
Community Services, Inc.
Community Needs Assessment
Board Report

Summary of key findings

The 2023 Community Services, Inc., community needs assessment was completed by surveys and holding two focus groups: clients and community partners in each of the five counties; as well as data collection.

The top 3 needs in following areas:

Income:

1. Not enough income/fixed income
2. Not enough income to meet basic needs
3. Debt problems

Education:

1. Childcare issues
2. Cost of vocational training or secondary education
3. Transportation issues

Employment:

1. Lack of good paying jobs with benefits
2. Lack/cost of childcare
3. Current job is low paying

Housing:

1. Rental housing is not affordable
2. Lack of funds for rent and/or utility deposits
3. Rental housing is not available

Nutrition:

1. Cannot afford to purchase nutritious meals
2. Not eligible for food stamps/SNAP
3. Tie: Money management/Meal planning/Budgeting
Tie: Planning/Time to prepare meals

Transportation:

1. Cost of down payment/maintaining vehicle
2. Cost of repairs
3. Lack of credit to buy a car/vehicle

The CSBG work plan addresses these needs either with agency programming or referrals to partner agencies that provide necessary assistance for clients.