

2022 Community Action Needs Assessment



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Executive Summary

In 1964, Congress passed the Economic Opportunity Act to begin America's War on Poverty. As a result of this initiative, a network of Community Action Agencies sprang up all over the country to alleviate the impact of poverty at the local level and to support people with low incomes to improve the quality of their lives. All Community Action Agencies are overseen by a state agency designated by the Office of Community Services of the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health, and Human Services. Every three years, all Community Action Agencies in Wisconsin must conduct a Community Needs Assessment that describes community needs in their service area(s).

Community Action, Inc. (CAI) provides access and opportunity for those we serve and those who support our efforts. Through innovative programs and strong community partnerships we eliminate barriers, establishing clear pathways to economic self-reliance.

CAI creates a Community Needs Assessment every three years. CAI distributed the survey to 2,908 households in Rock and Walworth County. Survey respondents were drawn from a list of applicants for the Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance program (WERA).

The 2022 needs assessment is comprised of data gathered from 437 surveyed households in Rock and Walworth Counties. That is a 15% return rate. 70% of respondents are at or below 125% of the federal poverty level. In order to construct a detailed and comprehensive picture of poverty in our community, this report compares our survey data with Census data, as well as data from other surveys and reports.

CAI also conducted 4 focus groups to gather information from community stakeholders and underserved populations. A focus group was conducted with Rock and Walworth County Stakeholders to identify gaps in service, emerging needs, and existing demands for service. A focus group was also conducted with participants in the CAI Fatherhood Initiative and our youth centered Fresh Start program.

The Fresh Start program is comprised of 17–21-year-old youth from challenged backgrounds. The Fatherhood Initiative works with men ages 18 and older.

A focus group was conducted with CAI staff, particularly staff working with populations facing significant barriers. A focus group was also conducted with members of the CAI Board of Directors. Data was also collected from multiple sources to fully demonstrate the impact of poverty at the national, state and local levels.

CAI utilizes a planning cycle based on a Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA) framework. CAI's Board of Directors and staff utilize needs assessment data, program progress reports and other sources of information to understand community needs and explore ways to improve or expand existing programs or create new programs to alleviate or reduce poverty. The Board will analyze and discuss survey results in the context of the mission statement and strategic plan.

Poverty in Our Community

Housing issues dominated the 2022 Needs Assessment. This is completely in step with the national, state and local data that is compiled throughout this document.

Families continue to report issues with paying rent, struggles with finding safe, affordable housing, and the inability to afford buying a house. Not having money to deal with any type of financial crisis that arises, and lack of savings continue to be significant themes contributing to unstable housing. Lack of affordable housing and skyrocketing rental payments are forcing many families into making hard decisions regarding which basic need they can do without meeting.

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The National Poverty Picture

According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, 27 million children in the United States (38%) live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold, a measurement that has been shown to underestimate the needs of families. Research shows that, on average, families need an income of about twice that level to cover basic expenses. Using this standard, 44% of children live in low-income families.

Most of these children have parents who work, but low wages and unstable employment leave their families struggling to make ends meet. Poverty can impede children's ability to learn and contribute to social, emotional, and behavioral problems. Poverty also can contribute to poor health and mental health. Risks are greatest for children who experience poverty when they are young and/or experience deep and persistent poverty.

In addition to the continuing issue of child and family poverty, there is an affordable housing crisis in the United States. Communities across the country are facing low-income housing shortages – there is not a single county in the United States that can fill 100% of its low-income population's need for safe, affordable housing.

Poor housing and poor health are tied together, especially with children. When homeless or low-income families must compromise on housing, their health declines including worsening asthma and allergies tied to poor housing conditions; pests; molds and chronic dampness; lead exposure and increased accidents/ injuries from exposed wiring and other needed repairs.

- Millions of Americans are struggling to afford a place to live. In order to afford a modest, two-bedroom apartment in the U.S., renters need to earn a wage of
- \$20.30 per hour. In six states and the District of Columbia they need to earn more than \$25 per hour.
- US minimum wage is \$7.25/hour. A renter would need to work 90 hours per week to afford a one-bedroom rental home at the Fair Market Rent and 112 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom.
- On average, there are only 28 adequate and affordable housing options for every 100 extremely low-income households.
- 30% of chronically homeless people have serious mental health issues.
- 50,000 veterans are homeless in the United States and
- 1.4 million are considered at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support systems and poor living conditions.

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Racial Disparity

Racial Disparity continues to be a major issue at the national, state, and local levels as well, especially disparity between black and white households. Racial Disparity continues to be an issue on both the National level, as well as for the State of Wisconsin. A study conducted by Wall Street 24/7 named Wisconsin the worst state for Black families to live in. Another Study conducted by WalletHub, named Wisconsin the most segregated state in the US. Although much of the disparity is related to poverty, disparities in health, housing, education, and employment transcend socioeconomic status.

Housing Discrimination

Black families are more likely to live in areas of concentrated poverty — areas that have limited economic opportunities, fewer services, and poorer educational resources. People who become homeless are likely to have lived in these neighborhoods immediately before their homelessness. Data show that Black households often face barriers when attempting to move to more favorable neighborhoods. A study by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) found that people of color were often shown fewer rental units, offered higher rents, and denied more leases than Whites.

Incarceration

The incarceration rate for Black people tripled between 1968 and 2016 and is more than six times the White incarceration rate. A history of involvement with the criminal justice system can keep people from successfully passing background checks needed to secure housing or employment. People exiting jails and prisons face significant problems in accessing safe and affordable housing, which can result in homelessness.

Mental Health Treatment

People whose serious mental illness goes untreated are particularly vulnerable to homelessness; both poverty and lack of access to care contribute to disparities in mental health. African Americans are 10 percent more likely to report psychological distress than Whites and are far more likely to be uninsured. More than half of U.S. residents without health insurance are people of color

Our Work

CAI's mission is linked to the needs of our community. The 2022 assessment is a valuable tool, helping bring those needs into sharper focus. The facts and figures contained in this report tell the story of the communities we serve and inform our continuing work as poverty advocates.

Section One:

Needs Assessment

Planning

1. Agency Planning Process

Community Action, Inc. (CAI) utilizes a planning cycle based on Results Oriented Management and Accountability (ROMA). All parts of this cycle are guided by the agency's strategic plan and, in turn, inform the strategic planning process every three to five years.

2. Development of the Needs Assessment

CAI created a new survey FOR 2022 by utilizing questions from the 2019 CAI survey for comparison. CAI also utilized questions from WISCAP to compare information gathered across agencies. CAI also added questions related to the environment and climate change provided by a PH. D. candidate from The University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Life Science Communication.

For the current assessment, CAI implemented extensive surveys of low-income people who applied for support through the Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance Program (WERA). A large portion of the data gathered for the assessment comes from the U.S. Census Bureau and more specifically the American Community Survey (ACS). In addition to the survey, a series of focus groups were held to gather information from various stakeholder groups in our community, including area service providers and individuals from various historically underserved populations.

3. Distribution of the Needs Assessment Survey

For the first time, the survey was available exclusively electronically via Survey Monkey. The survey was also available in multiple languages.

4. How Needs Assessment is Utilized for Program Development

CAI's triennial Needs Assessment is a key part of the ROMA planning cycle. The data and findings are analyzed and discussed by the Board of Directors in the context of the mission statement and strategic plan. The next steps include:

- ☐ Prioritization of needs by Board
- ☐ Discussion and decisions by Board on strategies to address identified needs
- ☐ Development by staff of annual work plans with projected goals, objectives, and measurement of outcomes
- ☐ Board review/discussion/approval of annual work plans
- ☐ Implementation of programs and strategies
- ☐ Regular collection, evaluation, and discussion of results through program progress reports

CAI's Board utilizes needs assessment data, program progress reports and other ongoing sources of information to explore ways to improve or expand existing programs or create new programs to alleviate or reduce poverty.

5. Determination of Program and Funding Priorities

Needs assessment results are analyzed and inform both the strategic and annual work planning processes. Prioritization is led by the Board of Directors. The process of selecting poverty problem priorities and funding allocation take into account an array of factors, such as:

- ☐ Fit with CAI's mission and vision statements approved by the Board
- ☐ Fit with priorities already set by Board in current strategic plan (these may change during next round of strategic planning based, in part, on needs assessment results)
- ☐ Assessment of existing community resources and gaps in service based on experience, knowledge and partnerships with numerous public and private entities in local communities
- ☐ Input from low-income people through Board and committee participation, surveys, and low-income advisory groups
- ☐ Input from community members and elected officials through Board and committee membership as well as involvement in an array of coalitions and partnerships
- ☐ Discussion and analysis of feasibility, costs and benefits of various programs and strategies
- ☐ Likelihood of successful impact
- ☐ Review and discussion of research and literature on solutions to poverty
- ☐ Availability of public or private funding
- ☐ Capacity of the organization to take on a given program or approach

6. Low-Income Participation

CAI is governed by an 18-member Board of Directors composed of one-third low-income representatives, one-third community representatives, and one-third elected officials.

The agency has six standing committees in addition to its Executive Committee. Each Board member serves on at least one standing committee. Committees include:

- Finance
- Human Resources
- Planning and
Evaluation
- Governance
- Consumer Advisory Committee

The Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) is of special importance to this agency. Comprised solely of low-income members and service providers. They provide critical feedback to help marketing and outreach efforts. Additionally, the CAC interviews all potential Consumer representatives for the Board of Directors.

Section Two:

Overview of Survey

Frequency of Poverty Problems Rated as Serious by Surveyed Households:

Cost of rent	59.44%
I cannot afford to buy a decent house	56.81%
Finding safe, affordable housing	50.12%
Have enough money to respond to unexpected emergencies.	48.61%
Lack of savings	45.83%
Cost of maintaining car (insurance, gas)	45.01%
Cost of car repairs	43.49%
Having enough money to pay all the monthly bills	42.17%
Paying for school	41.04%
Paying for childcare or transportation so I can go to school	37.56%
Finding a dentist who accepts BadgerCare/Medicaid patients	37.09%
Getting a loan and/or help to start a business	36.88%
Dental Costs	36.19%
Cost of heating	34.81%
High Household Debt (legal, credit card, medical, student loans, payday loans or other)	33.87%
Medical/Dental insurance costs	33.10%
Childcare for nights/weekends	32.94%
Childcare for when my child is sick	32.08%
Getting affordable legal services	31.82%
The cost of household electricity	30.95%
Affordable childcare	30.75%
Medical Costs	30.56%
Extreme heat in the summers	30.09%
Finding housing that allows pets	29.81%

I have trouble making the mortgage payment	29.22%
Counseling/treatment for mental illness	28.77%
Diagnosis or suspect of mental health concerns	26.89%
Extreme cold in the winters	25.81%
Prescription Costs	24.77%
Obtaining reliable transportation to work, school, day care, etc.	24.53%
Housing needs insulation or weatherization	24.06%
Cost of childcare keeps me from working	23.11%
Getting a job with health insurance benefits	23.00%
Getting enough food for my household	21.53%
Getting a better-paying job	21.50%
Counseling/treatment for drug or alcohol use	20.43%
Finding treatment/coping with a disability in the household	19.48%
Car is often not available for me/ a family member to use	19.01%
Guiding challenging behaviors for a teenage child	18.44%
Getting information about enrolling in public county programs	17.29%
Getting training to start/expand my own business	15.84%
Guiding challenging behaviors for a young child	15.17%
Getting a full-time, year-around job	13.65%
Health impact from air pollution	11.97%
Getting job with more hours	11.56%
Getting education or training so I can get a better job	11.29%
Obtaining a checking or savings account	10.21%
Getting information on nutritious food	9.84%
Use check advance services too often	9.15%
Ability to keep children in/attending school	8.51%
Ability to assist children with their homework	8.25%
Concern about children witnessing violence in the home	7.58%
There is use of force (kicking, pushing, hitting) in the relationship with my partner/spouse	7.55%
Accessing a copy of your credit report	7.42%
Flooding from the extreme rainfall	7.23%
Getting a high school diploma	4.24%

Issues by Specific Categories Rated as Serious by Surveyed Households:

Employment:

Getting a loan and/or help to start a business	36.88%
Getting a job with health insurance benefits	23.00%
Getting a better-paying job	21.50%
Getting a full-time, year around job	13.65%
Getting a job with more hours	11.56%

Education and Training:

Paying for school	41.04%
Paying for childcare or transportation so I can go to school	37.56%
Getting training to start/expand my own business	15.84%
Getting education or training so I can get a better job	11.29%
Getting a high school diploma	4.24%

Housing:

Cost of Rent	59.44%
I cannot afford to buy a decent house	56.81%
Finding safe, affordable housing	50.12%

Cost of heating	34.81%
Finding housing that allows pets	29.81%
I have trouble making the mortgage payment.	29.22%
Housing needs insulation or weatherization	24.06%

Health:

Finding a dentist who accepts BadgerCare/Medicaid patients	37.09%
Dental Costs	36.119%
Medical/Dental insurance costs	33.10%
Medical Costs	30.56%
Counseling/treatment for mental illness	28.77%
Diagnosis or suspect of mental health concerns	26.89%
Prescription Costs	24.77%
Getting enough food for my household	21.53%
Counseling/treatment for drug or alcohol use	20.43%
Finding treatment/coping with a disability in the household	19.48%
Getting information about enrolling in public county programs	17.29%
Getting information on nutritious food	9.84%

Transportation:

Cost of maintaining a car (insurance, gas)	45.01%
Cost of car repairs	43.49%
Obtaining reliable transportation to work, school, day care, etc.	24.53%
Car is often not available for me/a family member to use	19.01%

Family:

Childcare for nights/weekends	32.94%
Childcare for when my child is sick	32.08%
Affordable childcare	30.75%
Guiding challenging behaviors for a teenage child	18.44%
Guiding challenging behaviors for a young child	15.17%
Ability to keep children in/attending school	8.51%
Ability to assist children with their homework	8.25%
Concern about children witnessing violence in the home	7.58%
There is use of force (kicking, pushing, hitting) in the relationship with my partner/spouse	7.55%

Financial and Legal Matters:

Have enough money to respond to unexpected emergencies	48.61%
Lack of savings	45.83%
Having enough money to pay all the monthly bills	42.17%
High household debt (legal, credit card, medical, student loans, payday loans, etc)	33.87%
Getting affordable legal services	31.82%
Obtaining a checking or savings account	10.21%
Use check advance services too often	9.15%
Accessing a copy of your credit report	7.42%

Environmental/Climate Concerns:

The cost of household electricity	30.95%
Extreme heat in the summers	30.09%
Extreme cold in the winters	25.81%
Health impact from air pollution	11.97%
Flooding from extreme rainfall	7.23%

Section Three:

Poverty Problems and Trends

POPULATION:

Wisconsin	5,893,718
Rock County	161,381
Cities:	
Beloit	36,609
Edgerton	5,952
Evansville	5,791
Janesville	65,942
Milton	8,907
Villages:	
Clinton	2,221
Footville	772
Orfordville	1,473
Avon town	570
Bradford town	1,013
Brodhead city	3,274
Center town	1,028
Fulton town	3,307
Harmony town	2,562
Johnstown town	766
La Prairie town	784
Lima town	1,139
Magnolia town	742
Newark town, Rock County	1,510
Plymouth town	1,388
Porter town	969
Rock town	2,981
Spring Valley town	728
Turtle town	2,393
Union Rock	2,104

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Census Data. P1 (PL94-171)

Walworth County	106,799
Cities:	
Delevan	8,383*
Elkhorn	
Lake Geneva	8,504
Whitewater	14,351
Villages:	
Darien	1,651
East Troy	4,687
Fontana	3,120
Genoa City	5
Sharon	1,586
Walworth	2,759
Williams Bay	2,953
Bloomfield village	4,781
Burlington city	0
Geneva town	5,390
Lafayette town	1,948
La grange town	2,472
Linn town	2,687
Lyons town	3,648
Mukwonago village	222
Richmond town	1,901
Spring Prairie town	2,123
Sugar Creek town	3,902
Troy town	2,355

Demographic Data for 2022 CAI Survey Respondents

Gender	2022 Survey
Male	18.71%
Female	78.98%
Transgender	0.23%
Non-binary/nonconforming	0.46%
Prefer not to answer	1.62%



	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
Female	50.20%	50.80%	49.90%
Male	49.80%	49.20%	50.10%

DP05: ACS Demographic and housing estimates. US Census Data, 2020.

The majority of the respondents were female. The American Community Survey (ACS) demonstrated the reality of a balanced representation of genders.

In the 2022 survey more than half of the respondents were between 24-44. This may be in partly due to the WERA programming of participants.

Age	2022 Survey Percentage		Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
18-23	3.9%	18-24	9.50%	8.60%	12.80%
24-44	59.2%	25-44	24.90%	24.50%	21.60%
45-54	21.4%	45-54	12.70%	13.20%	12.70%
55-69	13.1%	55-69	19.70%	19.40%	20.60%
70+	2.3%	70+	11.30%	11.30%	11.80%

S0101: Age and sex 2020 American Community Survey US Census Data



Population by Race and Hispanic/Latino Origin:

	2022 Survey	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
Asian	1.15%	2.80%	1.8%	1.6%
Black	18.94%	7.6%	6.5%	1.6%
Native American	2.54%	1.6%	1.1%	0.9%
White	76.91%	87.4%	89.3%	95.%
Hispanic/Latino	6.71%	7%	9.%	11.2%
Other	17%	3.3%	5.5%	4.8%

*DP05: ACS DEMOGRAPHIC AND HOUSING ESTIMATES American Community Survey 2020

For the 2022 survey We continued to see an increase in participation from BIPOC communities. The representation of respondents was greater for Blacks, Latinx, and Native Americans than it was in 2019. This result is positive because BIPOC communities are typically disproportionately represented in poverty data but are sometimes not included in identifying root causes of poverty and possible solutions to those root causes. While we certainly do not wish to see an increase in racial disparity, We do want to ensure that we better capture the voices of those most impacted.



Household Composition:

Household Annual Income 2022 Survey Percentage HHS 125% FPL 2022		
Number of people in household	Income Above 125% FPL	Income Below 125% FPL
1	28%	72%
2	32%	68%
3	33%	67%
4	32%	68%
5	31%	69%
6	21%	79%
7	1%	90%
8	16%	84%

Source for FPL 125%: [Guidelines-2022.pdf\(hhs.gov\)](https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/guidelines-2022.pdf)

Household Size:

	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Occupied housing units	2,377,935	65,237	41,414
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
1 person HH	30.1%	29.6%	27.4%
2 person HH	37%	36.3%	37.4%
3 person HH	13.5%	13.7%	13.8%
4 + person HH	19.%	20.4%	21.4%

*S2501: OCCUPANCY CHARACTERISTICS American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2020

	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Families	1,479,364	42,303	26,760
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
2 people	51.82%	51.27%	51.47%
3 or 4 people	37.22%	37.73%	36.19%
5 or 6 people	9.70%	10.11%	10.82%
7 + more people	1.26%	0.89%	1.52%

*S1702 Poverty Status in the past 12 months of families ACS 2020

Living Situation for Survey Respondents:

Situation	Percentage
Single parent with child/children	32%
Married couple with child/children	13.8%
Single, living alone	15.5%
Separated/Divorced	9%
Live with significant other and child/children	13%
Live with significant other, no children at home	4%
Married couple no children at home	6%
Widow/Widower	4%
Over 65 years	3%

Marital Status:

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
Total population	5,806,975	162,532	103,391
Population 15 years and over	4,756,284	131,576	86,013
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
Married	50.40%	49.30%	52.60%
Widowed	5.50%	5.9%	5.10%
Divorced	10.90%	12.70%	9.40%
Separated	0.90%	1.20%	1.00%
Never married	32.30%	30.90%	31.90%

S0103: POPULATION 65 YEARS AND OVER IN THE UNITED STATES 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

According to the survey, the percentage of participants married and not separated was 19.8%. 4% of respondents were widowed and 9% were separated/divorced. While the widowed and divorced respondent numbers are similar to the general population the married number of respondents is nearly 2.5 times lower than the general population.

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
Occupied Housing Units	2,377,935	65,237	41,414
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
Family households	62.20%	63.70%	65.30%
Married-couple family	48.30%	47.10%	51.50%
Male householder, no wife present	4.50%	5.30%	4.60%
Female householder, no husband present	9.40%	11.70%	8.90%
Nonfamily households	37.80%	36.30%	34.70%
Householder living alone	30.10%	29.70%	27.40%
Householder not living alone	7%	6.10%	7.90%
Family with related children under 18 years	28.60%	27.60%	29%
Family with own children under 6 years only	6.00%	6.10%	5.60%
Family with children 6 to 17 years only	15.70%	16.50%	15.00%

Employment



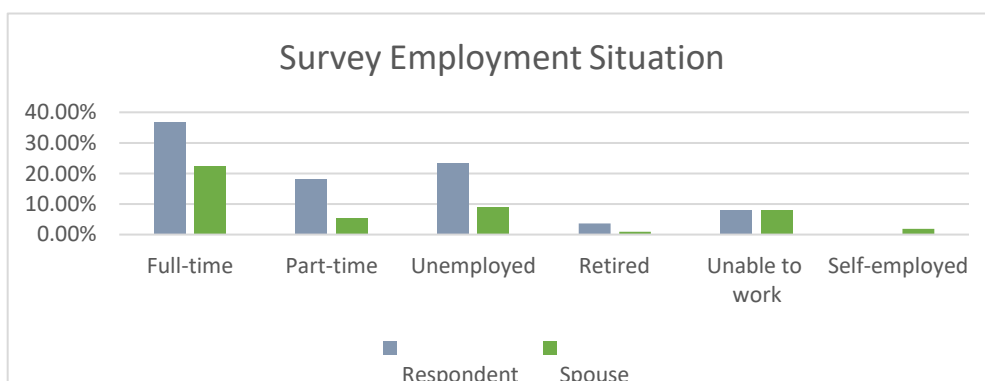
Employment Matters for CAI Survey Respondents

The employment situation for survey respondents has improved slightly since the 2019 survey, despite the pandemic. Getting a better- paying job was a serious matter for 21.50% of survey respondents and ranked 35th amongst the most serious issue in 2022. In 2019 “Getting a Better-Paying Job” ranked 13th. In fact, for every question save one, the concern around employment related issues has dropped since 2019. In 2019, getting a job with health insurance benefits ranked 20th amongst serious issues, in 2022 this ranked 33rd. In 2019, 21% of respondents found that getting a loan or help starting a business was a serious problem. In 2022, getting a loan or help starting a business ranked 12th amongst serious issues.

Employment	2022 Survey	2022 Survey Rank
Getting a better-paying job	21.50%	35
Getting a job with more hours	11.56%	45
Getting a full-time, year- around job	13.65%	43
Getting a job with health insurance benefits	23.00%	33
Getting a loan and/or help to start a business	36.88%	12

Household Employment Status for Survey Respondents:

	Respondent	Spouse/Partner (if present)
Full time	36.94%	22.50%
Part-time	18.02%	5.40%
Unemployed	23.42%	9.01%
Retired	3.60%	0.90%
Unable to work	8.11%	8.10%
Self-employed	0%	1.80%



Size of Labor Force:

SOURCE:

<https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/WisConomy/>

*Averages the 2018 monthly labor force, and the 2019 monthly labor force until May.

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
2020	3,105,882	85,964	57,061
2021	3,134,439	86,855	58,402
% Change	0.919449%	1.03648%	2.350117%

Unemployment Rates:

Period	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth	Janesville	Beloit
Jan-20	3.4	5.2	4.4	5.0	5.9
Feb-20	3.8	4.6	4.2	4.3	5.5
Mar-20	3.6	4.0	3.4	3.7	4.8
Apr-20	3	15.8	14.0	17.1	16.0
May-20	2.7	13.8	11.4	15.1	14.9
Jun-20	3.5	9.7	8.3	10.3	10.8
Jul-20	3.2	8.2	6.4	8.8	11.1
Aug-20	2.9	6.7	5.7	7.3	7.7
Sep-20	2.4	5.2	4.2	5.8	5.6
Oct-20	2.4	5.6	4.9	6.0	6.6
Nov-20	2.5	5.0	4.3	5.2	5.7
Dec-20	2.8	5.4	5.0	5.5	5.9
Jan-21	3.5	5.0	4.6	4.8	5.7
Feb-21	3.3	5.5	4.9	5.1	6.7
Mar-21	3.3	5.1	4.7	4.9	6.2
Apr-21	2.7	5.1	4.2	5.1	6.7

*The Wisconsin unemployment rates for each month are the average of the two numbers demonstrated for that month.

*Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) Results, SOURCE: <http://worknet.wisconsin.gov/worknet/dalaus.aspx?menuselection=da>

Unemployment by Race:

	National	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
White alone	4.6%	3.1%	4.0%	3.3%
Black or African American alone	9.2%	8.7%	13.1%	11.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	9.7%	8.1%	2.8%	1.9%
Asian alone	4.3%	3.4%	11.1%	2.9%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	6.8%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Some other race alone	6.4%	4.7%	2.9%	2.2%
Two or more races	78.0%	7.3%	12.0%	4.6%
Hispanic or Latino origin	6.2%	4.8%	6.7%	3.4%

The unemployment rate in Rock is typically high for most races. The Black unemployment rate for Rock County is higher than the rate for the United States, Wisconsin, and Walworth County. It is triple the rate of white unemployment in Rock County. The disparity is also notable for Walworth County as well, where Blacks experience an unemployment rate 3.5 times higher than whites.

Unemployment Rate by Gender:

	Unemployment
16 years and older:	6.7%
Men	6.7%
Women	6.6%
White Men	6.1%
White Women	6.0%
Black Men	11.1%
Black Women	9.0%
Asian Men	6.0%
Asian Women	6.6%

All categories are 16 years and over

NOTE: "Persons whose ethnicity is identified as Hispanic or Latino may be of any race. Updated population controls are introduced annually with the release of January data." From <http://www.bls.gov/cps/tables.htm#empstat>

Employment Status:

Employment Status	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
Population 16 years and over	4,682,533	128,962	84,640
	Percentage	Percentage	Percentage
In labor force	66.1%	65.1%	67.0%
Employed	63.7%	62.1%	64.8%
Unemployed	2.3%	3.0%	2.3%
Not in labor force	33.9%	34.9%	33.0%
Unemployment rate	3.6%	4.5%	3.4%

*S1701: American Community Survey, 2020 Data



Employment Rates by Age:

AGE	National	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
16 to 19 years	31.40%	46.80%	45.20%	51.10%
20 to 24 years	66.30%	75.70%	77.40%	74.90%
25 to 29 years	77.10%	83.30%	80.00%	87.90%
30 to 34 years	78.30%	83.40%	82.50%	84.10%
35 to 44 years	78.90%	84.40%	82.80%	86.90%
45 to 54 years	77.80%	83.50%	81.70%	85.10%
55 to 59 years	70.10%	75.70%	71.90%	81.10%
60 to 64 years	55.60%	59.20%	57.70%	61.20%
65 to 74 years	25.60%	23.50%	20.70%	24.00%
75 years and over	6.70%	6.00%	5.00%	7.20%

*S2301: EMPLOYMENT STATUS, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Racial Disparity in Employment:

Overall ranking of the United States per a study published on January 11, 2022.

[States with the Most Racial Progress \(wallethub.com\)](https://wallethub.com)

*No.1 = most integrated

Overall Rank*	State	Total Score	'Employment & Wealth' Rank	'Education' Rank	'Social & Civic Engagement' Rank	'Health' Rank
50	Wisconsin	33.27	50	50	51	46

Lowest Labor-Force Participation Rate Gap

T-1. Montana
T-1. Alaska
T-1. Hawaii
T-1. Kentucky
5. Arizona



Highest Labor-Force Participation Rate Gap

47. Illinois
48. Pennsylvania
49. South Dakota
50. Wisconsin
51. District of Columbia

Income, Financial, Poverty, and Legal Issues



Financial and Legal Issues for CAI Survey Respondents:

Lack of savings was rated fifth as a serious problem by survey respondents in 2020. This was listed as the most serious problem by respondents to the 2016 and 2019 surveys. Concerns about having a lack of savings was closely followed by the concern that individuals do not have enough money to pay the monthly bills, which was rated as a serious problem in 42.17% of surveys. Additionally, nearly half of survey respondents (48.61%) say that having enough money to respond to unexpected emergencies is a serious problem. Although these issues shifted in the rankings for 2022, The overall percentage of survey respondents identifying these issues as a serious problem, increased.

Financial and Legal Matters	2022 Survey Percentage	2022 Survey Rank	2019 Survey Rank
Have enough money to respond to unexpected emergencies	48.61%	4	5
Lack of savings	45.83%	5	1
Having enough money to pay all the monthly bills	42.17%	8	9*
High household debt	33.87%	15	9
Getting affordable legal services	31.82%	19	8
Obtaining a checking or savings account	10.21%	47	19
Use check advance services too often	9.15%	49	28
Accessing a copy of your credit report	7.42%	54	23

*Survey respondents of what categories their household debts:

Answer Choices	Percent of Survey Respondents
Legal	4.3%
Medical	28%
Credit Card	25%
Student Loans	29%
Payday Loans	9%
*Auto Loans	3.2%
*Home/Mortgage/Rent	6.0%
*Personal Loans	1.2%
*Collections	1.4%

*Green highlighted in table = write-in answers for this specific question.

2022 Federal Poverty Guidelines www.acf.hhs.gov			
Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline	125% of Poverty Guideline	200% of Poverty Guideline
1	\$13,950	\$16,988	\$27,180
2	\$18,310	\$22,888	\$36,620
3	\$23,030	\$28,788	\$46,060
4	\$27,750	\$34,688	\$55,500
5	\$32,470	\$40,588	\$64,940
6	\$37,190	\$46,588	\$74,380
7	\$41,910	\$52,388	\$83,820
8	\$46,630	\$58,288	\$93,260
*For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,720 for each additional person. Then multiply by 1.25 or 2.00 for 125% or 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines			

Household Income of Survey Respondents: (based on 125% FPL)

	Household Annual Income Above	Household Annual Income Below
1 person \$16,988	28%	72%
2 people \$22,888	32%	68%
3 people \$28,788	33%	67%
4 people \$34,688	32%	68%
5 people \$40,588	31%	69%
6 people \$46,488	21%	79%
7 people \$52,388	1%	90%
8 people \$58,288	16%	84%
More than 8: Add \$5,900 for each additional household member	33%	66%

70% of survey respondents are below the 125% FPL guideline. 30% of survey respondents are above the 125% FPL guideline. The survey also indicated 53% of respondents are currently receiving public assistance. 47% of respondents are not receiving public assistance.

Estimated Wisconsin Poverty Levels:

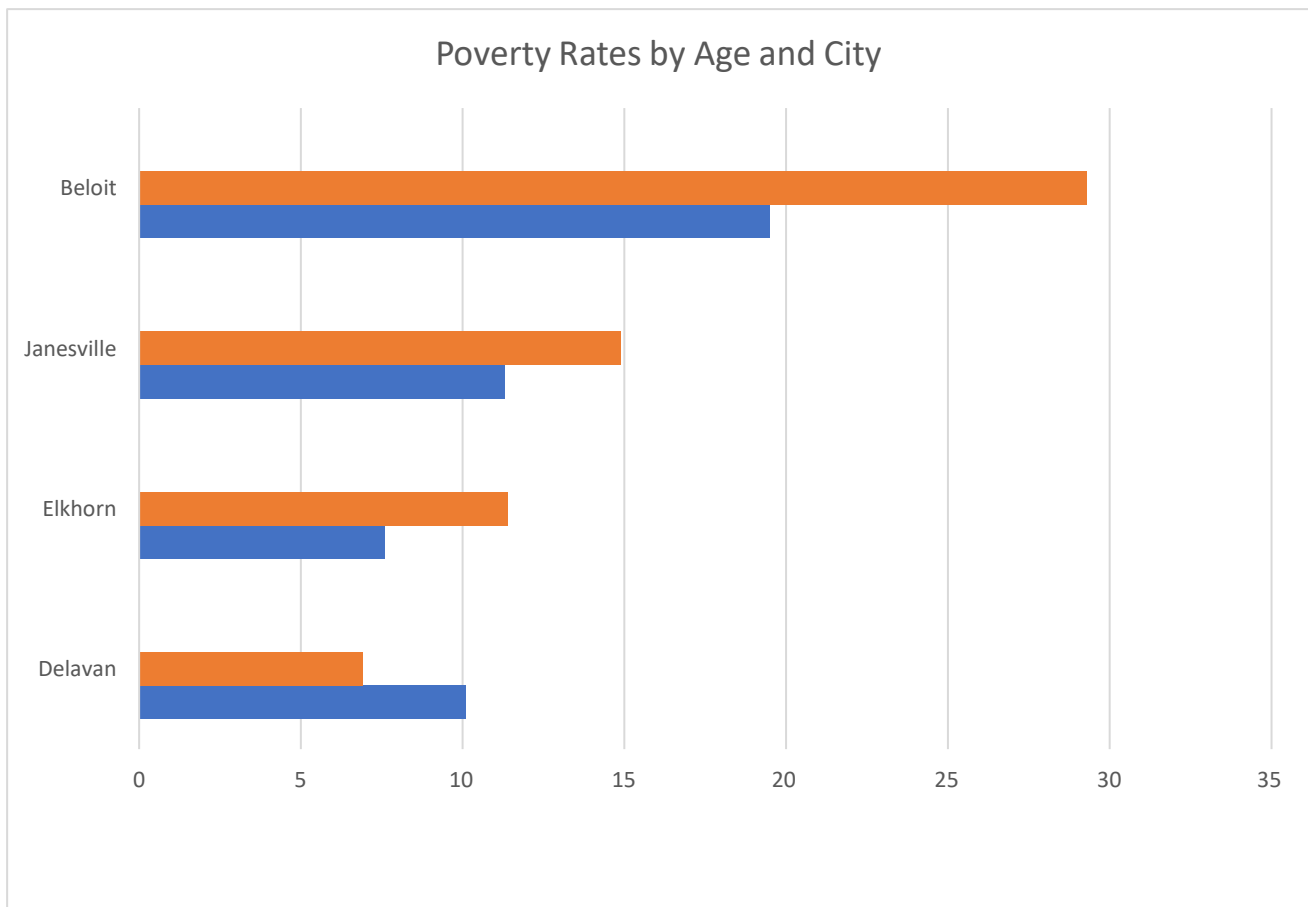
	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Population for whom poverty status determined	5,659,485	159,131	100,543
Population below poverty	620,947	19,389	9,592
	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Percent below poverty for population for whom poverty status is determined	11%	12.2%	9.5%
Percent below poverty for those under 18 years old	14.2%	18.2%	8.9%

*S1701: Poverty status in the past 12 months, 2020 American Community Survey

Poverty Rates by Age and City:

	Beloit	Janesville	Elkhorn	Delavan
Population for whom poverty status determined	35,091	63,265	9,690	8,173
Population below poverty	8,673	8,374	822	1,016
	Beloit	Janesville	Elkhorn	Delavan
Percent below poverty for population for whom poverty status is determined	19.5%	11.3%	7.6%	10.1%
Percent below poverty for those under 18 years old	29.3%	14.9%	11.4%	6.9%

*S1701: Poverty status in the past 12 months, 2020 American Community Survey, by city.



Percent Poverty Levels by Race:

Race and Hispanic or Latino Origin	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
White alone	8.7%	10.8%	8.8%
Black or African American alone	30.4%	25.5%	22.2%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	24.6%	9.9%	8.4%
Asian alone	15.1%	13.6%	12.5%
Some other race alone	21.5%	15.4%	19.7%
Two or more races	18.4%	22.1%	15.1%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	19.6%	24.7%	14.2%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	8.3%	9.9%	8.5%

*S1701 Poverty Status in the past 12 months. 2020 American Community Survey

Percent Poverty Levels by Race and City:

	Beloit	Janesville	Elkhorn	Delavan
White alone	18.3%	10.4%	7.9%	8.7%
Black or African American alone	23.1%	32.2%	-	-
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	7.3%	21.8%	-	8.3%
Asian alone	15.8%	6.9%	-	3.7%
Some other race alone	18.3%	12%	2%	9.9%
Two or more races	26.7%	21.9%	7.6%	55%
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	28.4%	20%	.7%	10.5%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	15.2%	10.3%	8.3%	10.3%

*S1701 Poverty Status in the past 12 months. 2020 American Community Survey

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Wisconsin:

Hourly wage needed for self sufficiency by family type:	Rock	Walworth
Adult	\$9.12	\$9.85
Adult + Preschooler	\$19.29	\$20.24
Adult + Infant + Preschooler	\$26.65	\$28.78
Adult + Preschooler + School-Age	\$25.43	\$25.74
Adult + School-Age +Teen	\$18.07	\$18.84
2 Adults + Infant	\$11.62 per adult	\$12.87 per adult
2 Adults + Infant + Preschooler	\$14.88 per adult	\$16.05 per adult
2 Adults + Preschooler + School Age	\$14.26 per adult	\$14.50 per adult
2 Adults + Preschooler + School Age+ Teenager	\$15.55 per adult	\$16.07 per adult

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development published The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Wisconsin 2019 in an effort to ensure that the best data and analyses are available to enable Wisconsin's families and individuals to make progress toward real economic security.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Wisconsin 2019 defines the amount of income necessary to meet the basic needs of Wisconsin families, differentiated by family type and where they live. The Standard calculates the costs of six basic needs plus taxes and tax credits. It assumes the full cost of each need, without help from public subsidies (e.g., public housing, Medicaid, or child care assistance) or private/informal assistance (e.g., unpaid babysitting by a relative or friend, food from food banks, or shared housing).

*Note: 2019 data is the most up-to-date data on Self-Sufficiency Standards.

**[The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Wisconsin 2019](#)

Median Income:

The **median income** is the income amount that divides a population into two equal groups, half having an income above that amount, and half having an income below that amount. It may differ from the mean (or average) income. The income that occurs most frequently is the income mode. Each of these is a way of understanding income distribution.

Median income can be calculated by household income, by personal income, or for specific demographic groups.



Estimated Median Income:

	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Occupied Housing Units	2,377,935	65,237	41,444
Median Household Income	\$63,293	\$59,519	\$66,034

*S2503: Financial Characteristics, 2020 American Community Survey. 2020 Inflation-adjusted

Median Income by Age and Location:

Age	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
15-24 years	\$35,550	\$34,462	\$25,776
25-44 years	\$71,783	\$67,021	\$77,959
45-64 years	\$77,690	\$72,103	\$82,636
65 years and over	\$44,123	\$40,719	\$49,650

*S1903: Median Income in the past 12 months, 2020 American Survey. 2020 Inflation adjusted.

Median Income by Race and Location:

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
White alone	\$66,073	\$61,415	\$66,263
Black or African American alone	\$32,857	\$41,365	\$27,639
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	\$45,003	\$51,741	\$56,098
Asian alone	\$72,870	\$62,589	\$53,021
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	\$69,702	-	-
Some other race	\$48,030	\$48,414	\$92,870
Two or more races	\$83,794	\$40,804	\$59,514
Hispanic or Latino origin (of any race)	\$48,448	\$45,661	\$60,731

*S1903 Median Income in the past 12 months. 2020 American Community Survey. 2020 Inflation adjusted

Overall, household median income is higher in Walworth County than in Rock County and in Wisconsin. What you see in the chart are the racial disparities that exist between white households and certain BIPOC communities. Black households continue to lag significantly behind in income. Household median income is 2.4 times higher for White households than for Black households in Walworth County. Household median income is 1.5 times higher for White households than for Black households in Rock County. Household median income is 2.0 times higher for white households than for Black households in Wisconsin overall. This unfortunately is in line with other racial disparity data related to Black families and individuals, as Wisconsin continues to lead the nation in overall quality of life disparities between Black and White Households. Asian households and Native Pacific Island households continue to have the highest household median incomes.

Median Income by Gender and Location:

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
Female	\$30,593	\$28,035	\$25,872
Male	\$43,292	\$42,011	\$41,041

*DP03 Median Income Economic Characteristics, 2020 American Survey.

Although Walworth had a larger median household income, the median earnings for workers was larger in Rock by 7.5% than that of Walworth. Female full-time, year-round workers earned less than their male counterparts in both counties. In Rock, males earned roughly 34% more than females or by about \$13,976, and in Walworth, they earned roughly 37% more or about \$15,169 annually. These income disparities are an increase from 2019.

Median Earnings by Educational Attainment:



Overall, the median earnings increased with higher levels of education. In Rock, people with a graduate or professional degree earned 55%% more annually than those that did not graduate high school, and in Walworth, they earned 56% more annually. However, the bachelor and graduate or professional degree demographics earned more in Rock than in Walworth.

	Wisconsin	Rock	Walworth
Population 25 years and over with earnings	\$42,382	\$40,228	\$41,329
Less than high school graduate	\$28,265	\$27,394	\$29,964
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	\$33,769	\$33,227	\$34,544
Some college or associates degree	\$40,001	\$39,328	\$38,177
Bachelor's degree	\$53,594	\$50,418	\$51,201
Graduate or professional degree	\$67,272	\$61,884	\$68,983

*S2001: American Community Survey. 2020 data.

Median Income and Racial Disparity:

According to a study done by WalletHub, the gap in Wisconsin in Median Annual income between whites and blacks is the worst of any state in the country. Wisconsin also has the second gap in poverty rate between black and whites in the entire country.

• [states with the Most Racial Progress \(wallethub.com\)](https://www.wallethub.com)

Lowest Median Annual Income Gap

1. Hawaii
2. Montana
3. Arizona
4. New Mexico
5. Idaho



Best State
vs
Worst State

Highest Median Annual Income Gap

47. Iowa
48. Minnesota
49. Louisiana
50. Wisconsin
51. District of Columbia

Lowest Poverty Rate Gap

1. Hawaii
2. Montana
3. Wyoming
4. Texas
5. Maryland



Highest Poverty Rate Gap

47. District of Columbia
48. Minnesota
49. Iowa
50. Wisconsin
51. Maine



Education and Training

Survey Respondents 2022 indicating serious problem:

Education and Training	2022 Survey Percentage	2022 Rank	2019 Rank
Paying for school	41.04%	9	5
Paying for childcare or transportation so I can go to school	37.56%	10	12
Getting training to start/expand my own business	15.84%	41	20
Getting education or training so I can get a better job	11.29%	46	23
Getting a high school diploma	4.24%	56	27

Household Education Attainment for Survey Respondents:

Level Attained	2022 Survey Percentage	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
8 th grade or less	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%
No high school diploma	8.2%	4.9%	5.9%	6.2%
High school diploma or GED Equivalency	41%	30.3%	34.6%	30.5%
Some post-secondary, no degree	15%	20.5%	22%	22.1%
2 or 4 years post-secondary graduate	21%	33%	27%	28%
More than 4 years post-secondary	10%	10%	7.5%	10.7%

*Census data, American Community Survey. 2020 Data

Transportation



Considering supply chain issues, gas prices and overall inflation, cost of maintaining a car (insurance, gas) and cost of repairs rated 6th and 7th in terms of most serious issues identified by survey respondents. The ability to pay for gas, the lack of availability of car parts for repair and the lack of availability of new and used cars for purchase, all contributed significantly to these rankings.

Survey Respondents as Serious Problem:

	2022 Survey respondents Percent	2022 Rank	2019 Rank
Cost of maintaining a car (insurance, gas, etc)	45.01%	6	10
Cost of repairs	43.49%	7	6
Obtaining reliable transportation to work, school, daycare, etc.	24.53%	30	17
Car is often not available for me/a family member to use	19.01%	38	21



Health

Health Issues for CAI Survey Respondents:

In 2019 the survey respondents showed a heavier concern on health-related concerns. In 2022, health related concerns did not make the overall top 10. Rock and Walworth County communities have made a large impact in health area of expanding programs and making those programs more accessible to those with or without insurance.

Health	2022 Survey Percentage	2022 Survey Rank	2019 Survey Rank
Finding a dentist who accepts BadgerCare/Medicaid patients	37.09%	11	9
Dental Costs	36.19%	13	8
Medica/Dental Insurance Costs	33.10%	16	10
Medical Costs	30.56%	22	13
Counseling/treatment for drug or alcohol use	28.77%	26	26
Diagnosis or suspect of mental health concerns	26.89%	27	16
Prescription cost	24.77%	29	13
Getting enough food for my household	21.53%	34	13
Counseling/treatment for mental illness	20.43%	36	20
Finding treatment/coping with a disability in my household	19.48%	37	24
Getting information about enrolling in public county programs	17.29%	40	22
Getting information on nutritious food	9.84%	48	23

Health Behaviors:

2021	Wisconsin Percent	Rock Percent	Walworth Percent
Adult smoking	17%	20%	19%
Adult Obesity	32%	37%	34%
Physical Inactivity	20%	22%	23%
Excessive Drinking	27%	25%	29%
Alcohol-Impaired Driving Deaths	36%	42%	36%
Sexually Transmitted Infections (cases per 100.000)	483.6	534.8	313.3
Teen Births (births per 100)	15	24	11

[Rock County, Wisconsin | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

Rock County is ranked among the least healthy counties in Wisconsin (0-25%). Walworth County is ranked in the higher middle range of counties in Wisconsin (50-75%). Survey respondents reported more than double food insecurity concerns than the reported data in Wisconsin, Rock County, and Walworth County. The survey respondents were about equal to the same for Wisconsin, Rock County, and Walworth County for having limited access to healthy foods.

	Wisconsin Percent	Rock County Percent	Walworth County Percent	Survey Percent
Food Insecurity	9%	10%	8%	22%
Limited access to healthy foods	5%	11%	9%	10%
Children eligible for free or reduced lunch	39%	47%	40%	



Clinical Care and Quality of Life:

Uninsured adults and children per survey respondents are consistent with the state and county data.

All four of the focus groups expressed concerns about the lack of mental health providers. The data below clearly shows the lack of providers per patient.

2021	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County	Survey Respondents
Uninsured adults (percent)	8%	8%	9%	8%
Uninsured children (percent)	4%	4%	5%	3%
Primary care physicians ratio	1,270:1	1,990:1	2,880:1	
Dentists ratio	1,410:1	1,470:1	2,160:1	
Mental Health Providers	470:1	540:1	840:1	

[Compare Counties in Wisconsin | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

Quality of Life: Rock County consistency has poorer quality of life than Wisconsin and Walworth County.

	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
Life expectancy	79.5 years	78.2 years	79.4 years
Poor mental health days (average number of mentally unhealthy days reported in past 30 days)	4.0 days	4.3 days	4.0 days
Poor or fair health (percentage of adults reporting fair or poor health)	15%	17%	15%
Poor physical health days (average number of physically unhealthy days reported in the past 30 days)	3.7 days	4.0 days	3.8 days

[Compare Counties in Wisconsin - Rock \(RO\) vs. Walworth \(WA\) | County Health Rankings & Roadmaps](#)

Health Insurance Coverage:



Adults in Household

Type	Survey Respondents Percent
Private/through employer	38%
Badgercare	37%
Medicaid	23%
Medicare	14.3%
No Insurance	8%
Self-Insured	2%

Children (under 18) in Household

Type	Survey Respondents Percent
Badgercare	44%
Private/through employer	19%
Medicaid	18%
Parent's insurance	17%
No Insurance	5%

Health Insurance Coverage:

Health Insurance	Wisconsin Percent	Rock County Percent	Walworth County Percent
With health insurance coverage	94.5%	94.3%	93.6%
With private insurance coverage	86.9%	58.6%	85.4%
With public coverage	8.8%	10.9%	8.8%
No health insurance coverage	6.7%	7.0%	8.5%

*DP03: Selected economic characteristics. 2020 American Community Survey

Environmental and Climate:

Survey respondents reported the following as serious problems:

The cost of household electricity	30.95%
Extreme heat in the summers	30.09%
Extreme cold in the winters	25.81%
Health impact from air pollution	12%
Flooding from the extreme rainfall	7.23%

Infant Mortality Rate (<365 days) per 1,000 Live Births by Race or Ethnicity: Year of Death 2020

Mother's Race/Ethnicity	Number of Infant Deaths	Total Number of Live Births	Infant Mortality Rate
ALL	361	60,615	6.0
White (Non-Hispanic)	186	42,657	4.4
Black/African American (Non-Hispanic)	91	6,374	14.3
American Indian/Alaska Native (Non-Hispanic)	X	581	6.9
Laotian or Hmong (Non-Hispanic)	8	1,355	5.9
Other (Non-Hispanic)	11	1,668	6.6
Two or more races (Non-Hispanic)	6	1,404	4.3
Hispanic	51	6,436	7.9

*An X indicates a value that is less than 5 (but more than zero)

Source: [WISH — Infant Mortality Module Query Results \(wisconsin.gov\)](https://www.wisconsin.gov/hhs/data/infant-mortality)



Education and Training

Survey Respondents 2022 indicating serious problem:

Education and Training	2022 Survey Percentage	2022 Rank	2019 Rank
Paying for school	41.04%	9	5
Paying for childcare or transportation so I can go to school	37.56%	10	12
Getting training to start/expand my own business	15.84%	41	20
Getting education or training so I can get a better job	11.29%	46	23
Getting a high school diploma	4.24%	56	27

Household Education Attainment for Survey Respondents:

Level Attained	2022 Survey Percentage	Wisconsin	Rock County	Walworth County
8 th grade or less	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%
No high school diploma	8.2%	4.9%	5.9%	6.2%
High school diploma or GED Equivalency	41%	30.3%	34.6%	30.5%
Some post-secondary, no degree	15%	20.5%	22%	22.1%
2 or 4 years post-secondary graduate	21%	33%	27%	28%
More than 4 years post-secondary	10%	10%	7.5%	10.7%

*Census data, American Community Survey. 2020 Data

Section Five:

Summary of Focus Groups

The following comments from survey respondents may express concerns in adult language. Remaining true to our Community Needs Assessment process, we are including the unfiltered, unedited anonymous comments. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the staff, management, or board of directors at Community Action, Inc. of Rock & Walworth Counties.

EMPLOYMENT related comments by CAI Survey Participants

I need help with my interviewing, dress, resume building, and knowing what jobs I am qualified for. I also need help with basics of finding a job and understanding any of the employers benefits

Helping with the transition into working full-time. You get kicked off of benefits almost instantly and it is hard to adjust

Access to great paying jobs with opportunities to get promotions, giving the mentally ill a chance to train for the job hands on, part time openings for people with disabilities. Offering amazing chances to change people who wouldn't otherwise have the chance to live the American dream

Create more awareness for programs or services

Honestly, I am not even aware of what the current programs and services are in regard to employment in our community.

It's not as much the programs as much as it's a problem filling positions because there are no promising jobs.

We need more housing in this city. We have plenty of jobs, just nowhere to live.

Better health insurance that is not tied to employment or options to receive Healthcare without insurance that doesn't bankrupt a person

There are very few places around here to make a living wage. It's ridiculous, I live with my ex husband. I make 18.70 an hour. I get around 2,100 a month. I CANT FUCKING AFFORD ANYTHING. I can't live on my own, food is expensive, bills are behind and adding up, health care is being price gouged. Me making 18.70 I don't qualify for any help. Fuck, if I was making 15 an hour I still wouldn't qualify for help. This country is a shit hole. And unless people that can change things do, this cycle will continue. So yes there are issues, people need to make more money, doesn't matter what they do. We need a living wage and 18.70 sadly isn't even a living wage anymore.

When I lost my job at no fault of my own it was hard to get unemployment.

Find employers who pay better.

There needs to be services to help people get to work when they are able to get a job in a different community. Also child care help is needed especially during covid because many adults lose their job or need to quit to care for kids who are home when I'll but don't have child care.

Helping people find jobs that pay a living wage

EMPLOYMENT related comments by CAI Survey Participants

Help you find a decent paying job. Make agencies aware that job in this area do not pay enough to make a living especially if your a single parent or grandparent raising children

Increase in services for transportation to employments, childcare during work hours, navigating criminal records that are barriers to employment. Ending the cycle of 89 day employment through temp agencies, as this prevents any upward mobility or an individual securing benefits.

Increased education to businesses and employers regarding potential employees with disabilities. This area (especially with Lakeland School) should be the top of the line regarding integrated employment.

We need educated people to help people look for a job and know how to fill out the paperwork correctly.

More public awareness for job seekers and more resources promoting services not related to employment only.

Increase minimum wage, more transparency, better benefits, better treatment of hard, dependable workers, increase maternity and paternity leave time

At this time it is hard to find employees.

Existing programs do not offer reasonable employment opportunities for independent disabled adults. Pay is inadequate, advocacy groups seem to be overwhelmed, & benefits are nonexistent

Higher wages, more on the job training

EDUCATION AND TRAINING comments by CAI survey participants:

I would like to see an RSVP type program in which retired persons are utilized to help young people start business, support start us, giving time and advice to help insure that they are successful. Many retired people are sitting at home with a wealth of experience and advice that should be shared. Sitting at home only leads to sickness, loneliness and death.

There should be more training programs in place

More resources to help people find their ways to achieve success

Teach better resume writing and interview etiquette

Providing vocational and trade educating institutions at no cost to individuals.

Education without the need for massive student loans; more assistance with navigating options;

More educational services and skills training

Help with resume and interviewing and interview clothes

Very view apprenticeship and trades training, college courses for jobs that don't exist in our area like medical assistant are wasteful, unhelpful job center

Give gas card assistance, monetary education assistance(books, materials, supplies, technology devices). Job fairs.

Easier access for small businesses to get business loans

More training and education for better jobs is needed.

What is available to be known should be more obviously offered and shared.

More help for mother's and father's

Awareness and training how to create a business

5 yr plans self esteem coaches

EDUCATION AND TRAINING comments by CAI survey participants:

Education should have better pay compensation and support. We need to invest in our children and future generation!

Encouragement of basic education for regular poor people to find/keep jobs. For those of us that have higher education & training make jobs availability an option or to get more training in similar fields with better pay & some flexibility

Information and training in Spanish and other languages

Maybe they could have like a bunch of companies that would hire people with disabilities and teach them how to do things or people that can't learn that well they would have certain companies that would try to teach those people

There needs to be a lot more training or college courses available for people that have no money so they can actually make money

Services to help people who don't have ride or computers to finish looking for jobs

Technical training and skills.

Training for in demand jobs

Focus more on academics when in school. Too much emphasis is placed on gender and some other personal/emotional issues which should not be the main basis for learning in the classroom.

More parenting classes and resources to help social and emotional development

Changes like access to the pathways needed to have a career. Access to loans for a car to get to school/training. Having faith in someone that they will do the right thing.

I have no idea of the programs for education cause I haven't looked into it but I'd love to go back to school

People don't want to learn/earn, they feel they are entitled to everything.

I work hard and could go even further if I could get a sbl to start out and there are so many hoops to jump through.

More technical education in our public schools. Not every student is college material. We are not using our resources smartly

there is not enough training available at an affordable cost

EDUCATION AND TRAINING comments by CAI survey participants:

At the least, letting people know that the programs are there to begin with. Make the programs more assessable for people to avail themselves to them.

More accessible

We need more affordable educational opportunities for adults

Again, the issue is program exists. But to qualify you have to be disabled or making 10\$ an hour. Money is the root of all these issues. These can't be fixed without more money.

Have more resources to educate and make them affordable.

Cost of education is so high people do not find it affordable and cannot go into programs to improve their employment opportunities

Readily available classes

As I stated earlier, provide individuals with programs and services at no cost.

I do not have a desire to go back to school, but starting my own business has crossed my mind. I wouldn't know where to start, who to contact, where to reach out for training or available resources within the community.

More needs to be done to lower the cost of continued education beyond high school and to lower the cost of daycare for small children

I want to go back to school and study nursing but I can't afford it. Plus I don't even know how to get into a school for that.

People that had IEPs in school don't have same training support.

People may not know where to look or what services are available. They may need someone to help them through the process.

Night classes needed

Need more individual casework and mentorship opportunity

Higher education is financially burdensome. School loans are crippling. There should be technical high schools so people can leave high school and enter into living wage paying jobs.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING comments by CAI survey participants:

Does community action provide training and education to the community?? Community Action I think refers clients to other resources that is available for further education n training g purposes.

Offer training and occupational training.

What is available should be made known that it is so.

100% Paid training by employers, more programs and increased support

Help with paying for school

Making info more readily available and easy to find

Faster training to accommodate the economy

Life living skills

Maybe more programs online.

Financial support

Programs to pay off student loans

Need more tech Ed classes for high school students to show them there are other good paying jobs that do not require a 4 year degree.

More qualified staff to meet the demands of the growing number of disabled adults

better training for daycare workers. Make programs available locally for that training

Maybe they could have somebody from a technical school come in and give us some kind of certificate and some kind of job that we could work at

Free Internet access and online degree programs.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING comments by CAI survey participants:

Training

Let employees or candidates know of resources and opportunities

Grants and additional affordable loan programs (I.e not an absurd interest rate for repayment) are needed.

The whole school system is messed up. I don't know if it can be saved

You should make the programs free for training since the people are not working

Provide classes and training to get certified in different occupations.

Should be easier for men to get help and training

I don't have the financial resources to afford a laptop so I can go to school from home and I would really love the opportunity

I would like to be notified of this help to betterment in my efforts

more options for single mothers

Again there should be more programs that are going to be at no cost to people this is what people need to actually get ahead but when they're constantly having to pay for everything and I don't have money to start it's pretty much impossible

Providing more information and one on one help with getting information.

Programs for in demand jobs and fuel supplements

Like I said making sure that the person can work

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

need more rent house programs

Programs can definitely increase funding available

More resources are needed

Only help if your on streets. No help for people who have a job or in limbo

There isn't enough assistance to help with rent, to keep rent affordable based on what people make on minimum wage or slightly above, and not enough assistance for energy costs.

I'm aware of some programs that exist but the problem that is ran into is some things have to be fixed by the landlords before they can do the work and the landlords are unwilling to have that work completed so your stuck with poor insulation, mold, leaks, high water bills, high heat and electricity bills. Which is an issue I ran into a lot.

Help people that need help. Not just based on their income level

Moving is hard though

Getting help to pay rent would be helpful.

Information in other languages more bilingual personnel

I just wish that there were more landlords that were aware of homeless people and were able or willing to house us

Quicker access to emergency Rent Assistance.

At the moment the program were that is in place to help with rent have saved my family and I from possibly being homeless!

Not make rentals so hard to get into when clearly people are struggling

We need some sort of low in come house that allows felons

It is difficult to find affordable rentals for individuals on fixed incomes.

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

More affordable housing

There should be more help on letting people get rent to own homes and more help with us having to deal with slum lords

more resources

Finding affordable housing

Prices and eligibility issues

More programs to help buy a home or other people on a fixed income

It would be a lot easier for a lot of people if Beloit would offer incentives to landlords if patients pay every month they would get something off their taxes and then they could give somebody a free months of rent or if programs were out there to you no paid more than just one or two months of rent if you can really help out people that are struggling with like a year of rent you could really let so many people get ahead and even make plans for them to pay it back

Working with landlord for help with housing to affordable rent and more or getting people help for housing and more

Having more low income housing for families even those working

The program is full with nothing available including Community which doesn't have enough available to service the needs of the communities. New homeless shelter is badly needed.

It would be so nice to know if you qualify for help or if you were approved before the letter and check go to landlord. Also need to make sure landlords renew leases to low income families.

Affordable decent housing

More housing need to more available for those with financial issues and not just 1 apt building there needs to be more since the one apt building has a 6 month wait.

Information availability

Extensions to programs

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Program assistance or support need to be ongoing not just temporary.

need more rent house help

More housing available with affordable rent prices

I mean depends on the situation everyone is different like as for me I have a hard time getting to my housing appointment I have no transportation n taking the bus is just ridiculous now u got covid n other health issues n not so safe issues so help with getting to important appointments or easier ways to have

More resources/programs available

I need more information made available.

Be thorough in explaining the rentals. Have a staff on-site member who is in it for the tenants and not to impress the bosses. Be polite and less ridiculing of the tenants' situations. Have a plan (option) that can be looked into rather than merely ditch the person because they are no longer useful to the Property Management position. Train the staff to be aware that their remarks can be a spark that ends a person's livelihood. It takes a real brave soul to do a property manager's job (keeping the tenant's needs in perspective) and not the bosses'. Once a trust and honest relationship is broken, it will be shattered for it's entirety, the world we live in today is short-fused when it comes to trusting those who abuse their authority, and what "power" they had. Train the hired staff.

Affordable housing units were built in this city to help but the rent is not feasible for the people it was intended to help.

Need more people in that care about families that don't have no place to live or anything

There are people receiving help that don't need it, which prevents those who do, from receiving help. There should be more follow ups done to ensure those receiving help still need it and aren't just taking advantage of it

There needs to more low income apartments

More resources and longer extensions to receive help

Increased housing availability and financial support for housing

More affordable housing options

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

More help

Nobody would help when were homeless. Everyone said they had no help available

Market availability that is affordable

there is a housing shortage. if you have a felony or history of eviction you have no options.

Can't even leave the state if it's safer for you and your children newspaper's new life more housing available you could assist people to leave Beloit

Need more housing help

I think landlords and rental companies asking people to make 3 times the rent and have at least a 650 credit score is a huge problem in our community

This topic will be addressed by me, in the near future

There needs to be more help finding housing.

Housing is expensive. There should be limits.

There aren't enough affordable housing options, affordable homes to purchase, and accessible housing is all but nonexistent

housing that allows residents to have food as well even if that means Food stamps or Food Pantries

Increase in supply of places with affordable rent.

Need more funds to cover more like energy costs. more than once a year

Help more people with housing especially the single mother's

The stipulations for renting eligibility need to be toned down or changed and we need to stop letting companies buy up all the housing

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Need more resources on rent assistance and affordable housing

It's cheaper to own than it is to rent change section 8 into a stability where families can own their house by the help and assistance of section 8 helping with mortgage payment

Programs for disabled

If you have animals especially bigger dogs. You just have live in your vehicle. They need change income limits just because 3 people in the house don't mean they don't have there own bills to pay

We need more quality affordable housing in Rock County. Also need more options for undocumented immigrants.

There needs to be things that help those in mobile homes! There's all these resources for help for regular homes but not mobile homes. Which makes zero sense when it costs less in most cases

Rent is so high. Even with a full time job I can barely find somewhere that I can afford

I can't find a house that is in good shape and where the landlords are not jerky

Living conditions of old homes is poor, high rent, not energy efficient or well maintained by landlords, landlords not up keeping properties, homeownership virtually impossible, gentrification

All shelters are full and I have children and am homeless

More Information,where to get additional help

More shelter space for homeless needs to be addressed. I also feel workshops need to be made mandatory for those without a legitimate excuse

Don't know about programs

More affordable housing needs to be built in Whitewater.

Rent is double

There should be more programs available to help people find suitable housing

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Not enough affordable housing for people who make less than \$20,000.00 a year.

single mothers need more help

There needs to be more available housing.

Help for people working full time who still can't afford housing! No 2 year waiting lists!!!!

I don't know enough about the programs out there that can help me fix my problem. Or I'm right on the border for income limits but still drowning, but don't qualify for the help I need.

Having more help for those that are in need especially those with children it's been I keep being told to fill out landlord information just for the WERA but I don't have a home I'm homeless so how can that be expected of a homeless person just to complete there application.

We been in a hotel since October, and I was only able to find one landlord. But he changed his mind he wanted someone that is in the rapid housing program. I called Yvette for months, never received even a call back. She only works with people she knows from the neighborhood. No one should ever have to wait for months to even receive a callback. Especially after leaving several messages and still never even get a call back. I just received a section 8 voucher still can't find a place. They are looking for people with good credit, and we are still homeless. I have lost several jobs due to being homeless and transportation

We can't find a place to accept our benefits, so we are facing imminent homelessness again even though we are receiving WERA benefits which is a huge problem.

Helping families with recent evictions to get accepted into places. Also make housing to where you don't need to make 3x the monthly rent to get accepted. MORE LOW INCOME HOUSING OR HOUSING FOR FAMILIES IN MAJOR NEED OF HOUSING.

Instead of making it so complicated to apply for the programs make it easier and be clear on what's needed and not have to wait for months on end

Tenant rights.

Landlords need to be held accountable by the law.

I have no issues but have friends that have difficulty finding affordable housing

There are more resources, especially through the pandemic. But I worry what will happen to people when those safeguards end.

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

The only "affordable" housing options are with slum lords, who do not provide safe or stable housing. Eviction review/ rehabilitation services would be greatly beneficial for families who find themselves at the mercy of slumlords who cannot be trusted.

There is minimal housing available

I can't afford to pay my rent and utilities.

I struggle affording rent so childcare is very hard to afford and I can't afford car insurance

Immediate help for homelessness for parents with children

More resources to people who are working but still can't afford decent housing

Need more housing and that's affordable.

Similar systemic issues. Don't have enough money, cannot keep a home or qualify for a decent home.

More affords housing in rural communities.

Rent control

More affordable, quality housing for low income people.

There are not enough houses or rentals available in this area or they cost too much. Who can rent if they want their income to be 3 times what rent is.

I don't personally have housing problems, but I am aware of rising costs of rent and food having an impact on people in our community.

Increased help/funding to combat the drastic rise in cost of housing in Evansville. Especially the hike in rent due to Hurley doubling rent to tenants.

There need to be a lot more low income housing in the area people move to these areas for affordability then people raise tend to raise prices so turning around and losing the affordable aspect of it

Rent prices are the same as mortgage payments but people who pay rent every month cannot qualify for a home loan. Prices of buying homes if through the roof and something needs to be done to lower houses and rent

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

A co-op of property owners willing to work with problematic situations maybe subsidized as an incentive

Finding affordable housing which accepts pets is incredibly difficult. Also, every time a house goes up for sale it is taken within the blink of an eye. Help finding places to live would be great.

Cheaper rent, open housing to more people, don't have such a long wait with so many hoops to jump through

Housing is the #1 issue in Evansville!! There is no where to rent and when a rental does become available, the rent is SKY HIGH and they don't allow pets. It's crazy in Evansville and I feel that people (renters) are being pushed out of town.

There's no housing apartments in Beloit and so I have to expand my search and probably go else where to find a place.

Cap rent increase and have more options that are affordable and safe for people to rent and buy housing

Open the section 8 lists for people with disabilities and kids and disabilities (we too just might to be able to have a career and own a home one day), then open section 8 lists to others and then find housing that actually takes it AND is up to code. Put in some public housing - Beloit seems to do very well with it and it often comes to the top of the list a lot more often than section 8.

More programs to help with rent assistance especially for the elderly and disabled.

I know I can go to other resources for housing

Waiting time for approval should be reduced

Helping pay down payments or first month rent to get into a new place

Lower rent especially due to increased fuel cost for transportation to and from work and cost of groceries without any appreciable increase in wages, the housing cost will at some point force hard working honest citizens out on the streets

Not allowing landlords or property owners to double rent in one month, forcing several families to have to leave the area. Evansville specifically seems to be trying to drive out the low-income families and young adults by making it impossible to afford to live here! They end up staying in poorly maintained homes/mobile homes/apartments because they can't afford anything better and as those places are bought or repaired they can't afford to stay.

More funding for rental assistance. More funding for improvements and modifications to assist those with physical disabilities.

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

I asked for assistance just so I could try to get ahead a little. I was told no. I make to much or don't qualify while I see people all over getting hand outs hand over fist. Very depressing

More community input into housing choices

Housing should be made more affordable

More resources

It is a multifaceted problem. Low cost housing is not the only answer. Private landlords need to be involved as well. Reward good landlords and good tenants.

longer stays in shelters

We need more affordable housing in Beloit, whether it is for renting or buying a house.

We need more houses in this city.

I need rental assistance

Landlords are charging exorbitant amounts for rent but wages do not reflect the price shift. I can barely afford my rent but it was the cheapest place I could find that would fit my family.

not sure but there is nothing to rent for a 5-6 person family with pets that's affordable

Affordable housing

More affordable rent

Allowing section 8 assistance outside the "city" limits. My landlord would accept section 8 but the house I rent is outside the city limits. Section 8 assistance would allow for me to not struggle as much month to month.

The only thing I have on that is to make sure the person applying understand everything that gets included in determining rental assistance. Mentally ill or elderly may not understand what they are applying for

Housing is a mess. Very expensive rent and not enough choices

HOUSING Comments by CAI Survey Participants

The housing program needs to come up with a different system that allow low income families that have felonies to be able to get assistance

Go to the residential sites and see what the needs are of that building. Not all of Beloit's citizens are in the exact same predicament when it comes to getting around the City. The needs of people are far between and what one needs, others do not. Find out what the people say. Not the property Manager or the Management Companies.

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

more affordable public transportation

I need help getting a car so i can get a job and then help with childcare so i can work

transportation-getting to and from work is not addressed

For some transportation is a big problem for those struggling to find jobs

Public Transportation

Getting better transportation

We need a bus system to run more hours and weekends.

Additional help with gas cards or transportation

Serious need for transportation services when a person does not have a vehicle or license, serious need for accessible car repair services

Transportation programs you have to jump through hurdles to get help with getting a vehicle when yours break down.

Provide transportation to people who don't live in a big town. Or provide gas money. Transportation is an issue for many people who do not live in Janesville.

help with getting a car so I can go to school

We need city school bussing. Sometimes I can't get my child to school because of only having one vehicle

Affordable Transportation

I do not have a vehicle, cannot afford one. Have trouble finding rides to doctor appointments etc.. shopping etc... and do not know where to go or who to call for rides.

NOT A LOT OF INDIVIDUALS ARE NOT AWARE OF HOW TO FIND RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION TO WORK , IF THEY DO NOT HAVE A VEHICLE.

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

most people can not afford reliable transportation

Trainings on how to use the bus; change/improve bus schedules; affordable loans to buy vehicles

more options for non medical rides

No idea what could change besides gas prices are outrageous and mechanics take advantage of women regularly.

i can get a loan for a car if i have a job but i cant get a job without a car. I'm screwed

Affordable, around the clock public transportation.

The bus program should bus children from the west side of Evansville to and from school. There has been so much growth on that side of town that bussing shouldn't be an issue.

A transportation system for rural people can get to Madison, Janesville, etc... easily and free. High speed rail would be lovely.

Assistance with gas and insurance and car costs would help greatly, as well. My neighbor has been walking to work simply because he can't afford to fix his car.

Vouchers for car ride services, hours to accommodate a.m/p.m. shift workers needing public transportation to get to and from work.

better more free or low cost transportation that orders to the clients schedule. If you get out of work at 10:00 pm and they stop running at 6:00 they are if no help to you, Also the 4 day notice doesn't help the person who gets different hours or days.

Gas is crazy. can't afford to get to work

Public Transportation made available for Walworth County

Affordable public transportation

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Well with the cost of gas right now and the fact that no mechanics take payments or anything else like that or take about yours or anything people are just kind of screwed if you don't know somebody who can do the work for you there's really nothing you can do a lot of people are losing their vehicles

Get help for people who needs rides or gas money or help transfer on the city bus program

No public transportation in Evansville

Expand, more options for employment transportation during first 30-60 days working

I'm not sure yet I know, me and my boyfriend has LOST PLENTY OF GOOD PAYING JOBS DUE TO TRANSPORTATION

With gas prices it's not sufficient to get by

Gas prices are insane and no program for help low in come families with gas

Transportation for kids to get to and from school.

Make it easy foe someone to get a car like if i need a car for work i don't have credit so i would need a lot of money down

gas prices lower

Public transportation would be super helpful to anyone without a car or license. Especially if they work outside of Evansville. But I know it's not feasible since we're more rural.

Maybe they would have a transportation service for homeless people to get to programs that were not medical and to get to sign up for different housing issues because I know for a fact that I can't get to any of these non-medical appointments also it would be nice if they had some kind of van or bus set up for homeless people so they could get to appointments or work

Affordable public Transportation made available

Can't afford gas or insurance

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

More resources

I'm unaware of programs that exist to help with these problems I know of a couple that will help but if you don't have a license or insurance which in this day and age there's a lot of people that don't have license or insurance because of the fact of insurance prices are ridiculously high or won't even cover

I have never heard of a program to help fix cars or help buy a car or to help with gas.

More information about it many people don't know about that service

I don't know if any programs to help fix my car or help to get a car to be able to work. Taking the bus adds an extra two hours on a persons daily schedule which is very tiring. Add on stops for daycare/babysitter, grocery store, etc. Its just not economical or time saving, it puts more strain on families. Another thing car insurance is required but a lot of families can afford it. I've never heard of state help with low income families for car insurance. I think it would be a good idea.

A program should be developed that solely is built around the issues of transportation for individuals whether it be with public or personal transportation.

Finding transportation to work is too difficult.

Lower wage earners need assistance with gas prices.

I don't see much for transportation help out there

We need public transportation

Vouchers for gas are only 1 time & are limited to maybe \$20. If person has to drive 20 miles 1 way (40 round trip) that's 200 miles a week & most people can't afford to move any closer or find decent paying jobs & have daycare

Telling about these programs

Need more funds to offset high gas prices and maintenance

Should help with gas vouchers & help trying to get transportation

More public transportation options

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Offer more help with transportation cost

Not at all again is no help out there for people like me to get help with gas or anything

Make this programs more accessible to our community Elevate awareness to these programs They seem to only be offered to ppl that knows someone that knows someone

Should give more transportation help.

There are no programs to help with car insurance

Again it's really hard to find anyone to help or they send you some place else. I've felt like a ping pong ball

Gas voucher car pool, bus

Not having reliable transportation has always been an issues for me

Help with gas, bus system, help finding a car pool

There are no help for those who are less fortunate

There should be more affordable transportation for people with limited income

We need a better bus system.

There is little to no transportation services in Walworth County. Any kind of ride-share, affordable and more readily available uber, bus system or other public transportation.

Help with gas and fixing of vehicles

Program or resources has a intake process that is very long. The car estimates that are submitted is requested many times (5 or more times). You are made to think that you qualify and then they never get back to you. They don't respond to your emails or phone calls (the same communication source you talk to people and emailed the estimate(s) too.

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Offer help with car repairs

Everything is just so expensive

Help with car repairs n also help finding a vehicle for low income households

Bring back working wheels

Maybe more resources and help to pay for car repair for homeless families living in their cars or people that can't afford to pay maintenance on their car and for rent at the same time

People who have a license and a job should not have to go through so much for the wera and job access loan to get help buying a car. It takes so much that you end up losing the job. Because of the process we go through.

Need programs that help families in need with purchasing a vehicle. Programs that help with vehicle repairs

How about addressing the issue of public transportation and the lack thereof and safety and lack thereof and how about making programs and funding available for people who are trying to work and get jobs and keep their home and keep their lives dialed

Buses run, but it's hard even getting tokens to get city to city,

Can't afford a reliable vehicle

Transportation for families can be really challenging when there isn't available and reliable transportation. Public transportation available in Walworth County. More flexibility for people using public transportation and/or Medicaid-reimbursable options.

More Rock Co. transit buses and drivers

Please see answers above. Additionally , it would be great if agencies could provide funds to put towards ride sharing apps, grocery delivery services, or taxi services for medical appointments when MTM is not available (due to no availability or because they do not allow anyone besides the patient or a patient's parent in the car) for individuals who have 0 access to a vehicle.

Gas and car repairs are significant

I don't know, we seem to just throw money at this stuff with no real solution.

Cost of gas, repair needs, resources, access to vehicles

TRANSPORTATION Comments by CAI Survey Participants
Providing more for gas vouchers
Gas cards
Limited public transportation, limited gas vouchers, have to travel to far from home for livable wage
Gas costs. Can't even afford to put gas in my car to even get to work to get the paycheck
Increased options for people who don't/can't drive and are unable to get places that are too far/too difficult to walk.

Family/Childcare Comments by CAI Survey Participants

I need more childcare in the morning and after 3:30pm

child care for those looking for jobs, more help finding jobs for people with children and daycare restrictions

Build back families

Because Families can't afford both housing & food children aren't being raised w/ proper nutrition or discipline/responsibilities & the Church's ideas for how to handle those things is non-existent. Responsibility is taught not just shoved on & not be something to be avoided because some people don't want to handle it; good or bad

Give families equal opportunity to succeed

Childcare

We need more childcare services that are affordable. I've had to quit my job and probably have to quit school because of this issue

Not in school but childcare is hard to find

Better daycare. Maybe offer babysitting while attending in person classes.

For women with children make daycare more reasonable for cost

lack of childcare resources

More access to weekend/night/sick day daycare that can be provided through the child care 2 work program.

Single mothers getting food and daycare assistance and claiming I make too much money but I'm still struggling

parents don't know what is out there for them for help, and even then it is insufficient. If you have parents working with every agency they can find and still have school staff telling parents to 'get some help' without offering any kind of resources... you are doing the exact opposite of being helpful! Shaming parents and making them feel like they are worthless is just going to give you defensive parents that give up because... what's the point?

Some programs do look at the whole family, but there should be more programs that do.

Family/Childcare Comments by CAI Survey Participants

More affordable childcare

affordable/ reliable childcare is virtually non- existent in the community. Need services to support families using their natural or informal supports to provide childcare (i.e. WI Shares is great if you can find a daycare that will accept it, but there's no openings. Families cannot afford out of pocket expenses for non licensed childcare options).

It's really expensive to pay for daycare and with my hours for work going to school after my job wouldn't work because of daycare closing hours

Childcare provided for when attending school and work. It's almost not worth working after you figure in childcare and transportation costs

Parenting education and easy, convenient resources for people who really need help with their children.

More programs to address affordable, quality childcare for parents who work.

I might not have those issue happening in my house, but a lot of families do. And no, the services don't help

Childcare options are few and very expensive. More options with lower costs helps.

Unaware of family dynamic resources, but the cost of childcare is worrisome, especially if unreliable due to Covid exposure/infection.

Childcare is insane! Makes it not worth working especially in the summer!

childcare for second and third shifts.

100% paid childcare

More free family events held in the community.

No resources for families with an incarcerated parent

Culturally responsive programs that offer services during times that are more conducive to the needs of families. Families should not have to take off work and take kids out of school to receive services. Families that are struggling often have to miss time at work that they are not paid for and children who could be struggling in school already have to miss school to attend appointments. Also, accessing a dentist for families is almost impossible.

Family/Childcare Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Lumping persons into categories and "one - size " fits all has never been successful. It won't work. Getting people to share without feeling intimidated is difficult dilemma.

More childcare availability. Why work just to be able to afford childcare?

Families need daycare that doesn't take entire paycheck to pay for

More help with childcare. There is a lot of waiting list around here and parents have to work to support a family.

There's nothing outside the school for 16 years old kids

Expand, more options for child care

I'm not sure yet I know, me and my boyfriend has LOST PLENTY OF GOOD PAYING JOBS DUE TO CHILD CARE

Legal/Court Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Giving first time felons a chance. They paid their debt to society. There should be a second chance program even if they don't have children

The poorest of us can't pay fines so we lose license that we use to get to work. There are MANY laws, rulings, rules that keep the poorest of us poor in a never-ending circle. 2nd, maybe even 3rd chances to those of us that are 10x more likely to mess up doing things to try and keep our heads above water, or feed our kids or have no support, AND without these things see NO way out really anyways. We need real HOPE

The legal system is convoluted and drawn out. A lay person cannot begin to understand the process let alone the terminology.

When a teenager/adult gets a ticket for whatever reason, the letter they receive from city attorney regarding what to do about the ticket is not well written.

There needs to be less harsh punishment and more therapy, more making things better, making amends, areas to allow people to not rot in prison, but actually change. Stop treating people in prison like they are animals. Yes some have done horrible things, but every human deserves a staff place to live, even if it's prison or jail.

I wish the court system would send our white a** judges and lawyers to programs and actually TALK to the people. They know nothing living in there world of perfect whiteness.

Court systems favor criminals and disregard victims

I have found out personally in Rock County if you have anything to do within the court system if you cannot get an attorney especially for family court you might as well just throw your hands up in the air because whoever walks in with the attorney wins it doesn't matter where what's best for the child any longer it too has the money to afford the better lawyer and if you don't have any money you have no access to any legal aid but if you are being connected

More resources for families dealing with this

Services to provide in person support in completing and filing various court motions.

The DA and judges in rock county are a nightmare. All white men who don't gaf about women of other races

Cost too much to file for court issues and they never give the right information so we pay all that money for no help

its okay here to beat the s**t out of family and always be returned home. he has more rights than me. I will protect myself from now on.

More education about laws

Legal/Court Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants

The court system is a joke here. Judges do not follow the law. if they are in a good mood then a person may get off, if they are in a bad mood person is made an example of gets stupid amounts of time.

A public defender does the bare minimum if that to help there clients, they tell them to plead out, or not even defend them because they are just as convinced the person is guilty. When what ever happened to innocent till proven guilty. If we can offer better legal aide to those in need of actually fighting there case, it'll help keep people out of the prison system that don't belong there in the first place. If we provide tutoring on legal aid to these people to maybe even offer them the opportunity to defend themselves if they can't find proper or affordable legal aide. They at least have a fighting chance.

The legal system in Rock is broken. No one gives a damn. It's about getting in and out of court as fast as possible at the court date. I have five minutes with attorney. Doesn't even talk to me about what I am going through. The judge is mean and short to the point. Who listens to ME? Who HELPS ME? Why is it so damn hard for HUMANS on the the BENCH to LISTEN?

Why even go to court to keep my kids and me safe when all they do is praise the father for beating me. F**k the judges. They know nothing and don't even listen to my story to keep me safe. I will have to move, spend money, and run to stay alive.

Domestic violence needs to be taken more seriously. It's extremely hard for women to leave an abusive relationship especially when the man is the one with the job and the woman stays home with the children

The courts don't protect me and my child from anything

i do not feel supported or safe going to court in rock county. i have tried so many times to get away from my abuser and the judges keep putting the lowest bond on him and keeps getting out to hurt me again. no listens or cares. i will end up dead.

No one will believe me about the abuse in my home. Judge keeps returning him to my home.

I wish we lived in a world that violence in the home and with families is not normal. I wish there was an organization that would help women become stronger, plan, and then activate a plan to be safe when they leave the home from the violence.

I can't find adequate help. Honestly making more domestic homes, helping getting these family's out, making more programs for troubled teens and children. Something that doesn't cost, something that's free to the public!

It's hard I can't say anymore without getting emotional

Financial Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Currently not having to pay student loans is helping the household. Both of us have graduate school to pay for which was expensive. Once payments start again, we will be struggling to pay bills. Help with ways to minimize payments and making a financial plan would help.

When I graduated college, I had less than \$30,000 debt. Now, my student loans have been sold and resold and with interest, my debt is around \$100,000!!! It's impossible!

Because I can't get even get Abad credit credit card. Because I don't have any revolving credit, and I have a far to poor credit score, even though I have been paying the debts off a little at a time that are n my credit reports

Let's face it there's just not enough help of any type for people it comes down to the fact that people are suffering and struggling and agencies and companies they have the means to help people they just put caps on it that are too soon for people to get out of the situation they need to get out of and the truth of the matter is our government just does not care about us

Offer more help to those trying to fight through this inflation

Loan forgiveness

Extra activities cost way to much

Inflation is killing me.

If jobs aren't paying more rent and mortgage shouldn't be going up. There should be more assistance for people working than those unemployed (that aren't looking for jobs) there should be limitations on government funds for people not searching for jobs whom are able to work.

If I were to be off work for more than 10 days I would be so behind on things, I wouldn't be able to buy food. I live with my ex husband and our daughter because I make 18.70 an hour and rent is fucking ridiculous! I can't afford a house, nobody will give me a loan. Why? Sever medical debt. Credit card Debt that was used to pay bills aren't I almost died through my pregnancy and maternity leave.

This system needs to be changed 100% no little changes. People deserve help no matter what. There should never be a price limit on help. I'm not sure how this all needs to change, but it needs to change some how.

Our costs are higher than I think they should be and needs to be addressed. We currently own our house with mortgage.

Need help with the cost of impound in Illinois since they impound your car for everything

Start taking into account that people are making car payments and insurance and offer them other services like food stamps

Financial Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants
Job access loans at job center are available for \$1600 but requirements are tricky

Mental Health Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants

generally speaking, more needs to be invested in mental health services. The wait times are MUCH too long, and regular, reliable care is difficult to schedule.

There seems to be a shortage in children therapy and psychology resources for after school, so the child and parent do not have to miss out on school and work

Help getting mental illness eval & treatment setup, diagnosed. BEFORE a child starts committing crimes

More programs should be implemented to help family members struggling with mental illness

More mental health services

Health issues

More resources around mental health; more social support opportunities for parents of children in varying age groups

There needs to be a better understanding for mental health in children

Need more ongoing mental health options/groups.

Difficult to receive behavior health therapy must be referred by pcf long paperwork to establish counseling schedule counseling months later not sooner

Counseling without social service raking your kids no one has a perfect home not even the service workers for the state stop making g.it so hard to be human stop making it super hard to get kids out of corrupt cops system..HELP NOT HINDER AND MAKE IT HARDER THEN LIFE ALREADY THROWS

Not my family but I see parents not seeking help for their child/ren because they don't want child labeled or they are too busy with their own drama.

We don't have enough resources for mental health for children, adults, or families. There aren't enough resources for DV prevention or interventions, nor are there any real resources for substance use (including alcohol). Local hospitals refuse to do admit patients for a proper DT or detox, don't adhere to state laws around research medications & substance use disorder, and we don't have sober living options for women at all, the only one for men is VERY religious based

Insurance needs to cover both Mental as well Emotional not just physical; insurance should b available to cover problems not ignore them

Mental Health Related Comments by CAI Survey Participants
The amount of red tape to go through is hard and needs to be reduced. More social services to help those with mental health issues and/or addiction issues is needed. A lot of places have a six month wait time to get the first appointment.
There needs to be many more mental health resources available.

Other Comments by CAI Survey Participants

Help us afford insurance

Have various options for older adults raising grandchildren

Give more help to people in need inflation is hurting everyone

Better access/awareness of programs

More services connected so you not always in rock county HOUSING SHORTAGE HELP TO LEAVE CITY OR STATE BUT NOT LIKE ME IM B KMELEZS IN A DIFFERENT STATE SCARED TO RETURN HOME.

Resources being known to families and the community

Advertise programs better

Should be more programs to help single men

Single parents need initial help with child care, transportation maybe, and interview clothes, work clothes

Improve access to record expungement, financial literacy, driver's license acquisition, training to obtain a living wage job, programs to pay off court fines/child support, family development/parenting in a culturally responsive manner.

Once again information transparency ease of being able to find those programs and apply for said programs you know instead oh instead of us always bring to them why can't they come to us
More awareness of what help is available through marketing the help to the people who need it most.
An add in the paper or online is not reaching enough people. Maybe a sign or banner, community resources pamphlets placed at other community resource organizations.

Let families know of resources

if is hard to feed the household and everyone is getting the food stamps cut in half with that being down we eat three times a week we cant afford to eat every day and i have an elderly disabled husband with disabilities with to service dogs for him and there's only enough food for half the family

Other Comments by CAI Survey Participants

There should absolutely be more funding for things like Job Access Loans and similar funding. Definitely some type of car loan while training for jobs in certificate or degree of education, along with making all mental and physical health appts. There has to be some real car ownership opportunities for people with mental health and physical health concerns too, we are always left behind, we are the last to get any of the "normal" or "regular" funding like car and home ownership. And provide step by step ways to achieve these goals, with wiggle room in the structure or wording of the stipulations

People with jobs and no kids seem to have no resources available to them

Are there even any services in Evansville?

You think the programs that exists actually help people? They help them MAINTAIN POVERTY. Once you need programs help you aren't allowed to save extra money. You are stuck in a cycle of other rich humans wanting to keep you poor. Honestly I don't care what your role is...if you reading this can help change stuff and you don't, or you don't make a scene and a big deal...your a terrible human. I so hope you're someone good actually trying to help and jot apply more band aids to the "help"

Dental service and cost are a serious issue being your dental care is detrimental to your health it is almost impossible to get into a dentist with Badger Care and even with private dental insurance it's too expensive for low income families to afford! Someone smile in my opinion affects their mental health along with their physical health! I am having dental issues at the moment when I called the office and Janesville that accepts Badger Care they are booked until January I am able to get into the office all the way in Madison in August but I have an abscess and I can't address it and that is affecting my health and well-being and I am afraid because I have Badger Care my only options or to have my teeth pulled instead of being able to fix them

Section Five:

Summary of Focus Groups

Focus Group Fresh Start/Fatherhood

Community Needs Assessment 2022

Challenges/Issues in Community Fresh Start/Fatherhood Responses

Poverty

- Lack of education
 - Appropriate education
 - Life skills
- Lack of income/money
- Lack of transportation (reliable and affordable)
- Documentation assistance (SS card, birth certificate)

Youth

- Focus on youth
 - ALL youth. Start at the beginning.
- More opportunities after high school
- Need positive patterns of examples and relationships from leaders and community members

Drug Abuse

- Lack of resources/treatment
- Selling drugs has become a means to feed families
- Selling drugs has become income survival

System Change

- Wealth gap
- Generational Gaps
- Lack of trust of the system
- **"The system is designed to protect the system, not the people."**

Challenges/Issues in Community

Mental Health

- Lack of honest conversation about mental health
- More options for treatment
- **"I can't get the help I need."**
- Lack of education regarding mental health
- Lack of a diverse population in the field

Lack of Housing

- Affordability
- Credit History
- Background barriers
- Safe neighborhoods, safe homes to rent

Divided Community

- Lack of trust of law enforcement
- Class division
- Neighborhoods not equal

Child Care

- Not adequate childcare
- Lack of childcare impacts job, mental health, safety of children

Financial Literacy

- Lack of education
- Start with basics
- Have classes
- More hands-on
- Needs to start at an early age

Solutions for Challenges

Poverty

- Increase minimum wage
- Create opportunities

Youth

- Opportunities for crossing generations
- More older teen programming
- More mentorship programming, more life skills to be taught
- More parenting classes/programs
- More life skills to be taught

Drug Abuse

- More and better rehab facilities (inpatient and outpatient)
- More professionals to help so waitlist is not so long
- Accessible and affordable treatment
- More medical treatment options
- Legalize marijuana

System Change

- Restructure probation and parole
- Profiling of the people

Solutions for Challenges

Mental Health

- More awareness
- Appropriate care

Housing

- Landlord education
- More tenant support
- Landlord regulation
- More first-time homebuyer programs
- Homeless crisis, more housing, more shelters

Divided Community

- More communication in the community
- More community events. Get youth involved.

Child Care

- More options

Financial Literacy

- First generation college planning
- Business planning
- Investing

Focus Group Rock County Stakeholders

Community Needs Assessment 2022

Challenges/Issues in Community Stakeholder Responses

Housing

- Lack of affordable housing
- Lack of availability housing for everyone
- Youth Homelessness

Youth Services

- Lack of programming for teens 12+ years old
- Equitable opportunities for youth, lack of access to programming, financial assistance
- Must invest more into our youth
- Lack of volunteers
- Lack of transportation for the youth
- Youth Homelessness
- Need to assist the youth with developing skill sets for their future

Mental Health

- Lack of resources/treatment ("Where do we go?")
- Lack of bilingual professionals/providers, culturally of professionals
- Untreated trauma
- Lack of trust
- Affordability of services
- Self-care for the professionals

Culture Equity

- Close gap of services and population
- Life experiences
 - Listen and tell your truth
- This challenge ties into all the needs in our community
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Racial disparity, DEI efforts have backlash on fundraising efforts for service providers.

Challenges/Issues in Community Stakeholder Responses

Childcare

- Lack of certified professionals
- Pay is not competitive (low wages in this field)
- Affordability for families
- Long wait lists

Substance Abuse/Addiction

- Access to treatment and facilities
 - Affordability for treatment
- Vaping
- Domestic violence
- Awareness, have conversations in our community

Violence/Crime

- Increase of violence
- Fear
- Court system is not working
 - Lack of prosecution
- Drug/sex trafficking
- Victims are scared to open-up and talk
- Conflict resolution skills
- Trauma/coping skills
- Lack of trust in courts for safety

Transportation

- Lack of affordability
- Preventing employment
- Hours and Locations for public transportation
- Need to expand in smaller communities to get to the larger communities for:
 - Employment, school, etc.

More topics from Stakeholders

Sustainability

- Funding
- All agency's coming together, networking, outreach throughout the county, work together rather than being territorial of your community
- Accessibility of programming

Education

- Increase Early Education opportunities for Households
- Literacy
- Affordability of secondary education level

Bridge the Gap

- Outreach
- Awareness
- Value what matters in our communities
- How to close the gap of communication?

Employment

- Labor shortage
- Skills

CAI Staff Focus Group

Community Needs Assessment 2022

TOP 5 Challenges in Community

Housing

- Safe and affordability
- Lack of stock
- Homeless Shelters
- Home ownership
- Increased rent and fees
- Sustainability

Health Services

- Medical, dental, and mental health
- Rising costs of insurance plans
- Substantial medical bills
- Substance Abuse and lack of availability and affordability of treatment
- Lack of clinicians
- Food insecurities

Child and Youth Services

- Quality
- Lack of programming for youth
- Cost of extra activities
- Role models needed for youth
- Childcare
 - Staff
 - Pay
 - Facilities

Transportation

- Rising gas costs
- Public transportation and availability
- Bus tokens
- Cost of maintaining a reliable and affordable vehicle
- Registration/DL costs

Employment, Education, and Training

- Worker shortage
- Education costs for post secondary, GED, trade school, etc.
- Lack of opportunities
- Financial literacy
- Sustainable wages
- Training opportunities
- Education gaps and lack of access

CAI staff topics to include in overall report

Inflation

- Impacts all
- Supply chain shortage
- Increase of costs of food and gas

Racial Disparities

Violence/Crime

- Incarceration rates (racial)
- Domestic Violence/Family Violence
- Gun Violence/Gun Control

Investments of Core Values

- Self-investments
- Family investment
- Education investment
- Career investment
- Community investment

CAI Board of Directors Focus Group

Community Needs Assessment 2022

Significant Needs Identified

Housing

- Safe and affordable permanent housing
- Lack of stock
- Keeping people housed at all socioeconomic status
- Transitional housing/emergency shelters

Inflation

- Increased food costs, leading to food insecurities
- Increase cost of gas
- Transportation
 - Availability of vehicle
 - Car stock is low
 - Cost of vehicles to purchase and maintain

Public Information

- How to have the general public recognize the needs are a lot closer to home than they think
- Asking for assistance and use of programs is life changing event for some
- Isolation and connectivity to programs and services

Childcare

- Lack of quality and quantity
- Lack of availability childcare facilities for 2nd and 3rd shift families
- Stock of certified and qualified staff is low
 - Pay scale low and not competitive wages

Reproductive Health

- Safe reproductive health care
- Comprehensive sex education
- Impact of Community Action Program, PREP
- Access to contraceptives

Significant Needs Identified

Homelessness

- What happens to families and individuals when WERA is done?

Addiction/ Substance Abuse

- Treatment availability

Gun Violence

- Availability of firearms
- Easy access

Mental Health

- Not enough facilities
- Not enough clinicians

LGBTQ+ Community

- How to provide more support?
- Rollback of rights

Top 3 Topics from BOD

Housing

- Safe and affordable housing
- Permanent housing
- Transitional housing/emergency shelters/homelessness
- Lack of stock

Childcare

Advocacy for Human Rights

- Reproductive Health
- LGBTQ+ Community
- Advocating for all humans
- Policy change/advocacy

Section Six:

Other Community Needs Assessments to Reference

2022 Walworth County Health Assessment

The 2022 Walworth County Community Health Assessment is broken down into categories based on the social determinants of health. Social determinants of health are the non-medical factors that influence a person's overall health.

Each of these categories address health inequities and are important for addressing a community's health. 'Health equity' means that **everyone** has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health. Achieving health equity in a community requires the removal of obstacles to health such as poverty, discrimination, and their consequences. Health inequities are reflected in differences in length of life; quality of life; rates of disease, disability, and death; severity of disease; and access to treatment (CDC)

<https://co.walworth.wi.us/978/Community-Health-Assessment-Improvement>

2021 Community Health Assessment Health Equity Alliance of Rock County

The Health Equity Alliance of Rock County (HEAR) is a multi-sector collaboration that aims to reduce health disparities and inequities in the community. HEAR members include representatives from local health systems, community-based organizations, non-profits, government agencies, school districts, libraries, churches, and more. HEAR helps guide the Community Health Assessment (CHA) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) reports and implements strategies to meet the goals set forth in the CHIP. HEAR works to ensure that Rock County reaches its full health potential through a commitment to equity.

<https://www.co.rock.wi.us/departments/public-health/health-equity-alliance-of-rock-county-hear>



To address the needs of the people it serves, Community Action Inc. is asking for information about your household and community needs. Please complete this survey and return it by Friday, July 8, 2022. Thank you.

Community Action Inc. is surveying residents of its two county service area to gather information that will help us plan future programs. This survey asks about the challenges some households may have. Please answer each question honestly. If you wish, at the end of the survey is a place to enter to win one of 3 CASH PRIZES \$100, \$50 and \$50. All responses will remain private and anonymous. **Please respond by Friday July 8, 2022.**

➤➤➤ Your response is important and appreciated. <<<

MARK the county where you live: ☐ Rock County ☐ Walworth County

2022 COMMUNITY SURVEY

Please circle the response that shows how serious each of the following concerns is for your household.

EMPLOYMENT

	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Getting a better-paying job	0	1	2	3
Getting a job with more hours	0	1	2	3
Getting a full-time, year-around job	0	1	2	3
Getting a job with health insurance benefits	0	1	2	3
Getting a loan and/or help to start a business	0	1	2	3

Do existing programs or resources adequately address employment issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Getting a high school diploma	0	1	2	3
Getting education or training so I can get a better job	0	1	2	3
Getting training to start/expand my own business	0	1	2	3
Paying for school	0	1	2	3
Paying for childcare or transportation so I can go to school	0	1	2	3

Do existing programs or resources adequately address education and training issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

HOUSING

	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Finding safe, affordable housing	0	1	2	3
Cost of rent	0	1	2	3
I have trouble making the mortgage payment	0	1	2	3
Cost of heating	0	1	2	3
Housing needs insulation or weatherization	0	1	2	3
I cannot afford to buy a decent house	0	1	2	3
Finding housing that allows pets	0	1	2	3

I have been homeless sometime in the last two years ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

Do existing programs or resources adequately address housing issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

HEALTH	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Medical costs	0	1	2	3
Dental costs	0	1	2	3
Prescription costs	0	1	2	3
Medical/dental insurance costs	0	1	2	3
Finding a dentist who accepts BadgerCare/Medicaid patients	0	1	2	3
Getting information about/enrolling in public/county programs	0	1	2	3
Counseling/treatment for drug or alcohol use	0	1	2	3
Counseling/treatment for mental illness	0	1	2	3
Diagnosis or suspect of mental health concerns	0	1	2	3
Finding treatment/coping with a disability in the household	0	1	2	3
Getting enough food for my household	0	1	2	3
Getting information on nutritious food	0	1	2	3

TRANSPORTATION	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Obtaining reliable transportation to work, school, day care etc.	0	1	2	3
Cost of car repairs	0	1	2	3
Cost of maintaining car (insurance, gas)	0	1	2	3
Car is often not available for me/ a family member to use	0	1	2	3

Do existing programs or resources adequately address transportation issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

FAMILY	Not a problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Affordable childcare	0	1	2	3
Childcare for nights/ weekends	0	1	2	3
Childcare for when my child is sick	0	1	2	3
Cost of childcare keeps me from working	0	1	2	3
Guiding challenging behaviors for a teenage child	0	1	2	3
Guiding challenging behaviors for a young child	0	1	2	3
There is use of force (kicking, pushing, hitting) in the relationship with my partner/spouse	0	1	2	3
Concern about children witnessing violence in the home	0	1	2	3
Ability to keep children in/attending school	0	1	2	3
Ability to assist children with school work	0	1	2	3

Do existing programs or resources adequately address family issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

What services are needed for you, your spouse, or children?

- ☐ Mental Health Services ☐ Recreation ☐ Tutoring ☐ Childcare
☐ Affordable Health Care ☐ Employment ☐ Mentoring
☐ Nutrition ☐ Other: _____

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

	Not a Problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
Lack of savings	0	1	2	3
Having enough money to pay all the monthly bills	0	1	2	3
High household debt Check all that apply: Legal <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card <input type="checkbox"/> Student Loans <input type="checkbox"/> Payday Loans <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	0	1	2	3
Use check advance services too often	0	1	2	3
Have enough money to respond to unexpected emergencies	0	1	2	3
Getting affordable legal services	0	1	2	3
Obtaining a checking or savings account	0	1	2	3
Accessing a copy of your credit report	0	1	2	3

Do you understand legal issues/criminal record? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

Do existing programs or resources adequately address these issues? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Don't Know

If no, what changes should be made to improve programs or services? _____

ENVIRONMENTAL/CLIMATE CONCERNS

	Not a Problem	Slight problem	Moderate problem	Serious problem
The cost of household electricity	0	1	2	3
Extreme heat in the summers	0	1	2	3
Extreme cold in the winters	0	1	2	3
Flooding from extreme rainfall	0	1	2	3
Health impact from air pollution	0	1	2	3

HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Please provide the income information requested.

It is necessary to make your response count as valid.

Find the number that indicates your household size (1-8 persons), THEN place a check in EITHER the Below or Above column to indicate if your annual GROSS household income is Below or Above the dollar amount listed for your household size.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	HOUSEHOLD Annual Income	HOUSEHOLD Annual Income BELOW	HOUSEHOLD Annual Income ABOVE
Find your household size below		Check if your GROSS annual income is above or below the amount listed for your household size.	
1 person	\$16,988		
2	\$22,888		
3	\$28,788		
4	\$34,688		
5	\$40,588		
6	\$46,488		
7	\$52,388		
8	\$58,288		
More than 8: Add \$5,900 for each additional household member			

What is your gender?

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Transgender ☐ Non-Binary/Non-Conforming ☐ Prefer not to answer

What is your age range?

☐ 18-23 ☐ 24-44 ☐ 45-54 ☐ 55-69 ☐ 70+"

Household Race (Check all that apply.)

- ☐ Asian/Pacific Islander ☐ Black ☐ Native/Indigenous ☐ White
☐ Multiracial/Bi-racial ☐ Other _____

Household Ethnicity ☐ Hispanic ☐ Latino

Please mark the answers that best describe your household (mark all that apply):

- ☐ Married couple with child/children ☐ Single, living alone ☐ Widow/Widower ☐ Separated/Divorced
☐ Married couple no children at home ☐ Single parent with child/children ☐ Over 65 years
☐ Live with significant other and child/children ☐ Live with significant other, no children at home
☐ Live with child/children age 3 through 5. If yes, how many? _____ ☐ Other household type (specify)

Please indicate the employment situation in your household:

- Yourself ☐ full time ☐ part-time ☐ unemployed ☐ retired ☐ unable to work ☐ self-employed
Spouse/partner ☐ full time ☐ part-time ☐ unemployed ☐ retired ☐ unable to work ☐ self-employed
☐ Other (explain) _____

Are you currently receiving any public assistance? Yes _____ No _____

Please mark the answers that best describe your employment (mark all that apply):

- ☐ Food Service ☐ Hospitality ☐ Retail ☐ Construction ☐ Customer Service ☐ Education
☐ Health Care/Human Services ☐ Temp ☐ IT/TECH ☐ Manufacturing ☐ Entertainment
☐ Agriculture ☐ Other: _____

Please tell us what, if any, form of health insurance you have for people in your household:

- Adults** ☐ Medicaid ☐ Medicare ☐ BadgerCare ☐ through employer ☐ self-insured ☐ no insurance
Children under 18 ☐ Medicaid ☐ BadgerCare ☐ through employer ☐ parent's insurance ☐ no insurance

Please check the box or boxes that describe your housing situation:

- ☐ Owner ☐ Living with others ☐ Homeless
☐ Renter ☐ Living in shelter ☐ Other (Describe) _____

What is the highest grade or diploma/degree completed by adults (over 18) in your household? (drop down options on electronic survey)

Adult 1 _____ Adult 2 _____ Adult 3 _____ Adult 4 _____

Does your household have a child or adult with a (documented) disability?

- ☐ Child ☐ Adult ☐ No one with a disability

Is child with a disability 4 years or younger? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have ever participated in a Program of Community Action Inc. PLEASE complete the following Customer Satisfaction Information so that we may improve the quality of our services.

☐ Yes ☐ No I, and/or, other household members have/not received services from Community Action Inc.

<u>Overall Program Satisfaction</u>	<i>On a scale of 0 (not at all satisfied) to 3 (very satisfied) rate your satisfaction with any program you or a member of your household has participated.</i>			
	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Weatherization				
Driver's Education Scholarship				
Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless				
Community Kids Learning Center				
Community Action Rental Property				
Fresh Start				
Fatherhood Initiative				
AWARE in Evansville				
Rapid Re-Housing				
Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH)				
Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance (WERA)				
Transitional Jobs				
Merrill Community Center				

<u>While participating in a Community Action Program do you feel you were treated with honesty and respect?</u>	<i>On a scale of 0 (not at all satisfied) to 3 (very satisfied) rate your satisfaction with any program you or a member of your household has participated.</i>			
	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Weatherization				
Driver's Education Scholarship				
Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless				
Community Kids Learning Center				
Community Action Rental Property				
Fresh Start				
Fatherhood Initiative				
AWARE in Evansville				
Rapid Re-Housing				
Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH)				
Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance (WERA)				
Transitional Jobs				
Merrill Community Center				

<u>Did participation in the Community Action Program meet your needs?</u>	<i>On a scale of 0 (not at all satisfied) to 4 (very satisfied) rate your satisfaction with any program you or a member of your household has participated.</i>			
	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Weatherization				
Driver's Education Scholarship				
Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless				
Community Kids Learning Center				
Community Action Rental Property				
Fresh Start				
Fatherhood Initiative				
AWARE in Evansville				
Rapid Re-Housing				
Wisconsin Help for Homeowners (WHH)				
Wisconsin Emergency Rental Assistance (WERA)				
Transitional Jobs				
Merrill Community Center				

On a Scale of 1-10, How would rank Community Action?

Place number here: _____

To receive more information on the services Community Action Provides please provide your contact information in the comments section or visit our website at www.community-action.org

COMMENTS:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

If you would like to be entered into the cash drawing, please print your name and phone number below:

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

