

got needs?

Kings County Community Survey

2017 FINAL REPORT

This year, Kings Partnership for Prevention joined forces with Kings Community Action Organization to conduct the first biennial county-wide Community Needs Assessment. The collaboration began in August 2016. Throughout the fall, a series of meetings were held with community leaders representing all sectors of Kings County. Organizations represented included: Adventist Health, California Health Collaborative, Child Abuse Prevention Coordinating Council (CAPCC), Champions Recovery Programs, KCAO, Kings County Behavioral Health, Kings County Department of Public Health, Kings County Job Training Office, Kings County Human Services Agency, Kings County Sheriff's Office Kings United Way, Koinonia Church, and UCCE Kings County 4-H. The collaboration worked to develop a 37 question survey and design the structure of four public forums. The partnership was empowering, and all organizations will utilize the results for the good of Kings County community members. By working together to take these steps in fostering communication within our communities, it will begin to lead to understanding and value for all citizens. The vast nature of this undertaking was impossible through one organization alone, but achievable through collective impact.

The results from the comprehensive community needs assessment, 'Got Needs? 2017,' utilize the information collected through the community needs survey and public forums. The survey was administered at random by each participating organization. In order to avoid duplication, the survey was branded and participants were told not to continue if they had taken it before. In addition to this administration, the survey was mailed to 250 households targeting all geographical areas of Kings County. Almost 20% of these surveys were returned. In total, 617 surveys were collected. Below are a few highlights of the survey respondent demographics:

- Over 60% of all respondents were low-income according to the 2017 federal poverty level guidelines (of those who chose to respond)
- 80% of respondents chose to take the survey in English, and 20% took the survey in Spanish.
- Over 55% of respondents were between the ages of 25-44 years
- 76% of respondents were female
- Over 60% of respondents were Hispanic or Latino
- 47% of respondents were from Hanford, 20% from Lemoore, 14% from Corcoran, and 6% from Avenal

The Public Forums were held in the cities of Avenal, Lemoore, Hanford, and Corcoran. The Forums were publicized throughout the cities and social media beforehand. With the exception of the Lemoore Public Forum, all were well attended. Below are a few highlights of the demographics from the forums:

- Almost 50% of the Hanford Public Forum attendees were low-income according to the 2017 federal poverty level guidelines
- 70% of attendees at the Hanford Public Forum were female
- Although the majority of attendees at the Hanford Public Forum lived in Hanford, Armona and Lemoore residents were also in attendance
- Almost 40% of the Corcoran Public Forum attendees were low-income according to the 2017 federal poverty level guidelines
- 90% of the attendees at the Corcoran Public Forum were female
- Only one attendee at the Corcoran Public Forum resided outside of Corcoran
- 40% of the Avenal Public Forum attendees were low-income according to the 2017 federal poverty level guidelines
- 60% of the attendees at the Avenal Public Forum were female
- Although the majority of attendees at the Avenal Public Forum lived in Avenal, Kettleman City was also represented.

The **Public Forums** provided an opportunity to residents to speak freely about the needs they saw in their own community. Attendees were also encouraged to vocalize any thoughts they had on possible solutions to address these needs. This abundant information collected allows Kings County organizations to identify the perception of needs community residents have and to develop a plan to address these needs. Below are the notes taken for the cities represented:

Needs Addressed for Avenal:

- Sports/Recreation activities for youth, teens and adults. The Sports Complex is outside of town, too far to walk.
- Transportation needed in Avenal (eg. buses)
- Parks are inundated with gangs, playgrounds are only open limited hours
- RAC is only for young children; it is expensive; only 2 month activities
- No gym
- Citizens would like more community activities
- Parent education
- Legal assistance on immigration issues
- Money management
- Homeless outreach
- Language barriers in community

Needs Addressed for Kettleman City:

- No grocery store, only 1 small liquor store that barely meets the WIC requirements
- Nutrition Education
- Recreational trails or walking paths

- Sidewalks are needed in Kettleman City to ensure safety for citizens
- Sports/Recreation
- Transportation to Avenal for sports recreation
- Home repairs
- Mental health services during afternoon/evening hours
- Extended hours at KCAO to include 1 full day per week

Needs Addressed for Hanford:

- The park in Home Garden is not open, community needs a place for children to play. Would like to see a recreation center with more youth activities.
- Would like public acknowledgement for students in community who are doing well, possibly a Community Recognition Event.
- Affordable housing in good neighborhoods - prices are higher than wages
- Single parent support
- Help with transportation to schools/daycare.
- Low Income housing lists are long, and when Landlords change, lists are lost
- Summer school programs for struggling students to enhance what they learned throughout the school year
- Outreach to children/youth from troubled homes
- Job Interview education/preparation
- Financial assistance with clothing for job interviews & new jobs
- Need more jobs for homeless
- Education programs (e.g. job training) for parents where English is a second language
- Community youth activities/events (e.g. Party 4 Life, bowling)
- WIC for children over age 5/healthy food assistance
- Affordable sports activities for low income families (e.g. sponsorships)
- Food assistance for seniors who live on a fixed income
- Food assistance with more fruits
- Early education/mental health program for children who are bullies or who suffer from bullying
- Mental health help for bullies/bullying
- Appliances for low income housing or regular rental housing
- Mandatory weatherization for rental houses
- Safe drug-free housing, renters' rights, policy changes, landlord support & knowledge
- Shelter for homeless families (emergency housing)

Needs Addressed for Corcoran:

- Growing concerns with gang problem
- More FREE activities (e.g. sports, boys & girls club, etc.) to keep kids out of trouble. Corcoran previously had one run by the city.
- More programs/activities for the youth
- Street lights needed to help reduce crime; need speed limits as well

- Neighborhood watch needed throughout the city
- 24-hour medical clinic or hospital is needed – a major concern for seniors
- More Ambulances – only 1 in the city
- Senior Center wants a television, dvd player & cable, coffee & creamer, and funds to provide activities for seniors to do
- Senior Center wants better food with more variety - fresh food so that meals can be prepared on site
- Food is expired through USDA Food Commodities program. Vegetables are wilted, not edible.
- Adult Day Care center is needed
- More Police presence
- Meals on Wheels service for shut-ins (concerned about funding being cut)
- Boys & Girls Club
- Budgeting/financial planning classes
- Parenting classes, job training in local area
- Bowling alley
- Movie Theater
- Life Skills classes for parenting, coping, non-judgmental person to talk to, role models, substance abuse counseling, mental health
- Job training, trade skills, basic skills – specifically for youth and young adults
- Job shadowing program
- Nutrition classes

The ‘**Got Needs?**’ **community survey** was composed of 37 questions all specifically designed for a ‘quick’ response time (yes/no, multiple choice, etc). The nature of this survey targets community perception. It is easy to look at data and see the issues at hand (for example: according to the California Health Interview Survey, over 80% of Kings County adults are overweight or obese), but until we understand the community perception of these issues, we will never be able to address them appropriately. Below are the responses for each question in the ‘Got Needs?’ community survey:

Question #0: Please select your language preference.

Answer Choices	Responses	
English	80.55%	497
Spanish	19.45%	120
Answered	617	
Skipped	0	

Question #1: What is your age?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
18-24 yrs.	90	14.95%
25-34 yrs.	203	33.72%

35-44 yrs.	136	22.59%
45-54 yrs.	59	9.80%
55-64 yrs.	66	10.96%
65+ yrs.	48	7.97%
Answered	602	
Skipped	15	

Question #2: What is your sex?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Male	139	23.09%
Female	461	76.58%
Other	2	0.33%
Answered	602	
Skipped	15	

Question #3 - What is your race?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
American Indian	25	4.20%
Asian or Pacific Islander	30	5.04%
White/Caucasian	276	46.39%
Black or African American	35	5.88%
Prefer not to answer	229	38.49%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #4: What is your ethnicity?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Hispanic or Latino	370	61.67%
Non-Hispanic or Non-Latino	230	38.33%
Answered	600	
Skipped	17	

Question #5: What community do you currently live in?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Armona	23	3.82%
Avenal	41	6.81%
Corcoran	87	14.45%
Hanford	288	47.84%
Home Garden	8	1.33%

Kettleman City	9	1.50%
Lemoore	123	20.43%
Stratford	5	0.83%
NAS Lemoore	9	1.50%
Santa Rosa Rancheria	2	0.33%
Homeless	0	0.00%
Other (please specify below)	7	1.16%
(Other - please specify)	8	1.33%
Answered	602	
Skipped	15	

Question #6: In your community, do you have the following? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Parks	528	94.45%
Gyms	366	65.47%
Youth Sports Teams	307	54.92%
Walking Trails	215	38.46%
Adult Sports Teams	178	31.84%
Playgrounds	422	75.49%
Answered	559	
Skipped	58	

Question #7: Do you feel there are enough areas of recreation in your community?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	309	51.85%
No	287	48.15%
Answered	596	
Skipped	21	

Question #7.1: If YES, are these recreation areas affordable?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	253	83.77%
No	49	16.23%
Answered	302	
Skipped	315	

Question #7.2: Are these recreation areas safe?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	298	79.47%

No	77	20.53%
Answered	375	
Skipped	242	

Question #7.3: Are these recreation areas high quality?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	223	62.29%
No	135	37.71%
Answered	358	
Skipped	259	

Question #8: Do you feel there are enough recreation activities in your area?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	261	43.79%
No	335	56.21%
Answered	596	
Skipped	21	

Question #8.1: If YES, are these recreation activities affordable?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	187	77.27%
No	55	22.73%
Answered	242	
Skipped	375	

Question #9: Do you feel your community offers quality child care?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	224	37.58%
No	89	14.93%
Don't Know	283	47.48%
Answered	596	
Skipped	21	

Question #9.1: If YES, is this child care affordable?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	129	70.11%
No	55	29.89%
Answered	184	

Skipped	433	
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Question #10: Have you ever used any of these community services before? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Drug and Alcohol Services	57	16.06%
Mental Health Services	97	27.32%
Food Assistance	286	80.56%
Victim Services	24	6.76%
Family and Parenting Services	85	23.94%
Answered	355	
Skipped	262	

Question #11: Does the public transportation in your community meet your needs? (Public transportation is any transportation provided to the general public for a fare. This type of transportation is mostly paid for by government funds and passenger fares.)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	401	67.28%
No	195	32.72%
Answered	596	
Skipped	21	

Question #11.1: If NO, why does public transportation not meet your needs? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Too expensive	22	14.97%
Limited availability	65	44.22%
Long wait times	87	59.18%
Scheduling conflicts	52	35.37%
Other (please specify)	26	17.69%
Answered	147	
Skipped	470	

Question #11.2: If you use public transportation, what type are you using? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Kings Area Rural Transit (KART) Bus	246	80.66%
Amtrak train	97	31.80%

Corcoran Area Transit (CAT) bus	38	12.46%
Answered	305	
Skipped	312	

Question #12: Do you feel there are enough parks in your area?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	361	60.37%
No	237	39.63%
Answered	598	
Skipped	19	

Question #13: Do you feel that your community offers opportunities, organizations, or events that sufficiently meet your family's spiritual needs?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	392	65.66%
No	205	34.34%
Answered	597	
Skipped	20	

Question #14: Do you attend a church or religious organization regularly?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	347	58.03%
No	251	41.97%
Answered	598	
Skipped	19	

Question #15: Are you interested in joining a church or spiritual community?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	164	27.47%
No	433	72.53%
Answered	597	
Skipped	20	

Question #16: Are you currently having trouble affording an apartment or house in your community?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	215	35.95
No	383	64.05

Answered	598	
Skipped	19	

Question #17: Are you currently receiving any services from Kings Community Action Organization (e.g. Head Start, Utility Assistance, Child Care, etc.)?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	159	26.63%
No	438	73.37%
Answered	597	
Skipped	20	

Question #18: Have you ever witnessed violence in your community?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	214	35.79%
No	384	64.21%
Answered	598	
Skipped	19	

Question #19: Have you ever been the victim of violence in your community?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	99	16.56%
No	499	83.44%
Answered	598	
Skipped	19	

Question #20: Have you ever witnessed violence in your home?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	76	12.79%
No	518	87.21%
Answered	594	
Skipped	23	

Question #21: Have you ever been the victim of violence in your home?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	77	12.96%
No	517	87.04%
Answered	594	
Skipped	23	

Question #22: Is everyone in your household currently covered by health insurance?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	469	79.09%
No	124	20.91%
Answered	593	
Skipped	24	

Question #23: In the past two years, has a lack of job skills prevented anyone in your household from getting a job?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	156	26.22%
No	439	73.78%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #24: In the past two years, has a lack of job skills prevented anyone in your household from getting a better paying job?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	194	32.61%
No	401	67.39%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #25: Is your household currently having trouble paying utility bills?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	189	31.76%
No	406	68.24%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #26: Are you concerned about having enough food to feed your family?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	197	33.11%
No	398	66.89%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #27: Does your household have a computer?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	314	52.77%
No	281	47.23%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #28: Does your household have internet access?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	383	64.37%
No	212	35.63%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #29: What is your approximate annual household income? (Open Answer Format; results were compiled into the following answer choices for reporting)

Answer Choices (compiled)	Total	Percentage
\$0	45	12.23%
\$1 - \$14,999	96	26.1%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	75	20.38%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	62	16.85%
\$35,000 - \$44,999	29	7.88%
\$45,000 - \$54,999	16	4.35%
\$55,000 - \$64,999	14	3.8%
\$65,000 - \$74,999	9	2.45%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	10	2.72%
> \$100,000	12	3.26%
Answered	368	
Skipped	249	

Question #30: Does anyone in your household need help with any of the following? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Speaking English	134	83.23%
Reading English	103	63.98%
Writing English	107	66.46%
Answered	161	
Skipped	456	

Question #31: Are you able to access medical services?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	524	88.07%
No	71	11.93%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #31.1: If NO, why have you been unable to access medical services? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Transportation	20	30.30%
Healthcare Hours	13	19.70%
Scheduling Conflict	10	15.15%
Finances	24	36.36%
Childcare	8	12.12%
Other	14	21.21%
Answered	66	
Skipped	551	

Question #31.2: If YES, how do you access medical services? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Urgent Care	151	37.47%
Rural Health Clinics/ FQHC	215	53.35%
Emergency Room	196	48.64%
Private Practice	124	30.77%
Answered	403	
Skipped	214	

Question #32: Does your household have a smartphone?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	476	80.00%
No	119	20.00%
Answered	595	
Skipped	22	

Question #32.1: If YES, does your household have a data plan for this smartphone?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
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Yes	342	78.26%
No	95	21.74%
Answered	437	
Skipped	180	

Question #33: How many people currently live in your household? (Open Answer Format; results were compiled into the following answer choices for reporting)

Answer Choices (Compiled)	Total	Percentage
1	45	7.84%
2	97	16.9%
3	100	17.42%
4	117	20.38%
5	85	14.81%
6	68	11.85%
7	28	4.88%
8	9	1.57%
9	6	1.05%
>10	19	3.31%
Answered	574	
Skipped	43	

Question #34: What are your three biggest barriers to healthy eating? (Healthy eating is eating 2-5 servings of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, dairy foods, lean meats or proteins like nuts, seeds and beans and drinking water daily.) Please check up to three options.

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
I already eat healthy food most of the time	394	66.33%
There are no places to buy healthy food nearby	51	8.59%
I don't know how to cook healthy food	63	10.61%
I don't have time to cook healthy food	43	7.24%
I don't have anywhere to prepare healthy food	13	2.19%
Healthy food is too expensive	131	22.05%
I don't have transportation to buy healthy food	19	3.20%
The food goes bad before I can finish it	64	10.77%
I'm not familiar with the healthy food available here in my community	23	3.87%
When I'm in the store, I don't know how to select healthy food	56	9.43%
I don't like the taste of healthy food	16	2.69%
My family doesn't like healthy food	26	4.38%
I don't feel full when I eat healthy food	43	7.24%

Answered	594	
Skipped	23	

Question #35: What comes to mind when you see the 4-H emblem? (Check all that apply) (Note: Picture of emblem included in survey)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
This is the 1st time I have seen the 4-H emblem	256	43.24
I don't know what the 4-H emblem means	219	36.99
Science	59	9.97
Technology	41	6.93
Engineering	27	4.56
Mathematics	26	4.39
Livestock Auctions	136	22.97
Showcasing or caring for animals	154	26.01
Nutrition Education	76	12.84
Gardening	69	11.66
Healthy Living	78	13.18
Leadership and Personal Development	98	16.55
Personal Safety	29	4.90
Civic Education	43	7.26
County Fair	119	20.10
Communications and Expressive Arts	38	6.42
Shooting Sports	17	2.87
Farmers	146	24.66
Answered	592	
Skipped	25	

Question #36: Would your family ever join 4-H?

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Yes	213	36.10
No	377	63.90
Answered	590	
Skipped	27	

Question #36.1: If YES, what are the benefits of participating in 4-H? (Check all that apply)

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Making new friends	125	64.77

Having a record book to track accomplishments	46	23.83
Winning awards and competitions	67	34.72
Making money	62	32.12
Learning new things	126	65.28
Having my child in a safe place	104	53.89
Having my child in a structured environment	100	51.81
The prestige	37	19.17
Increasing my child's self-confidence	105	54.40
Increasing my child's ambition	100	51.81
Developing my child positively	125	64.77
Increasing academic achievement for my child	100	51.81
Securing scholarships for my child	70	36.27
Having a community of support	72	37.31
Youth-Adult partnerships	68	35.23
Participating in community service	82	42.49
Learning public speaking skills	84	43.52
Attending family friendly activities	99	51.30
Increasing economic achievement for my child	65	33.68
Answered	193	
Skipped	424	

Question #37: Please identify all the categories that you currently need assistance with (check all that apply).

Answer Choices	Total	Percentage
Affordable Housing	158	37.44
Food	176	41.71
Accessing Medical Coverage	82	19.43
Transportation	75	17.77
Shelter	43	10.19
Child Care	97	22.99
Utilities Assistance	122	28.91
Parenting Classes	60	14.22
English Language Classes	83	19.67
Household Budgeting	90	21.33
Employment	158	37.44
Job Training	118	27.96
Preschool	44	10.43

Working with local law enforcement	24	5.69
Youth activities (summer/after school)	93	22.04
Nutrition Education	76	18.01
Home Repairs	82	19.43
Tutoring	40	9.48
Education Support	52	12.32
Other (please specify)	20	4.74
Answered	422	
Skipped	195	

Kings Partnership for Prevention would like to thank all community organizations and agencies who worked to make this County-wide Community Needs Assessment a success. Please note that many of the questions from the 'Got Needs' Community Survey will be added as data indicators on the KPPF website (www.kppf.org) the end of fall 2017.