

ILLINOIS COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES Needs Assessment Survey

(Community Stakeholders)



Illinois Department of
Commerce &
Economic Opportunity

Community Services
Block Grant

Illinois's community action agencies are conducting a study of the needs of low-income people. Results from the study will be considered by Illinois's community action agencies for planning, developing, and delivering agency activities, services, and initiatives.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please answer each question by checking the appropriate box or boxes. If a question does not apply to you, please leave it blank. "Community" is defined as the neighborhood and/or city in which you live.

1. What county do you live in? _____
2. What community stakeholder group do you belong to? select the one that best describes your group:

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> County government | <input type="checkbox"/> educational institution | <input type="checkbox"/> service organization | <input type="checkbox"/> police | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City government | <input type="checkbox"/> health care provider | <input type="checkbox"/> public/private housing | <input type="checkbox"/> judicial | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Supervisors | <input type="checkbox"/> faith based | <input type="checkbox"/> neighborhood association | <input type="checkbox"/> private business | |
3. Are there full-time living wage employment (\$15 per hour or higher) opportunities available in your community?

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>insufficient</u> number of opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> there are a <u>sufficient</u> number of opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>excessive</u> number of opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> there are not any opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
4. Why do you believe people have problems getting or keeping a full-time living wage job? select all that apply:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> jobs are not available | <input type="checkbox"/> physical or mental disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> need better communication, people/customer job skills |
| <input type="checkbox"/> language barriers | <input type="checkbox"/> need better technical job skills | <input type="checkbox"/> health issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> lack of education | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> substance abuse issues |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> need child care |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
5. Are child care programs (during the day, Monday through Friday) for low-income families available in your community?

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>insufficient</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are a <u>sufficient</u> number available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>excessive</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are not any available <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
6. Are child care programs (evenings, nights, and weekends) for low-income families available in your community?

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>insufficient</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are a <u>sufficient</u> number available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>excessive</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are not any available <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
7. Are pre-school programs (including Head Start programs) for low-income families available in your community?

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>insufficient</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are a <u>sufficient</u> number available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>excessive</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are not any available <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
8. Are affordable child and youth (ages 5 to 17) activities or after school programs available in your community?

| | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>insufficient</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are a <u>sufficient</u> number available |
| <input type="checkbox"/> there are an <u>excessive</u> number available | <input type="checkbox"/> there are not any available <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
9. In your community, in which areas do you believe youth (ages 12 to 17) need information, education, guidance, and/or assistance? select all that apply:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> after school supervision | <input type="checkbox"/> school attendance | <input type="checkbox"/> birth control | <input type="checkbox"/> affordable school/community activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learning disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> behavior disorders | <input type="checkbox"/> tutoring | <input type="checkbox"/> mentoring/leadership/volunteering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> finding employment | <input type="checkbox"/> gang participation | <input type="checkbox"/> obesity | <input type="checkbox"/> sexually transmitted diseases |
| <input type="checkbox"/> substance abuse/tobacco | <input type="checkbox"/> teen parenting | <input type="checkbox"/> mental health | <input type="checkbox"/> physical health and dental issues |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> none apply |
10. Are there adequate levels of non-medical emergency services available in your community? YES NO unsure
11. Are there a sufficient number of emergency shelters available in your community? YES NO unsure
12. Are there adequate levels of medical services available for low-income people in your community? YES NO unsure
13. Are there adequate levels of dental services available for low-income people in your community? YES NO unsure

14. Are there adequate levels of wellness (nutrition, exercise, etc.) programs available for low-income people in your community?
 YES NO unsure

15. Are there adequate levels of public transportation options (cabs, taxis, buses, trolleys, etc.) available in your community?
 YES NO unsure

16. Are the homes in your community in good repair? most are some are few are none are unsure

17. Which of the following issues do you believe are the greatest challenges low-income families and individuals are currently facing? select all that apply:

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> child care | <input type="checkbox"/> living wage employment | <input type="checkbox"/> mental health services | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> job training | <input type="checkbox"/> teen pregnancy | <input type="checkbox"/> family/child abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> medical care access | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> housing | <input type="checkbox"/> substance abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> language barriers | <input type="checkbox"/> dental care access | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> budgeting | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> health food selection | <input type="checkbox"/> health care costs | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> parenting | <input type="checkbox"/> family violence | <input type="checkbox"/> special needs children | <input type="checkbox"/> credit card debt | <input type="checkbox"/> child support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> chronic illness | <input type="checkbox"/> energy/utility costs | <input type="checkbox"/> financial literacy/planning | <input type="checkbox"/> legal issues/services | <input type="checkbox"/> none apply |

18. Which of the following areas do you believe low-income families and individuals need assistance with in order to achieve or maintain self-sufficiency? select all that apply:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> employment | <input type="checkbox"/> mental health | <input type="checkbox"/> substance abuse treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> medical care |
| <input type="checkbox"/> job training | <input type="checkbox"/> literacy | <input type="checkbox"/> financial literacy/planning | <input type="checkbox"/> family/child abuse |
| <input type="checkbox"/> housing | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> energy/utility costs | <input type="checkbox"/> language barriers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> child care | <input type="checkbox"/> legal issues/services | <input type="checkbox"/> family planning | <input type="checkbox"/> none apply |

19. Which of the following areas do you believe the elderly (seniors) in your community need assistance with in order to remain in their home? select all that apply:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> housework | <input type="checkbox"/> yard work/snow removal | <input type="checkbox"/> home repairs | <input type="checkbox"/> energy/utility costs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> managing medications | <input type="checkbox"/> grocery shopping | <input type="checkbox"/> preparing meals | <input type="checkbox"/> laundry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> financial assistance | <input type="checkbox"/> tax preparation/legal issues | <input type="checkbox"/> access to transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> none apply |

20. Of the following, which of these do you believe low-income families and individuals need information, education, guidance, and/or assistance:

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| checking and savings accounts..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| credit card debt..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| credit repair..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| payday loans..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| car <u>title</u> loans (not a car purchase loan)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| budgeting or money management issues | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| filing tax returns (Earned Income Tax Credit) | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| obtaining loans | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| property tax exemptions..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| rent reimbursement claims..... | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| home energy/utility cost issues | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |
| landlord/tenant issues | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input type="checkbox"/> NO | <input type="checkbox"/> unsure |

21. On a scale of 1 to 5 (1=poor/poorly, 3=fine/adequate, and 5=excellent), please rate the following:

How would you rate your relationship with the community action agency in your community?

- 1 2 3 4 5 no relationship

How well is the community action agency in your community meeting the needs of low-income families and individuals?

- 1 2 3 4 5 unsure

22. What do you believe causes poverty? [please provide answer on separate sheet]

23. What community improvement initiative would you like your community to address? [please provide answer on separate sheet]

24. If you had \$1,000,000 to solve a community issue, what would you solve? [please provide answer on separate sheet]

25. Any other comments? [please provide answer on separate sheet]