



2016 COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Prior to each of six focus group interviews, respondents were assigned to their proper-group type:



PROVIDERS

Those who provide services in the community



COMMUNITY MEMBERS/PARTICIPANTS

Those who are using or qualify for services funded by United Way; or local community members

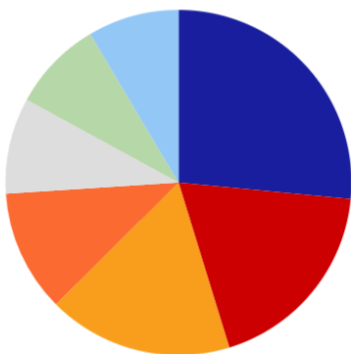


VETERANS

Active military and retired veterans

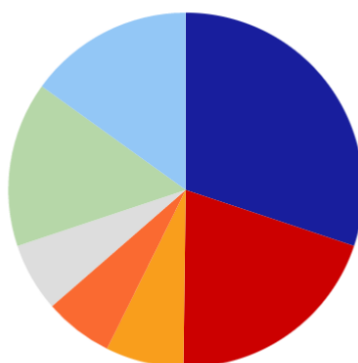
KEY WORD IDENTIFIERS BY GROUP

PROVIDERS



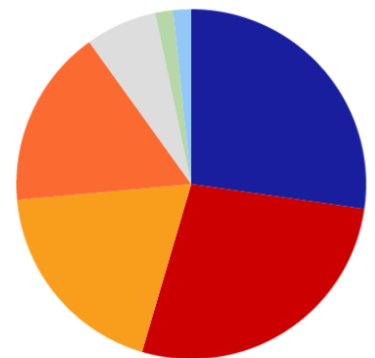
■ UNEMPLOYMENT
■ MEDICAL

PARTICIPANTS/ COMMUNITY MEMBERS



■ HOUSING
■ DRUGS

VETERANS



■ CHILD CARE

OBSERVATIONS & MAJOR THEMES



UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment was the most discussed theme for all groups. Providers were more aware of community resources than other groups and discussed under-employment. Participants & veterans noted bureaucratic issues and lack of societal support as issues connected to unemployment.



HEALTH

Medical/health issues were widely discussed in all groups. Providers discussed preventive health and being overwhelmed. Community members discussed hunger as a health issue, as well as affordability, lack of available services and access to health care. Veterans were concerned largely with mental health.



HOUSING

Housing was the third most discussed theme for both providers and veterans. All groups discussed homelessness. Providers and veterans are concerned about the rising number of homeless women and children. Providers note that military sets housing costs which can create a burden for those with lower-paying job.



CHILDCARE

Both Providers and Community Members noted affordability and quality of childcare as top concerns. Community members expressed challenges associated with gaining access to childcare (i.e., lack of transportation) and also discussed scheduling difficulty for those with atypical work hours.



TRANSPORTATION

Transportation emerged as a theme despite not being addressed on the survey instrument. More of a concern to community members, the topic related to other themes such as access to healthcare, childcare and employment. Lack of sidewalks and bus routes was also noted.



DRUGS

Many providers discussed drugs as a learned behavior and the associated stigma of a drug user. Community members commented on the drug use/violence connection and the ineffectiveness of forcing resources on users not ready to change their behavior. Veterans' concerns related to drug use were mainly connected with mental health.



VIOLENCE

Between-group differences emerged when discussing violence. Providers were focused on prevention and the relationship between stress and violence. Community members discussed how violence is learned and the lack of consequences for offenders. Veterans connected domestic violence with mental health.

For a full report and survey methodology, visit www.liveunitedclarksville.org.



United Way of the Greater Clarksville Region

CONTRIBUTORS

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