest unemployment !!! (Community Level Need)
traveling for doctor (Family Level Need)
Utility shut off notice. (Family Level Need)
Very serious problems just paying basic monthly bills with disability only. Do not smoke, no alcohol, no gambling, basically spend no money. (Family Level Need)
We need assistance replacing drafty inefficient entrance doors. (Family Level Need)
Window replacement (Family Level Need)
Workforce training funds to continue providing skill development. Funds for career work experience personnel. (Agency Level Need)
Working on back Tax's and completing a divorce (Family Level Need)
Would like to see some help with costs because of Covid (Family Level Need)
WSI coverage for debilitating workplace injury (Family Level Need)
Rent (Family Level Need)
Need for some basic education in finances and money management. (Agency Level Need)

From Section 2.3 Education
Additional training/schooling to further career (Agency Level Need)
Any help would be appreciated, my savings are gone. Scared. (Family Level Need)
Counseling, any tyoe financial help in any way (Family Level Need)
Get student loans forgiven (Family Level Need)
help with heating (Family Level Need)
Help with rental agencies, need more laws that are specifically for rental companies, and agencies who get away with complaints. (Family Level Need)
More in-home daycare need to be licensed before opening. (Community Level Need)
More time in a day!!!
Need assistance to learn Excel programs and Spread Sheets to be able to qualify for any number of jobs that require those skills. (Family Level Need)
Need Assistance with utility bill (Family Level Need)
Need help with rent bad I'm almost backed up 3 months and need immediate help (Family Level Need)
Plenty of preschool opportunities, but parents not participating, as not accepting of paying a fee, nor the help that it would provide their children in this day and age. Most kids seem to have access to computers etc, but whether they are using it to advance themselves that is another question. No one is trained about etiquettes of phone usage, etc. Most kids, and due to most adults as well, are like mice, in different social tests - hear a ding and answer. (Community Level Need)
Transportation aid for bus. Community collaborations opportunity center. (Community Level Need)
Trauma counseling (Agency Level Need)
3d printing education (Family Level Need)
Adolescent and youth engagement options after school. (Community Level Need)

Affordable childcare is a HUGE need in our area. One child averages around \$1000/month which is not affordable at all, for anyone. (Community Level Need)
Affordable early childhood education programs, esp. for those who don't qualify financially for Head Start (Community Level Need)
All of the above are needed in life when a person is starting out on their own or as they age and are living on a fixed income. (Community Level Need)
All of the above are very important programs if our neighbors are to successfully better their circumstances and that of their family. Early childhood education, affordable quality childcare, and English as a second language are all areas that are lacking funding thus access to the programs. Without quality affordable childcare, many single parents are prevented from working and providing for themselves and their families. Without early childhood education, not all children reach kindergarten on the level of learning. Literacy and English as a second language and extremely important to completing or continuing your education and succeeding in life. (Community Level Need)
Although my household does not need childcare assistance at this time, I recognize that SAFE & affordable childcare options are needed in Dickinson. As we are working towards transitioning into a household with children we are trying to identify if it would be more financially sound for me to continue working or if I should stay home. Unfortunately, a large portion of my take home paychecks would go towards childcare. (Community Level Need)
Anti-racism education in all of our schools pre-K through 12 (Community Level Need)
Assistance with some basic & intermediate computer/technology skills (Family Level Need)
Building healthy relationship education (Community Level Need)
Children entering grad year of HS--counselors are just vague and not very helpful...have received more help from calling the colleges and talking to anyone from admissions to federal aid. (Agency Level Need)
Cooking (community too dependent on processed foods) (Community Level Need)
Cost of daycare is incredibly high and keeps rising every year. Cost of obtaining a Master's degree is holding me back from returning to school. (Community Level Need)
County wide educational and life skills training is lacking and increasingly so since job service was removed and lack of resources for those needing employment guidance. Lack of access to computers and ability to navigate complex government/employment websites etc. (Community Level Need)
Daughter needs to complete two tests for her GED (Family Level Need)
Driver's education to help individuals pass the permit exam. (Community Level Need)
Educational needs for children with disabilities. Seclusion and restraint. IEP's. Self contained classrooms. Lack of support from educational administration. Lack of resources in the school setting. Level D setting. Schools not following IDEA. (Community Level Need)
Financial intelligence classes; learning about what money is and how to make it work for us. (Agency Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
foster care education English as second language have separate schooling, when student becomes proficient, then the student can enter mainstream schools. (Community Level Need)
free classes for excel/WIN 10 (Community Level Need)
Getting 4yr degree (Family Level Need)
Head Start is a great program that needs to be broadened. There are many children needing this type of assistance that wait on the waiting list or do not qualify because one or both of their parents are not working/volunteering. The mental health, intelligence or physical health of the parent should be considered when they are not working/volunteering. It would be nice if participation in individual or group counseling or an evaluation stating that their mental health/IQ/physical health is interfering with

their ability to parent/work/volunteer would be considered when finding a child eligible for head start. (Perhaps this is done and I am not aware.) (Agency Level Need)
Help fixing my home single mom three kids I am on no assistance and no insurance (Family Level Need)
High quality before and after school care and summer care for school age children (Community Level Need)
Hm in TV (Family Level Need)
I think one of our greatest needs is for good affordable childcare. Also because we have a lot of addiction issues many people as they get sober may need to develop skills they did not develop when they were younger. (Community Level Need)
In college, going for Elementary Education, Special Ed and Coaching (Family Level Need)
Paying off student loan debt (Family Level Need)
Rental assistance (Family Level Need)
Retraining for job placement after losing employment due to COVID19 (Family Level Need)
Some kids want to stay local, in their hometown. Help to understand how they can train or learn how to get a good paying job locally or how to start up a sound business that can support them well and a perhaps a family. (Community Level Need)
support programs to go back to college (Community Level Need)
The above are not personal needs, rather Community Needs (Community Level Need)
The amount of student loans that we are paying on is substantial. (Family Level Need)
The community needs to continuously build on the education system and quality child care/preschool programs that are affordable to families that don't qualify for assistance to attend quality programs but yet can't afford to pay the prices child care/preschools are asking. (Community Level Need)
There is a lack of available in-home childcare options, particularly for children under age 2. (Community Level Need)
These are all ongoing needs in our community. Some are already being addressed but remain a need because of the underutilization of services that are available. (Community Level Need)
While I do not have a personal need, there exists within the community a broad need for educational services. (Community Level Need)
Working on capacity building with local educational institutions and need funding to make things happen. (Community Level Need)
husband may be laid off and needing to look at another career (Family Level Need)

From Section 2.4 Housing
\$ (Family Level Need)
Assistance in getting a place to stay (Family Level Need)
Behind \$265 in rent. If paid, I won't fall behind again (Family Level Need)
Behind on utilities and rent (Family Level Need)
Disabled- could use ramp and deck (Family Level Need)
electrical issues (Family Level Need)
Fresh water maintain (Family Level Need)
Governmental commodities made available for any age that doesn't qualify for state programs. (Community Level Need)
Help paying water/power bills (Family Level Need)
Hudfash (Family Level Need)

I own a mobile home that needs some rebuilding. (Family Level Need)
Just light bill (Family Level Need)
Mortgage assistance on a temporary basis until suitable employment can be secured. (Family Level Need)
Moving into housing today!
Need housing, homeless (Family Level Need)
Need Shingles put on my Garage. (Family Level Need)
Old rent bill (Family Level Need)
One can have above programs available, but as with anything, people have to take the first step and seek out the information or help. Rental properties are hard to come by and what is available is high rent due to having one large employer who pays better. I do not know that there is much discrimination, as much as no decent additional affordable housing. (Community Level Need)
Otter tail electric bill (Family Level Need)
Rent (Family Level Need)
Snaps benefits (Family Level Need)
Utility (Family Level Need)
Vehicle repairs to adequately meet all required on-site jobs or appointment's timely. (Family Level Need)
voucher for a room for the night (Family Level Need)
Vouchers for the mentally disabled to be able to be able to receive home repairs covered under Medicaid. -OR more services offered for this option (more of a concern in Mandan). (Community Level Need)
weatherization done. (Family Level Need)
We were accepted for a 3 bedroom apartment but we can't sign the lease till we get the birth Certificate and as card on first.\$ (Family Level Need)
I am staying I. a hotel due to fire at my apartment, all tenants displaced due to total loss of the building,I can not find anything that meets my needs due to price.No stairs please (Family Level Need)
A lot of the affordable housing in this area consists of buildings that are old, need updates and repairs. (Community Level Need)
Accessible housing needs to go beyond ADA....and we need lots more of it! (Community Level Need)
Adding an addition onto our house (Family Level Need)
affordable accessible housing to buy and/or rent. (Family Level Need)
affordable family housing - 3 bedrooms, apartments/condo living (Family Level Need)
Affordable housing and homelessness are major community needs and should be prioritized. (Community Level Need)
Affordable single family housing including twin homes for example. (Family Level Need)
Affordable, safe, clean housing for sex offenders. (Family Level Need)
All are needed for our clients. (Agency Level Need)
Buying a different home in the next year and trying to do repairs and budget them in. Not a lot of options for "middle class" category. (Family Level Need)
Community has been working on providing more affordable housing, but a way to go yet. Family homeless shelter in the works, which is good, but there are a lot of displaced families piecing together places to live with few prospects for long term housing. (Community Level Need)
Community Needs marked above (Community Level Need)

Contractors in community willing to work on older housing stock; I can afford to pay, but because old houses are unpredictable and not cookie cutter, high profit margin jobs, contractors don't even bother to return calls when offered work. (Community Level Need)
Difficult to find income-based rentals for larger families (4-6 children plus parents); incentivize building income-based studio apartments for low income single individuals. (Community Level Need)
Dysfunctional HUD housing program for several years with confirmed noncompliance concerns; lack of affordable housing, minimal senior housing and services; absolutely not housing for those residents in recovery from drug and alcohol addictions. (Community Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
Got eviction notice as of 02/21/20 (Family Level Need)
Gutters, back steps, deck & fence repair needed. May have to sell the house in order to survive. (Family Level Need)
Have Services for inspections most apartments, houses, homes and business are utterly dirty and this creates a never ending cycle of health related issues which 65% of the community cannot afford the ridiculously high medical bills for un-attentive staff and unclean hospitals. (Community Level Need)
High cost of mortgage insurance. (Community Level Need)
Homeowners are overburdened with property tax and special assessments (Community Level Need)
I believe that landlords need to be held more accountable for their properties here in Stark County. I have been in many complexes that I have had concerns about, and when those concerns were brought to the landlords they brushed off the concerns and did not follow up or follow through with necessary fixes. I feel that there needs to be more education for both landlords and renters regarding their rights and responsibilities. (Community Level Need)
I have been told that one reason many people do not qualify for rental assistance is because landlords will not get inspected or bring their rental units up to basic standards needed to qualify. (Community Level Need)
I need a patio door replaced its starting to fall out (Family Level Need)
I'm just needing assistance to catch up after roommate vacated. (Family Level Need)
I'm not sure. I know that when we offer things at the school, we never seem to get the parents there we need! (Family Level Need)
Informed consent on all vaccines administered. (Family Level Need)
It seems our community has a need for this also, especially utilities and weatherization. Maybe some of it would take care of itself if people had budgeting classes so they can help prioritize their bills and save a little bit. (Community Level Need)
Lack of repair companies that don't charge a lot for travel to fix or replace house needs (Community Level Need)
McKenzie County needs more affordable homes for single parents in non-oilfield positions. McKenzie County has put money towards the golf course, Rough Rider Center, and other projects while ignoring the housing crisis. Many hardworking families are living in terrible apartments with workers who work rotating shifts, party all night, and track dirt and mud in buildings where families with small children live. The need for single family homes under \$200k has been ignored by community professionals. (Community Level Need)
mortgage payment assistance (Family Level Need)
Need to build (Family Level Need)
Need to transfer to fargo for living (Family Level Need)
No immediate needs, but I have ongoing anxiety that if our landlord ever decides to sell the building (or retires, for example), it will be impossible for us to find a comparable rental property as far as

accessibility, size, and price, since rents have skyrocketed everywhere near downtown. (Community Level Need)
Not rated at 100% via the VA, but also cannot afford to complete some necessary improvements on the home I purchased due to increased health issues (Family Level Need)
rental availability for felons and families with felon (Community Level Need)
Rental housing is a HUGE need; we need both more new rental housing and updates to existing, decrepit rental offerings (Community Level Need)
Renter and tenant rights and responsibilities seems to be lacking in small rural communities. (Community Level Need)
Safe housing for drug, alcohol, and psychiatric treatment patients (Community Level Need)
talk to anybody on how realistic it would be to buy a house with USDA with little to no down payment (Family Level Need)
There are agencies in Bismarck that provide all of the above programs, however their never seems to be enough funding or folks need better assistance to find and access the programs. (Agency Level Need)
There is a need of housing that is one level for elderly population. Many apartments available but there are too many steps for many of these elderly persons. (Community Level Need)
This state needs stronger laws to protect tenants (Community Level Need)
Too many empty homes and apartment buildings. (Community Level Need)
Utility assistance with overdue bills. (Family Level Need)
Volunteer, reliable, or affordable assistance moving from one residence to another (Community Level Need)
We applied for help through rent bridge for our daughter who was hospitalized with severe COVID19, but were denied when she had \$1100 to cover all of her bills which came to far more than that amount. I'd like to know who rent bridge helps if it's not available to those who have fallen on hard times through no fault of their own (Family Level Need)
We need a public agency to help people buy and sell homes of \$150,000 or less. The realtor fees are too much and people need more assisted time than realtors are able to give in these situations. (Community Level Need)
We need help and NORTH Dakota only has two single programs that actually say they're helping people in North Dakota but let's be real here I should be ashamed of yourselves you guy decline more people than you were approved in North Dakota why is that (Community Level Need)

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
Assistance for people who have a restraining order filed against them that has no basis. The courts will dismiss it within a few weeks, but there is not information available to help with that process. In the meantime, the person loses their place to live. (Community Level Need)
Bridging the Dental Gap is sliding Fee but payments need to be made up front. Payment plans need to be brought back in order for the service to be able to assist all populations. (Community Level Need)
Help with paying for alternative birthing methods (home birth or hiring birth doula). Help understanding how to use insurance once you get it through an employer. (Family Level Need)
I am on supplements that the doctor ordered. ND Medical Assistance does not cover this expense. (Family Level Need)
I suppose a excellent dr who 100% cares for my body And mind to truly examines my body making sure I'm 100% with out having to be BooKoo rich!!!! Yep 😊 That's it. (Family Level Need)
I was accessing Prairie Rose Center, after my brain injury. I was verbally abused by the worker XXX, a female. She also abused other clients. One friend of mine needed help wiping her mouth bc XXX yelled at her. I wiped my friends mouth, and XXX then yelled at me. After I had knee replacement (had

a simultaneous broken arm, trying to protect my new knee), I was rewrapping the ACE bandage around my knee, sitting on the couch in the common area. XXX came out and yelled at me, telling me to "do that in the bathroom, I dont want to see that". My knee wasnt bleeding. She was very abusive and ignorant to tell me this. An ACE bandage is for support, not for blood. After she carried herself back to the office, I started crying. I had just broken my arm after surgery, trying to save my new knee (I did!!), and was using a special walker with an arm attachment to support my broken arm. Walking to the bathroom and maneuvering with my walker would have been problematic. So I sat there and cried, then left. I havent been back since. I could use the emotional support still for my brain injury, but I grew up in an abusive home, and I dont want any further mental trauma (I have PTSD). When I see clients/friends from the center, they say they miss me, but I dont want to get yelled at anymore. And she yells at clients to wash before lunch, then serves food with NO GLOVES!! Is that even health dept acceptable? (Agency Level Need)
I would love to see a place where people can come and learn for free (Community Level Need)
I would really like to see some kind of social gathering place where we were able to work on collaboration items and able to have some kind of mentorship program to give a hand up not a handout to teach a person how to fish rather than giving them 1 (Community Level Need)
My son has special needs (Spina Bifida) but only quafies for MA for 3 yrs. We will be seeing specialists way beyond 3 yrs and private insurance only covers a portion. Highly disappointed he is not automatically qualified for life, like he would be in MN (Family Level Need)
paying for medicines and prescriptions (Family Level Need)
Play therapy (Family Level Need)
Seniors really need this service many do without dental needs due to cost (Community Level Need)
Severe depression/ anxiety (Family Level Need)
Hearing resources and education about hearing loss - Increased awareness about dangers of vaping (Community Level Need)
Access to addiction treatment. My husband has to go to Fargo to be treated for his opioid addiction because the pharmacy here will not carry the medication he needs. (Family Level Need)
Access to health savings accounts due to high-deductible health insurance (Family Level Need)
Affordable healthcare & insurance is needed to keep a community healthy & productive. Many residents do not see out help or those needs due to financial repercussions! (Community Level Need)
Again, needed by our clients (Agency Level Need)
All are services needed by our clients (Agency Level Need)
All of these are viable issues for peoples in our community at one level or another in life when looking at physical and mental health. (Community Level Need)
All the above items help make a community stronger. Western ND needs to promote these things. (Community Level Need)
Cancer support services (Community Level Need)
Cost of health insurance is a challenge and sometime limits utilizing medical services. (Community Level Need)
Definitely need some outreach services for this area for adults and kids. (Community Level Need)
Extremely limited services available within Rolette County which allows for all races to receive; health insurance navigators not available or active; not support for affordable health insurance and certainly not dental and vision support; domestic violence services out of County; veterans have to travel to Devils Lake as nearest VA clinic. Huge transportation barriers to services; Rolette County transit not even close to being able to meet the needs of residents; access to behavioral health services sub adequate for general population (Community Level Need)
Have not seen a dentist in 4 years & in need of dental care. In need of new glasses. On many meds, needs some assistance with Rx meds until deductible is met & copay s decrease. (Family Level Need)

Health care coverage that pays for prescription birth control, out of pocket expense is \$268 every 3 months. (Family Level Need)
health care for children (Family Level Need)
Health insurance has become the de facto access to health care. We need affordable, comprehensive health insurance that covers all of the above areas of health care so that all members of our community can thrive without regard to their socio-economic status. (Community Level Need)
Hearing assistance programs for (non-elderly) adults; paying for hearing aids (non-elderly; people who require them to work) (Community Level Need)
Hi co-pay/out of pocket (Community Level Need)
Holding courts accountable for relaxed sentencing and no enforcement. Severe Mental health crisis interventionist as none of the community programs for this respond. (Community Level Need)
homeless shelter/ services for homeless (Community Level Need)
Homelessness (Family Level Need)
I appreciate the resources of the crisis homes for homeless families. We are seeing an increase of entire families being homeless. Need someplace where families can stay together while working through their crisis or waiting for housing vouchers. (Community Level Need)
I do not personally have any health needs but have noticed in working in the community for a number of years that there is a severe lack in services for mental health (particularly for children) and chemical dependency. We are seeing more and more children under the age of 12 with significant mental health needs and none of our providers in the community can meet their emergency needs (i.e. in patient services, partial in patient, general assessment of emergency needs). (Community Level Need)
I have Parkinson's Disease. (Family Level Need)
I need ankle prosthesis removed from left ankle and either a new one put in or the bones fused. I cannot afford to go back to Minneapolis for this now, I have to wait until next summer to save for this, because I have to take someone with me to pay for their food and hotel, to drive me back. I am progressively becoming more unable to walk. bone spurs are forming. The Dr in Minneapolis said the Seattle Dr used the wrong hardware. The Minneapolis Dr. is world renowned, teaches this procedure 1000's of times- J. Chris Coetzee. So next summer I will go have the big surgery and be out of work for 6-8 weeks. (Family Level Need)
Ideally we need a rec center or YMCA type facility that gives the community options of things to do to stay healthy as a family. There are obese children, who have no where to go to move their little bodies in the winter time when it's too cold to go outside. There are also non-obese children in the community who also need a place to go to move their bodies in the winter time. They need space for gross motor activities, so that they can refine these skills leading, so their bodies have the muscles needed to hold their bodies up in chairs in school and the upper core strength needed for writing in school, etc. An indoor community pool with a wide array of availability would be a great addition too. (Community Level Need)
Low income or free gym membership (Community Level Need)
Managing chronic health conditions (non-elderly) (Family Level Need)
Many of our children and adults continue to go without healthcare. Families can't afford and make too much money for certain programs but are still low income. Make choices of eating, rent, etc or healthcare. (Community Level Need)
Medical service availability. Appointments are scheduled at least 3 weeks out, at a minimum. Emergency care has to be utilized for minor health issues. (Community Level Need)
mental health assistance for teenagers. help in motivating, teaching responsibility, and learning to understand emotions. (Community Level Need)
Mental Health to rural areas. Senior health home visiting nurses. (Community Level Need)
Mentors for at-risk children. (Community Level Need)

My employer-sponsored health insurance is less than stellar, and still costs us about \$75 out of pocket for normal office visits. We cannot afford even employer-sponsored dental insurance with the student debt we're paying off and the daycare costs we pay, so we go without. (Family Level Need)
need for outpatient therapy services (Family Level Need)
need mental health care for family member (Family Level Need)
Our community has a need for support groups. (Community Level Need)
physical safety at work (Community Level Need)
Programs to lessen the isolation that individuals with disabilities, with mental health or addiction issues face. So many individuals are lonely. (Community Level Need)
Some health issues are concerning and I constantly get the run around from the Bismarck VA, EVEN though I am supposed to be able to get community care....these employee's just need to help us and stop trying to make us go to Fargo VA...driving is a pain scale of 20+ for me and that's on a 1-10 pain scale (Family Level Need)
Spouse is unable to get adequate care & treatment for a debilitating life-threatening illness that causes extreme chronic pain & sleeplessness (Family Level Need)
The above marked are items rural communities need more of. As the state governments "centralize" services, rural residents become shorted on their needs. Getting to a larger town, isn't as easy as it looks on paper. I'm not sure what's going on with the "community bus" services, but western ND should have a needs assessment on that also. (Community Level Need)
the challenges that I see regarding health costs are great in the community. And, because the nonprofit where I work does not offer health care, the other employee struggles with health care. He cannot go to preventative appointments, so when he has to see a doctor or a dentist, the need is very great and very expensive. I fortunately can be under my husband's health insurance or else I could not do this work. (Community Level Need)
These are community needs (Community Level Need)
Very few dentists who take Medicaid. Increasing number of mental health providers, but not enough who take Medicaid or uninsured. Extreme lack of longer-term care for those with mental health or SUD's. One size does not fit all. (Community Level Need)
Vision Services-financial assistance for seniors not requiring employment (Community Level Need)
we have cd treatment along with MH services however, the programs are full and or unable to meet the needs to too large of case loads. We are in DESPERATE NEED OF CHILDRENS MH services (Community Level Need)
we need more dental providers to take Medicare/Medicaid...so people with special needs don't have to travel to Bismarck for dental care. Even with insurance Health care is too expensive on every level. (Community Level Need)
We need some more mental health professionals from outside of the community, so people are comfortable talking with them. We also need more mental health professionals who offer play therapy for children and behavior specialists who are able to help with children who have very challenging behaviors, but do not qualify for special education services. (Community Level Need)
Workforce re-entry. Training to reduce recidivism. (Community Level Need)

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
A go to guide of everything (Community Level Need)
Access to grocery stores closer to where I live (Family Level Need)
case management/assistance for those coming into the community to help search for housing, other assistance. I am talking about working poor who have no time to do this on their own or do not know the community enough to find out. they are trying to survive (Community Level Need)

debate class (Family Level Need)
If people continue to volunteer, what are they living on? (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Just rent and utilities (Family Level Need)
More Emergency Shelters that will provide shelter for people that are using drugs and alcohol. (Community Level Need)
More exercise group activities that does not require memberships fees. (Community Level Need)
Need child rehabilitative services like OT and PT in our area (Community Level Need)
Park cleaning, not just trash but disinfecting them too. There's a need for at least one more indoor park. (Community Level Need)
Providing and opening community centers for disabled but ambulatory persons to play games converse, learn new skills or watch television with semi supervisory needs. (Community Level Need)
Rural schools need to be more special needs friendly. No accessible playground in Kindred. (Community Level Need)
Safe sober activities or place to socialize and meet others in recovery (Community Level Need)
Youth activities for five and under (Community Level Need)
Addiction Services. Good ones. (Community Level Need)
Affordable housing (Community Level Need)
Affordable housing (Community Level Need)
Affordable Housing stock for ownership opportunity is hard to come by. (Community Level Need)
Affordable youth sports activities that are more formally coordinated rather than a parent creating traveling teams made up of their friends' children. Low-income/underserved populations are missing opportunities to play because our programs are not affordable and are not driven by groups completely open to the public. (Community Level Need)
Affordable* services for those in need. (Community Level Need)
At this time when federal government seems to be failing, engagement on state and local issues is more important than ever. (Community Level Need)
Better jobs (Community Level Need)
Bismarck residents have a lot of programs that meet the above needs but we must be vigilant in providing enough of the programming and keeping it relevant so we can continue to attract families to fill jobs and stay in our community to raise their families. (Community Level Need)
Civics lessons and political engagement. (Community Level Need)
Clean up garbage and abandon cars in New England. Health hazards!!!!!! (Community Level Need)
Community has been focusing more on a number of the above identified needs, but a way to go yet. Hard to find affordable legal assistance for non-criminal issues where attorneys are not provided by law. Need another hospital option, as competition may mean more affordable health care options for our community. (Community Level Need)
Community needs a better public transportation system- and a school bus system, as our city has grown and the concept that schools are "neighborhood schools" is a thing of the past. There needs to improved resources for those leaving jail or the prison system to help them assimilate better into the community. Many financial assistance program are unable to assist with the cost of vehicle repair and many clients have unreliable vehicles with no money to fix them when they break down. (Community Level Need)
coronavirus insanity took everything away and brought many other worse problems (Community Level Need)
Cultural Appreciation!! (Community Level Need)
Drop-in center for all ages (Community Level Need)

Drugs
Economic development; continued education (Family Level Need)
Family Law, Mental Health Services for Children and Adults, Social Skills and Peer Support Groups for adolescents (Community Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
Free and confidential sexual health services for teenagers (Community Level Need)
HELP GETTING GUARDIANSHIP OF GRANDSON (Family Level Need)
Homeless shelter with support services for transitioning into permanent housing situations (Community Level Need)
I do not support any additional homeless shelters however I know we need housing for families, children's, adults experiencing homelessness. WE NEED HOUSING (Community Level Need)
In the area of medical, we could use more doctors and other medical personnel that are living here and not working here for short periods and moving on. This system does not allow people to have stable medical care. (Community Level Need)
Inconsistent medical providers; little youth activities other than school sports; many communities would Not meet walkability standards; sub adequate street maintenance due to cost;! Inadequate law enforcement for the size of community again related to lack of available funding ; Rolette County mill levy cannot generate enough revenue to pay for the expenses of needed county services; there is no federal or state impact aid for lack of taxable land in Rolette County due to reservation within the county. (Community Level Need)
Indoor parks (Community Level Need)
inpatient addiction facility (Community Level Need)
Instill in people the desire and ambition to get involved and give back. (Community Level Need)
Library access, safety in public library (Community Level Need)
Life is good.
Men's shelter (Community Level Need)
Mental Health for adults or children facilities.....basic care facilities (Community Level Need)
Mental health needs (Community Level Need)
More access to mental health services. (Community Level Need)
More funding for public preschool, early childhood special education (Community Level Need)
More public defenders, better lawyers for those who cannot afford them. Maybe a pro bono cases licensed attorneys must complete to keep their licenses (Community Level Need)
Need more licensed daycare facilities. (Community Level Need)
Our community is in need of places for single fathers. Right now, there are places for single men and other places for women and their children but not any that I am aware of for the homeless father and his children (unless you go to Moorhead, which could hurt eligibility for other programming). (Community Level Need)
Our local food pantry is in need of volunteers to assist at the food pantry. (Community Level Need)
Our public bus system is pretty good but it needs to run longer hours. (Community Level Need)
Our public transportation system could use some work, as it is complex and difficult to navigate for those who need it. (Community Level Need)
Outdoor pool that's affordable for everyone (Community Level Need)
Police anti-racism training (Community Level Need)
Preschool (Community Level Need)
Public service workers need to do their job once winter arrives not every one drives or has the opportunity to do so , theirs ice on the ground can cause huge problems to many of our elders walk-in

or taking the bus , broken body parts can randomly occur from a fall. Have better equipment so we prevent this will make Fargo a better place (Community Level Need)
Recycling (Community Level Need)
ROADS and road conditions.... (Community Level Need)
Schools needed (Community Level Need)
Socialization/support groups for single moms and/or play groups for kids that meet in the evening that would allow for socialization for parents (Community Level Need)
Some sidewalks in Grand Forks, especially along Washington are terrible. (Community Level Need)
Transportation for those going to work at various hours-more handicapped accessible vans for those not able to use city bus. (Community Level Need)
We do not have a theater, bowling alley...so kids drive out of town to do things. Alcohol use is getting higher. Drug and alcohol use in a neighboring town is very high. (Community Level Need)
we need a dog park (Community Level Need)
We need a low barrier homeless shelter with case management services. (Community Level Need)
We need more education on gun safety and responsible people conceal carrying, especially school and church employees. (Community Level Need)
We need more psych appointments available the day of a call for help and also evening and/or weekend appointments available (Community Level Need)
wish there was more of a police involvement at the grade schools; with all the break ins in some area's it would be nice to have a school officer in the grade schools or around the area with so many children that are latch key with working parents and have to walk to school (Community Level Need)
Would be nice to have a shelter that is more useful for folks with addiction issues. Would be good to have a LaGrave on First type program for senior citizens. (Community Level Need)
Would like to see a long range rifle range built in Cass County. (Community Level Need)
Youth mentoring programs for Teens (Community Level Need)

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Cell phone bill help (Family Level Need)
Family is throwing me out and becoming homeless again (Family Level Need)
heating program (Family Level Need)
life line info for free service (Family Level Need)
Need help bad with rental assistance before I get evicted (Family Level Need)
Personal hygiene products (Family Level Need)
Some of above are available, but again who is going to pay for this, provide information to people / families etc so they can participate. Will they participate? (Agency Level Need)
The place that was centered around experiencing other opportunities and clarifying what somebody would be good at doing (Community Level Need)
This is much needed reduced cost for seniors. There is telephone help but cheaper internet is a need (Community Level Need)
Tires are bald, drivers door handle broke off, oil change. Apt assistance: electric, internet, car insurance, phone (Family Level Need)
Used lap tops, tablets or computers donated from businesses that are made available to clients in need. (Community Level Need)
with utility, and water bills and help with getting a vehicle (Family Level Need)
1. A grocery store with FRESH produce that isn't bruised, damaged in transit, or moldy. 2. A grocery store with affordable prices that are not inflated due to the oil business. 3. A chain store where families

can buy diapers, wipes, clothing, etc for their children. 4. More affordable internet services- \$80/month for faulty internet is an injustice when 10 years ago in Nevada I was paying \$20 for consistent/ faster than what I have now speeds. (Community Level Need)
A lot of older adults have appointments in Fargo but can't make them because of transportation needs (Community Level Need)
Access to grocery stores/food pantries for those living in the downtown area without transportation. (Community Level Need)
activities for children in winter (Community Level Need)
All these are important factors in life and for different circumstances in one's life. (Community Level Need)
All these items cost money, but in rural communities it is important to have available all the options that available in larger communities. =challenge (Community Level Need)
All wrap around services provided are critical to communities across ND, including senior programs. (Community Level Need)
Assistance for childcare (Family Level Need)
At times I need assistance with the ongoing IEP process that my son is on. I don't always know what I as a parent can ask for or "demand" legally in order to best advocate for my ADHD/anxiety child. (Family Level Need)
Bismarck residents have access to programs in almost all of the categories above. We seem to have a lot of folks needing food pantries; we could do better in helping those leaving incarceration adjust to life, finding work and housing, etc.; and access to the internet for young people is not a level playing field for purposes of school work. (Community Level Need)
Bus services for headstart would be very helpful as there is not a headstart in the town I live. The drive to bring my son to school every day is over 25 miles one way and I make that trip twice a day to be sure he gets the best start in his education. (Community Level Need)
Business development during Covid 19. (Community Level Need)
Car is 2000 Lesabre Buick, need 2 back tires, has oil leak, needs to be balanced, horn doesn't work, fuel gauge doesn't work. Very very high mileage (Family Level Need)
community events for all ages (Community Level Need)
Diapers and infant clothing/toys/strollers/etc (Family Level Need)
Emergency assistance w/housing, overdue utility bill, looking into a transportation program for families that need a car at little or no cost by partnering with a garage and community to provide the cars when traded in and then given an inspection to make sure they are sound for use; especially for single parents with a valid driver's license that is struggling to find and keep work due to transportation needs. (Community Level Need)
Even though there is public transportation in our community, there are times that families are not able to afford to purchase bus tickets. When they do not have transportation, then they do not attend to meetings that could offer more assistance to them. (Community Level Need)
Expanded CCAP income limits. The income limits have been cut significantly in recent years which is punishing families. (Community Level Need)
food pantries needs are rising and availability of hours needs to increase according to the clients we serve. clothing and household vouchers are slim pickings for the goodwill and salvation army store. (Agency Level Need)
For community, not self (Community Level Need)
Grateful to be independent.
Improved bus services: more routes, increased frequency of routes, better coverage of routes. (Community Level Need)

It's absurd that with how Mat Bus has grown, it still doesn't run on Sundays or service the industrial park where many, minimum wage paying jobs are located and have staff who utilize the bus. (Community Level Need)
Mental health and addiction facilities (Community Level Need)
Need expertise with Social Security benefits application (Family Level Need)
need services for caring for elderly parent with dementia. (Community Level Need)
Neighborhood building. (Community Level Need)
No community garden availability; public transportation for basic needs and medical needs is extremely inadequate and poorly funded; no behavioral health services within the jail and no release management for inmates; children and adults deal with less than adequate food or lacking knowledge how to cook and or manage a budget (Community Level Need)
Our churches are great about going together to get clothes or food. We also have a very good social services department.
Public educational needs, such as facilities and teachers. (Community Level Need)
Public transportation is not efficient and it's complicated for those who are unfamiliar. (Community Level Need)
Public transportation later hours and in rural areas is needed. (Community Level Need)
Renovation of old commercial buildings and homes. Need additional retail establishments; currently under-served. (Community Level Need)
School busing for foster children who have been displaced and are outside of their school district. School busing for homeless youth and youth who can't afford bus tickets. (Community Level Need)
Services for kids with Autism and for kids with trauma especially teens (Community Level Need)
Small town grocery stores need a network for accessing fresh fruits, vegetables, and meat products so they're affordable. Shipping costs are high. Most people go out of town to shop for these items. (Community Level Need)
The city bus NEEDS to go to the industrial park (Community Level Need)
The Community Cupboard needs to determine that the residents that get food every month actually need it and cannot afford their own groceries. Too many here take advantage of the free food that work in the coal mine and make WAY more than the elderly, etc. The people that don't need it are always the first in line with their hands out! (Community Level Need)
The nearest full service groceries are over a mile away, and two smaller places I could get groceries have closed in the last year. (Family Level Need)
The need for peer support for drug, alcohol, and psychiatric treatment patients. (Community Level Need)
These items are things important where I live. A Community Garden is great--but there are people in need that just can't garden--having fresh produce available from farmer's markets to food pantries would be a great solution. But those farmers should get paid for their efforts=challenge (Community Level Need)
This community needs more affordable public transportation (I do not personally need this but the clients I serve do. Same for people exiting corrections settings. (Community Level Need)
Transportation in and from rural areas. (Community Level Need)
Transportation is primarily lack of school bus drivers, and help transporting elderly/other non-drivers to medical appointments (Community Level Need)
We need services for people with alzheimers and dementia who can afford to pay for those services. We need social services and other government agencies to be way more open to other types of care that have existed for centuries, long before the Western Allopathic model. So many things could be avoided or treated much more cost effectively and totally effective if other options were available,

promoted and used. There is no need for much of the treatments that happen. (Community Level Need)
We provide some of these services, however, some continue to be a problem, certainly the dollars needed to purchase (Agency Level Need)

From Section 2.9 Local Program	
Region 1	It is so expensive to set up a house. I suggest you put together "kits" i.e. sets of towels, shower curtain, broom, mop, dish cloths, silverware, cleaning supplies, etc. (Family Level Need)
	State and country government needs to apply housing allowances for their employees who live in the oil industry and don't get oil industry income. Very hard to make it on just their income, employees out in these counties usually have to carry two to three jobs to make it. Especially if single household. (Community Level Need)
Region 2	Added bus routes to more areas of minot. I live by the landfill, and it would be nice to have a bus route closer to me.and for others in out of range areas. Also, to have bus drivers , drive slower, and be more patient with people with physical and mental disabilities (Community Level Need)
	community is a major blessing to this community. They often pick up where other agencies leave off. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Each of these are important to our area. Many of our seniors are living on a very fixed income and need the help. Each of these programs touches a larger group of people living in our area that are not always seen. (Agency Level Need)
	House down payment assistance; Basic tax preparation assistance (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	more mental health services, more affordable dental care with ability to get into dental appointments quicker (less than 3 months), more licensed daycare availability with evening/night time hours for working parents (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	No special needs at this time.
	Prescription and dental assistance. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
Region 3	None.
Region 4	More for the rural counties. Many of your programs are Grand Forks County specific. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Affordable and available Childcare and early headstart programs (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Case management in all forms is 100% the top need in our community. None of the other programs/services can be effective if we can't get people to them or understanding them. (Agency Level Need)
	Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	HIV/AIDS community supports (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	program to help with down payment for mortgage (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
Region 5	Commodity programs to clients in need. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Currently 2 months behind on rent, and facing homelessness. I haven't received any assistance for rental costs that are only \$540 a month as I wait for social security benefits through my lawyer and services for my case of disability caused by a surgical error. Living

expenses such as belongings for my child or household goods are also necessary, because this is where some of my income from child support goes, which is the only income I have. **(Family Level Need)**

Doors and windows **(Family Level Need)**

help with getting a car **(Family Level Need)**

I would love to see a place where somebody could go and learn somewhere that teaches somebody what they would be able to do not just what they think they want to do and give them the experience of job shadowing with organizations that have collaborated with this company they would be able to see that there are things that they would be good at doing and would become a passion not just a career that they hate but a job and career they would love **(Community Level Need)**

Sliding-Scale Fee Childcare **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Therapy, financial assistance **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Transportation my jeep needs tires and tune up bad tires are shot and need tabs **(Family Level Need)**

Assistance for low income families **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Advocacy training and support of advocates. **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

All wrap around services provided are critical to communities across ND, including senior programs. **(Agency Level Need)**

Connecting resources to people. Make sure dual language parents and children are treated the same and have access to translation services all the time so they can communicate with the local community and schools. **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Expanded CCAP income limits. The income limits have been cut significantly in recent years which is punishing families. **(Agency Level Need)**

For the state to buy more land for game management area's in Cass County so we have places to hunt. **(Community Level Need)**

HELPING RENTERS WITH RENT, DEPOSITS, AND UTILITY BILLS, ALSO WITH HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SECTION EIGHT OPENING BACK UP AND HELPING women without kids just as much as women with kids **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

I don't necessarily need this but I have noticed that others around me struggle with being approved for some social services that they obviously are in great need of. For example- applying and being denied disability status when they were previously on it. The person I know is in great need of assistance in "fighting" essentially for their services. They are already battling medical, mental health, housing issues and raising their children and then have transportation issues. Perhaps more resources to legal help? Also more ways to obtain transportation so they have options and can get to places. Assistance with gas and maintenance? **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Medical equip and supplies I need **(Family Level Need)**

Mental Health **(Family Level Need)**

More local toddler and special needs friendly parks to walk too and benches in the shade to encourage neighborhood walking without being too hot in summer. **(Community Level Need)**

Parenting classes, behavior support for children **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Rental assistance **(Family Level Need)**

support for universal health care! **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

	Assistant in obtaining disability benefits for my child & prevent homelessness (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Early interventions (Family Level Need)
	Veterans, farm families, children's summer meals USDA and senior meals (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Dental (Family Level Need)
	Assistance with health care costs (insurance, glasses, hearing aids, etc.) for both elderly and non-elderly (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Childcare programs (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	I feel like there is always a need for more mental health services in rural areas! (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	more qualified day care providers (Community Level Need)
	Nutrition Services • Sportsman Against Hunger • Rolla Food Pantry • Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (Agency Level Need)
	All the programs listed are essential and integral to each other. (Agency Level Need)
Region 6	help with home repairs (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Homeless Shelter (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Veterans services for those that don't qualify for government programs (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Homelessness transportation to a shelter. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	All of the above programs contribute to the community so I would like to see all of the above listed programs in our community! (Agency Level Need)
	Homeless Shelter (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Salvation Army has a food pantry as well.
	Medical coverage for those making too much for MA, but can't afford FFM insurance as have medical and psychological needs. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
Region 7	possible help replacing broken appliances. Fridge, Dryer. (Family Level Need)
	room vouchers or help with obtaining housing (Family Level Need)
	A lot I just don't know about (Family Level Need)
	Help getting my felonies deferred like they should be (Family Level Need)
	community engagement (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Credit Rehab Based Mortgage (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Free Through Recovery, Mental Health Services (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	Help for Veterans (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	housing for felons (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	I can't comment on any of these as I don't use them. But I think they are all important. (Agency Level Need)
	SNAPP Program Medicaid (Agency Level Need)
	special healthcare costs (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	there are services not covered by grants such as vehicle issues & short term housing (hotels). (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)
	ALL are needed (Agency Level Need)

	<p>Healthy Families home visiting programs for families in need (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p> <p>Help with emergency cooling and mold and electrical repair please (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p> <p>We need to think outside the box on our programs, so many people abuse the system! Yet we leave those families empty that are doing everything they can to make it but still need that little bit of help. I understand I make XXXX amount of money, BUT shit happens and sometimes we just need a month of help, or our furnace looked at without worrying about a \$500 bill...I wish we would see more into the gray and stop allowing the same families to abuse the system and become life long recipients while they choose to never better themselves. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
Region 8	<p>I was accessing Prairie Rose Center, after my brain injury. I was verbally abused by the worker XXX, a female. She also abused other clients. One friend of mine needed help wiping her mouth bc XXX yelled at her. I wiped my friends mouth, and XXX then yelled at me. After I had knee replacement (had a simultaneous broken arm, trying to protect my new knee), I was rewrapping the ACE bandage around my knee, sitting on the couch in the common area. XXX came out and yelled at me, telling me to "do that in the bathroom, I dont want to see that". My knee wasnt bleeding. She was very abusive and ignorant to tell me this. An ACE bandage is for support, not for blood. After she carried her self back to the office, I started crying. I had just broken my arm after surgery, trying to save my new knee (I did!!), and was using a soecial walker with an arm attachment to support my broken arm. Walking to the bathroom and maneuvering with my walker would have been problematic. So I sat there and cried, then left. I havent been back since. I could use the emotional support still for my brain injury, but I grew up in an abusive home, and I dont want any further mental trauma (I have PTSD). When I see clients/friends from the center, they say they miss me, but I dont want to get yelled at anymore. And she yells at clients to wash before lunch, then serves food with NO GLOVES!! Is that even health dept acceptable? (Agency Level Need)</p>
	<p>Youth programs - safety city, babysitter training etc (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>Addiction services?? Adult Day care (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>Dental/vision (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>Financial Wellness Training. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>All these items cost money, but in rural communities it is important to have available all the options that available in larger communities. =challenge (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>A program like Circles (bridges out of poverty) (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>Emergency assistance w/housing, overdue utility bill, looking into a transportation program for families that need a car at little or no cost by partnering with a garage and community to provide the cars when traded in and then given an inspection to make sure they are sound for use; especially for single parents with a valid driver's license that is struggling to find and keep work due to transportation needs. (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>
	<p>I would love to see all these programs continue! (Agency Level Need)</p>
	<p>long-term inpatient addiction treatment (Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)</p>

Many of my family benefitted from the birth control counseling programs that were once offered. I think this is a HUGE need. Low cost birth control!!!! What are we thinking in society???? **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

Behavioral/Mental Health Services needed. Such as a Mental Health Unit within the hospital or other settings with trained professionals. **(Agency Level Need) or (Community Level Need)**

From Section 3.1 Additional Feedback

I am homeless I do not have any family or friends in North Dakota **(Family Level Need)**

more regulated child care options - options for summertime supervision for school aged kids under 13 that are legally not supposed to be home alone especially not home alone watching their siblings! **(Community Level Need)**

Better options for housing that allows people to get on their feet and out of bad situations on their own because not every victim of abuse goes to a shelter and many of us have no one we can ask for help due to the abusive situation we are trying to escape. Don't limit individuals empower them **(Community Level Need)**

Case workers at Cass County need to communicate faster. **(Community Level Need)**

CMA training **(Community Level Need)**

Community centers made available with volunteer help in community for those that need minimal supervision so family members can continue education or work without the additional burden of costs due to income and not qualifying for additional helps with state. **(Agency Level Need)**

community action is an excellent need for our area and has helped me out a lot!!

help getting a key made at locksmith **(Family Level Need)**

Help is needed now **(Family Level Need)**

Help with suspended driver's license. **(Family Level Need)**

Housing for singles. Solar homes **(Family Level Need)**

Housing for veterans **(Family Level Need)**

I am in my 60s and had to find employment because of a relationship ended; I was financially stable. I want discrimination from age/working to stop and have more financial assistance programs available to the people that are struggling but can't get help from our current programs. **(Agency Level Need)**

I do like my community so far. I haven't been here long enough yet.

I have been sent from one Agency to another filling out Applications only to be sent to another Agency. I feel like I am being sent from one place to another. **(Agency Level Need)**

I have tons to talk about

I just hope somehow you guys can help I just got another 3 day to evict and I need it as soon as we can **(Family Level Need)**

I love your program, without this in place. Life would be a big struggle for our community.

I need help with my mental health, food, housing, and income **(Family Level Need)**

I need help with the rent I am 2 months behind on, and utilities necessary for me to continue my writing and attempts at finishing my education in the spring. **(Family Level Need)**

I really wish that there were more opportunities for behavior based learning. Mental and social development. Assessments for counseling services, rehab, etc. **(Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)**

I see firsthand the need for all these funds for others. They are all very important and need to continue **(Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)**

I switched employment and could use help to cover rent so I have time to start receiving money again **(Family Level Need)**

i think we should help the elderly more. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
I wish there will be more help for people finding jobs (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
It's very humbling to reach out and ask for help, realizing their are those who abuse the system and those who really are thankful. We are very thankful for the help we've recieved and hope one day we can pay forward to those that helped during this bridge time. (Agency Level Need)
Just need roof fixed before mold starts taking over (Family Level Need)
Mandan needs more services offered. Bismarck has many options, but Mandan has few related to proper housing, home repair. My biggest concern for Bismarck is Emergency Shelter options, and options for Abused Adults (There is currently only AARC). (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
More flexible housing options (willing to work with those who have little to no credit etc.) More intensive in home services for kids and families (parenting skills, therapy etc) (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
my most bressing concern is the lack of activities for youth that care not 'into' athleticces, wellnedd youth center! Roller skate rinks, indoor skate parks, community centers (Community Level Need)
Need affordable consistent healthcare for all. Can't do much else if you don't have your health as a foundation. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Prower Protection! City of JOHN HD 58369 (Family Level Need)
Response from community action staff us needed in a more timely manner to let applicants know whether we are approved or not for assistance. Ive been callingvdaiky and left messages to see if I've been approved for rental help. I've already received an eviction notice. I left message with Adam I nstrativevAssistantvascwell and still no callback. (Agency Level Need)
Seniors are afraid to ask for help they will do w/o rather than ask. An lots of seniors don't know to ask either (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Serious need of a wheel chair ramp (Family Level Need)
Thank you
Thank you for all that you do!
Thank you for all you do
Thanks for the help my family and I really appreciate it
Thanks for your service
The help I received was greatly needed and appreciated.
The program is great and North Dakota Residents are very lucky to have it. Thank you so much for your assistance and the services you provide us.
The school supplies are a great help
they have been a great help these past years
They need to make more programs accessible to the community. And if they are programs that are granted for their work then the work should get done right, not wrong! For instance replacing the board or plywood the hot water heater sat on but not bringing it to the home owner's attention that the hole floor was rotted. As a mother living deprived and not having the funds to fix it, there's things that need to be addressed. It doesn't make sense you qualify for one program but not the other. Like weatherization but not for rehab cause you don't have homeowners ins (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Transportation is a major issue for those who cannot drive and the disabled and elderly don't have the funding to utilize the poor public transportation in place. (Community Level Need)
Very scared, savings are gone. Still struggling with severe depression/ anxiety, bills mounting, overwhelmed (Family Level Need)

would like to see coupons/vouchers to a local store for bread and meat (Family Level Need)
You are so great! Keep up the good work!
Would be nice to have more homeless shelters, also a place that offers help with making resumes and etc, some people just don't know how to do certain things to help get started in getting jobs or applying for school , etc (Family Level Need)
A bigger diversity of retail stores ... we shouldn't need to drive to Minot for shoes etc. (Community Level Need)
Addiction services (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Addictions and mental health are big issues. These are the underlying causes of a lot of the other issues that we see in our community. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Additional mental health services for adults and children. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable child care/senior/disabled home repairs that are free (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable daycare seems to be a huge need in my area (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable efficient housing, senior and youth development/enhancement is key (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable housing is a huge need, as well as making HUD apartments/housing more safe for the people who live there. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
affordable housing is needed for home ownership and renting; property taxes are too high along with the cost of homes and apartments (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable housing is so limited for my clients who are typically working, yet make too little for housing and too much for help. Also, as a mental health provider (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Affordable housing, jobs with livable wages, increasing locally-produced foods (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
affordable transportation child care for parents trying to become employed but can't do so without it in place and can't afford it until they are working. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
After school place for kids, Youthworks office (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Again, I can't stress enough the focus on abstinence as a solution for birth control. This trend is alarming. I know in the past CAA had excellent information that was provided. H.S. and college students really needed a safe place to obtain information and need low cost and non-judgmental solutions. I don't see this on your questionnaire at all. (Agency Level Need)
Assistance in maintaining housing is a definite need. We also need a homeless shelter in Dickinson and surrounding area. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Behavioral health for youth and Mental health needs for adults and youth. The access to these services is very limited and is needed desperately as the rise in behavioral issues in children has been evaluated. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Cavalier County needs representatives from agencies to be here at least 2/month. HAP has left, WIC has left, reps come here but only once per month (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Childcare crisis related to COVID-19: parents who are working from home without childcare or having to juggle children doing school online (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Closure by GRE of Coal Creek Station will cause ongoing issues with employment, housing, quality of education, and increasing property taxes (to offset the taxes previously paid by GRE to the state and county). (Community Level Need)
Communication and create nice social environment. (Community Level Need)
Communication with people in need that services are available. (Community Level Need)

Community Action does and awesome job meeting the needs of the community with limited funding.
Community needs to worry about our children not their convenience or lining their pockets. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Day care needs and pre-school within public school systems. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Daycare and housing needs are a high priority for our family with a toddler with a disability. The cost vs quality is too difficult to find of a single parent with no assistance. (Family Level Need)
Daycare that are licenend are in a high need. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Definitely need more vocational training. Housing costs are too high. Better snow/ice control of roads (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Didn't know about a lot of the services RRVCA offers in Grand Forks. Not a lot of community partnerships. (Agency Level Need)
disconnect between citizens and issues (Community Level Need)
Drug addiction (Family Level Need)
drug courts (Family Level Need)
Elected leaders need to put needs of common people - lower and middle income - before the wants of developers. (Community Level Need)
Free legal services for single parents (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Funding for early childhood special education. The current building is full. A new building or addition to the current building would be beneficial. Splitting up teachers into elementary schools will crowd those schools. (Community Level Need)
Funding to create more visibility for the programs offered by the CAA would be immensely beneficial. (Agency Level Need)
get help for these kids who are struggling emotionally and mentally due to life at home and experiences at school. punishing kids who misbehave doesn't help them. finding out why might.... (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Growing population is the youth. More activities, support services and health services needed locally. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Heads are buried in the sand; resistance to trying to find collaborative solutions. Too many individuals want to be the hero. (Community Level Need)
Help our community see how special we are and what is so great about this community (Community Level Need)
Help those that are just recently experiencing not having rent money. May not fit under description of need, but truly need it. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Holiday Projects • Holiday Gifts • Holiday Food Baskets (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Housing (Family Level Need)
Housing for persons and children who may not qualify due to an arrest record or poor credit history. They would have to be enrolled in a program(s) to improve upon those areas and working. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
I answered the questions as to the needs of the residents I serve at my job. (Community Level Need)
I feel like there could be more community outreach and public announcements regarding available services. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
I just recently found out that those in need can use the food pantry more than once a month. I was always under the impression they could only use it once a month. This is very important information for me to know as I work with those in lower income families on a regular basis. Community Action does some wonderful things for my community and we are thankful for it.

<p>I just would like Fargo especially to do their job lower the risk I'm being evicted with helping tenants and renters also lowering West Fargo police officers Cass County is not big enough to have all the police officers that they do in the high rate of low crimes that they charge people for is ridiculous I would love to fight this situation because I personally know innocent people who life has been changed just because a DUI or a suspended license this is an Abomination to affect someone's life because of a small mistake because driving with a suspended license should not be a crime and you should not mess up anyone's life because of that and I would love to fix the racial problem with the police officers also I don't care what anyone says but there's a lot of racist people that aren't on the police force in Cass County as well as Minneapolis please focus on helping all people in need not just Children and Families single parent homes in single people homes should have helped equally as well (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>I love how much your program helps our community</p>
<p>I see childcare needs as one of the most important aspects. Parents with children have a hard time working when childcare costs are so high and their jobs don't pay much. Plus, it is very difficult to even find affordable child care in Grand Forks--availability is so slim. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>I think a huge problem is that there are plenty of jobs, but not decent paying jobs. Housing costs are too high - people have to work 2-3 jobs to make it. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>I think the biggest factors effecting the Fargo area is Housing, Education, and Access to services. People can't get housing if they have bad credit or anything on their background and they end up going to slum lords who screw them over. What Fargo Public Schools and West Fargo Public Schools have done to join in on the level D setting is disgusting. The new middle school in Horace will have a separate entrance for children with special needs which is basically going back to segregation where white children use one door and black children use another and it is completely against IDEA. People with mental health disorders and disabilities have been totally failed by the system. If my children got cut off from Medicaid today my son with Autism and my other son with ADHD, Anxiety, and Migraines medications would cost me over \$1,000 out of pocket each month until I met my \$5000 deductible on top of paying over \$450 a month for health insurance. I make too much to get access to most services for Autism. Luckily I have a job that is flexible with me and I am able to take my children to their appointments each month which is around 5-6 a month. Parents lose their jobs because there are no programs to address this. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>I think the various agencies working to help people do the best job they can with the resources they have.</p>
<p>I think we need an organization for our youth to get them more involved in our community and so they have a sense of worth and social interaction. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>I truly believe our community needs a homeless shelter. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>I work in the public school system. Families in Grand Forks struggle! Kids are taking home free food bags on Fridays meant to supplement their weekend meal needs. That is the sad truth of our town. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>I would like to see Community Actions in ND be more progressive with programs and policies. Evidence based programs, best practices like Coordinated Entry and Housing First. (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>I would like to see more needs being met for groups like retired military personnel. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>I'd love for all agencies to try to better collaborate while still finding a way to meet all requirements. Many agencies can provide similar services but we create our own barriers by not working better together. (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>If we are giving out free services, we should require educational classes so we can help break the cycle. (Agency Level Need)</p>

I'm looking at things from a bit of a distance, not being involved day to day, but Affordable housing seems to be by far the biggest need. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
I'm planning to sell my home and property shortly but can't seem to find anything in my price range to buy in the area. (Family Level Need)
increased funding for home visiting agencies like Healthy Families to reach more families in the area
It is difficult in the rural communities to find transportation. Many do not have the ability to afford a working vehicle and there is NO transportation assistance for doctors, grocery stores, medications, or other services in Grand Forks if they need them. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
It is imperative that we get mental health and addiction services in our area. People are dying because there are no resources here. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Just basic living needs (Family Level Need)
Just thankful for all RRVCA does for our state. Our communities are a better place thanks to your work.
Lack of behavioral health services (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Larger Early Childhood Education Facility to be housed in one building and not split up amongst elementary schools. Splitting up the program divides resources and inhibits teachers and staff from providing the best services to children. (Community Level Need)
Masks need to be made mandatory during this pandemic. I do not feel safe living in North Dakota (Community Level Need)
Minot needs to have things for young families to do! The biggest complaint I hear from young families is "there is nothing to do here." So, community centers, indoor activities, that can be utilized in winter seasons. Things to get families involved in their community, and feel like they are a part. I think this needs to be more than just entertainment things, but programs or facilities that will draw a community together. (Community Level Need)
More activities for the youth - rec building, open gym, facilities (Community Level Need)
More affordable child care for our children's children. (Community Level Need)
More education on culture awareness. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
More free youth activities and volunteer works (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
More Recreational activities for adults. (Community Level Need)
More support to help people help themselves instead of or in addition to food bank, etc. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
More Tx beds available for those who are not only wanting to go in to treatment, but those coming out of Tx that need and deserve aftercare. Setting people up for failure when they engage in Tx and end up back where they started once discharged. (Community Level Need)
Most Critical Needs: Affordable/Available Housing, Available Treatment for Substance Abuse Disorders, Shelters for families, Transportation Assistance, Low Cost Child Care Assistance (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
need better places for homeless people (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Need for meeting HUD health homes initiatives and meeting needs outside of Jamestown (Family Level Need)
Need honest law enforcement (Community Level Need)
Need more foster care, not enough (Family Level Need)
Need stronger police presence, more cruisers going through neighborhoods, maybe motorcycle or police walking the beat more and coming thru businesses. Also need more handicap parking spaces at several facilities. (Community Level Need)
No thank you

Older children need a safe place they can go to "hang out." Entertainment would be good for them to stay out of trouble. Skate park is nice but I'm afraid of injuries. Some other options would be nice too. (Community Level Need)
One area I think is important as well is assisting women who need a divorce from a spouse. There could be more clear cut resources so women especially can know their rights. Plus the follow up of getting child support enforcement so children are properly cared for. One other important area I feel is somehow our community needs more information on multicultural education because there is too many misconceptions about other cultures. We are all women, men and parents etc that all want the best for our families. I get very angry when I hear people talk for example on social media about "those people from other countries" and I don't think they realize the horrendous background that most of them come from- war torn countries- seeing their family members killed, being ripped from their lifelong homes and existence. I feel if more people heard their stories and that includes- native Americans backgrounds as well- there would be more compassion in our community. People don't understand the reasons behind the way women dress from other cultures and why young girls wear hijabs. Its sad. More facts and interaction may help dispel myths that exist. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Our community needs more mental health providers. The wait to see a provider is far to long; it may take up to a month to be seen. There is no mental/emotional "emergency room" for times of crisis. All our community has is a phone number (662-5050) that may or may not be answered. (Community Level Need)
Our community is facing massive layoffs with the announcement that our local power plant may close. That will greatly impact our community. We will need assistance re-educating & producing new employment opportunities (Community Level Need)
Our Community is need of mid range price housing (Community Level Need)
Our community needs more daycare/pre-school options. (Community Level Need)
Out of town transportation for medical appointments has been a great need for years. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
Paid at entry level when in field long enough to be mid level employer wont take request for increase to board and have asked 3 times (Community Level Need)
People are working too hard to not get anywhere or make progress. If changes don't come to help reverse this, please dump every available cent into suicide prevention outreach programs. (Community Level Need)
PLEASE support and advocate for universal health care/single-payer system. (Community Level Need)
Poverty is very high and crime builds on that so law enforcement for protection and housing repair are critical for our reservation. (Community Level Need)
Recreation for families!!! Courts Plus is great, but we can do so much more. We especially need indoor activities for our long winters (Community Level Need)
Recycling services would be nice (Community Level Need)
Rental housing is way too expensive in Fargo/West Fargo. (Community Level Need)
Rural nursing care would be wonderful. (Community Level Need)
Schools, hospital needs, doctors, help for homeless (Community Level Need)
second high school. (Community Level Need)
SENDCAA is amazing and extremely helpful with connection to services needed!!
Services for felons coming off P and P-definite resources needed. esp. for temporary housing and job development (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)

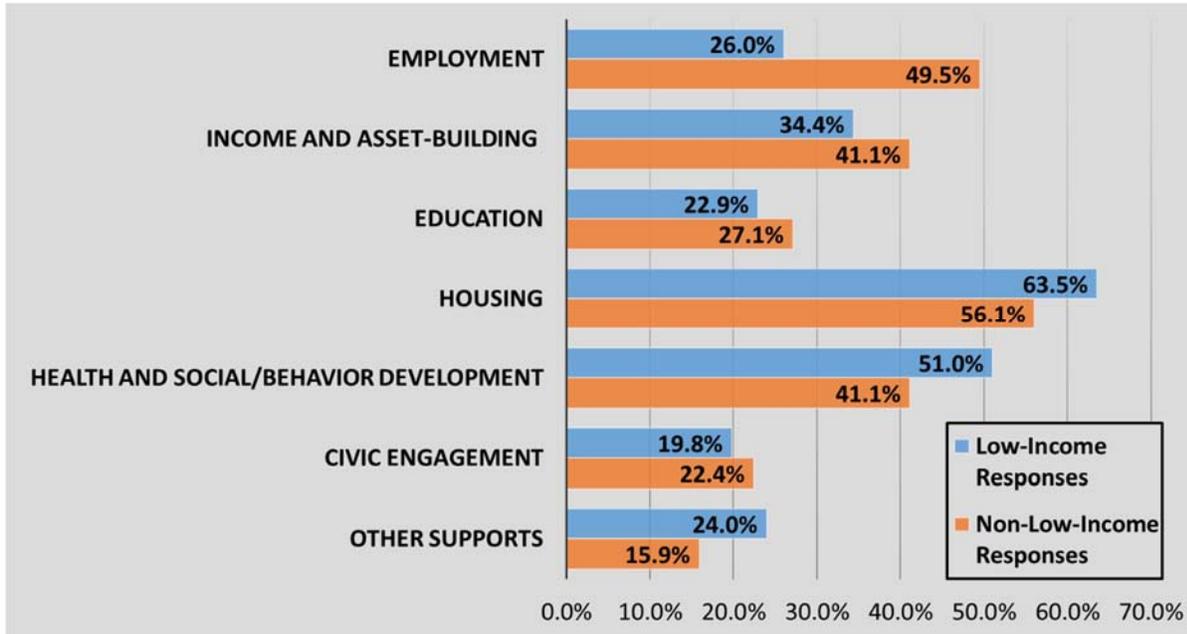
Side streets need to be cleared of snow in a more timely manner & snow not left at the end of the driveway as it is difficult to clear for a senior female with numerous health concerns (Community Level Need)
So appreciate the work of the Community Action outreach workers....particular Bonnie
Thank you
Thank you for all that you do! It does not go unnoticed, and we appreciate you.
Thank you for your help and concerns foer the people
Thanks for all you do Community is in need of transportation to get to job interviews and phones to get the call back about employment (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)
The Community Cupboard needs to determine that the residents that get food every month actually need it and cannot afford their own groceries. Too many here take advantage of the free food that work in the coal mine and make WAY more than the elderly, etc. The people that don't need it are always the first in line with their hands out! (Community Level Need)
The homeless shelter in Grand Forks turns away clients that test positive for any substance, even marijuana which can remain in your system for an extended period of time. This results in many of the homeless members of our community sleeping in dangerous situations, particularly in the winter as there is no other option for them. Over 100 beds remain vacant in the shelter due to this policy. They also kick people out for 6 months at a time if they do not show "consistency" in their stays- such as they must stay there for months at a time as opposed to coming and going every few weeks when they do find an independent place to live temporarily. This is a huge problem and I believe is resulting in the deaths of some over the past few years. (Community Level Need)
The local cost of living is high so national income guidelines are not indicative of needs for community members. (Community Level Need)
The mental health and substance abuse needs are extremely high in our community. (Community Level Need)
The need for affordable medical services in any shape or form. Prescription costs are outrageous and now if you cannot pay your entire doctor bill you are sent to collections. Collection agencies are granted the right to garnish wages in almost every case. This is devastating to individuals/families who are now forced to turn over 25% of their income to a collection agency. I feel there needs to be some kind of regulations put in place in ND regarding garnishments for medical services. (Community Level Need)
There are many other community agencies providing similar services such as emergency assistance, food assistance, case management. I think it would benefit the community for RRVCA to keep the programming that is not a duplicated service such as Home cents, furnace repairs and working with veterans. (Agency Level Need)
There is a lack of transportation in Rolette County. We need a public transportation service, Uber/Lfyt that any community member can access with financial assistance, etc. We need a homeless shelter. We need a group home/shelter for children/families/unruly youth. We need a mentoring program for at-risk youth. (Community Level Need)
There is more child care needs in the community. Also, there are not very many mental health resources and we need those for all ages. (Community Level Need)
There needs to be a grassroots movement to show the community at large that there are homeless individuals and families in our area. If the community as a whole could ban together to assist those in need, it would be a much better place. (Community Level Need)
There needs to more work on justice activities to prevent the ongoing charity needs. (Community Level Need)
These services need to be more publicized, I didn't realize that half of what you have listed are a thing. Have never heard of a few of them. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)

<p>Three things that I see as major challenges in my community are: 1. Low paying jobs. Working poor. Many people work two jobs but still cannot make a living. 2. High cost of health care. Much of the cost is hidden, such as taking deductions out of social security to pay for Medicare and the cost of the supplemental policies. Elderly living on social security can be very difficult. 3. Addiction issues are taking it's toll on families. Children being abused and left unattended. Domestic violence issues, often spurred on by poverty. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>Transportation major issue for this area, second not enough family activities for the community. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>Transportation need has to be addressed; individuals cannot get to needed medical appointments; (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We are in a high need for more daycare openings to allow our community to grow. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We desperately need mental health and addiction facilities in our area. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We have a huge lack of accessible transportation services- we have schools in our district that don't have any school bus routes OR city bus routes going to them. The city bus routes are few and far between, so people end up spending the entire day on the city bus just trying to run normal errands. We have a lack of affordable housing as well, both rental and purchased homes. We are paying less on our mortgage right now than we were for a 2 bedroom apartment. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We have good services in our community, but they can all afford to improve to better serve those in need. We continue to have gaps that professionals can all identify, but we continue to talk about things without working toward effective solutions. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>We need more CD treatment facilities (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We need more open early/late infant care centers (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We need more quality pre-school settings for students who do not fall into poverty or are special needs. The programs that are available are very expensive and offer only half day programs. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We need workers at the nursing home, hospital and around the community. Can't we get some immigrants here to help with this dire shortage???? (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We need workers; in order to get workers, we need affordable housing and affordable child care (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>We would love to be more involved in the community with volunteering, etc, but it is very difficult to find out information about that sort of thing. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>Whether mental health is actually declining or we are just becoming more aware of it, there are individuals and families in desperate need of mental health and addiction counseling, as well as case management to ensure they follow through with these services when they are available. And for cripes sake, we need more than occasional walk-in hours at NEHSC. Mental health and addiction crises don't only happen during walk-in hours. (Community Level Need)</p>
<p>With the agencies we do have here I think that collaboration is essential so no duplication of services happens. Money is short for most programs and working together is the only way we can make the biggest impact. (Community Level Need) or (Agency Level Need)</p>
<p>Due to my income, I wouldn't be eligible for any type of assistance but certainly would appreciate various types of supports.</p>
<p>Have a great community.</p>
<p>My church is very engaged and active in providing and/or serving food - La Grave and the Mission. Additionally we are engaged with Homelessness discussions including Spectre, Homeless Helpers, and Grand Forks Schools. I is clear the primary issue is emergency housing (and the Mission cannot do everything, it can't) and also more systemic issues associated with homelessness. This is a hidden issue. Additionally, I think it is important that agencies be inclusive of the faith community. I applaud Spectre Health for inviting our small church into the discussion. Do not forget the faith community. And</p>

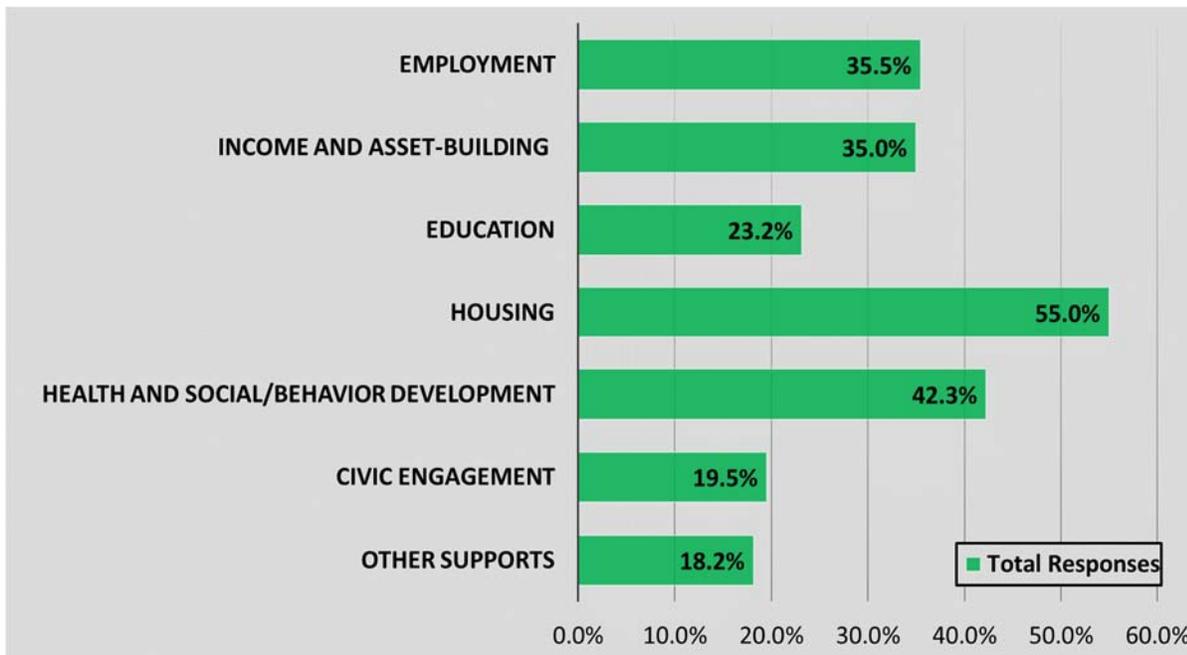
remember the faith community is much more than the Evangelical Churches and big Lutheran Churches. :) (Community Level Need)
No
SAFE HOME FOR CHILDREN , TRIBE NEED TO CRACK DOWN ON DRUG PEOPLE AND BRING INTO FOCUS MANDANTORY BIRTH CONTROL FOR PEOPLE THAT END UP INVOLVED WITH CPS . (Community Level Need)
We could use a drug task force to stop, or at least slow down, the meth use in our community. (Community Level Need)

Appendix F: Needs and Priorities by Region

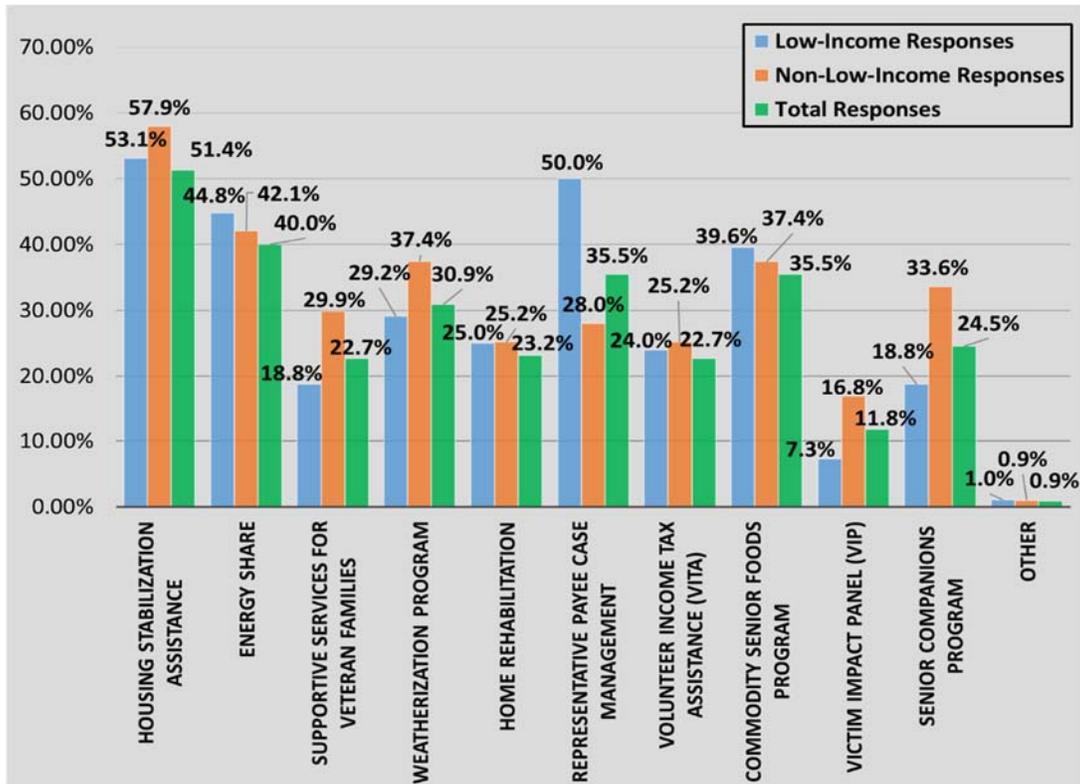
Region 1:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 96 identified low-incomes and 107 non-low-incomes)

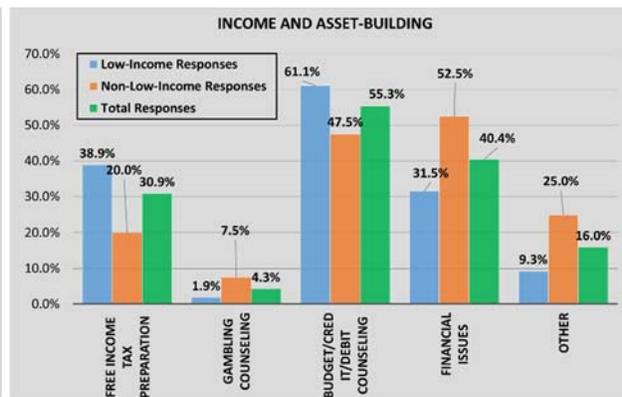
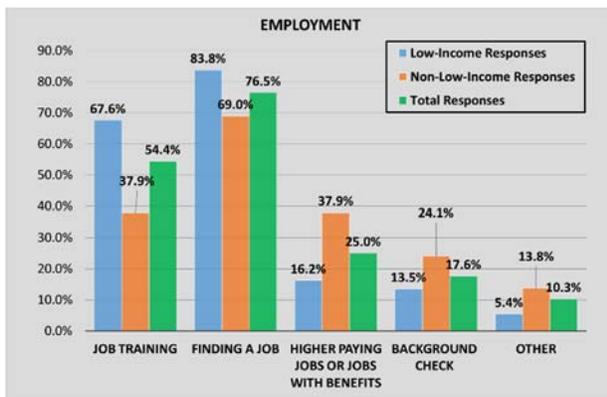


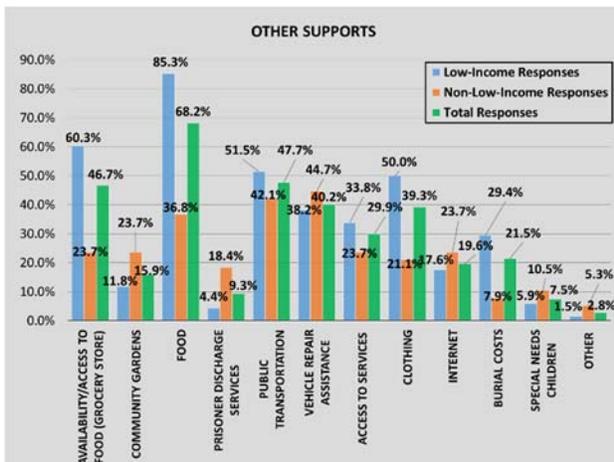
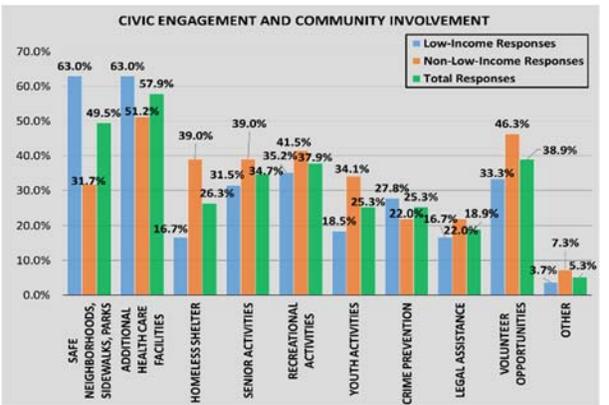
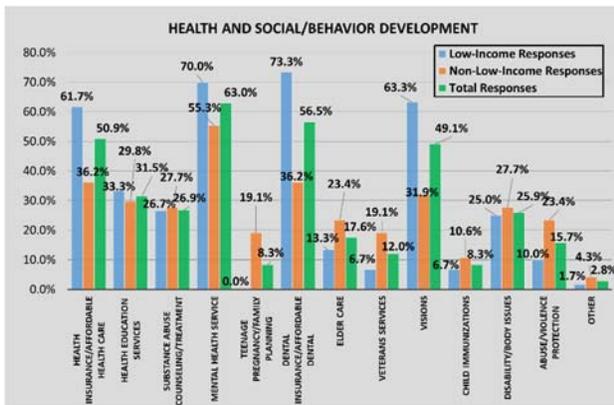
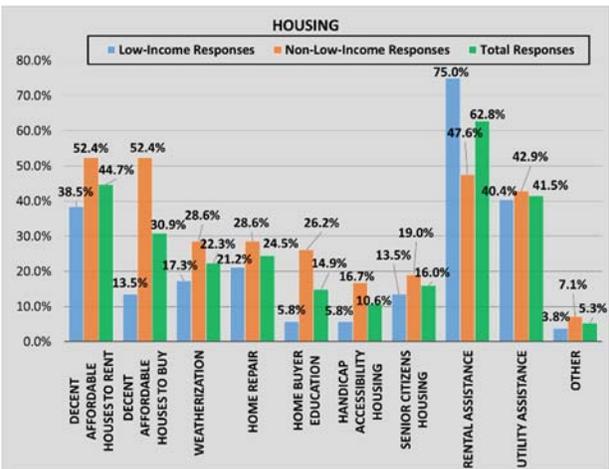
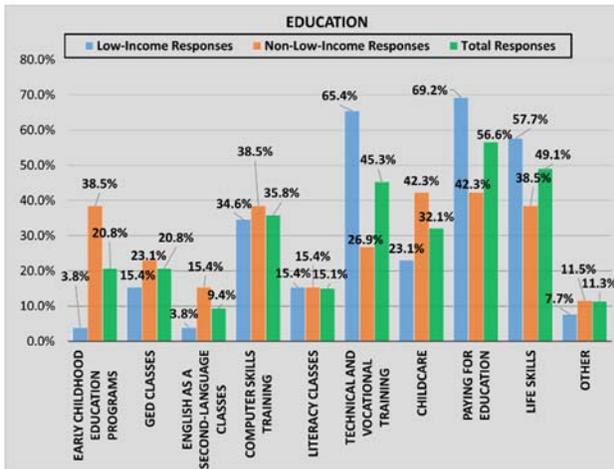
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 220 respondents including 96 low-incomes, 107 non-low-incomes, and 17 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



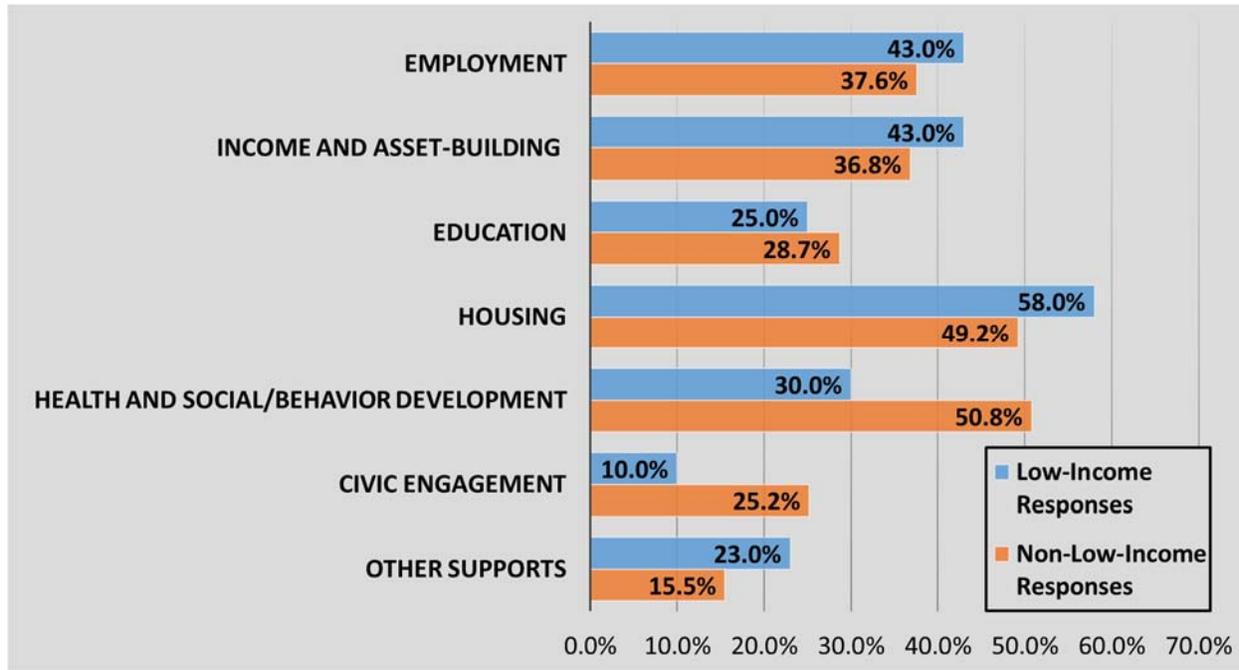
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 96 low-incomes, 107 non-low-incomes, and 220 total respondents including 17 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

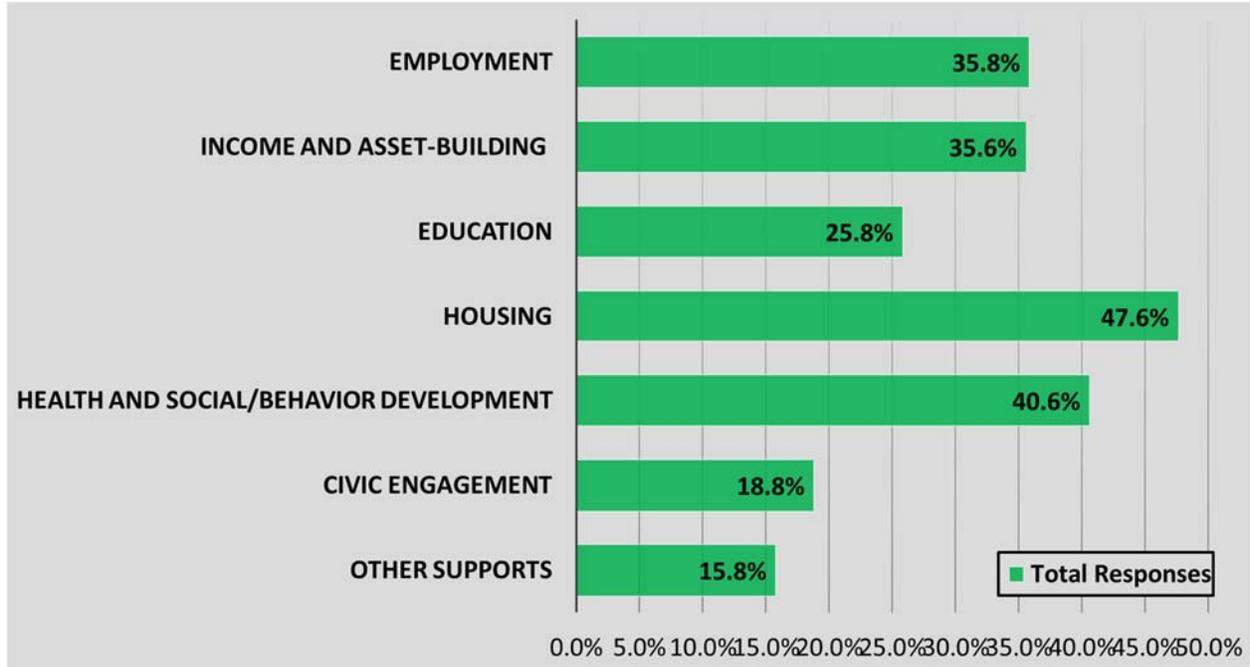




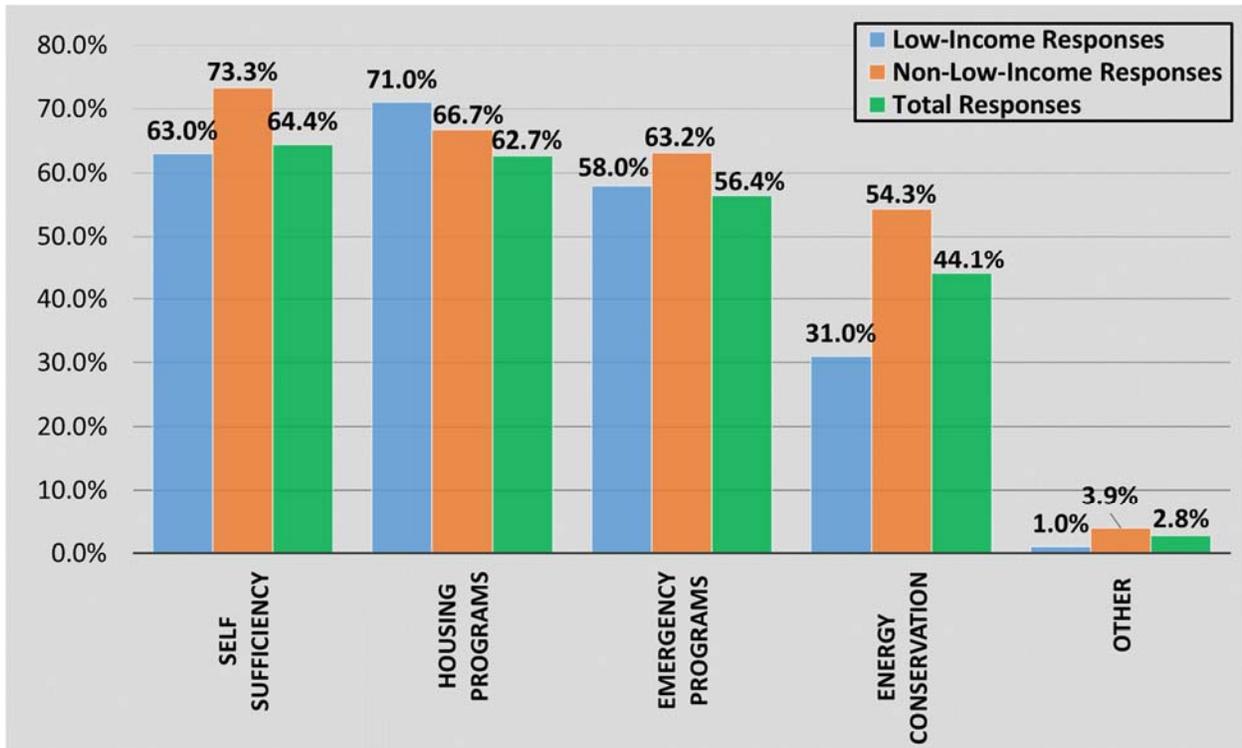
Region 2:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 100 identified low-incomes and 258 non-low-incomes)

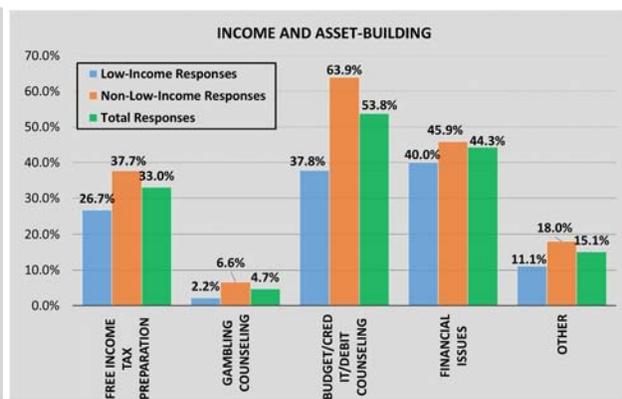
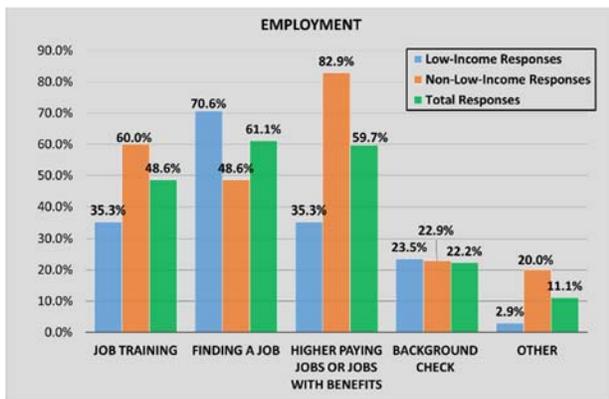


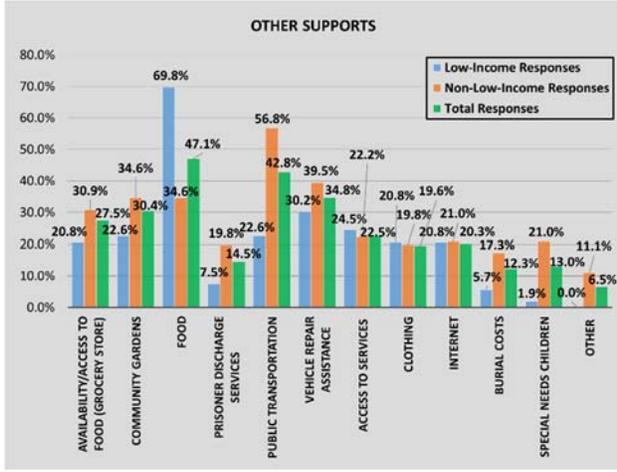
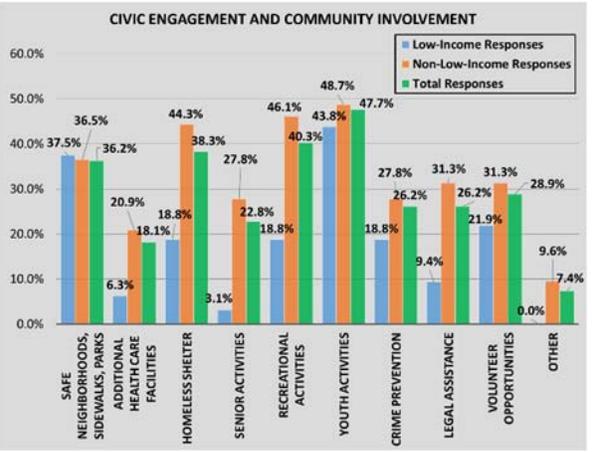
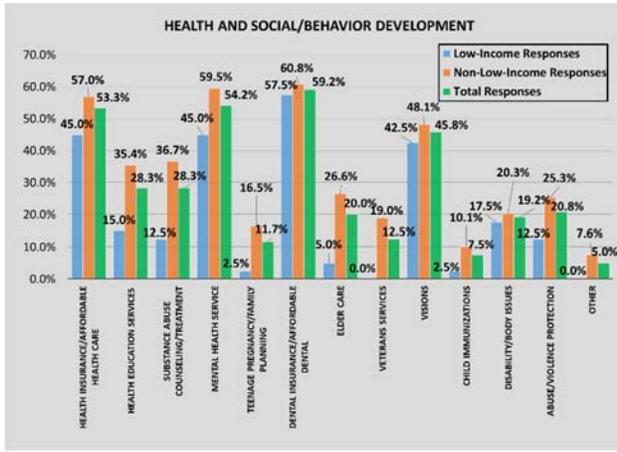
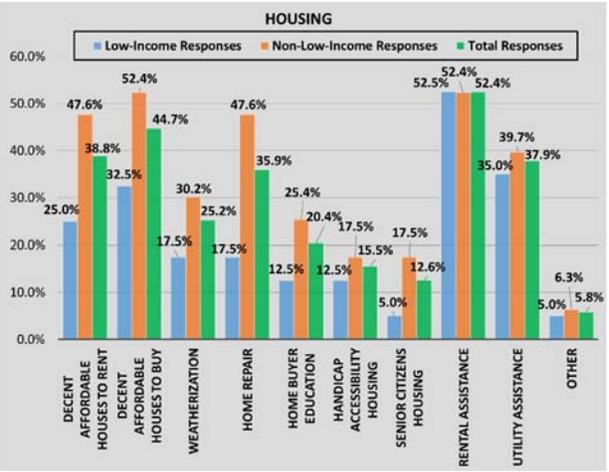
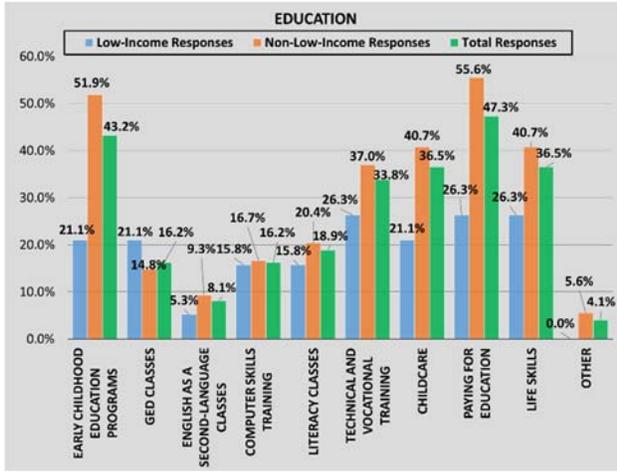
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 399 respondents including 100 low-incomes, 258 non-low-incomes, and 41 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



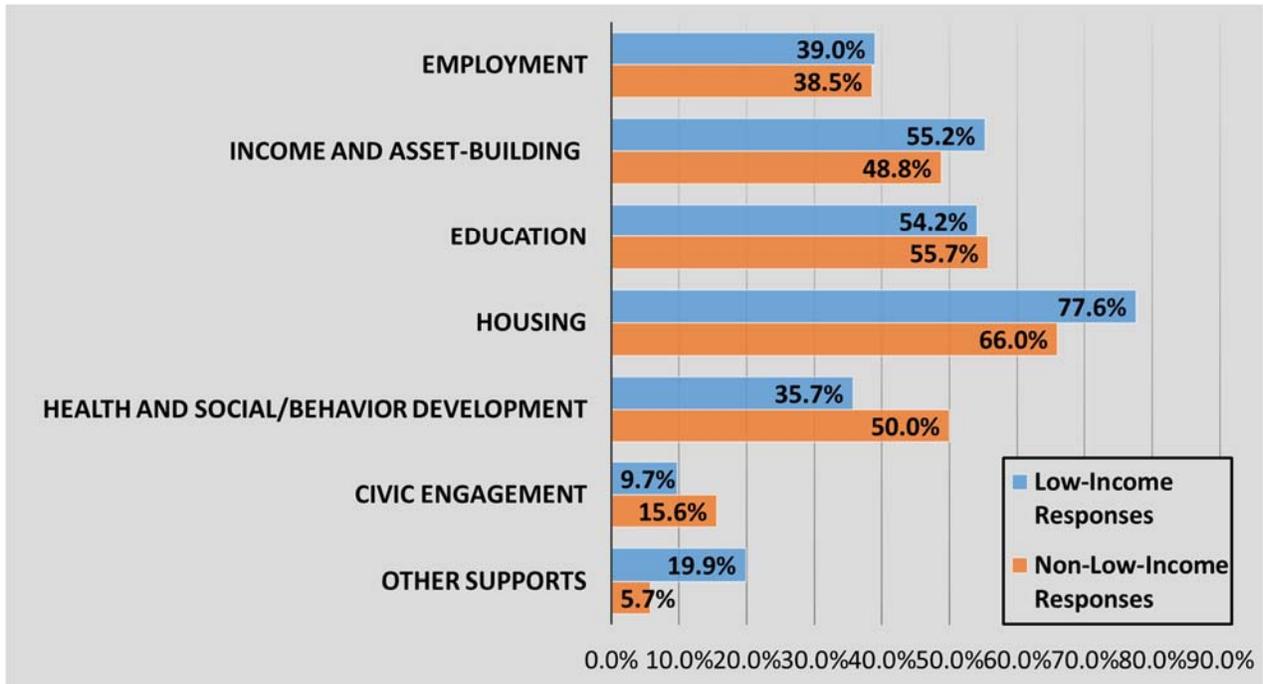
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 100 low-incomes, 258 non-low-incomes, and 399 total respondents including 41 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

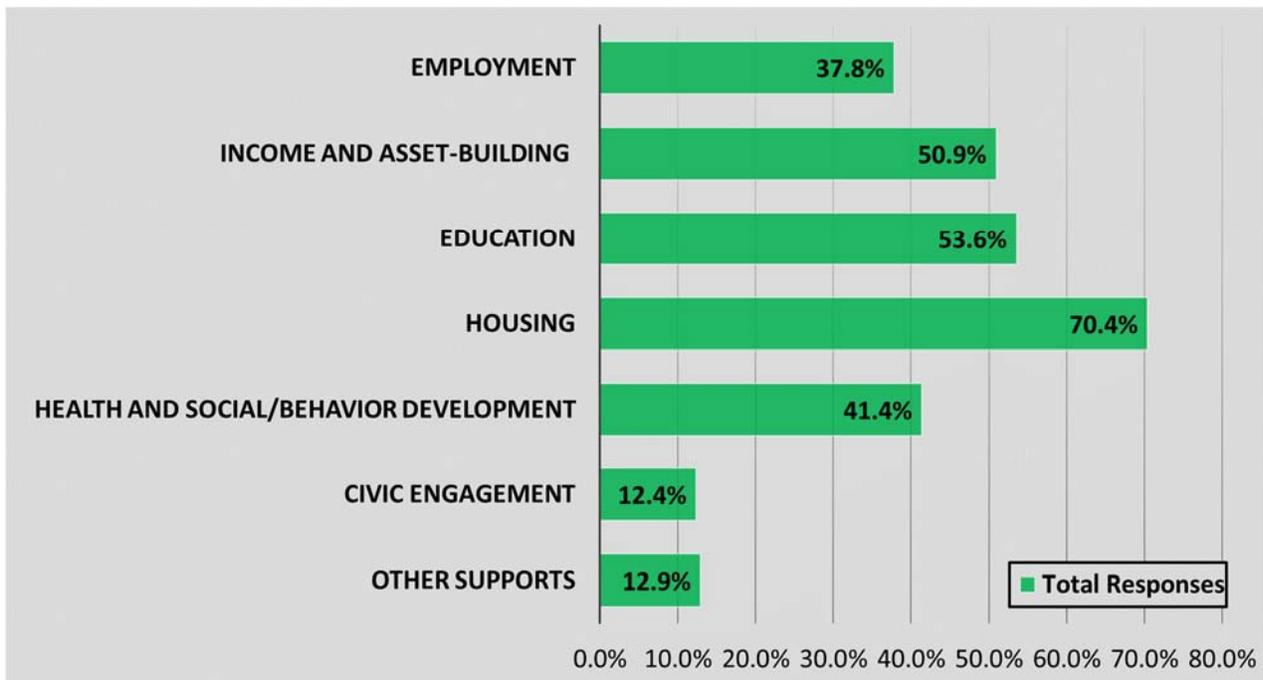




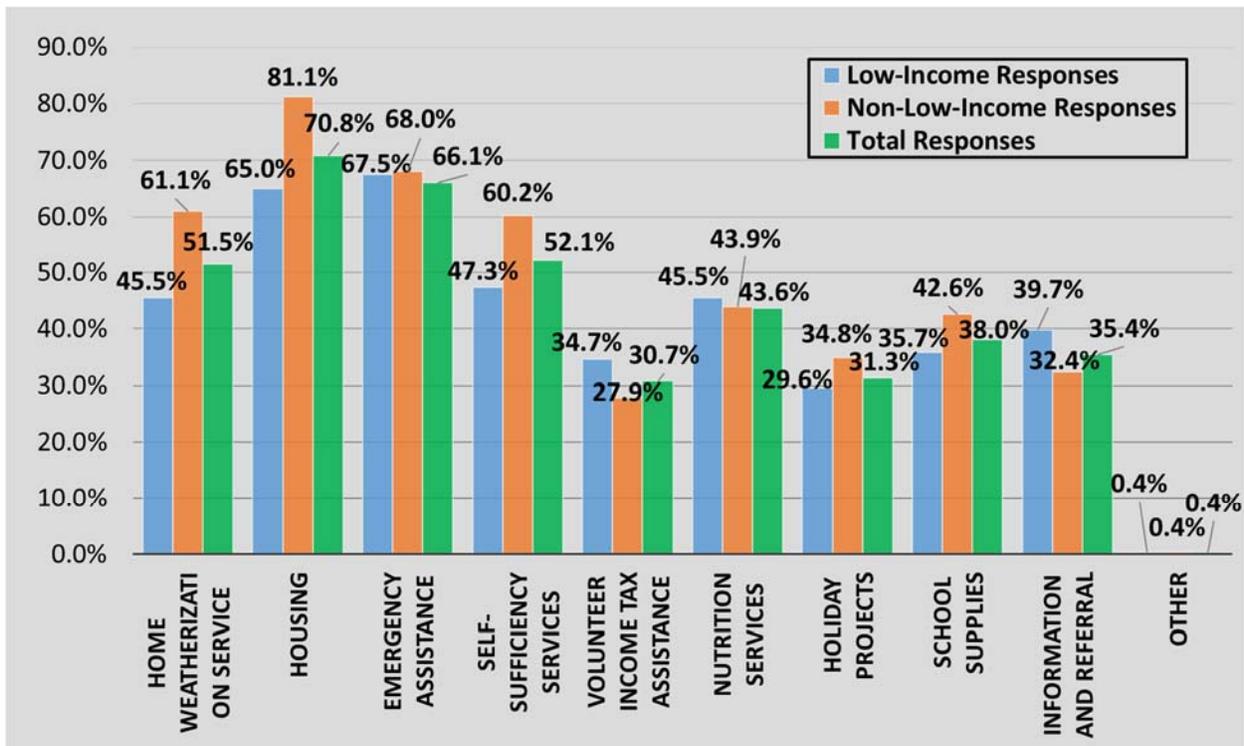
Region 3:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 277 identified low-incomes and 244 non-low-incomes)

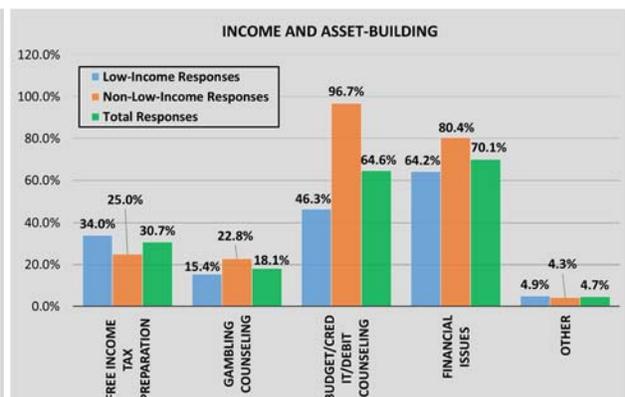
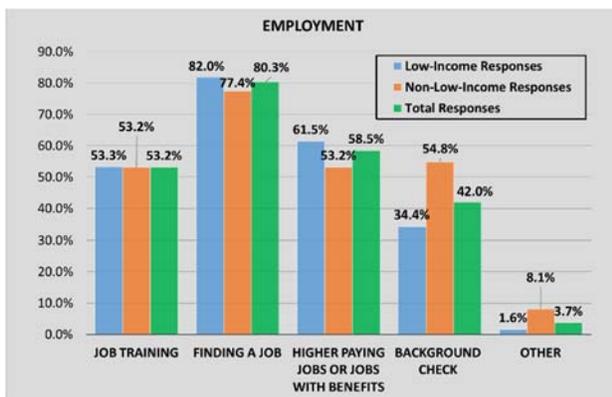


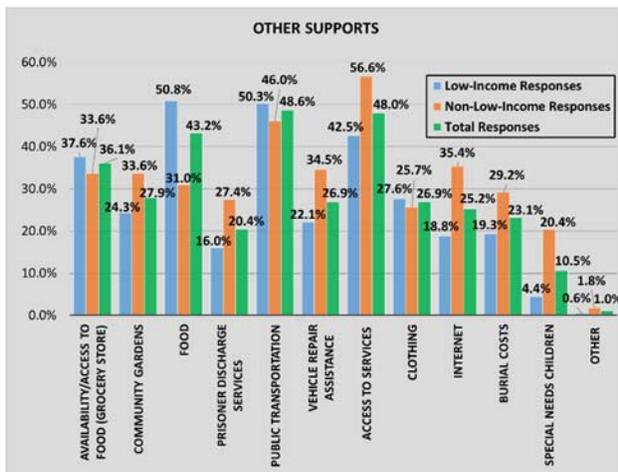
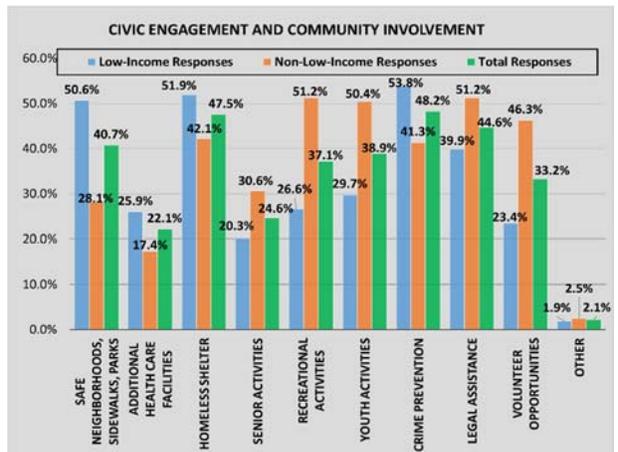
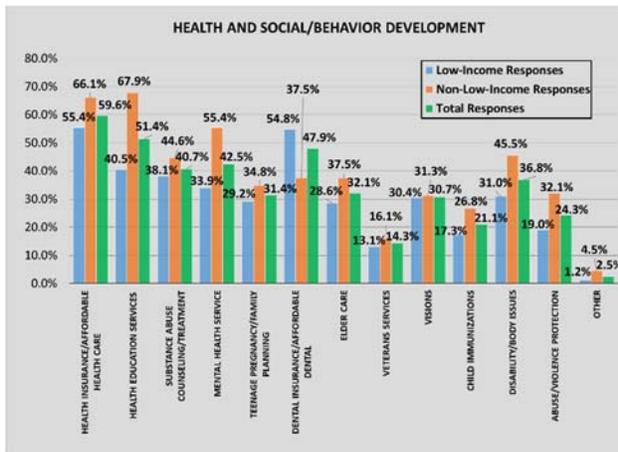
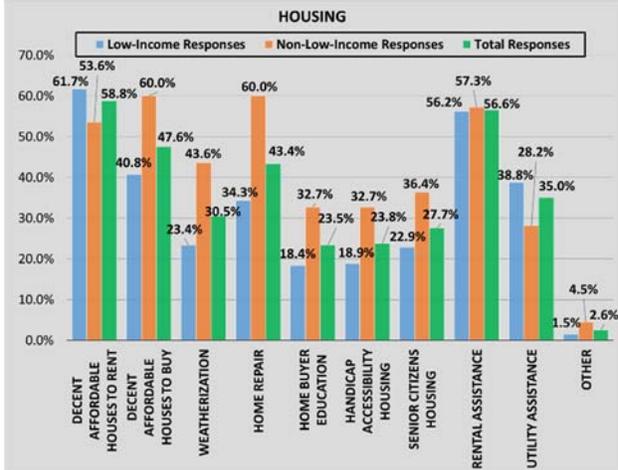
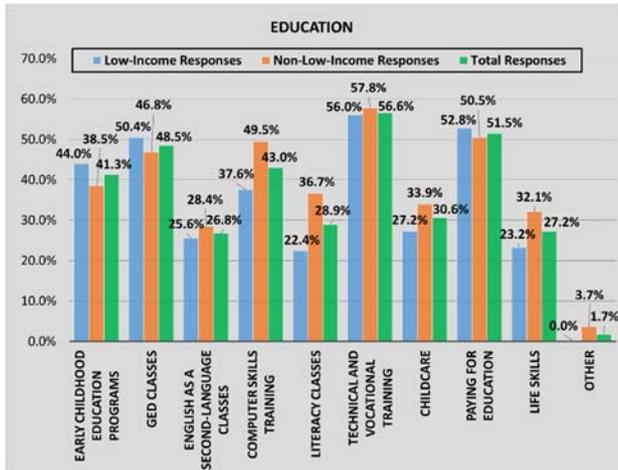
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 534 respondents including 277 low-incomes, 244 non-low-incomes, and 13 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



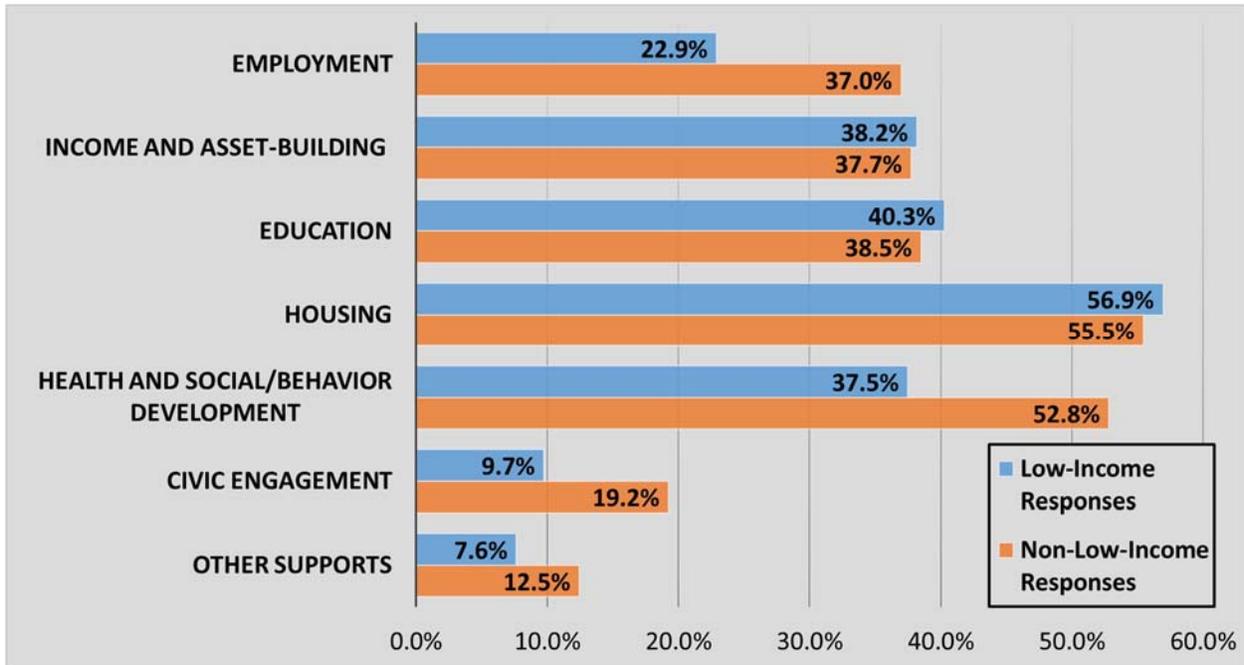
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 277 low-incomes, 244 non-low-incomes, and 534 total respondents including 13 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

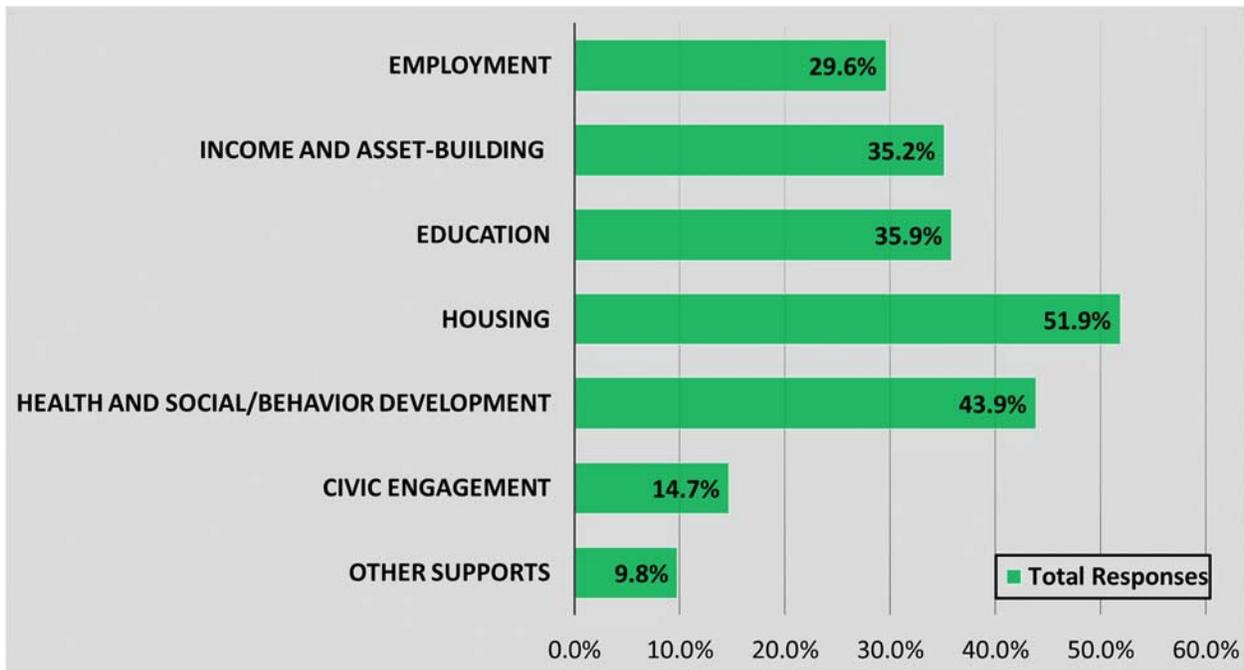




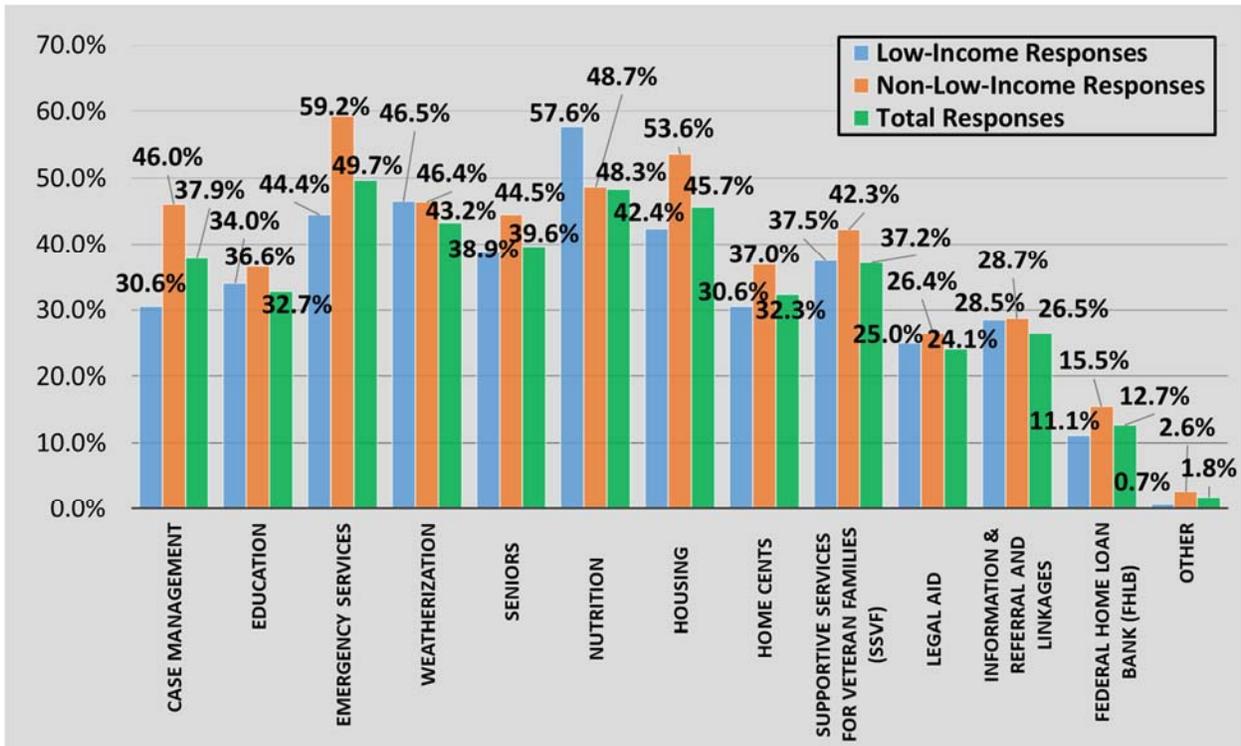
Region 4:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 144 identified low-incomes and 265 non-low-incomes)

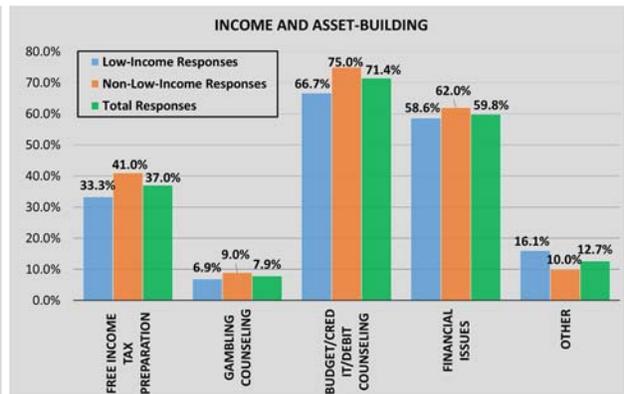
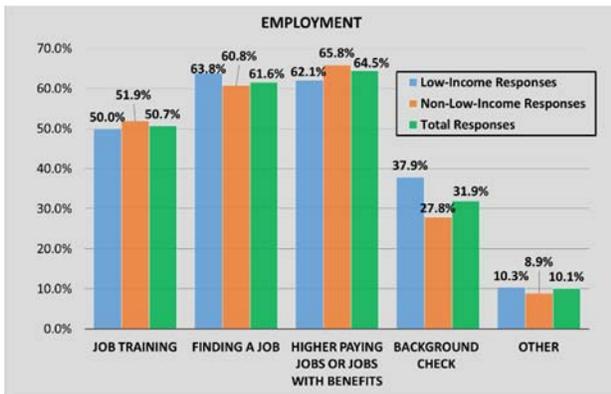


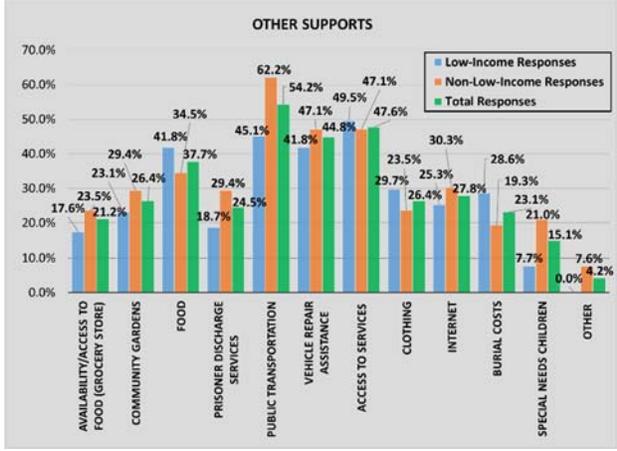
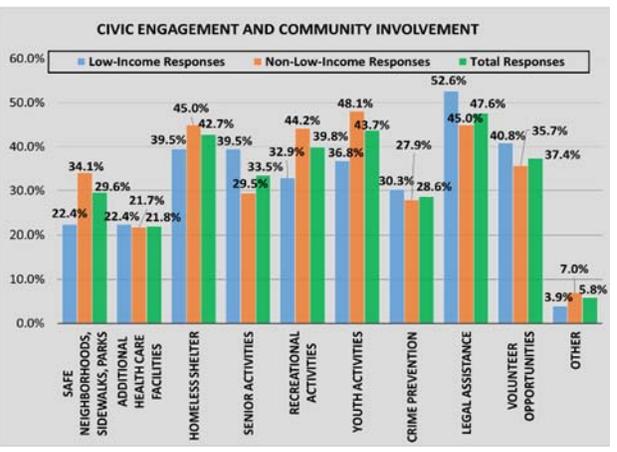
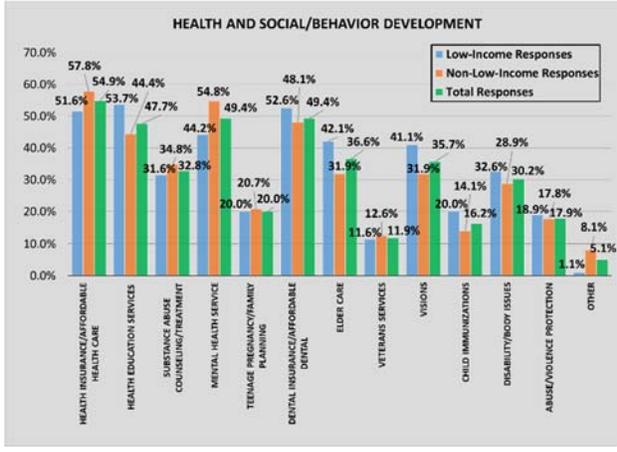
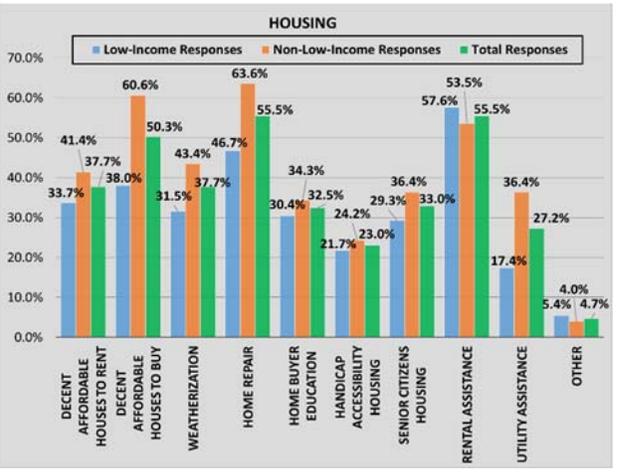
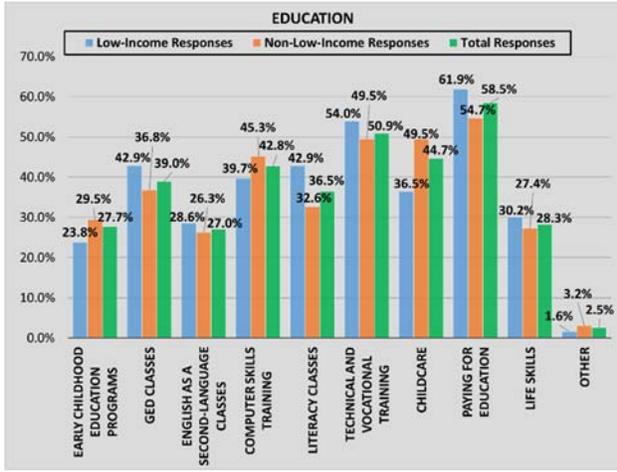
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 449 respondents including 144 low-incomes, 265 non-low-incomes, and 40 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



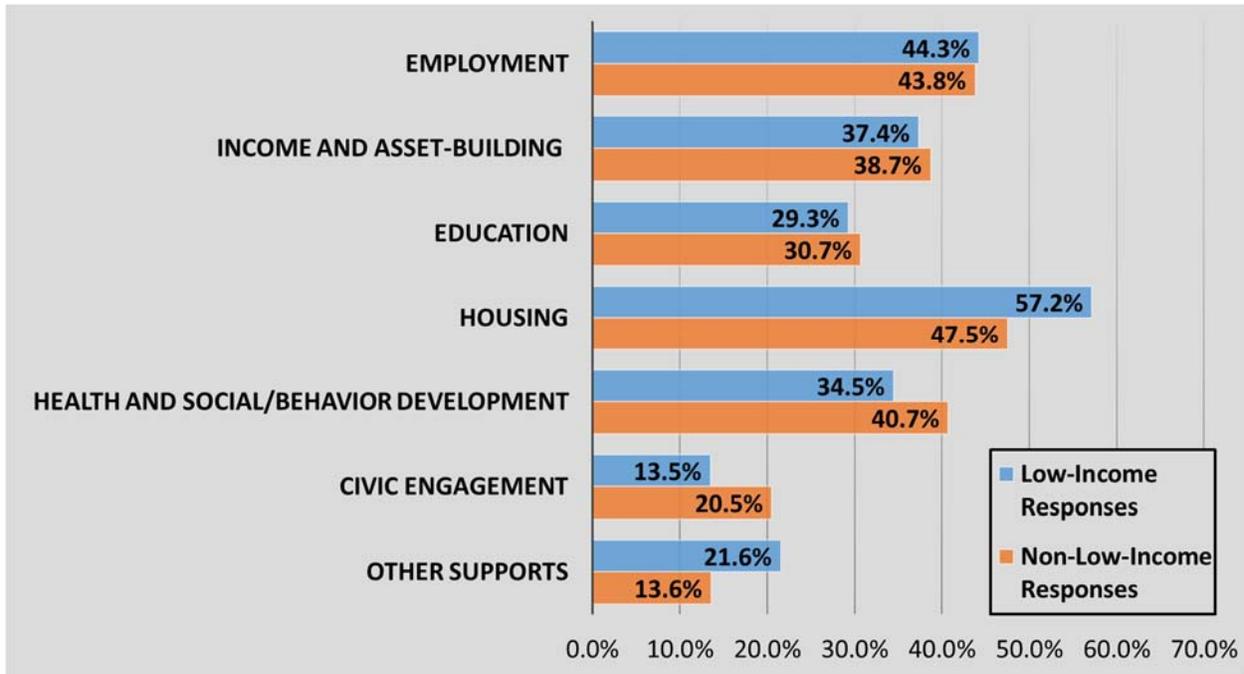
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 144 low-incomes, 265 non-low-incomes, and 449 total respondents including 40 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

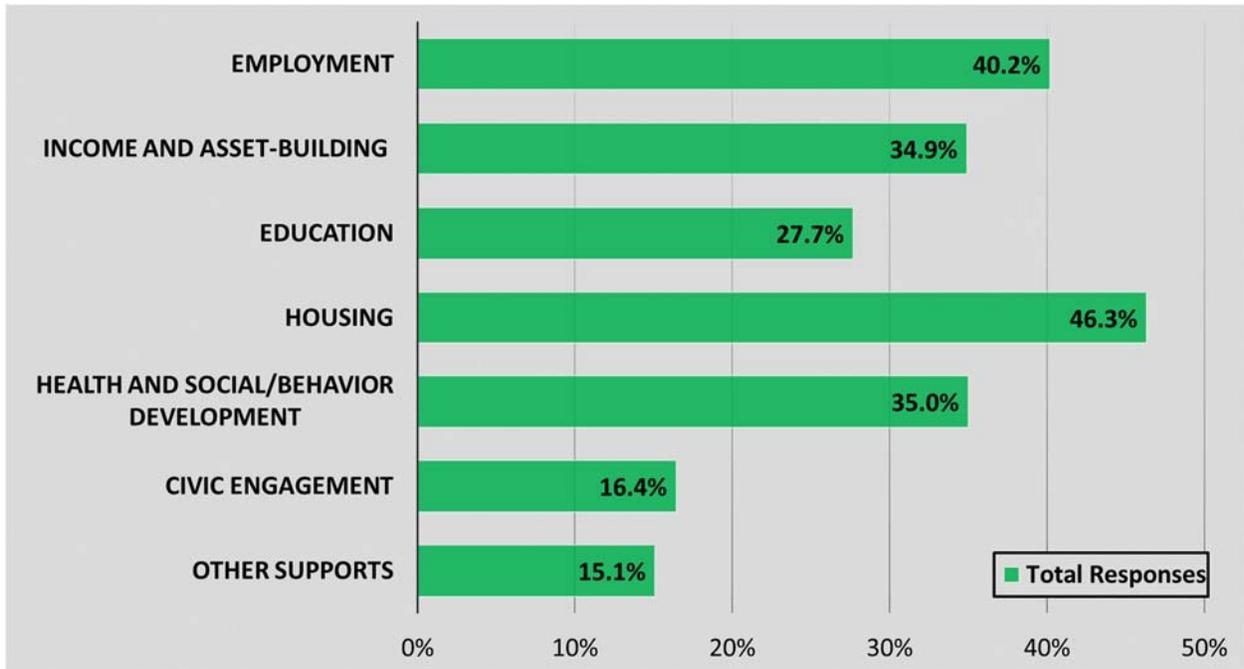




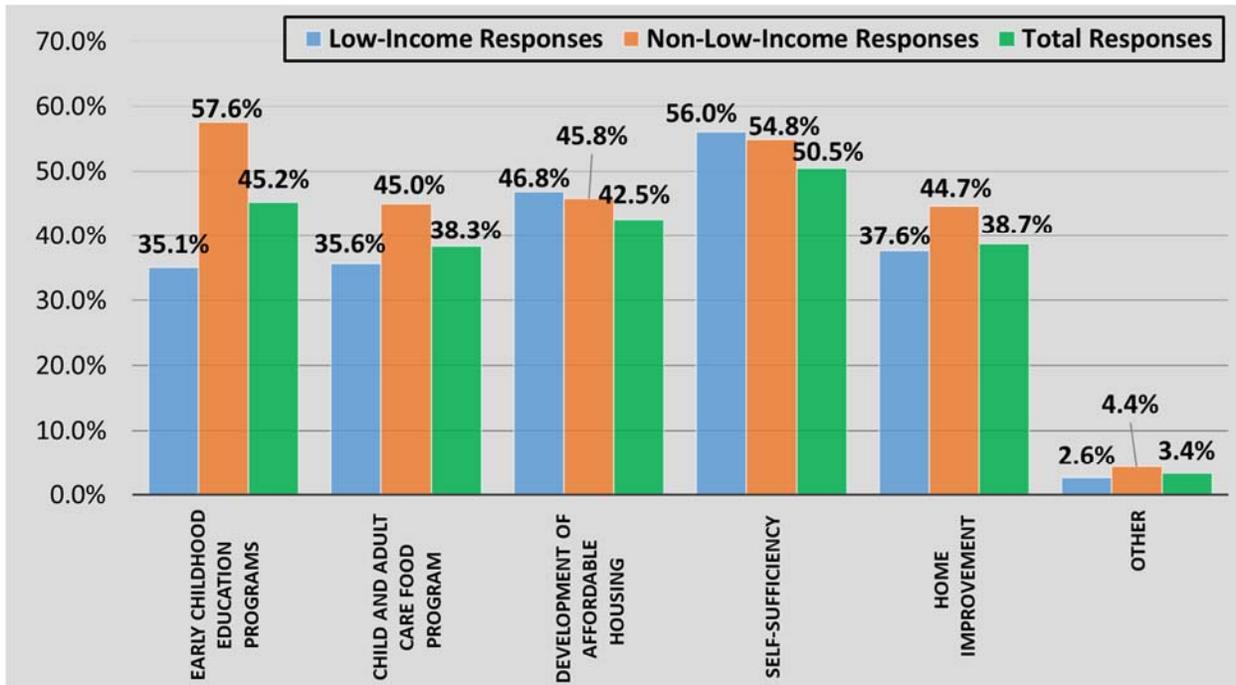
Region 5:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 348 identified low-incomes and 589 non-low-incomes)

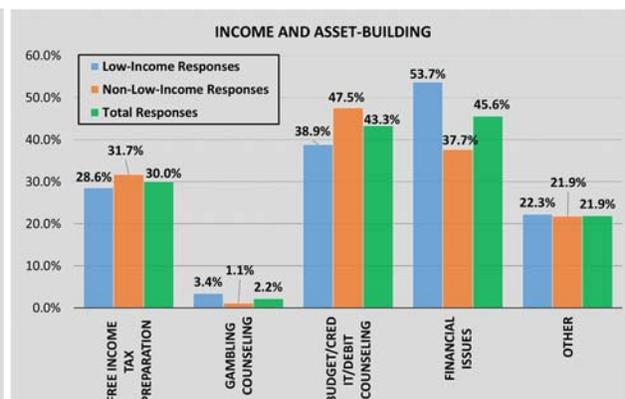
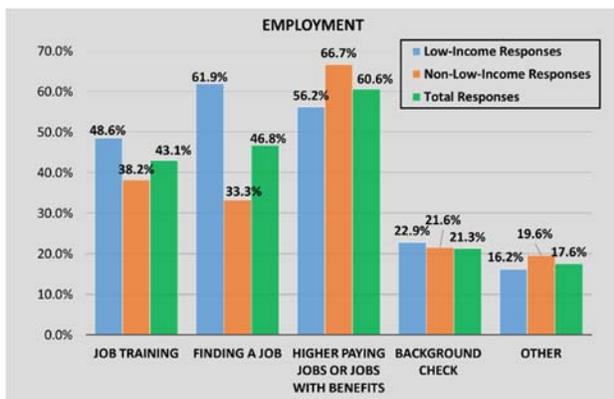


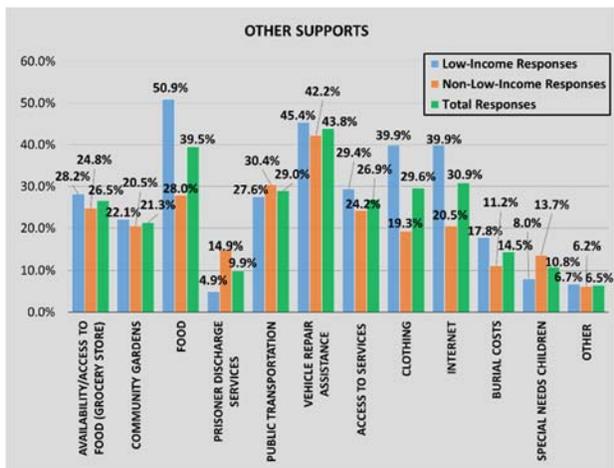
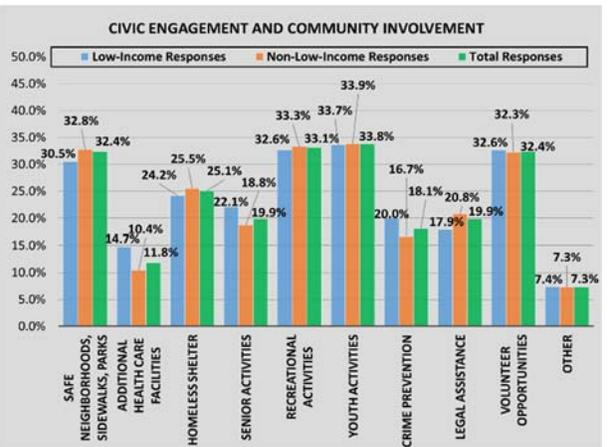
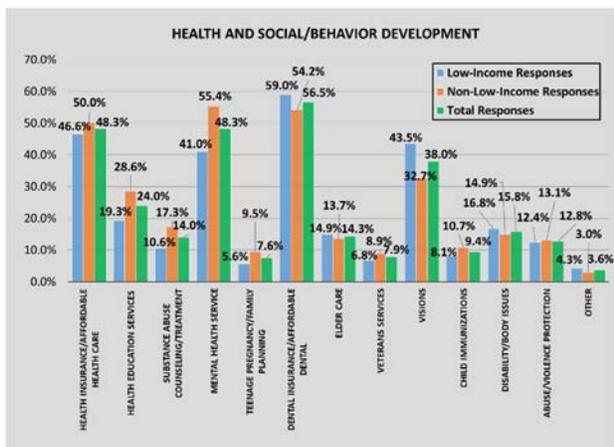
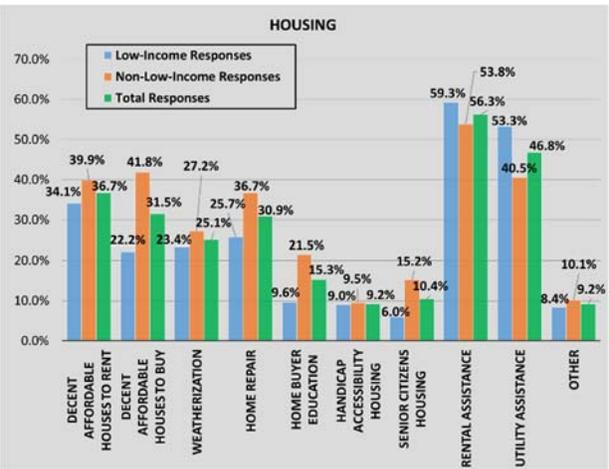
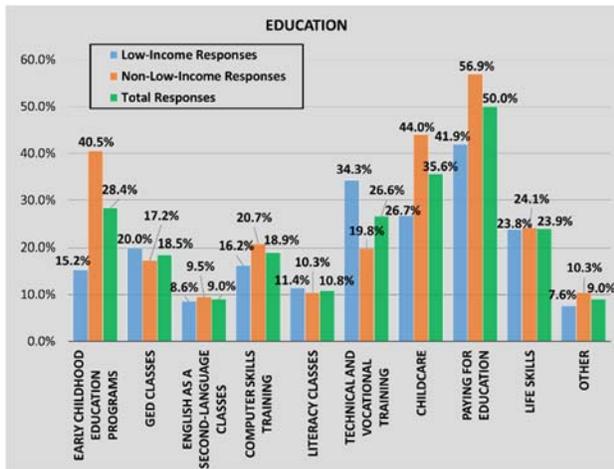
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 1040 respondents including 348 low-incomes, 589 non-low-incomes, and 103 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



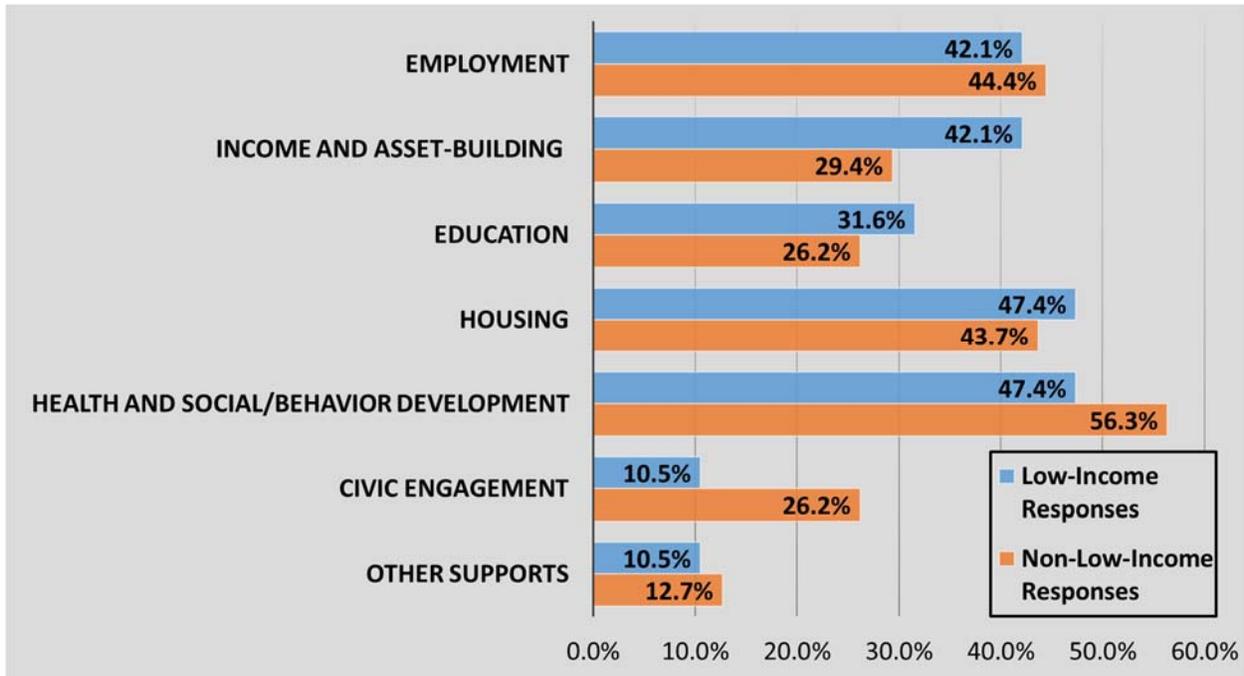
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 348 low-incomes, 589 non-low-incomes, and 1040 total respondents including 103 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

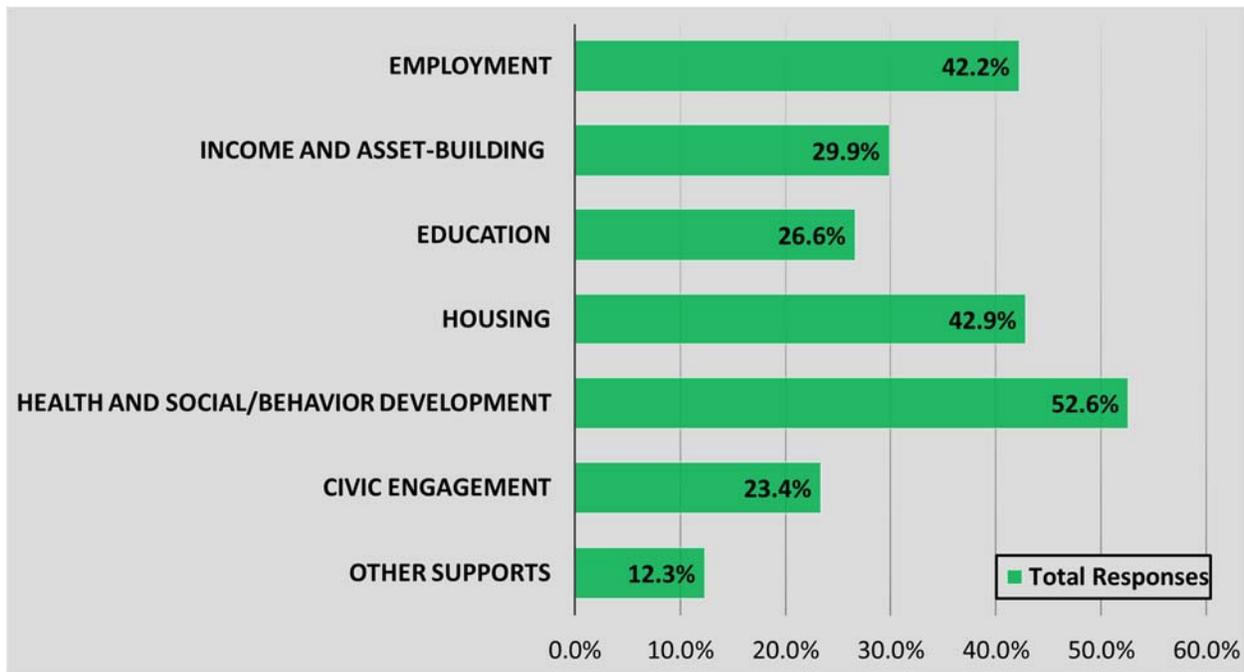




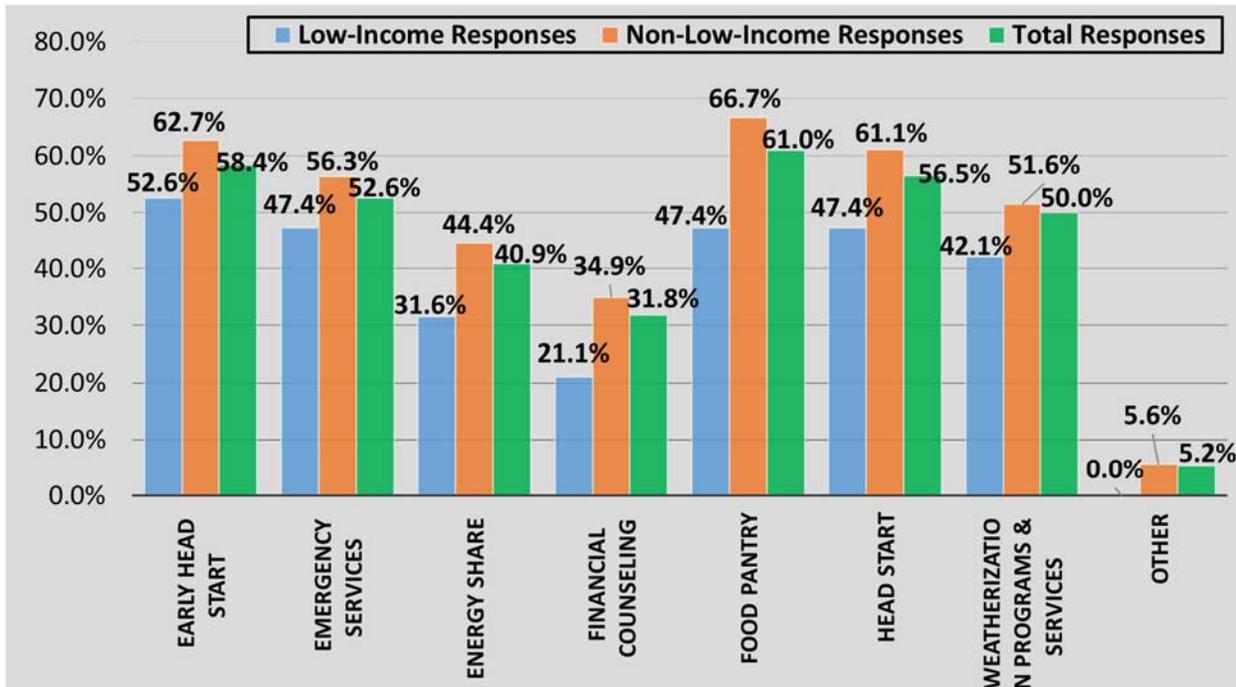
Region 6:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 19 identified low-incomes and 126 non-low-incomes)

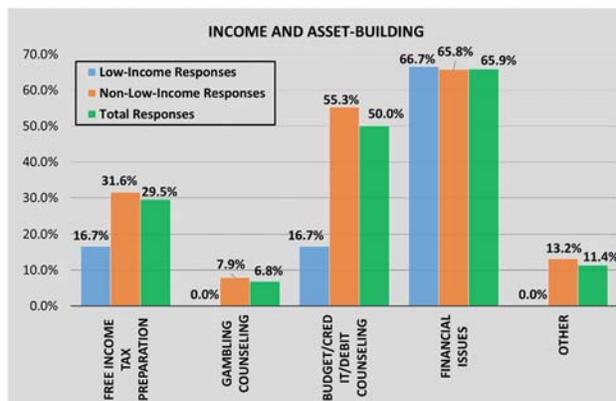
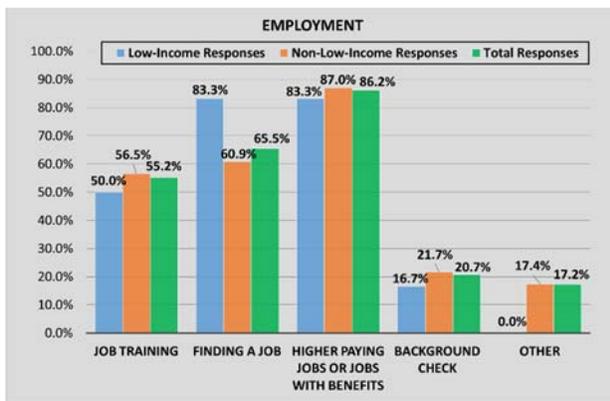


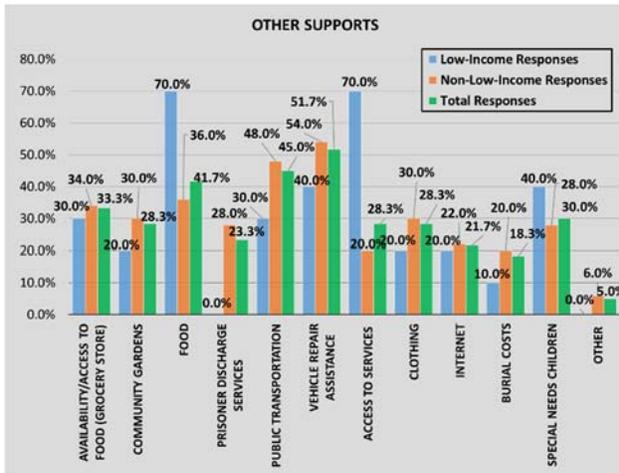
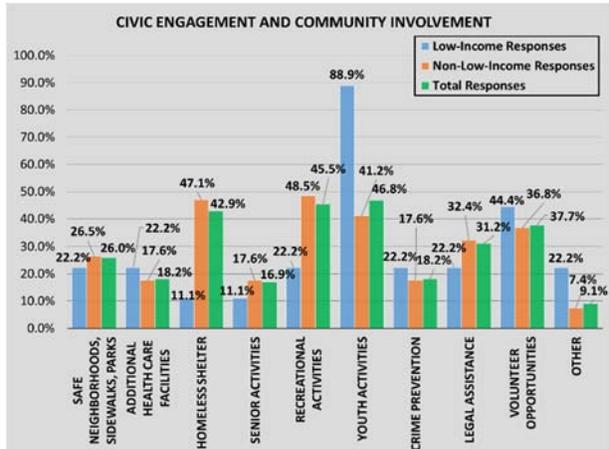
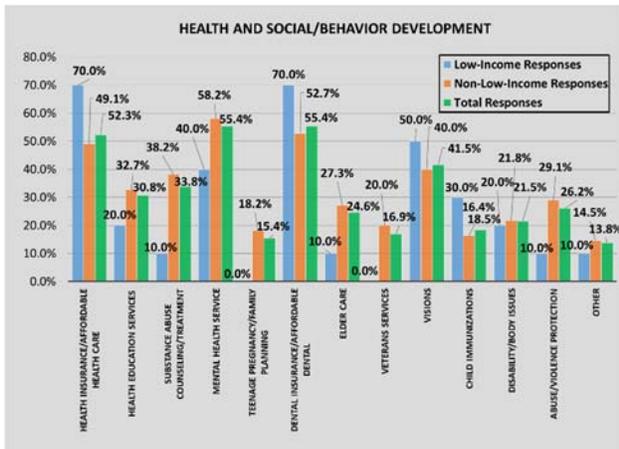
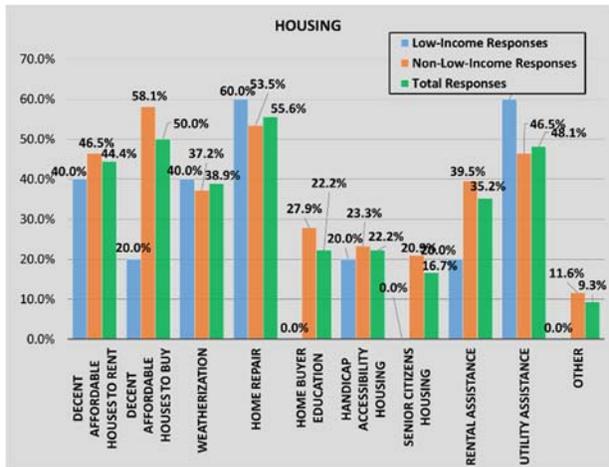
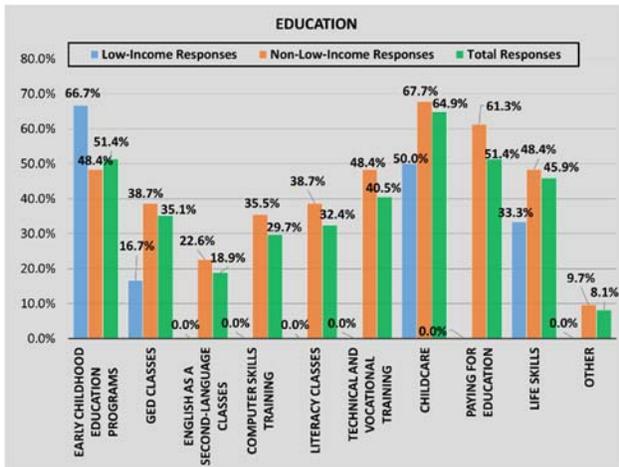
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 154 respondents including 19 low-incomes, 126 non-low-incomes, and 9 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



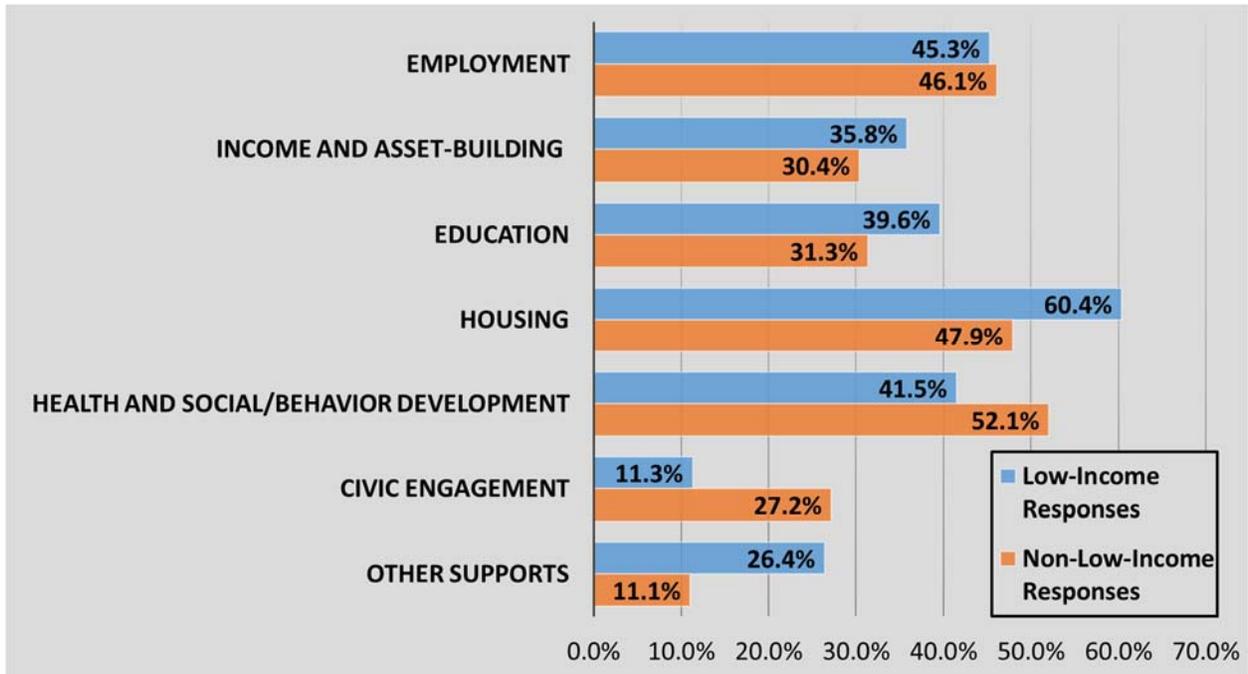
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 19 low-incomes, 126 non-low-incomes, and 154 total respondents including 9 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

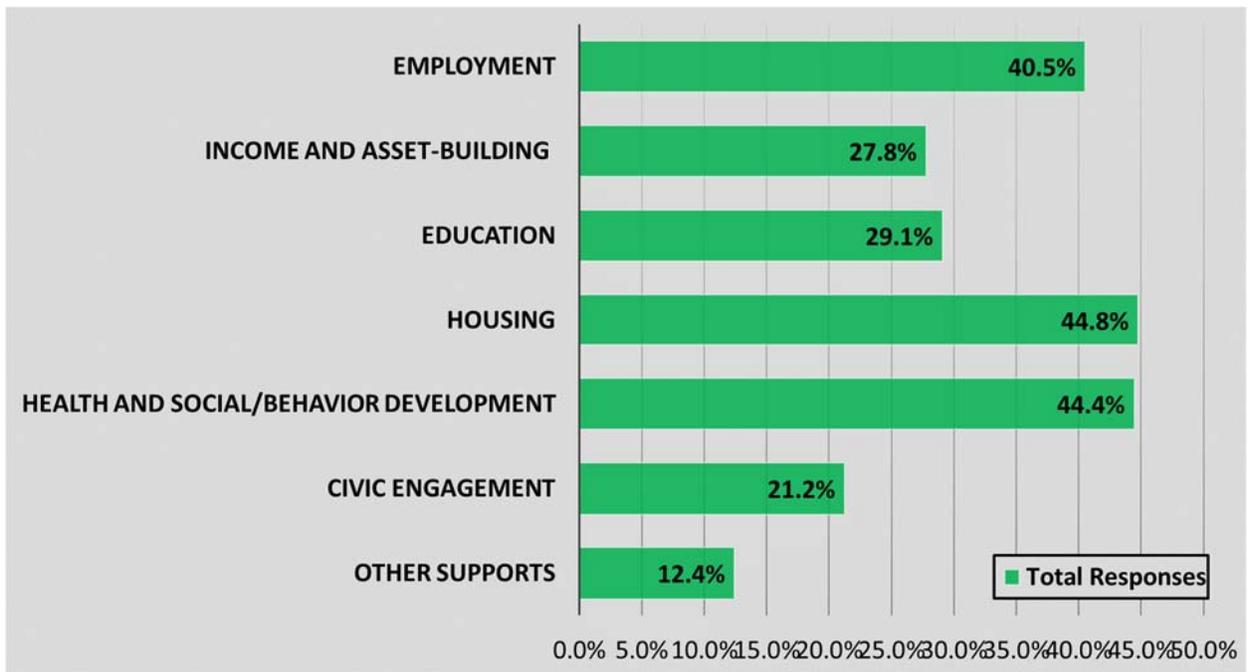




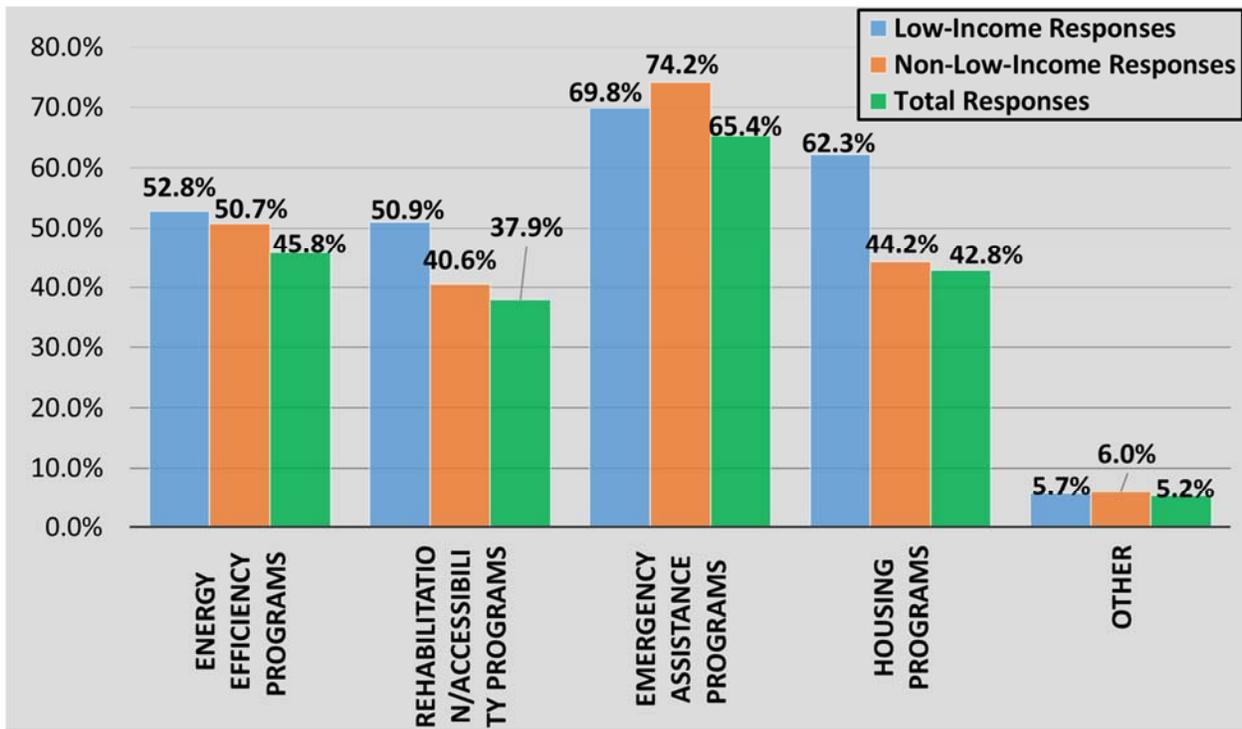
Region 7:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 53 identified low-incomes and 217 non-low-incomes)

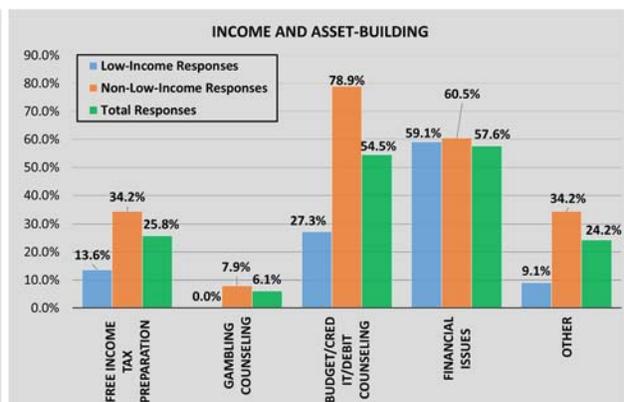
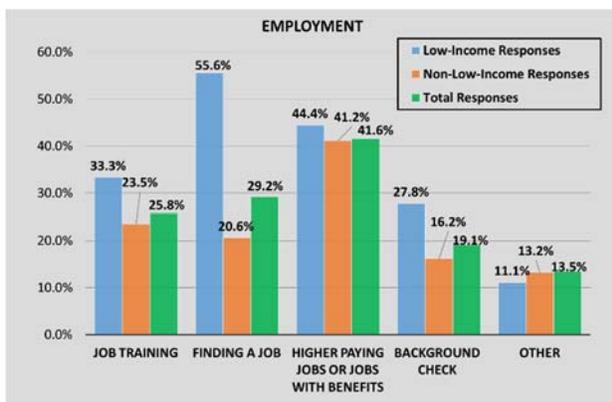


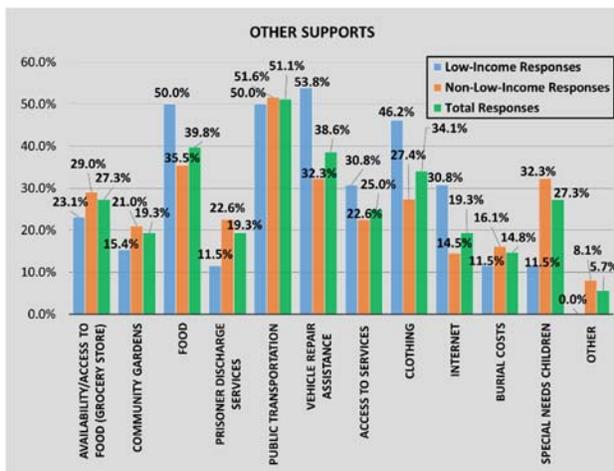
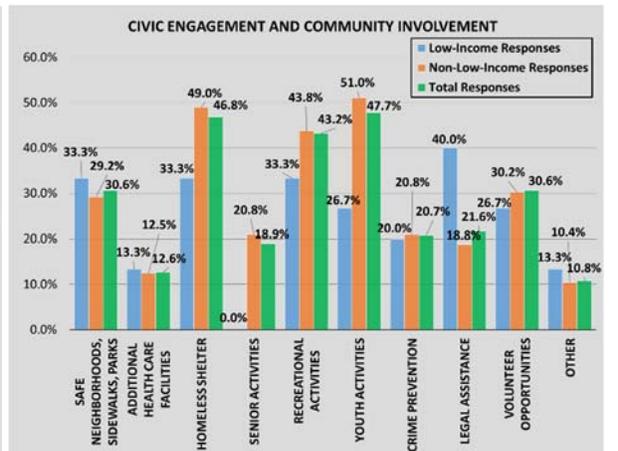
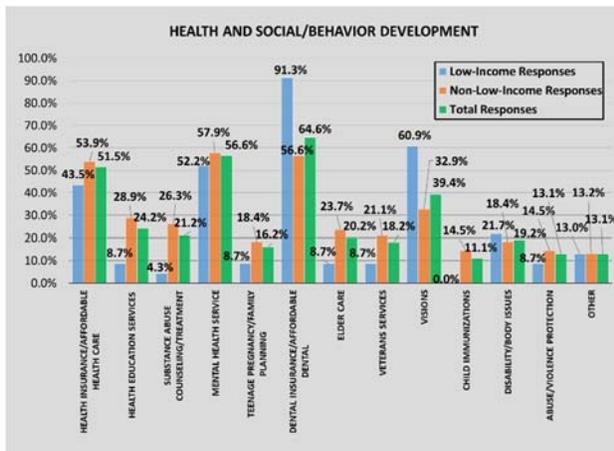
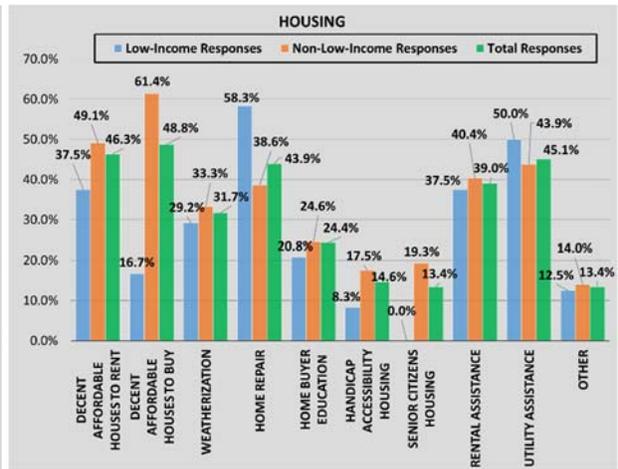
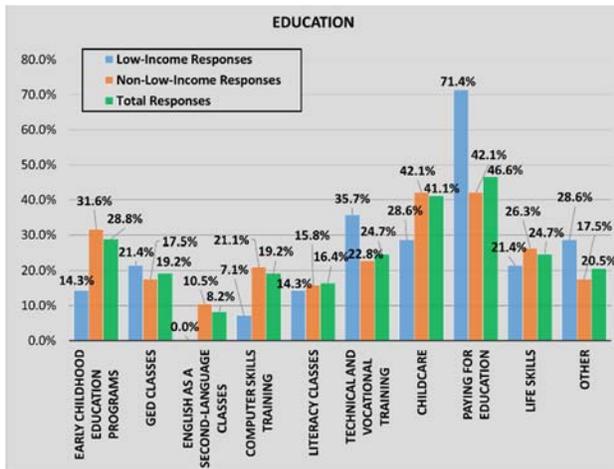
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 306 respondents including 53 low-incomes, 217 non-low-incomes, and 36 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



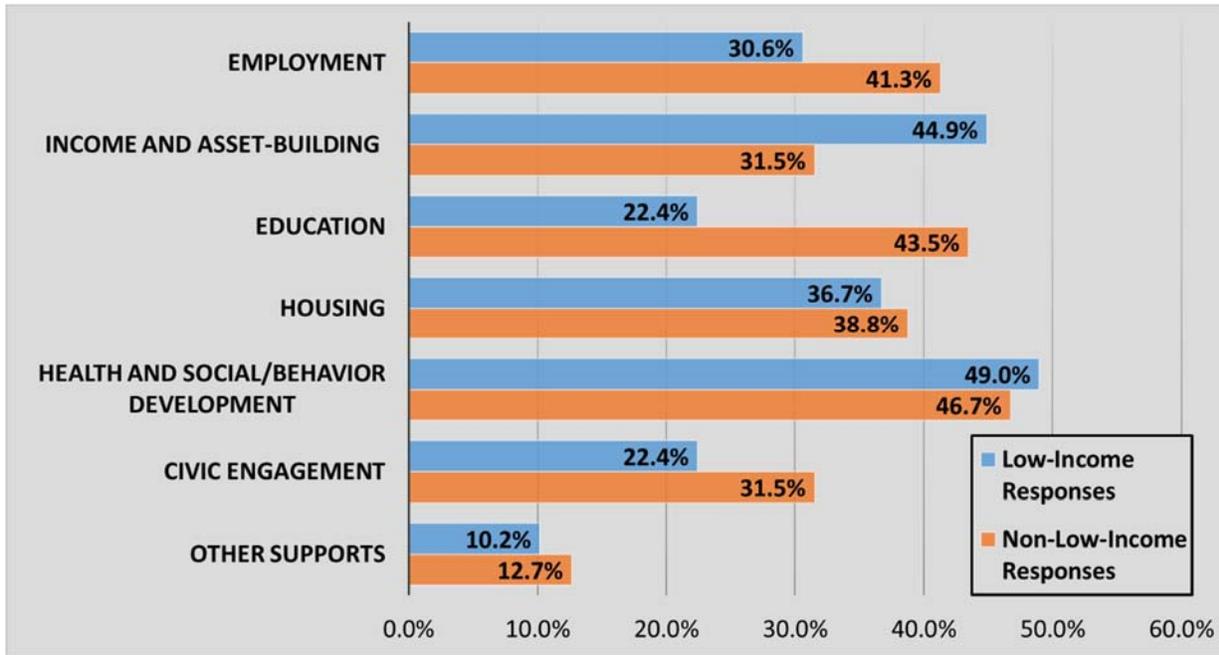
Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 53 low-incomes, 217 non-low-incomes, and 306 total respondents including 36 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:

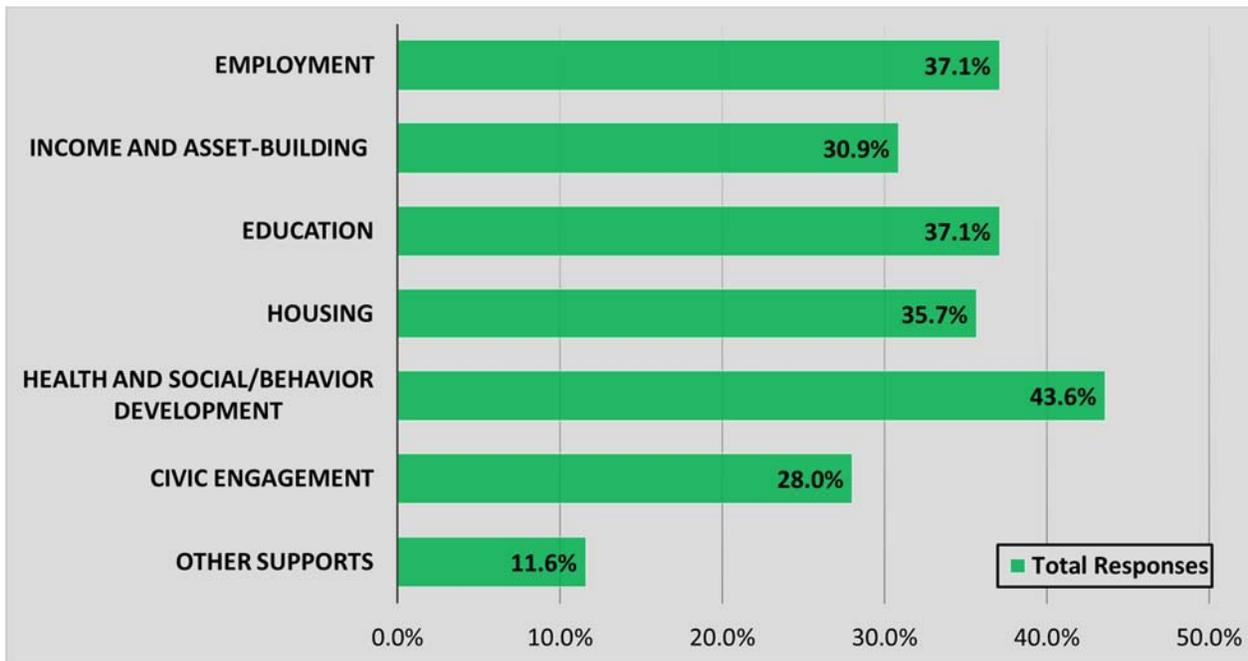




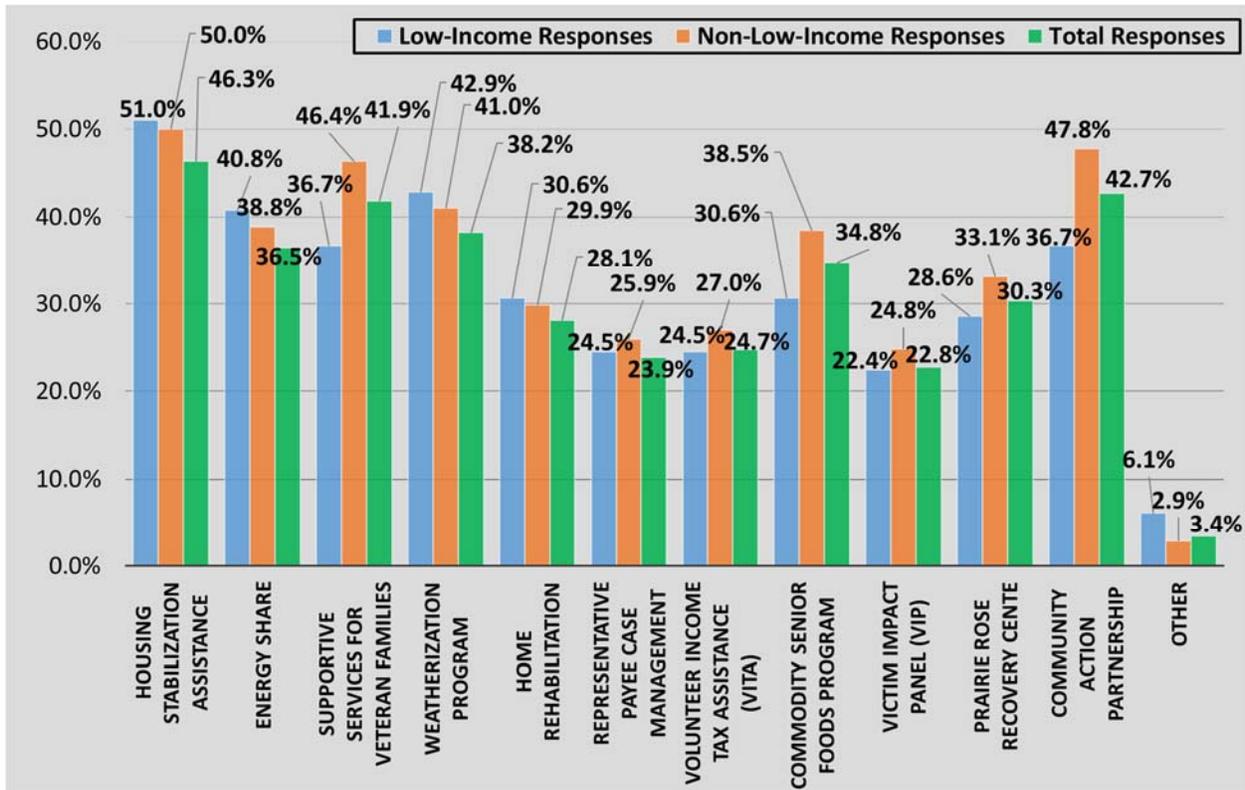
Region 8:



Regional Needs identified from low-income and non-low-income respondents (based on 49 identified low-incomes and 278 non-low-incomes)

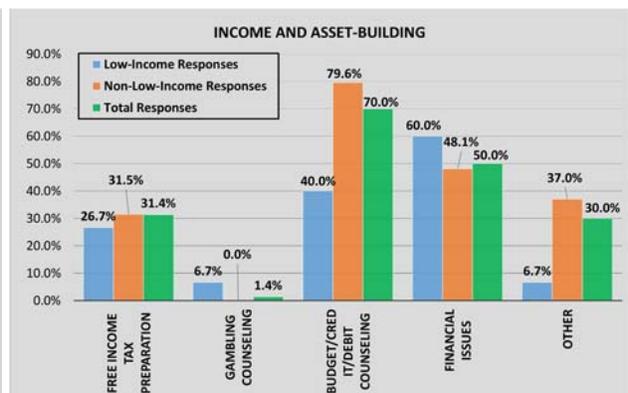
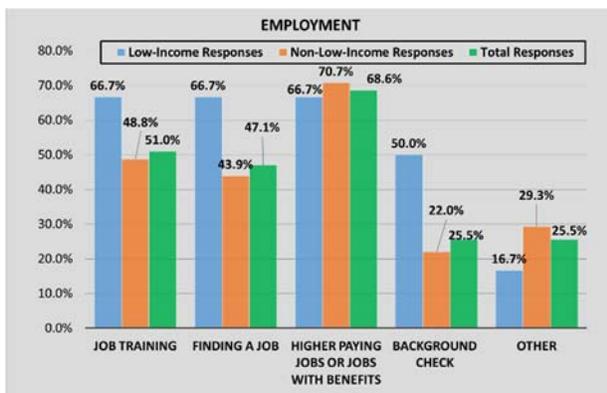


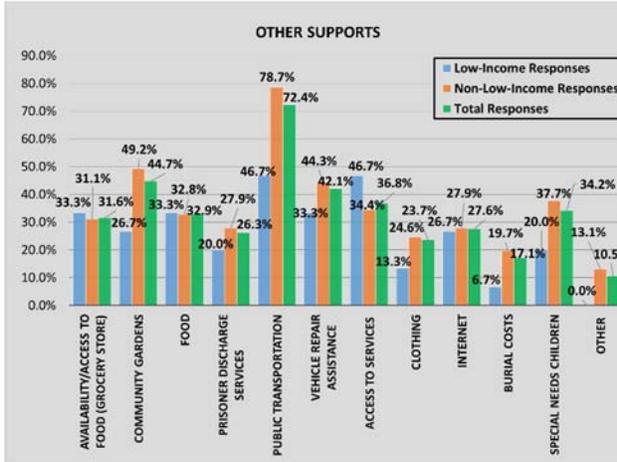
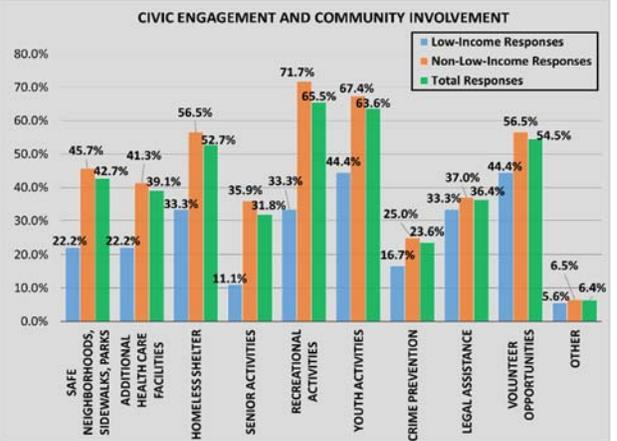
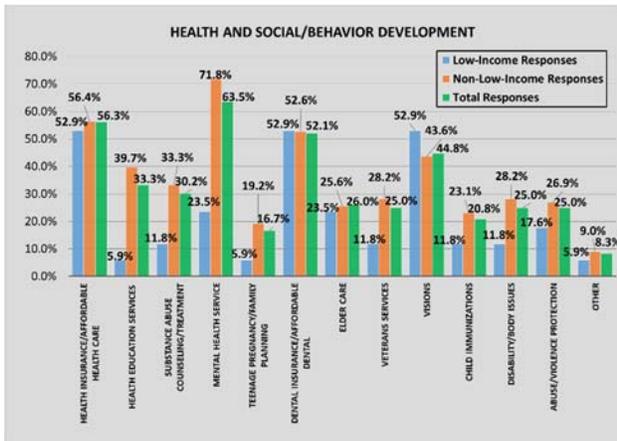
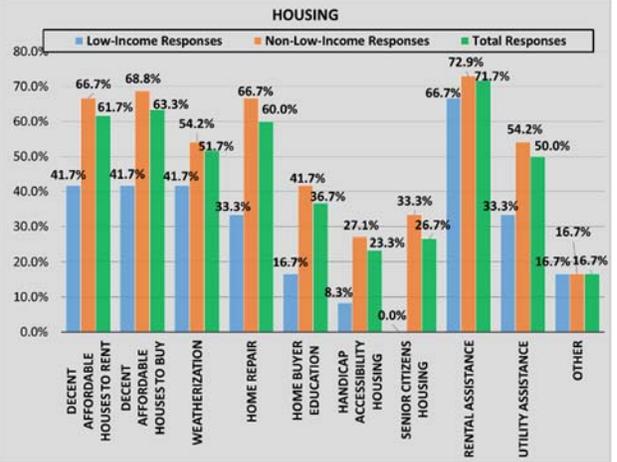
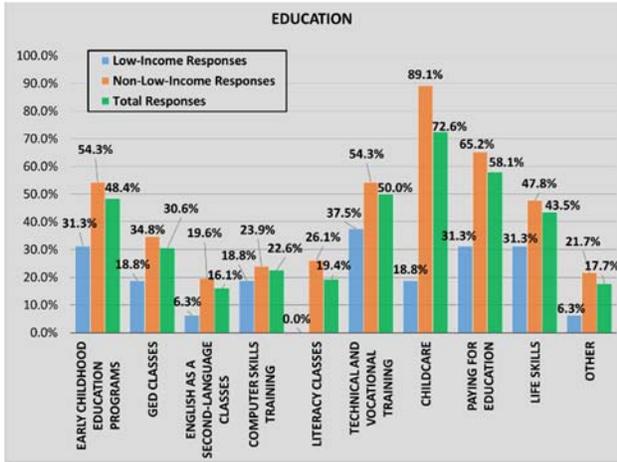
Regional Needs identified from all respondents (based on 356 respondents including 49 low-incomes, 278 non-low-incomes, and 29 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)



Result for Question 2.9: Regional Needs for the current programs/services (based on 49 low-incomes, 278 non-low-incomes, and 356 total respondents including 29 respondents whose roles cannot be identified due to the absence of the basic information entered in Section 1 of the survey)

Specific Needs:





Appendix G: Qualitative Data Collected through Surveys by Region

- indicates responses from low-income people.
- indicates responses from non-low-income people.
- indicates responses from people whose roles cannot be identified.

Region 1

From Section 2.1 Employment
Need gas money for transportation
Need help paying my utility bill
Applicants for job openings in all fields of business.
Job service in this area is overwhelmed and the material to apply for services is horribly written and confusing. When a person requests help they are told that the staff doesn't help with applying for services.
to continue to administer the local Victim Impact Panel class
I am currently looking
Need ID and Social Security Card

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Expenses exceed income (need a job)
Medical
I am misplaced due to a domestic violence situation and I do not have any place to live or stay after Sunday.
Need Assistance with my utility bill
I get \$773 a month and would love to get help to get a place
Need help paying bills.
Home ownership
how to get a decent payraise
rent in this county is too high and I have lived here since 1984.
Help paying my rent
House repairs
how to get out of debt
social security been short every year
traveling for doctor
Rent

From Section 2.3 Education
Need Assistance with utility bill
Need help with rent bad I'm almost backed up 3 months and need immediate help
free classes for excel/WIN 10

From Section 2.4 Housing
electrical issues
weatherization done.
McKenzie County needs more affordable homes for single parents in non-oilfield positions. McKenzie County has put money towards the golf course, Rough Rider Center, and other projects while ignoring the housing crisis. Many hardworking families are living in terrible apartments with workers who work

rotating shifts, party all night, and track dirt and mud in buildings where families with small children live. The need for single family homes under \$200k has been ignored by community professionals.
Need to transfer to fargo for living
talk to anybody on how realistic it would be to buy a house with USDA with little to no down payment

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
paying for medicines and prescriptions
I need ankle prosthesis removed from left ankle and either a new one put in or the bones fused. I cannot afford to go back to Minneapolis for this now, I have to wait until next summer to save for this, because I have to take someone with me to pay for their food and hotel, to drive me back. I am progressively becoming more unable to walk. bone spurs are forming. The Dr in Minneapolis said the Seattle Dr used the wrong hardware. The Minneapolis Dr. is world renowned, teaches this procedure 1000's of times- J. Chris Coetzee. So next summer I will go have the big surgery and be out of work for 6-8 weeks.
Medical service availability. Appointments are scheduled at least 3 weeks out, at a minimum. Emergency care has to be utilized for minor health issues.

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
If people continue to volunteer, what are they living on?
Just rent and utilities
Mental Health for adults or children facilities.....basic care facilities
Schools needed
Youth mentoring programs for Teens

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Need help bad with rental assistance before I get evicted
1. A grocery store with FRESH produce that isn't bruised, damaged in transit, or moldy. 2. A grocery store with affordable prices that are not inflated due to the oil business. 3. A chain store where families can buy diapers, wipes, clothing, etc for their children. 4. More affordable internet services- \$80/month for faulty internet is an injustice when 10 years ago in Nevada I was paying \$20 for consistent/ faster than what I have now speeds.
Public educational needs, such as facilities and teachers.

From Section 2.9 Local Program
It is so expensive to set up a house. I suggest you put together "kits" i.e. sets of towels, shower curtain, broom, mop, dish cloths, silverware, cleaning supplies, etc.
State and country government needs to apply housing allowances for their employees who live in the oil industry and don't get oil industry income. Very hard to make it on just their income, employees out in these counties usually have to carry two to three jobs to make it. Especially if single household.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
Housing for veterans
I just hope somehow you guys can help I just got another 3 day to evict and I need it as soon as we can
Schools, hospital needs, doctors, help for homeless
The local cost of living is high so national income guidelines are not indicative of needs for community members.
A bigger diversity of retail stores ... we shouldn't need to drive to Minot for shoes etc.
Communication and create nice social environment.

Region 2

From Section 2.1 Employment
Home modifications
ESL teacher, need reliable internet access
Community needs employers willing to give applicants with past felony charges / addiction issues a second look, as rehabilitation and recovery can only be successful if there is hope for self-sufficiency. Also needs to be more supports for those who have limited job skills and social skills. Job services used to provide, but are limited now.
Employment for Felons.
For community, not self
Many of the people I see in my role at a community direct services organization have backgrounds that would prohibit them from housing or employment, additionally childcare is a huge obstacle. Training opportunities are needed to enhance their skills and fill needed roles in our community.
short term assistance
There is a need for work with employers who will hire people with criminal backgrounds. There is a need for vocational education.

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Bill payment not enough to cover everything
Need assistance to build wheel chair ramp
Need help in getting a wheelchair ramp built
Trying to find housing, I have low credit scores and need safer housing environment other than this hotel
Heavily burdened by student loans.
Need to be able to work from home
Closing cost troubles on new home
Community resources for rental/utility (other than heat/electric) assistance shrinking and/or have wait lists. Community members unaware of credit counseling resources available to them free of charge.
For community, not self
Help with student loans
medical bills
Mentoring for money management skills
planning for retirement
reduced income due to covid infection
Rent Assistance

From Section 2.3 Education
For community, not self
These are all ongoing needs in our community. Some are already being addressed but remain a need because of the underutilization of services that are available.

From Section 2.4 Housing
Behind on utilities and rent
Help with rental agencies, need more laws that are specifically for rental companies, and agencies who get away with complaints.
Community has been working on providing more affordable housing, but a ways to go yet. Family homeless shelter in the works, which is good, but there are a lot of displaced families piecing together places to live with few prospects for long term housing.

For community, not self
This state needs stronger laws to protect tenants
Utility assistance with over due bills.

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
Mental Health to rural areas. Senior health home visiting nurses.
Cost of health insurance is a challenge and sometime limits utilizing medical services.
For community, not self
Many of our children and adults continue to go without healthcare. Families can't afford and make to much money for certain programs but are still low income. Make choices of eating, rent, etc or healthcare.
Very few dentists who take Medicaid. Increasing number of mental health providers, but not enough who take Medicaid or uninsured. Extreme lack of longer-term care for those with mental health or SUD's. One size does not fit all.

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
Men's shelter
Addiction Services. Good ones.
Community has been focusing more on a number of the above identified needs, but a ways to go yet. Hard to find affordable legal assistance for non-criminal issues where attorneys are not provided by law. Need another hospital option, as competition may mean more affordable health care options for our community.
Family Law, Mental Health Services for Children and Adults, Social Skills and Peer Support Groups for adolescents
For community, not self
Homeless shelter with support services for transitioning into permanent housing situations
In the area of medical, we could use more doctors and other medical personnel that are living here and not working here for short periods and moving on. This system does not allow people to have stable medical care.
Indoor parks
Need more licensed daycare facilities.
We need a low barrier homeless shelter with case management services.

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Furniture for when I move into my apartment
Transportation in and from rural areas.
Access to grocery stores/food pantries for those living in the downtown area without transportation.
Assistance for childcare
Community needs a better public transportation system- and a school bus system, as our city has grown and the concept that schools are "neighborhood schools" is a thing of the past. There needs to improved resources for those leaving jail or the prison system to help them assimilate better into the community. Many financial assistance program are unable to assist with the cost of vehicle repair and many clients have unreliable vehicles with no money to fix them when they break down.
For community, not self
Our public bus system is pretty good but it needs to run longer hours.
Public transportation later hours and in rural areas is needed.
Services for kids with Autism and for kids with trauma especially teens

From Section 2.9 Local Program
Added bus routes to more areas of Minot. I live by the landfill, and it would be nice to have a bus route closer to me and for others in out of range areas. Also, to have bus drivers, drive slower, and be more patient with people with physical and mental disabilities
community is a major blessing to this community. They often pick up where other agencies leave off.
Each of these are important to our area. Many of our seniors are living on a very fixed income and need the help. Each of these programs touches a larger group of people living in our area that are not always seen.
House down payment assistance; Basic tax preparation assistance
more mental health services, more affordable dental care with ability to get into dental appointments quicker (less than 3 months), more licensed daycare availability with evening/night time hours for working parents
No special needs at this time.
Prescription and dental assistance.
From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
Serious need of a wheel chair ramp
The school supplies are a great help
Rural nursing care would be wonderful.
Child care crisis related to COVID-19: parents who are working from home without child care or having to juggle children doing school online
Community Action does an awesome job meeting the needs of the community with limited funding.
Day care needs and pre-school within public school systems.
Daycare and housing needs are a high priority for our family with a toddler with a disability. The cost vs quality is too difficult to find of a single parent with no assistance.
Dental assistance for those without insurance. Help housing those with criminal background. Less stigma towards those with substance use disorders.
I'm looking at things from a bit of a distance, not being involved day to day, but Affordable housing seems to be by far the biggest need.
Minot needs to have things for young families to do! The biggest complaint I hear from young families is "there is nothing to do here." So, community centers, indoor activities, that can be utilized in winter seasons. Things to get families involved in their community, and feel like they are a part. I think this needs to be more than just entertainment things, but programs or facilities that will draw a community together.
More Recreational activities for adults.
second high school.
Services for felons coming off P and P-definite resources needed. esp. for temporary housing and job development
Thank you
Three things that I see as major challenges in my community are: 1. Low paying jobs. Working poor. Many people work two jobs but still can not make a living. 2. High cost of health care. Much of the cost is hidden, such as taking deductions out of social security to pay for Medicare and the cost of the supplemental policies. Elderly living on social security can be very difficult. 3. Addiction issues are taking its toll on families. Children being abused and left unattended. Domestic violence issues, often spurred on by poverty.
We need more open early/late infant care centers
With the agencies we do have here I think that collaboration is essential so no duplication of services happens. Money is short for most programs and working together is the only way we can make the biggest impact.
More free youth activities and volunteer works

We could use a drug task force to stop, or at least slow down, the meth use in our community.
Have a great community.

Region 3

From Section 2.1 Employment
childcare for working parents
My vehicle needs a transmission rebuild kit.
FULL TIME JOB
Lack of employment opportunities that provide a livable wage. I am personally employed in a very good job but I am speaking for the general situation within Rolette County.

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
food
job
job
rent
Homeless and on foot. Suspended driver's license.
Currently a Full time student at Minot State and paying for Tuition and gas to get back and forth and a full time mother struggling to make ends meet.
Need to get my spouse employed
The lack of job service and employment training is unacceptable in the 10th largest county in ND and highest unemployment !!!
Financial issues while one parent is incarcerated

From Section 2.3 Education
County wide educational and life skills training is lacking and increasingly so since job service was removed and lack of resources for those needing employment guidance. Lack of access to computers and ability to navigate complex government/employment websites etc.
Cooking (community too dependent on processed foods)

From Section 2.4 Housing
Out of state electric bill
I own a mobile home that needs some rebuilding.
Adding an addition onto our house
Dysfunctional HUD housing program for several years with confirmed non compliance concerns; lack of affordable housing, minimal senior housing and services; absolutely not housing for those residents in recovery from drug and alcohol addictions.
Safe housing for drug, alcohol, and psychiatric treatment patients

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
We need some more mental health professionals from outside of the community, so people are comfortable talking with them. We also need more mental health professionals who offer play therapy for children and behavior specialists who are able to help with children who have very challenging behaviors, but do not qualify for special education services.
Mentors for at-risk children.
Extremely limited services available within Rolette County which allows for all races to receive; health insurance navigators not available or active; not support for affordable health insurance and certainly not dental and vision support; domestic violence services out of County; veterans have to travel to

Devils Lake as nearest VA clinic. Huge transportation barriers to services; Rolette County transit not even close to being able to meet the needs of residents; access to behavioral health services sub adequate for general population

I have Parkinson's Disease.

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement

Ideally we need a rec center or YMCA type facility that gives the community options of things to do to stay healthy as a family. There are obese children, who have no where to go to move their little bodies in the winter time when it's too cold to go outside. There are also non-obese children in the community who also need a place to go to move their bodies in the winter time. They need space for gross motor activities, so that they can refine these skills leading, so their bodies have the muscles needed to hold their bodies up in chairs in school and the upper core strength needed for writing in school, etc. An indoor community pool with a wide array of availability would be a great addition too.

Inconsistent medical providers; little youth activities other than school sports; many communities would Not meet walkability standards; sub adequate street maintenance due to cost;! Inadequate law enforcement for the size of community again related to lack of available funding ; Rolette County mill levy can not generate enough revenue to pay for the expenses of needed county services; there is no federal or state impact aid for lack of taxable land in Rolette County due to reservation within the county.

From Section 2.7 Other supports

No community garden availability; public transportation for basic needs and medical needs is extremely inadequate and poorly funded; no behaviors health services within the jail and no release management for inmates; children and adults deal with less than adequate food or lacking knowledge how to cook and or manage a budget

The need for peer support for drug, alcohol, and psychiatric treatment patients.

From Section 2.9 Local Program

None.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback

Prower Protection! City of JOHN HD 58369

Help with suspended driver's license.

Addiction services

Cavalier County needs representatives from agencies to be here at least 2/month. HAP has left, WIC has left, reps come here but only once per month

Our community needs more mental health providers. The wait to see a provider is far to long; it may take up to a month to be seen. There is no mental/emotional "emergency room" for times of crisis. All our community has is a phone number (662-5050) that may or may not be answered.

Our community needs more daycare/pre-school options.

Not at this time

No comments

Just basic living needs

Need more foster care, not enough

There is a lack of transportation in Rolette County. We need a public transportation service, Uber/Lfyt that any community member can access with financial assistance, etc. We need a homeless shelter. We need a group home/shelter for children/families/unruly youth. We need a mentoring program for at-risk youth.

Transportation major issue for this area, second not enough family activities for the community.

Transportation need has to be addressed; individuals can't get to needed medical appointments;

Region 4

From Section 2.1 Employment

Reliable vehicle or even help with vehicle maintenance

Affordable transportation to & from job site, especially hours that don't coincide with Cities Area Transit

Although I do not have any employment needs it is a need in my community - particularly under employment and also as an employer not having adequate pools of staff at times.

Applying to graduate school

Quicker access to employment services rather than lengthy eligibility determination periods.

Transportation to employment is a huge issue.

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building

need more money

food

Need Shingles put on my Garage.

bills

housing costs too expensive

Medical Bills

Retirement planning

Student debt payments take up 1/5 of our monthly income, roughly the same as our mortgage payment.

WSI coverage for debilitating workplace injury

In debt because of medical bills and partners lawyer fees for divorce and work

Clients could benefit from help for all the needs checked above.

Home needs roof, siding/painting, and sealing

Rent is too high

From Section 2.3 Education

Affordable early childhood education programs, esp. for those who don't qualify financially for Head Start

Cost of daycare is incredibly high and keeps rising every year. Cost of obtaining a Master's degree is holding me back from returning to school.

From Section 2.4 Housing

rent

utility

Need Shingles put on my Garage.

Fresh water mainten

A lot of the affordable housing in this area consists of buildings that are old, need updates and repairs.

Volunteer, reliable, or affordable assistance moving from one residence to another

affordable accessible housing to buy and/or rent.

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development

Help with paying for alternative birthing methods (home birth or hiring birth doula). Help understanding how to use insurance once you get it through an employer.

I appreciate the resources of the crisis homes for homeless families. We are seeing an increase of entire families being homeless. Need someplace where families can stay together while working through their crisis or waiting for housing vouchers.
My employer-sponsored health insurance is less than stellar, and still costs us about \$75 out of pocket for normal office visits. We cannot afford even employer-sponsored dental insurance with the student debt we're paying off and the daycare costs we pay, so we go without.
need mental health care for family member
physical safety at work
Spouse is unable to get adequate care & treatment for a debilitating life-threatening illness that causes extreme chronic pain & sleeplessness
the challenges that I see regarding health costs are great in the community. And, because the nonprofit where I work does not offer health care, the other employee struggles with health care. He cannot go to preventative appointments, so when he has to see a doctor or a dentist, the need is very great and very expensive. I fortunately can be under my husband's health insurance or else I could not do this work.
Vision Services-financial assistance for seniors not requiring employment
I do not personally have any health needs but have noticed in working in the community for a number of years that there is a severe lack in services for mental health (particularly for children) and chemical dependency. We are seeing more and more children under the age of 12 with significant mental health needs and none of our providers in the community can meet their emergency needs (i.e. in patient services, partial in patient, general assessment of emergency needs).
Programs to lessen the isolation that individuals with disabilities, with mental health or addiction issues face. So many individuals are lonely.
we have cd treatment along with MH services however, the programs are full and or unable to meet the needs to too large of case loads. We are in DESPERATE NEED OF CHILDRENS MH services

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
dabete class
Park cleaning, not just trash but disinfecting them too. There's a need for at least one more indoor park.
Affordable youth sports activities that are more formally coordinated rather than a parent creating traveling teams made up of their friends' children. Low-income/underserved populations are missing opportunities to play because our programs are not affordable and are not driven by groups completely open to the public.
Affordable* services for those in need.
Socialization/support groups for single moms and/or play groups for kids that meet in the evening that would allow for socialization for parents
Some sidewalks in Grand Forks, especially along Washington are terrible.
Transportation for those going to work at various hours-more handicapped accessible vans for those not able to use city bus.
Would be nice to have a shelter that is more useful for folks with addiction issues. Would be good to have a LaGrave on First type program for senior citizens.
Drop in center for all ages
More access to mental health services.
I do not support any additional homeless shelters however I know we need housing for families, children's, adults experiencing homelessness. WE NEED HOUSING

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Cultural Appreciation!!
Even though there is public transportation in our community, there are times that families are not able to afford to purchase bus tickets. When they do not have transportation, then they do not attend to meetings that could offer more assistance to them.

Our public transportation system could use some work, as it is complex and difficult to navigate for those who need it.
Public transportation is not efficient and it's complicated for those who are unfamiliar.
The city bus NEEDS to go to the industrial park
School busing for foster children who have been displaced and are outside of their school district. School busing for homeless youth and youth who can't afford bus tickets.
Improved bus services: more routes, increased frequency of routes, better coverage of routes.
need services for caring for elderly parent with dementia.

From Section 2.9 Local Program
Affordable and available Childcare and early headstart programs
Case management in all forms is 100% the top need in our community. None of the other programs/services can be effective if we can't get people to them or understanding them.
Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services
HIV/AIDS community supports
program to help with down payment for mortgage
More for the rural counties. Many of your programs are Grand Forks County specific.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
i think we should help the elderly more.
Affordable housing is a huge need, as well as making HUD apartments/housing more safe for the people who live there.
affordable housing is needed for home ownership and renting; property taxes are too high along with the cost of homes and apartments
Affordable housing is so limited for my clients who are typically working, yet make too little for housing and too much for help. Also, as a mental health provider,
Communication with people in need that services are available.
Didn't know about a lot of the services RRVCA offers in Grand Forks. Not a lot of community partnerships.
I see childcare needs as one of the most important aspects. Parents with children have a hard time working when childcare costs are so high and their jobs don't pay much. Plus, it is very difficult to even find affordable child care in Grand Forks--availability is so slim.
I'd love for all agencies to try to better collaborate while still finding a way to meet all requirements. Many agencies can provide similar services but we create our own barriers by not working better together.
If we are giving out free services, we should require educational classes so we can help break the cycle.
It is difficult in the rural communities to find transportation. Many do not have the ability to afford a working vehicle and there is NO transportation assistance for doctors, grocery stores, medications, or other services in Grand Forks if they need them.
Just thankful for all RRVCA does for our state. Our communities are a better place thanks to your work.
Most Critical Needs: Affordable/Available Housing, Available Treatment for Substance Abuse Disorders, Shelters for families, Transportation Assistance, Low Cost Child Care Assistance
Older children need a safe place they can go to "hang out." Entertainment would be good for them to stay out of trouble. Skate park is nice but I'm afraid of injuries. Some other options would be nice too.
People are working too hard to not get anywhere or make progress. If changes don't come to help reverse this, please dump every available cent into suicide prevention outreach programs.
The homeless shelter in Grand Forks turns away clients that test positive for any substance, even marijuana which can remain in your system for an extended period of time. This results in many of the

homeless members of our community sleeping in dangerous situations, particularly in the winter as there is no other option for them. Over 100 beds remain vacant in the shelter due to this policy. They also kick people out for 6 months at a time if they do not show "consistency" in their stays- such as they must stay there for months at a time as opposed to coming and going every few weeks when they do find an independent place to live temporarily. This is a huge problem and I believe is resulting in the deaths of some over the past few years.
The mental health and substance abuse needs are extremely high in our community.
The need for affordable medical services in any shape or form. Prescription costs are outrageous and now if you cannot pay your entire doctor bill you are sent to collections. Collection agencies are granted the right to garnish wages in almost every case. This is devastating to individuals/families who are now forced to turn over 25% of their income to a collection agency. I feel there needs to be some kind of regulations put in place in ND regarding garnishments for medical services.
There are many other community agencies providing similar services such as emergency assistance, food assistance, case management. I think it would benefit the community for RRVCA to keep the programming that is not a duplicated service such as Home cents, furnace repairs and working with veterans.
We have a huge lack of accessible transportation services- we have schools in our district that don't have any school bus routes OR city bus routes going to them. The city bus routes are few and far between, so people end up spending the entire day on the city bus just trying to run normal errands. We have a lack of affordable housing as well, both rental and purchased homes. We are paying less on our mortgage right now than we were for a 2 bedroom apartment.
We have good services in our community, but they can all afford to improve to better serve those in need. We continue to have gaps that professionals can all identify, but we continue to talk about things without working toward effective solutions.
Whether mental health is actually declining or we are just becoming more aware of it, there are individuals and families in desperate need of mental health and addiction counseling, as well as case management to ensure they follow through with these services when they are available. And for cripes sake, we need more than occasional walk-in hours at NEHSC. Mental health and addiction crises don't only happen during walk-in hours.
I work in the public school system. Families in Grand Forks struggle! Kids are taking home free food bags on Fridays meant to supplement their weekend meal needs. That is the sad truth of our town.
Lack of behavioral health services
We need more CD treatment facilities
My church is very engaged and active in providing and/or serving food - La Grave and the Mission. Additionally we are engaged with Homelessness discussions including Spectre, Homeless Helpers, and Grand Forks Schools. I is clear the primary issue is emergency housing (and the Mission cannot do everything, it can't) and also more systemic issues associated with homelessness. This is a hidden issue. Additionally, I think it is important that agencies be inclusive of the faith community. I applaud Spectre Health for inviting our small church into the discussion. Do not forget the faith community. And remember the faith community is much more than the Evangelical Churches and big Lutheran Churches. :)
Due to my income, I wouldn't be eligible for any type of assistance but certainly would appreciate various types of supports.

Region 5

From Section 2.1 Employment
Contract opportunity due to COVID employment card
Hoping to work from home, severe anxiety/ depression
I going through something now but don't know if it's going to effect my background
I want to have employment right now, but my disability prevents my capability of doing so.
I'm apply for ssi/ssd
In transition for new employment
Looking for a part time job
Mentoring of some kind to aid in knowing what to do with finding employment and budgeting with the dollars once employment is found. Obviously most are poor, or do not understand the resources available, and cannot afford to pay for this, but should be available in the rural areas, not just large urban. Question, who is going to pay for it then?
Need a job so I can afford to live.
Need to get children into a state approved day care so I can start working again
Private studies in pharmacology to assist the unique individuals as All LIVES important and deserves to be treated with dignity and respect!
resources for COVID-19
Safety wear and equipments for adequate protection for unique individual and self.
Transportation to and from work.
While I have enough degrees and am basically computer literate, I need specific skill such as Exel Spread sheets training and skills in order to apply for most jobs. I might also need some basic skills in accounting to be able to use Excel Spread Sheets.
Working with voc rehab
ACTUALLY GOV. Programs in North Dakota that actually will approve people in need of help I have been disapproved many many times from this program and other programs that are supposed to be helping people especially during this covid-19 situation I was declined a total of four times to ask when this company into times from the other company that the government gave birth to go to access to to help families in need of help with housing
Additional part time job/s
ADEQUATE NUMBER OF STAFF FOR OUR PROGRAM
Better training most government or public related job services have very poorly trained personnel with no notion of what "Customer Service" mean , please reeducate the current working population so that the Next generation does not become a failure.
Currently under restrictions for work
i have no needs at this time
I just want to know what It would look like when go back to school.
Lack of transportation.
Need accommodations
Not I do not
Short-term childcare for job interviews is needed. Families cannot get childcare assistance unless they have a job and often do not have resources for their children when interviewing for jobs.
The money to purchase work clothes including shoes to remain/keep my job. Hair cuts. Having to rely on food pantries for food, not having the extra money to get extra food, like fresh produce, milk, and perishables. The way these question are worded it does not address the needs of those who have a job and still struggle. Most of the time in silence because "you have a job!" and the community looks at

that as you are now set, you have money. Gas, vehicle up keep. Just because you have a job doesn't mean you have a better lifestyle, jobs create more expenses sometimes.
Would like to work a few hours a week in the nursing profession as that is what my education is in. Would need an updated resume
I've been applying for jobs and do not require assistance
Better protection for workers
Need workforce to fill many open jobs
Need help with damage deposit and first month rent
Our community cannot fill unskilled jobs that are available in restaurants, gas stations and the grocery store. People who are unskilled feel they aren't paid enough and would rather just not work. They seem to feel they should be paid the same as those who attended college. If so, the rest of us should be paid much more in our jobs as bookkeepers, bankers and other positions that require education.
Furthering private studies and will require financial assistance in purchasing safety gear and equipment.

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Assistance with rent.
Becoming homeless and no money for food, shelter or necessities
Cannot pay for cell phone.
Childcare
Financial issues relating to rental needs of \$540 a month, electric for heat and cooling, and telephones.
Help with payment for tickets
homeless, staying where ever i can, need housing so i can become more stable
I do not have a back account as of now, will like to learn how to build my credit
I need assistance with utilities and Cell phone payments. Until I can find suitable employment, assistance with mortgage payments on a short-term basis might be necessary.
I'm just having a hard time right now- disabled too old to work. Just need help with my light bill.
lights
Medical insurance including prescription drugs.
Need help budgeting money n paying bills and rent currently homeless
Need help with Mortgage and utility payments.
Need help with rent
Need rental assistance
Old housing bill
Prescriptions
relocated to attend college , my housing fell through so I was in need of anything since semester already was staying in subletting a room which later ended up being a scam which cost me every material thing , so I had money put away for permanent housing which I paid landlord two and a half weeks, which ended up being more taking from me landlord Jason Tester moving
Rent assistance
Rent, utility bills
Rental assistance
Student loan debt
Unable to work due to severe depression/ anxiety, cant qualify for assistance/ unempmoymnt because i quit my job after a breakdown.
Upgrade and utilize skills to return to Traffic Control and will require proper safety gear and equipment.
victim of domestic abuse and local agencies do not help
Window and door locks

deposit help unable to renew lease
disabled
Help with bills and house repairs
Need home repaired
rent
Weatherization
Dont know
Stimulus money
Continue to survive a brutal domestic violent past relationship
No money for food or rent
A public service for buying and selling homes under \$150,000 in value. Many persons in this category do not have the time or means to understand all the problems or the assets to pay the fees involved.
Rent and deposit assistance
Cannot maintain rent and/or need assistance with deposit and application fees
COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH HEALTH CARE/INSURANCE!!
Emergency rent assistance
Getting current with all of my bills
Hard to build assets when you are having trouble getting food, gas, etc. Hard to get better education, you have a job so now you can pay for it.
Help paying electricity bill
House needs the heater worked on high heat bills, help with all bills, newer car with less mileage,kids need jeans and clothes, food, all house needs repair
I just need to get past being behind on all my bills
I'm always broke.
Medication prices
NEED TO REPLACE MOLDY WINDOWS IN HOME AND FRONT AND BACK DOOR
None of these
Paying for higher education and various bills.
Problems getting insurance coverage through employer
Reduced income due to COVID
Rent and phone payment need help
Rent food
Rent help due to eviction noticed after becoming disabled Dec 2019
Security and Servallance needs to be updated
Utility shut off notice.
Very serious problems just paying basic monthly bills with disability only. Do not smoke, no alcohol, no gambling, basically spend no money.
Would like to see some help with costs because of Covid
Behind on rent and bills
Do not receive child support, how to go about removing parent from birth certificate?
I have received utility assistance through this program
Assistance for covid19 victims
I don't get paid enough. I have a full time job working for the people of Richland County as a parent aide. I work very hard to make ends meet but am always struggling. My husband is a first generation farmer.
Ruined markets impacting agriculture commodities thus leading to uncertain income.
Debt paying due to surgeries over years and getting behind
First time home buyers counseling

Help for farmers dealing with financial downturn
Living in separate house holds- food and daycare assistance
Some back tax's and getting and completing Divorce.
Student loans
Working on back Tax's and completing a divorce
High farm debt due to poor crop years/prices.
Home repairs
Tax preparation by Community Action is a valuable service. Other community needs include budgeting, education and asset building.
The community needs these indicated above. Gambling and drug counseling. Financial literacy- how to work and pay bills.

From Section 2.3 Education
CNA training
Counseling, any tyoe financial help in any way
Need assistance to learn Excel programs and Spread Sheets to be able to qualify for any number of jobs that require those skills.
Plenty of preschool opportunities, but parents not participating, as not accepting of paying a fee, nor the help that it would provide their children in this day and age. Most kids seem to have access to computers etc, but whether they are using it to advance themselves that is another question. No one is trained about etiquettes of phone useage, etc. Most kids, and due to most adults as well, are like mice, in different social tests - hear a ding and answer.
Transportation aid for bus. Community collaborations opportunity center.
Trauma counseling
Get student loans forgiven
3d printing education
Affordable childcare is a HUGE need in our area. One child averages around \$1000/month which is not affordable at all, for anyone.
Assistance with soms basic & intermediate computer/technology skills
Driver's education to help individuals pass the permit exam.
Educational needs for children with disabilities. Seclusion and restraint. IEP's. Self contained classrooms. Lack of support from educational administration. Lack of resources in the school setting. Level D setting. Schools not following IDEA.
Head Start is a great program that needs to be broadened. There are many children needing this type of assistance that wait on the waiting list or do not qualify because one or both of their parents are not working/volunteering. The mental health, intelligence or physical health of the parent should be considered when they are not working/volunteering. It would be nice if participation in individual or group counseling or an evaluation stating that their mental health/IQ/physical health is interfering with their ability to parent/work/volunteer would be considered when finding a child eligible for head start. (Perhaps this is done and I am not aware.)
Hm in TV
Retraining for job placement after losing employment due to COVID19
Getting 4yr degree
In college, going for Elementary Education, Special Ed and Coaching
There is a lack of available in-home childcare options, particularly for children under age 2.
While I do not have a personal need, there exists within the community a broad need for educational services.

From Section 2.4 Housing
Any help would be appreciated, my savings are gone. Scared.
Assistance in getting a place to stay
Behind \$265 in rent. If paid, I won't fall behind again
Just light bill
Mortgage assistance on a temporary basis until suitable employment can be secured.
Moving into housing today!
Old rent bill
One can have above programs available, but as with anything, people have to take the first step and seek out the information or help. Rental properties are hard to come by and what is available is high rent due to having one large employer who pays better. I do not know that there is much discrimination, as much as no decent additional affordable housing.
Vehicle repairs to adequately meet all required on-site jobs or appointment's timely.
Help paying water/power bills
help with heating
Snaps benefits
Disabled- could use ramp and deck
Hudfash
Contractors in community willing to work on older housing stock; I can afford to pay, but because old houses are unpredictable and not cookie cutter, high profit margin jobs, contractors don't even bother to return calls when offered work.
I am staying I. a hotel due to fire at my apartment, all tenants displaced due to total loss of the building,I can not find anything that meets my needs due to price.No stairs please
Got eviction notice as of 02/21/20
Gutters, back steps, deck & fence repair needed. May have to sell the house in order to survive.
Have Services for inspections most apartments, houses, homes and business are utterly dirty and this creates a never ending cycle of health related issues which 65% of the community cannot afford the ridiculously high medical bills for un-attentive staff and unclean hospitals.
Homeowners are overburdened with property tax and special assessments
I need a patio door replaced its starting to fall out
I'm just needing assistance to catch up after roommate vacated.
No immediate needs, but I have ongoing anxiety that if our landlord ever decides to sell the building (or retires, for example), it will be impossible for us to find a comparable rental property as far as accessibility, size, and price, since rents have skyrocketed everywhere near downtown.
We need a public agency to help people buy and sell homes of \$150,000 or less. The realtor fees are too much and people need more assisted time than realtors are able to give in these situations.
We need help and NORTH Dakota only has two single programs that actually say they're helping people in North Dakota but let's be real here I should be ashamed of yourselves you guy decline more people than you were approved in North Dakota why is that
We applied for help through rent bridge for our daughter who was hospitalized with severe COVID19, but were denied when she had \$1100 to cover all of her bills which came to far more than that amount. I'd like to know who rent bridge helps if it's not available to those who have fallen on hard times through no fault of their own
Rental housing is a HUGE need; we need both more new rental housing and updates to existing, decrepit rental offerings
Affordable housing and homelessness are major community needs and should be prioritized.
There is a need of housing that is one level for elderly population. Many apartments available but there are too many steps for many of these elderly persons.

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
Governmental commodities made available for any age that doesn't qualify for state programs.
I am on supplements that the doctor ordered. ND Medical Assistance does not cover this expense.
I would really like to see some kind of social gathering place where we were able to work on collaboration items and able to have some kind of mentorship program to give a hand up not a handout to teach a person how to fish rather than giving them 1
My son has special needs (Spina Bifida) but only qualifies for MA for 3 yrs. We will be seeing specialists way beyond 3 yrs and private insurance only covers a portion. Highly disappointed he is not automatically qualified for life, like he would be in MN
None
Seniors really need this service many do without dental needs due to cost
Severe depression/ anxiety
Have not seen a dentist in 4 years & in need of dental care. In need of new glasses. On many meds, needs some assistance with Rx meds until deductible is met & copay s decrease.
Holding courts accountable for relaxed sentencing and no enforcement. Severe Mental health crisis interventionist as none of the community programs for this respond.
Low income or free gym membership
Cancer support services
Hearing assistance programs for (non-elderly) adults; paying for hearing aids (non-elderly; people who require them to work)

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
I would love to see a place where people can come and learn for free
More exercise group activities that does not require memberships fees.
None
Providing and opening community centers for disabled but ambulatory persons to play games converse, learn new skills or watch television with semi supervisory needs.
Rural schools need to be more special needs friendly. No accessible playground in Kindred.
Safe sober activities or place to socialize and meet others in recovery,
Access to grocery stores closer t where I live
Affordable Housing stock for ownership opportunity is hard to come by.
Civics lessons and political engagement.
HELP GETTING GUARDIANSHIP OF GRANDSON
Library access, safety in public library
Our community is in need of places for single fathers. Right now, there are places for single men and other places for women and their children but not any that I am aware of for the homeless father and his children (unless you go to Moorhead, which could hurt eligibility for other programming).
Police anti racism training
Public service workers need to do their job once winter arrives not every one drives or has the opportunity to do so , theirs ice on the ground can cause huge problems to many of our elders walk-in or taking the bus , broken body parts can randomly occur from a fall. Have better equipment so we prevent this will make Fargo a better place
Would like to see a long range rifle range built in Cass County.
Drugs
Our local food pantry is in need of volunteers to assist at the food pantry.
More public defenders, better lawyers for those who cannot afford them. Maybe a pro bono cases licensed attorneys must complete to keep their licenses
we need a dog park

At this time when federal government seems to be failing, engagement on state and local issues is more important than ever.

Better jobs

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Cell phone bill help
Family is throwing me out and becoming homeless again
Personal hygiene products
Some of above are available, but again who is going to pay for this, provide information to people / families etc so they can participate. Will they participate?
The place that was centered around experiencing other opportunities and clarifying what somebody would be good at doing
This is much needed reduced cost for seniors. There is telephone help but cheaper internet is a need
Tires are bald, drivers door handle broke off, oil change. Apt assistance : electric, internet, car insurance, phone
Used lap tops, tablets or computers donated from businesses that are made available to clients in need.
with utility, and water bills and help with getting a vehicle
heating program
life line info for free service
At times I need assistance with the on going IEP process that my son is on. I don't always know what I as a parent can ask for or "demand" legally in order to best advocate for my ADHD/anxiety child.
Car is 2000 Lesabre Buick, need 2 back tires, has oil leak, needs to be balanced, horn doesn't work, fuel gauge doesn't work. Very very high mileage
Diapers and infant clothing/toys/strollers/etc
It's absurd that with how Mat Bus has grown, it still doesn't run on Sundays or service the industrial park where many, minimum wage paying jobs are located and have staff who utilize the bus.
Neighborhood building.
The nearest full service groceries are over a mile away, and two smaller places I could get groceries have closed in the last year.
Bus services for headstart would be very helpful as there is not a headstart in the town I live. The drive to bring my son to school every day is over 25 miles one way and I make that trip twice a day to be sure he gets the best start in his education.
A lot of older adults have appointments in Fargo but can't make them because of transportation needs
Transportation is primarily lack of school bus drivers, and help transporting elderly/other non-drivers to medical appointments
Business development during Covid 19.

From Section 2.9 Local Program
Commodity programs to clients in need.
Currently 2 months behind on rent, and facing homelessness. I haven't received any assistance for rental costs that are only \$540 a month as I wait for social security benefits through my lawyer and services for my case of disability caused by a surgical error. Living expenses such as belongings for my child or household goods are also necessary, because this is where some of my income from child support goes, which is the only income I have.
Doors and windows
help with getting a car
I would love to see a place where somebody could go and learn somewhere that teaches somebody what they would be able to do not just what they think they want to do and give them the experience of

job shadowing with organizations that have collaborated with this company they would be able to see that there are things that they would be good at doing and would become a passion not just a career that they hate but a job and career they would love
Sliding-Scale Fee Childcare
Therapy, financial assistance
Transportation my jeep needs tires and tune up bad tires are shot and need tabs
Assistance for low income families
Advocacy training and support of advocates.
All wrap around services provided are critical to communities across ND, including senior programs.
Connecting resources to people. Make sure dual language parents and children are treated the same and have access to translation services all the time so they can communicate with the local community and schools.
Expanded CCAP income limits. The income limits have been cut significantly in recent years which is punishing families.
For the state to buy more land for game management area's in Cass County so we have places to hunt.
HELPING RENTERS WITH RENT, DEPOSITS, AND UTILITY BILLS, ALSO WITH HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SECTION EIGHT OPENING BACK UP AND HELPING women without kids just as much as women with kids
I don't necessarily need this but I have noticed that others around me struggle with being approved for some social services that they obviously are in great need of. For example- applying and being denied disability status when they were previously on it. The person I know is in great need of assistance in "fighting" essentially for their services. They are already battling medical, mental health, housing issues and raising their children and then have transportation issues. Perhaps more resources to legal help? Also more ways to obtain transportation so they have options and can get to places. Assistance with gas and maintenance?
Medical equip and supplies I need
Mental Health
More local toddler and special needs friendly parks to walk too and benches in the shade to encourage neighborhood walking without being too hot in summer.
Parenting classes, behavior support for children
Rental assistance
support for universal health care!
Assistant in obtaining disability benefits for my child & prevent homelessness
Veterans, farm families, children's summer meals USDA and senior meals
dental
Assistance with health care costs (insurance, glasses, hearing aids, etc.) for both elderly and non-elderly
Childcare programs
I feel like there is always a need for more mental health services in rural areas!
more qualified day care providers
Nutrition Services • Sportsman Against Hunger • Rolla Food Pantry • Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program
All the programs listed are essential and integral to each other.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
All of these programs are very important & should be continued!
Better options for housing that allows people to get on their feet and out of bad situations on their own because not every victim of abuse goes to a shelter and many of us have no one we can ask for help due to the abusive situation we are trying to escape. Don't limit individuals empower them
Case workers at Cass County need to communicate faster.

CMA training
Community centers made available with volunteer help in community for those that need minimal supervision so family members can continue education or work without the additional burden of costs due to income and not qualifying for additional helps with state.
Help is needed now
I am in my 60s and had to find employment because of a relationship ended; I was financially stable. I want discrimination from age/working to stop and have more financial assistance programs available to the people that are struggling but can't get help from our current programs.
I do like my community so far. I haven't been here long enough yet.
I have been sent from one Agency to another filling out Applications only to be sent to another Agency. I feel like I am being sent from one place to another.
I have tons to talk about
I love your program, with out this in place. Life would be a big struggle for our community.
I need help with my mental health, food, housing, and income
I need help with the rent I am 2 months behind on, and utilities necessary for me to continue my writing and attempts at finishing my education in the spring.
I see first hand the need for all these funds for others. They are all very important and need to continue
I switched employment and could use help to cover rent so I have time to start receiving money again
It's very humbling to reach out and ask for help, realizing there are those who abuse the system and those who really are thankful. We are very thankful for the help we've received and hope one day we can pay forward to those that helped during this bridge time.
More flexible housing options (willing to work with those who have little to no credit etc.) More intensive in home services for kids and families (parenting skills, therapy etc)
Need affordable consistent healthcare for all. Can't do much else if you don't have your health as a foundation.
Response from community action staff us needed in a more timely manner to let applicants know whether we are approved or not for assistance. I've been calling vdaiky and left messages to see if I've been approved for rental help. I've already received an eviction notice. I left message with Adam Instrative Assistant vascwell and still no callback.
Seniors are afraid to ask for help they will do w/o rather than ask. A lot of seniors don't know to ask either
Thank you
Thank you for all that you do!
Thanks for the help my family and I really appreciate it
Thanks for your service
The help I received was greatly needed and appreciated.
they have been a great help these past years
Very scared, savings are gone. Still struggling with severe depression/ anxiety, bills mounting, overwhelmed
You are so great! Keep up the good work!
The program is great and North Dakota Residents are very lucky to have it. Thank you so much for your assistance and the services you provide us.
Just need roof fixed before mold starts taking over
would like to see coupons/vouchers to a local store for bread and meat
Thank you for all you do
Elected leaders need to put needs of common people - lower and middle income - before the wants of developers.
Funding to create more visibility for the programs offered by the CAA would be immensely beneficial.

Help those that are just recently experiencing not having rent money. May not fit under description of need, but truly need it.
Housing
I feel like there could be more community outreach and public announcements regarding available services.
I just would like Fargo especially to do their job lower the risk I'm being evicted with helping tenants and renters also lowering West Fargo police officers Cass County is not big enough to have all the police officers that they do in the high rate of low crimes that they charge people for is ridiculous I would love to fight this situation because I personally know innocent people who life has been changed just because a DUI or a suspended license this is an Abomination to affect someone's life because of a small mistake because driving with a suspended license should not be a crime and you should not mess up anyone's life because of that and I would love to fix the racial problem with the police officers also I don't care what anyone says but there's a lot of racist people that aren't on the police force in Cass County as well as Minneapolis please focus on helping all people in need not just Children and Families single parent homes in single people homes should have helped equally as well
I love how much your program helps our community
I think the biggest factors effecting the Fargo area is Housing, Education, and Access to services. People can't get housing if they have bad credit or anything on their background and they end up going to slum lords who screw them over. What Fargo Public Schools and West Fargo Public Schools have done to join in on the level D setting is disgusting. The new middle school in Horace will have a separate entrance for children with special needs which is basically going back to segregation where white children use one door and black children use another and it is completely against IDEA. People with mental health disorders and disabilities have been totally failed by the system. If my children got cut off from Medicaid today my son with Autism and my other son with ADHD, Anxiety, and Migraines medications would cost me over \$1,000 out of pocket each month until I met my \$5000 deductible on top of paying over \$450 a month for health insurance. I make too much to get access to most services for Autism. Luckily I have a job that is flexible with me and I am able to take my children to their appointments each month which is around 5-6 a month. Parents lose their jobs because there are no programs to address this.
I think we need an organization for our youth to get them more involved in our community and so they have a sense of worth and social interaction.
I would like to see Community Actions in ND be more progressive with programs and policies. Evidence based programs, best practices like Coordinated Entry and Housing First.
More education on culture awareness.
More Tx beds available for those who are not only wanting to go in to treatment, but those coming out of Tx that need and deserve aftercare. Setting people up for failure when they engage in Tx and end up back where they started once discharged.
No thank you
One area I think is important as well is assisting women who need a divorce from a spouse. There could be more clear cut resources so women especially can know their rights. Plus the follow up of getting child support enforcement so children are properly cared for. One other important area I feel is somehow our community needs more information on multicultural education because there is too many misconceptions about other cultures. We are all women, men and parents etc that all want the best for our families. I get very angry when I hear people talk for example on social media about "those people from other countries" and I don't think they realize the horrendous background that most of them come from- war torn countries- seeing their family members killed, being ripped from their lifelong homes and existence. I feel if more people heard their stories and that includes- native Americans backgrounds as well- there would be more compassion in our community. People don't understand the reasons behind the way women dress from other cultures and why young girls wear hijabs. Its sad. More facts and interaction may help dispel myths that exist.

PLEASE support and advocate for universal health care/single-payer system.
Recreation for families!!! Courts Plus is great, but we can do so much more. We especially need indoor activities for our long winters
Rental housing is way too expensive in Fargo/West Fargo.
SENDCAA is amazing and extremely helpful with connection to services needed!!
Side streets need to be cleared of snow in a more timely manner & snow not left at the end of the driveway as it is difficult to clear for a senior female with numerous health concerns
Thank you for all that you do! It does not go unnoticed, and we appreciate you.
Thanks for all you do Community is in need of transportation to get to job interviews and phones to get the call back about employment
There needs to more work on justice activities to prevent the ongoing charity needs.
Free legal services for single parents
Our Community is need of mid range price housing
Additional mental health services for adults and children.
Masks need to be made mandatory during this pandemic. I do not feel safe living in North Dakota
Affordable efficient housing, senior and youth development/enhancement is key
Holiday Projects • Holiday Gifts • Holiday Food Baskets
I'm planning to sell my home and property shortly but can't seem to find anything in my price range to buy in the area.
There is more child care needs in the community. Also, there are not very many mental health resources and we need those for all ages.
We are in a high need for more daycare openings to allow our community to grow.
We need workers; in order to get workers, we need affordable housing and affordable child care
Drug addiction
I think a huge problem is that there are plenty of jobs, but not decent paying jobs. Housing costs are too high - people have to work 2-3 jobs to make it.
Poverty is very high and crime builds on that so law enforcement for protection and housing repair are critical for our reservation.
So appreciate the work of the Community Action outreach workers....particular Bonnie

Region 6

From Section 2.1 Employment
Need job seekers to contact us for employment opportunities.
We seem to have alot of families that are on welfare with back ground issues. We do not have alot of job here. The younger kids are beginning to see a cycle and are accepting and preferring welfare as a way of life. We have a family here that doesn't care if their kids quit school, live on welfare, just pool the food stamps, and play computer games.
Community and region needs are huge and unmet
One of the things I hear from employers is difficulty finding skilled workers who will pass drug screens or not quit after a day on the job because the work is "too hard". Even employers of unskilled workers say they have difficulty with people quitting after a few days or just not returning.
Retired

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Workforce training funds to continue providing skill development. Funds for career work experience personnel.
Need a new furnace chimney no good furnace to old
Community and region needs are huge and unmet

I get a lot of calls from people needing help to stay current or get caught up on utilities and rent, or saying they are on the verge of getting shut off or evicted. Yet when we refer them to agencies they say they have tried and that they don't qualify for assistance.

supportive housing

From Section 2.3 Education

Working on capacity building with local educational institutions and need funding to make things happen.

Community and region needs are huge and unmet

I think one of our greatest needs is for good affordable childcare. Also because we have a lot of addiction issues many people as they get sober may need to develop skills they did not develop when they were younger.

From Section 2.4 Housing

Affordable single family housing including twin homes for example.

Lack of repair companies that don't charge a lot for travel to fix or replace house needs

affordable family housing - 3 bedrooms, apartments/condo living

Housing is spelled wrong.

I have been told that one reason many people do not qualify for rental assistance is because landlords will not get inspected or bring their rental units up to basic standards needed to qualify.

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development

Play therapy

Workforce re-entry. Training to reduce recidivism.

need for outpatient therapy services

Homelessness

Our community has a need for support groups.

I'm not sure. I know that when we offer things at the school, we never seem to get the parents there we need!

Access to addiction treatment. My husband has to go to Fargo to be treated for his opioid addiction because the pharmacy here will not carry the medication he needs.

Affordable healthcare & insurance is needed to keep a community healthy & productive. Many residents do not see out help or those needs due to financial repercussions!

homeless shelter/ services for homeless

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement

Need child rehabilitative services like OT and PT in our area

Youth activities for five and under

Instill in people the desire and ambition to get involved and give back.

Mental health needs

We do not have a theater, bowling alley...so kids drive out of town to do things. Alcohol use is getting higher. Drug and alcohol use in a neighboring town is very high.

Affordable housing

Outdoor pool that's affordable for everyone

From Section 2.7 Other supports

Renovation of old commercial buildings and homes. Need additional retail establishments; currently under-served.

Our churches are great about going together to get clothes or food. We also have a very good social services department.

food pantries needs are rising and availability of hours needs to increase according to the clients we serve. clothing and household vouchers are slim pickings for the goodwill and salvation army store .

From Section 2.9 Local Program
help with home repairs
Homeless Shelter
Veterans services for those that don't qualify for government programs
Homelessness transportation to a shelter.
All of the above programs contribute to the community so I would like to see all of the above listed programs in our community!
Homeless Shelter
Salvation Army has a food pantry as well.
Medical coverage for those making too much for MA, but can't afford FFM insurance as have medical and psychological needs.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
Need honest law enforcement
Paid at entry level when in field long enough to be mid level employer wont take request for increase to board and have asked 3 times
Recycling services would be nice
I just recently found out that those in need can use the food pantry more than once a month. I was always under the impression they could only use it once a month. This is very important information for me to know as I work with those in lower income families on a regular basis. Community Action does some wonderful things for my community and we are thankful for it.
I think the various agencies working to help people do the best job they can with the resources they have.
I truly believe our community needs a homeless shelter.
Need for meeting HUD health homes initiatives and meeting needs outside of Jamestown
Out of town transportation for medical appointments has been a great need for years.

Region 7

From Section 2.1 Employment
have a hard time finding a job because of my record
Getting assistance to get my charges differed like they are supposed to be.
Help getting my company financing to continue operating
I am in school to change my career from administration to clinician. I have experience in direct crisis services and a license to practice at an entry level, but not to bill insurance. I require a field placement (full time for 6 months) and then 3,000 hours of supervised practice. I need help finding a placement that is paid or partly paid to fulfill these requirements and to support my family. My being able to satisfy these needs will help address the behavioral health needs of the community, but the barriers to licensure are great and persist, even after completing a degree and examination etc. the clinical supervision required is difficult and is not available in many settings.
jobs for person with felony
Services in all of the above categories are necessary if homeless or those living in poverty are able to improve the situation for their family and themselves.
Community also needs training on how to keep a job; things that are appropriate to do at a job, what you shouldn't do at a job, etc.
Self employed & Covid has pretty much shut our business down.
The businesses I advocate for could use some help finding employers.

Jobs that pay enough for a family to live on.
higher minimum wage

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Cannot afford transportation
Living paycheck to paycheck. No savings. No prospects for improving income and benefits. Need education and/or training, but can't afford it. Would like a house, but no down payment. Want to start a family, but can't afford it and don't have sufficient medical coverage.
I am managing my money like an adult
I am older. So my needs are how to pay off a boat load of financial aid, help with that.
If my partner did not work in the energy industry, I suspect I would have many of these barriers. A divorce left me in significant financial hardship after supporting his treatment, medical care and many other pieces. He struggled with addiction and I did not believe it was right to leave someone for having a condition. Once his behavior escalated to violence, I had to leave. However, I had taken on and continued to be obligated to his financial obligations. I imagine other people in our region experience these issues.
Many people in our community need help understanding and handling their finances. Education in all the categories above would help folks better manage their finances as they lift themselves out of poverty or homelessness.
seems 'small' to someone with money but I can't afford multiple background checks for family so I can't move to a better place
Staying within our household budget, paying OFF bills while trying to maintain our savings accounts for household emergencies.
Student Loan debt counseling/assistance
Many members of our community should have budgeting classes; needs vs wants; how to make money last the month, etc.
Farm finances
COVID has caused all the adults in the house to not have work.
Farming income drastically reduced.
Have home improvements needs and financially cant afford to fix it. Super old trailer and please help. Mold
Teaching people how to live and eat on the money they earn to a better level.
Need for some basic education in finances and money management.

From Section 2.3 Education
Same as previously noted.
More in-home daycare need to be licensed before opening.
More time in a day!!!
I do have a home schooled high school diploma but it won't get me into any college except for Texas online state classes
All of the above are very important programs if our neighbors are to successfully better their circumstances and that of their family. Early childhood education, affordable quality childcare, and English as a second language are all areas that are lacking funding thus access to the programs. Without quality affordable childcare, many single parents are prevented from working and providing for themselves and their families. Without early childhood education, not all children reach kindergarten on the level of learning. Literacy and English as a second language and extremely important to completing or continuing your education and succeeding in life.
Anti-racism education in all of our schools pre-K through 12
High quality before and after school care and summer care for school age children

The amount of student loans that we are paying on is substantial.
Adolescent and youth engagement options after school.
Children entering grad year of HS--counselors are just vague and not very helpful...have received more help from calling the colleges and talking to anyone from admissions to federal aid.
Daughter needs to complete two tests for her GED
foster care education English as second language have separate schooling, when student becomes prodicent, then the student can enter mainstream schools.
Help fixing my home single mom three kids I am on no assistance and no insurance
husband may be laid off and needing to look at another career

From Section 2.4 Housing
voucher for a room for the night
Vouchers for the mentally disabled to be able to be able to receive home repairs covered under Medicaid. -OR more services offered for this option (more of a concern in Mandan).
We were accepted for a 3 bedroom apartment but we can't sign the lease till we get the birth Certificate and as card on first.
Affordable, safe, clean housing for sex offenders.
Buying a different home in the next year and trying to do repairs and budget them in. Not a lot of options for "middle class" category.
done
rental availability for felons and families with felon
There are agencies in Bismarck that provide all of the above programs, however their never seems to be enough funding or folks need better assistance to find and access the programs.
It seems our community has a need for this also, especially utilities and weatherization. Maybe some of it would take care of itself if people had budgeting classes so they can help prioritize their bills and save a little bit.
Need to build
Too many empty homes and apartment buildings.
All are needed for our clients.
Not rated at 100% via the VA, but also cannot afford to complete some necessary improvements on the home I purchased due to increased health issues

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
Assistance for people who have a restraining order filed against them that has no basis. The courts will dismiss it within a few weeks, but there is not information available to help with that process. In the meantime, the person loses their place to live.
Bridging the Dental Gap is sliding Fee but payments need to be made up front. Payment plans need to be brought back in order for the service to be able to assist all populations.
I suppose a excellent dr who 100% cares for my body And mind to truly examines my body making sure I'm 100% with out having to be BooKoo rich!!!! Yep 😊 That's it.
Health insurance has become the de facto access to health care. We need affordable, comprehensive health insurance that covers all of the above areas of health care so that all members of our community can thrive without regard to their socio-economic status.
Hi co-pay/out of pocket
Managing chronic health conditions (non-elderly)
None at this time.
Definitely need some outreach services for this area for adults and kids.
- Hearing resources and education about hearing loss - Increased awareness about dangers of vaping

Health care coverage that pays for prescription birth control, out of pocket expense is \$268 every 3 months.
All are services needed by our clients
health care for children
Some health issues are concerning and I constantly get the run around from the Bismarck VA, EVEN though I am supposed to be able to get community care....these employee's just need to help us and stop trying to make us go to Fargo VA...driving is a pain scale of 20+ for me and that's on a 1-10 pain scale

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
More Emergency Shelters that will provide shelter for people that are using drugs and alcohol.
A go to guide of everything
Affordable housing
Bismarck residents have a lot of programs that meet the above needs but we must be vigilant in providing enough of the programming and keeping it relevant so we can continue to attract families to fill jobs and stay in our community to raise their families.
Life is good.
More funding for public preschool, early childhood special education
We need more education on gun safety and responsible people conceal carrying, especially school and church employees.
We need more psych appointments available the day of a call for help and also evening and/or weekend appointments available
Preschool
Economic development; continued education
Recycling
Again, needed by our clients
wish there was more of a police involvement at the grade schools; with all the break ins in some area's it would be nice to have a school officer in the grade schools or around the area with so many children that are latch key with working parents and have to walk to school

From Section 2.7 Other supports
Bismarck residents have access to programs in almost all of the categories above. We seem to have a lot of folks needing food pantries; we could do better in helping those leaving incarceration adjust to life, finding work and housing, etc.; and access to the internet for young people is not a level playing field for purposes of school work.
Grateful to be independent.
The Community Cupboard needs to determine that the residents that get food every month actually need it and cannot afford their own groceries. Too many here take advantage of the free food that work in the coal mine and make WAY more than the elderly, etc. The people that don't need it are always the first in line with their hands out!
activities for children in winter
We provide some of these services, however, some continue to be a problem, certainly the dollars needed to purchase

From Section 2.9 Local Program
possible help replacing brokedn appeances. Fridge, Dryer.
room vouchers or help with obtaining housing
A lot I just don't know about
Help getting my felonies deferred like they should be
community engagment

Credit Rehab Based Mortgage
Free Through Recovery, Mental Health Services
Help for Veterans
housing for felons
I cant comment on any of these as I don't use them. But I think they are all important.
SNAPP Program Medicaid
special healthcare costs
there are services not covered by grants such as vehicle issues & short term housing (hotels).
ALL are needed
Healthy Families home visiting programs for families in need
Help with emergency cooling and mold and electrical repair please
We need to think outside the box on our programs, so many people abuse the system! Yet we leave those families empty that are doing everything they can to make it but still need that little bit of help. I understand I make XXXX amount of money, BUT shit happens and sometimes we just need a month of help, or our furnace looked at without worrying about a \$500 bill...I wish we would see more into the gray and stop allowing the same families to abuse the system and become life long recipients while they choose to never better themselves.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
help getting a key made at locksmith
I wish there will be more help for people finding jobs
my most bressing concern is the lack of activities for youth that care not 'into' athleticces, wellnedd youth center! Roller skate rinks, indoor skate parks, community centers
Transportation is a major issue for those who cannot drive and the disabled and elderly don't have the funding to utilize the poor public transportation in place.
Mandan needs more services offered. Bismarck has many options, but Mandan has few related to proper housing, home repair. My biggest concern for Bismarck is Emergency Shelter options, and options for Abused Adults (There is currently only AARC).
communty action is an excellant need for our area and has helped me out alot!!
Housing for singles. Solar homes
They need to make more programs accessible to the community. And if they are programs that are granted for their work then the work should get done right,not wrong! For instance replacing the board or plywood the hot water heater sat on but not bringing it to the home owner's attention that the hole floor was rotted. As a mother living deprived and not having the funds to fix it, there's things that need to be addressed. It doesn't make sense you qualify for one program but not the other. Like weatherization but not for rehab cause you don't have homeowners ins
Affordable housing, jobs with livable wages, increasing locally-produced foods
Would be nice to have more homeless shelters, also a place that offers help with making resumes and etc, some people just don't know how to do certain things to help get started in getting jobs or applying for school , etc
disconnect between citizens and issues
Funding for early childhood special education. The current building is full. A new building or addition to the current building would be beneficial. Splitting up teachers into elementary schools will crowd those schools.
Larger Early Childhood Education Facility to be housed in one building and not split up amongst elementary schools. Splitting up the program divides resources and inhibits teachers and staff from providing the best services to children.
More affordable child care for our children's children.
need better places for homeless people

Thank you for your help and concerns foer the people
Community needs to worry about our children not their convenience or lining their pockets.
Closure by GRE of Coal Creek Station will cause ongoing issues with employment, housing, quality of education, and increasing property taxes (to offset the taxes previously paid by GRE to the state and county).
The Community Cupboard needs to determine that the residents that get food every month actually need it and cannot afford their own groceries. Too many here take advantage of the free food that work in the coal mine and make WAY more than the elderly, etc. The people that don't need it are always the first in line with their hands out!
Our community is facing massive layoffs with the announcement that our local power plant may close. That will greatly impact our community. We will need assistance re-educating & producing new employment opportunities
Daycare that are licenend are in a high need.
increased funding for home visiting agencies like Healthy Families to reach more families in the area
More activities for the youth - rec building, open gym, facilities
More support to help people help themselves instead of or in addition to food bank, etc.
SAFE HOME FOR CHILDREN , TRIBE NEED TO CRACK DOWN ON DRUG PEOPLE AND BRING INTO FOCUS MANDANTORY BIRTH CONTROL FOR PEOPLE THAT END UP INVOLVED WITH CPS .

Region 8

From Section 2.1 Employment
Figuring out options for taxes, benefits, how to file, deductions, or other community resources available. Relocating
Services for small businesses - how to start, how to market, how to merchandise, etc.
Filed for Disability due to health problems, waiting on them. I could not wait any longer to have surgery on my cervical spine so I had to have it done. Now I am unable to work and at risk of losing everything. I also have to have another spinal surgery after I recover from this one.
finding a job as due to covid my husbands job will no longer be needed.
human service career seekers
Information on retiring and Medicare/Social Security benefits in regard to part time employment
Many job openings, but people cannot find employment. People continue to come to area expecting to find work in the oil field. Work is now much more technical than during early boom. Employers way more selective about hiring. Criminal or drug background also interferes with hiring.
More transparency for job seekers with criminal backgrounds. Many companies treat as either a case by case basis or simply refuse to interview anyone with a criminal history.
My son is 16 years old and was home everyday all day and because of that it cost extra to feed him and I found myself stocking up on items when I went to the grocery store not knowing when the next time I was going back to the store. Especially when I am use to buying one item at s time!!! I was buying him extra snacks to have throughout the day!! I am also going through a divorce in which we are hoping to hear from the judge by the end of June hopefully.
self employed business owner unable to work due to Covid-19
Supplemental Retirement income in the next year or two and insurance.
WE have a shortage of addiction counselors
work for a felon that is a living wage with benefits

From Section 2.2 Income and Asset-Building
Housing resources, tenant rights, credit resolution, loans, home/ vehicle, life planning
Window replacement

Investing in real estate. Understanding equity.
Looking at increasing our financial intelligence and education; looking at building assets.
Small business start up help, and assistance during the first year or two. The community needs help with economic development.
Suppressed farm economy causing financial pressure
Suppressed farm economy causing financial pressure
Financial problems due to disability
always looking for advice on retirement planning
As I draw closer to 65, knowing more about Social Security, when to file and what is the best plan with Medicare. How to best use my retirement as I look into working full or part time when I am 65.
assistance with rental deposit...even the money to pay for background checks for every family member every time I apply for an apartment is out of reach
can't pay for prescription medicine
I applied for rent bridge but I wasn't eligible. I was looking to see if I could get help with June's rent and I don't have utilities to pay they are included and n the rent.
Medical
Need rental assistance
Need support system to get and stay out of poverty. Always living in fear of being homeless.
People do not possess basic skills to management their income; unable to prioritize spending; too hard to change spending habits.
people need training on what their responsibilities are to be a citizen. We can give FREE tax prep, we can GIVE counseling on gambling, budgets, credits....etc. But where is our education on people's responsibilities to be a citizen of this country, state, town, etc.
Planning for retirement
We need assistance replacing drafty inefficient entrance doors.

From Section 2.3 Education
-Additional training/schooling to further career
Financial intelligence classes; learning about what money is and how to make it work for us.
Some kids want to stay local, in their hometown. Help to understand how they can train or learn how to get a good paying job locally or how to start up a sound business that can support them well and a perhaps a family.
Although my household does not need childcare assistance at this time, I recognize that SAFE & affordable childcare options are needed in Dickinson. As we are working towards transitioning into a household with children we are trying to identify if it would be more financially sound for me to continue working or if I should stay home. Unfortunately, a large portion of my take home paychecks would go towards childcare.
Building healthy relationship education
I have some college my struggle is figuring out how I learn to be able to keep up and maintain the information.
Paying off student loan debt
Rental assistance
support programs to go back to college
The above are not personal needs, rather Community Needs
The community needs to continuously build on the education system and quality child care/preschool programs that are affordable to families that don't qualify for assistance to attend quality programs but yet can't afford to pay the prices child care/preschools are asking.

From Section 2.4 Housing
Need housing , homeless
Renter and tentant rights and responsibilities seems to be lacking in small rural communities.
Accessible housing needs to go beyond ADA....and we need lots more of it!
All of the above are needed in life when a person is starting out on their own or as they age and are living on a fixed income.
Community Needs marked above
Difficult to find income-based rentals for larger families (4-6 children plus parents); incentivize building income-based studio apartments for low income single individuals.
High cost of mortgage insurance.
I believe that landlords need to be held more accountable for their properties here in Stark County. I have been in many complexes that I have had concerns about, and when those concerns were brought to the landlords they brushed off the concerns and did not follow up or follow through with necessary fixes. I feel that there needs to be more education for both landlords and renters regarding their rights and responsibilities.
mortgage payment assistance

From Section 2.5 Health and Social/Behavior Development
I was accessing Prairie Rose Center, after my brain injury. I was verbally abused by the worker XXX, a female. She also abused other clients. One friend of mine needed help wiping her mouth bc XXX yelled at her. I wiped my friends mouth, and XXX then yelled at me. After I had knee replacement (had a simultaneous broken arm, trying to protect my new knee), I was rewrapping the ACE bandage around my knee, sitting on the couch in the common area. XXX came out and yelled at me, telling me to "do that in the bathroom, I dont want to see that". My knee wasnt bleeding. She was very abusive and ignorant to tell me this. An ACE bandage is for support, not for blood. After she carried her self back to the office, I started crying. I had just broken my arm after surgery, trying to save my new knee (I did!!), and was using a special walker with an arm attachment to support my broken arm. Walking to the bathroom and maneuvering with my walker would have been problematic. So I sat there and cried, then left. I havent been back since. I could use the emotional support still for my brain injury, but I grew up in an abusive home, and I dont want any further mental trauma (I have PTSD). When I see clients/friends from the center, they say they miss me, but I dont want to get yelled at anymore. And she yells at clients to wash before lunch, then serves food with NO GLOVES!! Is that even health dept acceptable?
Informed consent on all vaccines administered.
The above marked are items rural communities need more of. As the state governments "centralize" services, rural residents become shorted on their needs. Getting to a larger town, isn't as easy as it looks on paper. I'm not sure what's going on with the "community bus" services, but western ND should have a needs assessment on that also.
Access to health savings accounts due to high-deductible health insurance
All of these are viable issues for peoples in our community at one level or another in life when looking at physical and mental health.
mental health assistance for teenagers. help in motivating, teaching responsibility, and learning to understand emotions.
These are community needs
we need more dental providers to take Medicare/Medicaid...so people with special needs don't have to travel to Bismarck for dental care. Even with insurance Health care is too expensive on every level.

From Section 2.6 Civic Engagement and Community Involvement
case management/assistance for those coming into the community to help search for housing, other assistance. I am talking about working poor who have no time to do this on their own or do not know the community enough to find out. they are trying to survive
coronavirus insanity took everything away and brought many other worse problems
All the above items help make a community stronger. Western ND needs to promote these things.
Clean up garbage and abandon cars in New England. Health hazards!!!!!!
Free and confidential sexual health services for teenagers
inpatient addiction facility
ROADS and road conditions....

From Section 2.7 Other supports
We need services for people with alzheimers and dementia who can afford to pay for those services. We need social services and other government agencies to be way more open to other types of care that have existed for centuries, long before the Western Allopathic model. So many things could be avoided or treated much more cost effectively and totally effective if other options were available, promoted and used. There is no need for much of the treatments that happen.
Small town grocery stores need a network for accessing fresh fruits, vegetables, and meat products so they're affordable. Shipping costs are high. Most people go out of town to shop for these items.
These items are things important where I live. A Community Garden is great--but there are people in need that just can't garden--having fresh produce available from farmer's markets to food pantries would be a great solution. But those farmers should get paid for their efforts=challenge
All these are important factors in life and for different circumstances in one's life.
community events for all ages
Mental health and addiction facilities
Need expertise with Social Security benefits application
This community needs more affordable public transportation (I do not personally need this but the clients I serve do. Same for people exiting corrections settings.

From Section 2.9 Local Program
I was accessing Prairie Rose Center, after my brain injury. I was verbally abused by the worker XXX, a female. She also abused other clients. One friend of mine needed help wiping her mouth bc XXX yelled at her. I wiped my friends mouth, and XXX then yelled at me. After I had knee replacement (had a simultaneous broken arm, trying to protect my new knee), I was rewrapping the ACE bandage around my knee, sitting on the couch in the common area. XXX came out and yelled at me, telling me to "do that in the bathroom, I dont want to see that". My knee wasnt bleeding. She was very abusive and ignorant to tell me this. An ACE bandage is for support, not for blood. After she carried her self back to the office, I started crying. I had just broken my arm after surgery, trying to save my new knee (I did!!), and was using a soocial walker with an arm attachment to support my broken arm. Walking to the bathroom and maneuvering with my walker would have been problematic. So I sat there and cried, then left. I havent been back since. I could use the emotional support still for my brain injury, but I grew up in an abusive home, and I dont want any further mental trauma (I have PTSD). When I see clients/friends from the center, they say they miss me, but I dont want to get yelled at anymore. And she yells at clients to wash before lunch, then serves food with NO GLOVES!! Is that even health dept acceptable?
Youth programs - safety city, babysitter training etc
Addiction services?? Adult Day care
Dental/vision
Financial Wellness Training.

All these items cost money, but in rural communities it is important to have available all the options that available in larger communities. =challenge
A program like Circles (bridges out of poverty)
Emergency assistance w/housing, overdue utility bill, looking into a transportation program for families that need a car at little or no cost by partnering with a garage and community to provide the cars when traded in and then given an inspection to make sure they are sound for use; especially for single parents with a valid driver's license that is struggling to find and keep work due to transportation needs.
I would love to see all these programs continue!
long-term inpatient addiction treatment
Many of my family benefitted from the birth control counseling programs that were once offered. I think this is a HUGE need. Low cost birth control!!!! What are we thinking in society????
Behavioral/Mental Health Services needed. Such as a Mental Health Unit within the hospital or other settings with trained professionals.

From Section 3.1. Additional Feedback
I am homeless I do not have any family or friends in North Dakota
- more regulated child care options - options for summertime supervision for school aged kids under 13 that are legally not supposed to be home alone especially not home alone watching their siblings!
Dickinson really needs a city bus. Public transit is not reliable on short notice and a bit pricey.
I really wish that there were more opportunities for behavior based learning. Mental and social development. Assessments for counseling services, rehab, etc.
Addictions and mental health are big issues. These are the underlying causes of a lot of the other issues that we see in our community.
Help our community see how special we are and what is so great about this community
These services need to be more publicized, I didn't realize that half of what you have listed are a thing. Have never heard of a few of them.
We need workers at the nursing home, hospital and around the community. Can't we get some immigrants here to help with this dire shortage?????
Affordable daycare seems to be a huge need in my area
Affordable child care/senior/disabled home repairs that are free
affordable transportation child care for parents trying to become employed but can't do so without it in place and can't afford it until they are working.
After school place for kids, Youthworks office
Again, I can't stress enough the focus on abstinence as a solution for birth control. This trend is alarming. I know in the past CAA had excellent information that was provided. H.S. and college students really needed a safe place to obtain information and need low cost and non-judgmental solutions. I don't see this on your questionnaire at all.
Assistance for the elderly who do not qualify as low income. Sometimes they have a greater need to be directed and guided through services. They can pay for services but don't know where to go.
Assistance in maintaining housing is a definite need. We also need a homeless shelter in Dickinson and surrounding area.
Behavioral health for youth and Mental health needs for adults and youth. The access to these services is very limited and is needed desperately as the rise in behavioral issues in children has been evaluated.
Definitely need more vocational training. Housing costs are too high. Better snow/ice control of roads
drug courts
get help for these kids who are struggling emotionally and mentally due to life at home and experiences at school. punishing kids who misbehave doesn't help them. finding out why might....
Growing population is the youth. More activities, support services and health services needed locally.

Heads are buried in the sand; resistance to trying to find collaborative solutions. Too many individuals want to be the hero.
Housing for persons and children who may not qualify due to an arrest record or poor credit history. They would have to be enrolled in a program(s) to improve upon those areas and working.
I answered the questions as to the needs of the residents I serve at my job.
I would like to see more needs being met for groups like retired military personnel.
It is imperative that we get mental health and addiction services in our area. People are dying because there are no resources here.
Need stronger police presence, more cruisers going through neighborhoods, maybe motorcycle or police walking the beat more and coming thru businesses. Also need more handicap parking spaces at several facilities.
There needs to be a grassroots movement to show the community at large that there are homeless individuals and families in our area. If the community as a whole could ban together to assist those in need, it would be a much better place.
We desperately need mental health and addiction facilities in our area.
We need more quality pre-school settings for students who do not fall into poverty or are special needs. The programs that are available are very expensive and offer only half day programs.
We would love to be more involved in the community with volunteering, etc, but it is very difficult to find out information about that sort of thing.