2017 Community Needs Assessment

Results

Community Resources and Development

May 2017

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BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

BACKGROUND
Salt Lake County is committed to utilize data and a variety of methods to gather information to identify the most critical need(s) facing our communities. As part of the effort to use resources efficiently and through partnership, the Community Resources & Development (CRD) division conducted a community needs assessment in 2017.

CRD aims to strengthen families and neighborhoods by helping fund organizations that provide essential programs and services to individuals and areas of the county that need them most.

PURPOSE
1. To seek input from individual community members, with a focus on those who may have the greatest needs.
2. To better understand the needs of the communities throughout Salt Lake County.
3. To help inform the allocation of resources to best address the needs of Salt Lake County residents

Past CRD Funding Allocations
During the past five years, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and Community and Support Services (SSBG & ESG) funding has been allocated to organizations addressing the following issues:

- Housing – 64%
- Infrastructure / Neighborhood Revitalization – 16%
- Safety and Stability - 7%
- Economic Development – 6%
- Access to Crisis Services – 4%
- Legal Services – 2%
- Education – 1%
- Healthcare - 0.2%

Funding Decision Process
Historic:
CRD has incorporated several factors in the decision making process, including:
• Literature review of prior needs assessments
• Public needs hearing
• Responses to request for proposals (RFP) from providers
• RFP review committee input

2017 Additions to the Process:
The following steps were added to the process to make a more comprehensive and informed approach to understand and address community needs:
• Expanded literature review of 13 assessments, reports, and research
• Created on-line survey (feedback collected February – April 2017)
  o Designed questions specific to top needs identified in literature review
    • Transportation
- Safety/Stability
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Mapping of underserved communities and members of protected classes
- Identified priority communities based upon mapping results
  - Kearns
  - Midvale
  - Salt Lake City
  - South Salt Lake
- Implemented additional strategies to seek input from priority communities:
  - Kearns
    - Religious leaders
  - Midvale
    - Seniors
  - Salt Lake City
    - Community councils & other organizations
  - South Salt Lake
    - Youth & families

Survey Responses

Total # of survey participants: 870
- # of surveys taken in English: 800
- # of surveys taken in Spanish: 70

Of the 870 participants from around the county that took the survey, the breakdown of participants based on residency was as follows:

- Salt Lake City - 34%
- West Valley City - 10%
- West Jordan - 7%
- South Salt Lake - 6%
- Magna - 6%
- Kearns - 6%
- Taylorsville - 5%
- Sandy - 5%
- South Jordan - 4%
- Millcreek - 4%
- Holladay - 2%

- Murray - 2%
- Midvale - 2%
- Riverton - 2%
- Copperton - 1%
- Cottonwood Heights - 1%
- Draper - 1%
- Herriman - 1%
- Bluffdale - 0.5%
- White City - 0.12%
- Emigration - 0%
- Alta - 0%

The majority of survey respondents (82%) of the 851 who answered, indicated that they have wanted to change something or address a problem in their community.
- 25% wanted to address infrastructure and neighborhood revitalization issues.
- 15% wanted to address crime, safety, stability, and enforcement issues
DEMOGRAPHICS OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Household Type

- A couple with children: 40%
- A couple without children: 25%
- A single parent living alone: 15%
- Two or more families sharing living: 10%
- Have roommates: 10%

Veteran – 7%

Number of People in Household

- 2 or more: 20%
- 3: 15%
- 4: 10%
- 1: 5%

Disabled – 11%

Age of Respondents

- Under 18: 5%
- 18-20: 6%
- 65+: 5%
- 21-29: 16%
- 45-64: 21%
- 30-44: 19%

Household Income of Respondents

- $50,000-$74,999: 19%
- $75,000-$99,999: 16%
- $15,000-$34,999: 16%
- $100,000-$150,000: 6%
- $35,000-$49,999: 5%
- >$150,000: 6%
- <$15,000: 21%

Gender of Respondents

- Female: 78%
- Male: 25%
- Other: 1%
- Transgender: 1%
Top Issues Identified as Needing The MOST Improvement - The percentage of 869 survey respondents who identified these issues as one of the top needing the most improvement in their community. Respondents selected up to five issues.

- Education - 42%
- Neighborhood Revitalization - 32%
- Environment - 33%
- Mental Health Services - 33%
- Safety - 32%
- Housing - 29%

Housing Needs - 54% of 859 survey respondents indicated they thought there IS A NEED for more housing opportunities in their neighborhood. Additionally, respondents indicated the single largest housing need in their area as affordable housing.
Greatest Community Need in 5-10 Years – 16% of survey respondents identified housing as the greatest need in their community over the next 5-10 years. Education was identified by 11% as the second largest need.

Barrier to Economic Opportunity – Of the 678 respondents that answered this question, 21% indicated that education is the largest barrier to economic opportunity for residents in their community. 18% feel that housing is the largest barrier to economic opportunity.
Barrier to Safety and Stability – Of the 668 respondents who answered, 22% felt indicted that crime is the largest barrier to residents feeling stable and safe in their community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Responses: Bars to Safety &amp; Stability</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Enforcement</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Housing</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Enough Community Policing</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs/Income</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reason People Experience Poverty – 27% of respondents indicated that a lack of education is the single most common reason people experience poverty.
RESULTS: PRIORITY COMMUNITIES

To best align with federal funding requirements, four priority communities were identified based upon population of underserved and under represented populations, including protected classes. The communities, and the survey highlights for each are listed below.

Kearns: n= 48

Top Five Greatest Needs –
Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

Education – 49%

Neighborhood Revitalization – 47%

Safety – 43%

Mental Health – 24%

Economic Development – 24%

Greatest Need Over The Next 5-10 Years -
Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

Transportation – 16%

Education – 12%

Safety – 12%

Neighborhood Revitalization – 12%

Housing – 10%

Housing Need – 35% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 45% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 20% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, 48% feel affordable housing is the largest housing need in their community.

"I think the greatest gap will continue to be in school and making more ways for the school to become a place for families to feel comfortable in going and being involved." – Kearns Resident
Midvale: n= 20

**Top Five Greatest Needs –** Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

- **Education** – 45%
- **Health Care** – 35%
- **Safety** – 35%
- **Environment** – 30%
- **Housing** – 25%

**Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years -** Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

- **Housing** – 22%
- **Education** – 16%
- **Quality of Life** – 11%
- **Environment** – 1%
- **Health Care** – 1%

**Housing Need** – 50% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 10% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 40% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, **62% feel all types of housing are equally needed in their community.**

"Neighborhood revitalization, especially helping our elderly population in our neighborhood." – Midvale Resident
Salt Lake City: n = 291

Top Five Greatest Needs – Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

- **Housing** – 42%
- **Environment** – 42%
- **Mental Health Care** – 38%
- **Education** – 34%
- **Neighborhood Revitalization** – 34%

Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years - Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

- **Housing** – 22%
- **Safety** – 11%
- **Health Care** – 7%
- **Transportation** – 7%
- **Education** – 6%

**Housing Need** – 70% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 18% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 12% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, **52% feel affordable housing is the top housing need in their community.**

“Mental health services have been woefully underfunded for years and years. If this doesn’t improve then this will be the continued greatest gap and the fall-out from that is tremendous and manifested in many negative effects.”  
– SLC Resident

“Keeping housing affordable and creating employment opportunities with living wages for people of all education levels, even as SLC’s population continues to grow.” – SLC Resident

“Needs more commercial space, more walkability/bikeability and more emphasis on arts and environmental health.”  
– SLC Resident
South Salt Lake: n= 56

Top Five Greatest Needs –
Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues as one of their top five needing improvement.

- Neighborhood Revitalization – 55%
- Environment – 50%
- Economic Development – 48%
- Safety – 43%
- Education – 39%

Greatest Needs Over The Next 5-10 Years -
Percentage of respondents who indicated these issues will be the greatest need in 5-10 years.

- Housing – 22%
- Economic Development – 15%
- Neighborhood Revitalization – 10%
- Land Use – 10%
- Safety – 8%

Housing Need – 59% of respondents indicated there is a need for more housing in their community. 20% indicated there is not a need for more housing. 21% were unsure.

Of those who feel that more housing is needed, 40% feel home ownership is the top housing need in their community.

"Affordable housing as our population is growing " – South Salt Lake Resident
CONCLUSIONS

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

The goal of this survey was to reach Salt Lake County residents. While the percentage of countywide residents reached is low, we anticipated this due to the outreach efforts being focused towards underserved and under represented populations.

Overall, we were pleased to receive responses from a diverse set of individuals, representing a variety of populations throughout Salt Lake County.

NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY

- Education and Environment were identified as the top current need of the survey respondents.
- Housing and Education were identified as the greatest needs in the next 5-10 years.

Literature Review Compared to Survey Results

While the survey findings reflected some of the findings identified in the literature review, there were also some additional issues identified.

- Housing was one of the top needs identified by the literature and survey respondents.
- Safety and Stability was identified as a need by the literature review and survey respondents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Literature Review</th>
<th>Survey Results – Current</th>
<th>Survey Results 5-10 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Stability and Safety</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Stability</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Neighborhood Revitalization</td>
<td>Economic Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Economic Independence</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Stability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Job Creation</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Health Care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Past CRD Funding Compared to Survey Results

Over the past five years, Salt Lake County has awarded over half of federal funding (CDBG, HOME, Community & Support Services) towards housing issues. This is in line with the needs that were identified by survey respondents; addressing BOTH current needs as well as future needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Past County Funding</th>
<th>Survey Results Now</th>
<th>Survey Results 5-10 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<td>Neighborhood Revitalization</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Access to Crisis Services</td>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Stability</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Legal Services</td>
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