# **APPENDIX B**

**Community Needs Assessment Analysis** 

# Community Needs Assessment for The Adult and Families Services Commission (AFSC) serving as the Community Action Agency of Nevada County, California

Summary of Key Findings

December 2016

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Special thanks to the team at 211 Nevada County for their development of a resource directory that residents can access to find information about local and regional agencies offering services in many different areas.

Finally, we are very grateful to the 248 community members who completed a survey as part of this Community Needs Assessment (CNA). Their input was critical in the development of this report.

Personal thanks to the following people who went above the call of duty to garner low-income input to this project:

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#### Introduction

In 1964, Congress passed the Economic Opportunity Act to begin America's War on Poverty. Thus, a network of Community Action Agencies arose across the county to alleviate the impact of poverty at a local level to support people with low incomes to improve the quality of their lives. Community Action Agencies administer Community Services Block Grant Funding and are overseen by the California Department of Community Services and Development, and at a federal level by the Office of Community Services, an office of the Administration for Children and Families, a unit of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Through the Nevada County Social Services Department, a public agency, Community Services Block Grant funding is dedicated to bringing resources together to reduce poverty. The Adult and Family Services Commission, the advising tri-partite board, works to ensure that funds dispersed in support of community programs focus in five key focus areas: (1) Food and Nutrition, (2) Safe and Stable Housing, (3) Transportation and Core Service Connectivity, (4) Education Attainment, (5) and Specialty Health Care.

Every three years, Community Services Block Grant funding requires the county to complete a comprehensive community needs assessment and internal evaluation, basing our two-year plan on the information that we unveil during the process. The resulting Community Action Plan (CAP) provides a base line for us as we move the funding forward. Our most recent community needs assessment incorporates the input of hundreds of community members and low-income residents, community based organizations, partner agencies and staff. It is the only document of its kind geared solely at no or low-income individuals and families, providing a local source of information about what it is like to live in Nevada County and how difficult it is to make ends meet. The Great Recession may be over, but the gap between rich and poor has widened to an all-time high. The agency, and many service providers, both public and private, struggle with chronic underfunding for many of their programs.

The 2016 Nevada County Community Needs Assessment (CNA) was designed to meet the federal funding requirement and to provide the county with an in-depth understanding of low-income household needs in the communities that they serve. This assessment was developed through a collaborative multi-tiered approach, and is based on qualitative and quantitative data; including demographic, social, economic, and environmental factors that impact the lives of low-income persons (reference Chart 1 for a list of sources). The CNA, as well as the subsequent Strategic and Community Action Plans are based on publicly available data and information gathered through the survey tool and assessment process. Input was captured through a web-based survey tool; community forums and smaller collaborative meetings.

This summary report provides the key findings from the needs assessment that was conducted by SiLK Consulting Group, on behalf of the Adult and Family Services Commission and Nevada County, in the fall of 2016.

### **Executive Summary**

This report presents the results of the 2016 Nevada County CNA administered as a requirement of federal Community Services Block Grant funding. The survey was distributed to nearly 400 households with low-income, homeless or senior sub-populations and 248 surveys were responsibly completed and included in the report. The survey was distributed by local community partners and mainstream service providers such as: Nevada County Behavioral Health, Nevada County Social Services, Agency on Aging-Area 4, Sierra Senior Services, Tahoe/Truckee Community Foundation, Project Mana, SPIRIT Peer Empowerment, Truckee Family Resource Center, Gold Country Services, Streicher House, Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras, Nevada County Coordinating Council, Victor Community Services, Interfaith Food Ministries, Sierra Roots, Divine Spark, The Salvation Army-Grass Valley Corps, Connecting Point, Hospitality House, First 5 Nevada County, Tahoe Safe Alliance, and many others.

The author believes that the data supports the following conclusions:

#### Safe and Stable Housing

- ♦ Most low-income respondents own their own home (41.94%) or rent (36.29%)
- For low-income respondents reporting homelessness, 29.23% cited that they stay with family or friends, 16.92% stay in an emergency shelter, 52.31% state that they stay in a place not meant for human habitation
- The reasons for homelessness as reported by respondents include: a lack of sustainable income/poverty (17.57%); lack of affordable housing units (14.86%); lack of available rental units (12.16%); and, substance abuse disorder (12.16%)
- ♦ 2.88% of respondents need assistance budgeting to stabilize housing
- 8.15% of respondents need legal aid/education about tenant's rights and preventing evictions

#### Transportation & Connectivity to Core Services

- Many low-income respondents (73.93%) own their own vehicle; 21.37% rely on other means of public or private transportation
- Of the respondents that rely on other means of transportation, there are further issues of reliability, access to transportation for disabled or senior persons, and location/frequency of drop-off and pick-up locations

#### **Health Care**

- Most low-income respondents (90.95%) have a form of health insurance coverage. Only 40.09% of respondents reported having dental coverage
- Only 45.69% of low-income respondents reported having private insurance while the remainder had government subsidized insurance coverage; many commented on the political and financial implications of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) being thrown out
- 9% of low-income respondents indicate some level of concern about their mental health or that of a family member
- 14.66% of respondents reported that someone in their household had a medical condition that was not being treated
- There is an evident need for respite care for relative caregivers

#### Food and Nutrition

- 14.16% of low-income respondents need assistance getting healthy food to eat while only 20.6% of respondents have accessed mainstream resources for food and 10.73% have accessed a food pantry for nutritional, supplemental food for families; of the respondents that were seniors, 13.68% access a senior meal program on a regular basis
- Many community forum respondents reported that there are food insecurities for the working poor

#### **Education Attainment**

- 6.4% of the low-income respondents reported that they access early childhood education programs to prepare their children for school
- Currently, 3.86% of the respondents are receiving adult education from mainstream resources
- There is a lack of resources for special populations, such as the elderly and special needs children, i.e.-navigators or mentors that could assist with follow through

#### Stated Areas of Need

- For senior respondents, the overwhelming majority need some sort of personal assistance, i.e.- help with household chores, running errands, small home repairs, paying bills, etc.
- ♦ Advocacy assistance that includes tenant's rights (8.15%), eviction prevention (4.72%), immigration services (3.43%) were also identified as gaps
- \* 13.3% of respondents stated that they need financial assistance with utility bills but aren't receiving it; while 5.58% of respondents currently receive utility assistance
- \* The top 4 reasons given for why people are unable to get/keep a full-time living wage job are: jobs are just not available (42.42%); lack of education (26.84%); lack of technical job skills (25.97%); substance abuse issues, lack of transportation and physical, mental or health issues (each at 24.68%)
- In the Truckee area, there is inequity with programs and services that the rest of the county has; outlying areas also need comprehensive services

### **Snapshot of Nevada County**

Nevada County is a small, rural county that covers 957.6 square miles between the Yuba County line to the west across the Sierra Nevada Mountains to the Nevada state line to the east. There are three incorporated cities within the county-Grass Valley, Nevada City and Truckee. One-third of the counties residents live in the unincorporated cities of Alta Sierra, Lake of the Pines, Lake Wildwood, Penn Valley, Washington and North San Juan. Nevada City, the county seat rests approximately 60 miles northeast of Sacramento and the Town of Truckee is another 65 miles on the eastern side of the Donner Pass. It is important to note that the county has drastically different levels of services, gaps and needs in the eastern part of the county on the other side of the mountain range. The county is geographically split into two regions referred to as Western Nevada County and Eastern Nevada County.

The Western region is comprised of the county seat, Nevada City, and the county's largest city, Grass Valley; may smaller established communities also contribute to the western region and its nearly 81,852 population. The Eastern region is comprised of one incorporated town, Truckee, and several small, rural communities that are geographically isolated and socioeconomically diverse from one another. The population in Truckee is 16,180, which is roughly 16% of the county's 98,764 population-up 7% from the 2000 census.

Established in the height of the Gold Rush era, Nevada County still maintains the miner spirit which is of interventions. This spirited mentality has made way for a movement inspired by going green, environmental preservation, organic and locally grown foods and products, as well as alternative, spiritual endeavors.

The number of households in poverty in 2014 was 4,450 or 8.2% of total households, 3.5% lower than the state and federal average. It is estimated that 8.2% of all households were living in poverty within Nevada County, compared to the national average of 11.5%. Of the households in poverty, married couples were 7.7% higher that the state average and male householder poverty rates were 2.8% higher than the state average.

### Methodology

In the fall of 2016, a total of 68 community partners from the Nevada County service area were contacted to share the survey using paper copies and electronically via email, survey monkey (web-based tool) and county websites. To engage the target population directly, SiLK Consulting Group conducted a survey of current Community Action Agency (CAA) program participants. The survey was also made available to other low-income residents who may not be CAA program participants. The 28-question survey asked about the primary needs of adults and children in

participant's households. Additionally, the survey asked about participants' use of existing programs, as well as challenges related to meeting their household's basic needs. A total of 92 surveys were completed via the web-based tool, and a total of 156 picked up the survey from local service providers or community partners. The total number of responses to the survey was 248, a 62% response rate.

Another aspect of the Nevada County CNA was collecting feedback from the commission members, the public, and community service partners about the needs of low-income individuals and families. Two community forums were held; one in northern Nevada County and one in the eastern portion of the county. The forums were conducted to answer three research questions: (1) What are the needs of low-income Nevada County residents? (2) What are the gaps in services? (3) What strategies should the County look at to address the needs?

The purpose of the community partner's forum was to gather valuable data pertaining to how low-income individuals and families use community services, from the perspective of service providers and advocates within the county. Quantitative questions provided a direct measurement of the services being used by the low-income population. Qualitative questions were implemented to determine why certain patterns of service use occur, as well as to obtain valuable information that is not possible with quantitative surveys. Text entries in response to quantitative questions was used primarily for "other response options. In these cases, respondents were adding responses that were not present in the existing list of survey questions, or to add clarity to an answer. The responses to "other" were reviewed and themed if there were at least three similar comments. If a comment was not represented at least three times, it was not discussed in the results section.

Because the community forums were focused on a specific population, a conscious effort was put forth to recruit participants who understood how low-income individuals and families use services from the program provider's perspective. Nevada County program staff used their vast network of low-income service providers and community relationships to develop a contact list of 40 direct service providers, both public and private. Several communication emails were sent out to start the process of informing participants about the survey tool and community forums. A total of 31 community service partners responded, resulting in a 78% response rate. The community forums took place over a 6-week period and because of the timing of the forums (November and December), many partners chose to partake in the process by communicating their responses via email, over the phone or through other community based meetings that occurred during the same time frame.

In addition to the community forums and web-based/paper survey tool, two other strategies were used to collect data to determine gaps in services for low-income residents in Nevada County. The first was a demographic overview of the area. Available data from the U.S. Census Bureau, Community Commons, and other sources were used to document the characteristics of, and areas of need for, the population of interest. These data elements included housing data, employment, education, income, nutrition and health care, as well as other demographics. Secondly, a comparison of data from recently completed needs assessments provided by previously identified

organizations were scanned to give a comprehensive description of the greatest needs and gaps in services for low-income people in Nevada County.

#### **Participants**

Of the 248 respondents, the majority (58.07%) were over the age of 45. 33% of the respondents fall far below the poverty line with income of less than \$12,000 annually. 90.73% of respondents are white, and 96.77% speak English at home. 44.08% of those surveyed are married or living with a partner. Nearly three-quarters (72.58%) of those surveyed are households without minor children.

#### Community Needs Assessment Survey Sample and Respondents (rounded)

Characteristics	N	%
All Respondents	248	100%
Male	88	35%
Female	157	63%
Race/Ethnicity (N=248)	**************************************	
White	225	91%
Hispanic/Latino	15	6%
American Indian/Native American	7	3%
Asian/Asian American/Pacific Islander	7	3%
Other	6	2%
African or Black	5	2%
Program Needs-currently accessing (N=233)		The state of the s
Mainstream Benefits	35	15%
Substance Abuse Treatment	26	11%
Healthy Food	24	10%
Access to Clothing	14	6%
Assistance with Utility Bills)	13	6%
Rent Subsidy Assistance	12	5%
Household Type (N=248)	THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY O	
No children	180	73%
One-two children	53	21%
Three or more children	15	6%
Poverty Status (approximated) (N=248)		
Less than 100% of FPL	82	33%
100% to less than 133%	15	6%
Above 133%-250% of FPL	35	14%
County Participant Residence (N=248)		
Grass Valley	123	50%
Nevada City	69	28%
Truckee	34	14%
Penn Valley	10	4%
Rough & Ready	4	2%
Alta Sierra	3	1%
Lake of the Pines	3	1%

North San Juan	1	<1%
Lake Wildwood	1	<1%

#### Response Rates

SiLK Consulting group makes every effort to obtain as high a response rate as possible when collecting survey data. For the 2016 CNA survey, SiLK utilized the following techniques to enhance response rates:

- Initial email invites for the web-based online survey were sent by Suzi Kochems-the Homeless Continuum of Care Coordinator, Rob Choate-CSBG Program Manager, and Michele Violett- Nevada County Behavioral Health Analyst. By employing three different people, with vastly different resource networks, we could reach a larger audience.
- There were three reminder emails sent out to each of the networks asking them to share the survey with their program participants, partners and on their website.
- Data collection was extended by two weeks to allow individuals and partners ample time to respond given the corresponding holidays during the period of assessment.
- Consultant and program staff connected with service providers and could pick up and hand deliver surveys to ensure that nothing was lost in transit.

### Greatest needs of the low-income population

The data described in this summary report are key findings based on survey data; however relevant findings from the community forums and demographic overview are also included to provide a more in-depth understanding of the needs of people who are low-income in Nevada County, and to reveal any discrepancies between survey results and service providers' understanding of the communities' greatest needs. Additionally, information included from the review of other studies assists in further linking the greatest needs and gaps in services for specific populations.

#### **Paverly Trends**

Since 2000, the percentage of residents living in poverty has increased in Nevada County. See Figure 1. Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 5-year data. Retrieved from http://factfinder.census.gov/

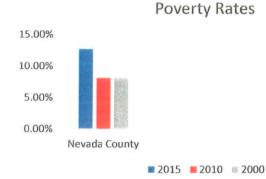


Figure 1

### Children in Poverty Households

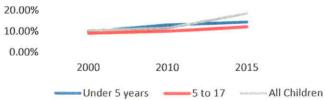


Figure 2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. American Community Survey 5-year data. Retrieved from http://factfinder.census.gov/

#### Respondents' Needs

In this report, the prioritization of the greatest needs of low-income people in Nevada County was primarily determined through an open-ended quest asked on the survey, where respondents were asked to describe in their own words, the things that their household needed. Responses to these questions are illustrated in Figures 3 & 4.

#### Services Accessed

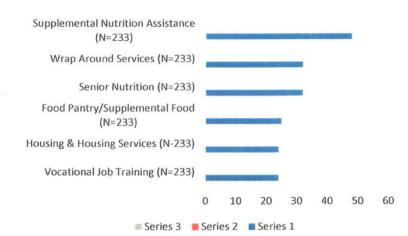


Figure 3

#### **Greatest Needs**

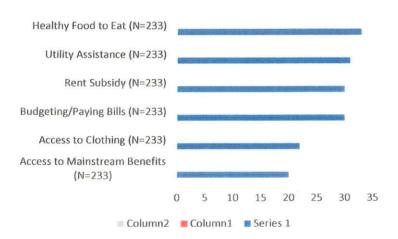


Figure 4

Responses from service provider organizations that serve low-income populations aligned partially with the data from the community survey. The top four needs for adults identified in the community forums were: housing, food/nutrition, transportation, and access to mainstream

benefits. Note that while transportation, food/nutrition and access to mainstream benefits were included in the top needs identified through responses to the community survey, housing was not.

The needs listed below are listed in order of most frequently mentioned type of need then by specific subgroup most frequently mentioned within that type from all assessment resources.

#### Housing-related needs include:

- Availability of affordable housing, including senior housing
- Financial Assistance with obtaining/maintaining housing-rental assistance, eviction prevention assistance, mortgage assistance
- Housing Advocacy-education about tenant and landlord rights and responsibilities; mentors that will assist with budgeting, managing or saving money; help to reduce debt, repair credit and access credit
- Maintenance-assistance with household chores and home repairs for seniors, non-financial assistance

#### Food/Nutrition-related needs include:

- Access to healthy/nutritious food
- Access to food support

#### Transportation -related needs include:

- Assistance with services and costs of public transit and other transportation services
- Access to transportation in outlying areas of the county

#### Access to Mainstream Benefits-related needs include:

- Substance abuse care, including detax facilities
- Mental health care, including psychology and case management
- Benefits assistance-CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, TANF, IHSS

#### Services to meet the greatest need

An analysis of organizations that serve people who are low-income in Nevada CAA's service area revealed that the most common services provided align with some of the top needs identified from the survey results. Of the 128 identified community organizations or agencies identified who serve low-income people in Nevada County, the most common types of services provider were related to housing (12%), transportation (10%), food/nutrition (14%) and mainstream resources (5%).

### **Greatest Need #1: Housing**

When asked about what would help most to meet the needs of people in the household, the greatest proportion of survey respondents mentioned needs related to housing.

Approximately 36% of survey participants are renters and over 40% are homeowners; 15% of respondents are homeless. Nearly 51% of Nevada County residents spend 35% or more of their monthly household income on paying rent; while 39% of homeowners pay 35% or more of their monthly household income towards a mortgage.

The availability of affordable housing is extremely limited. The rental vacancy rate is 3.7% equating to 382 vacant rental units of the total 10,319 Nevada County rental units. Although this information was obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2015, a further review of available rental units is much more restricted and availability exists only at the upper echelon of rental payments (\$1,700 and above). Without paying more that 30 percent of one's household income for housing a person earning minimum wage would have to work more than 94 hours per week to afford the \$1,216 Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a 2-bedroom apartment in Nevada County.

Comments from respondents about housing demonstrated a problem with the lack of housing stock in general, and more importantly with a lack of affordable housing across the region. A greater portion of single-parent households compared with other household types said it was a big problem for their household. Combining the need to work extra hours to afford rent, causes child care and associated transportation costs to increase.

The housing-related needs most frequently mentioned by survey respondents include affordable housing availability and financial assistance with getting and maintaining housing. A smaller number of respondents mentioned the need for advocacy services related to housing. These needs also rose to the top when respondents were asked if they or anyone in their household needs or currently receives a range of housing-related services. See Figure 5.

Housing Related Services and Needs (N=233)

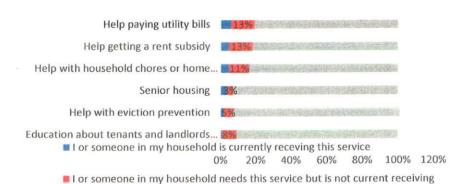


Figure 5

Housing was also the top need of low income respondents and community partners.

it

"You have to live way, way out in the county to find something affordable but then transportation becomes a bigger issue".

"There is some support for housing on the government side if you have a substance abuse problem or mental health disorder, and often when you have kids. But if you are a single person, there is very little that the government can do for you, even if you have no income. The priorities are the families and the 'sick' people, not healthy single people".

"The thing that we see are long waiting lists. And the deep subsidy programs like Section 8 have waiting lists that are closed for years on end".

Housing-related needs vary for different subgroups within the low-income population. There are differences in services received and services needed across household type, as reported in the CNA process. Of those respondents that stated there was a need:

- Households without children were most likely to be receiving utility assistance (26%) compared with 21 percent of single-parent households and 12% of two-parent households.
- Households without children and single-parent household were also most likely to be receiving or needing rent subsidy assistance compared with 8% of partnered-parent households. Households with children were more likely to state that they need subsidy assistance, bur are not receiving it (18% of single-parent households and 20% of partnered-parent households) in comparison to households without children (16%).
- Households without children, and over the age of 65, were more likely to be receiving chore services (82%) compared with households with children (1%). However, about 1 in 5 respondents from both household types say they need this service, but are not receiving it.
- Households with children were more likely than households without children to say they need help with mortgage payments.
- Respondents whose household incomes are above 200% of the poverty line are more likely than other household types to need help with mortgage payments.

#### Services available for people experiencing homelessness are inadequate

In the 2016 sheltered point in time count conducted by the Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras, the county reported 203 sheltered beds available with a 3% vacancy rate on the night of the count. Results from the 2015 point in time count where all homeless were counted, there were a total of 279 individuals (237 adults and 42 children) who were experiencing homelessness on the night of the count.

Lack of shelter for people experiencing homelessness, specifically, was one of the top five needs that arose during the needs assessment process.

"You need homeless housing. Landlords looking for a 700credit score. Shelters that can handle people with infection; if you have never been homeless you do not know what it is like. The needs are many. The money needed for this is just not there and most people care less."

"Housing and homelessness problems continue to be a huge problem for the Truckee community."

"More housing opportunities for the homeless."

"We need subsidized housing"

#### Participants need help with household upkeep

Energy assistance and financial assistance were not the only housing-related needs mentioned when asked what would help most to meet the needs of people in the household. Respondents also stated that help with household upkeep such as assistance with chores and minor home repairs would help most. This need appeared most prevalent with the senior (over 65) population.

### Greatest Need #2: Food/Nutrition

When asked about what would help the most to meet the needs of people in the household, the second most commonly mentioned need was related to food, including food assistance and access to healthy food.

### Food assistance/SNAP is needed and relied upon by many participants

About one-fifth of households in poverty in Nevada County received assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Program (SNAP) in 2015. Of all survey participants 24% receive or need food stamps/SNAP. Other than energy assistance, SNAP, food pantry and senior nutrition (meals on wheels) have the greatest proportion of survey respondents as participants. Although satisfaction with these programs appears to be high overall, these programs were mentioned as not being able to meet, fully, household needs (unmet needs).

### Low-income residents need help accessing healthy foods

Survey participants were asked specifically about help getting healthy food to eat. While 10 percent of all respondents said they are receiving these services, 14% said they need this service, but are not receiving it. See Figure 6.

#### Healthy Foods Needs (N=233)

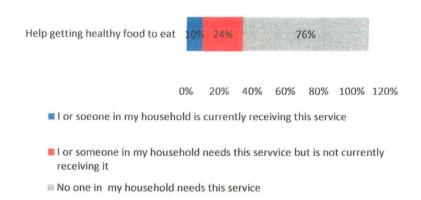


Figure 6

Nearly one-quarter (24%) of survey respondents participating in SNAP, a food pantry, or other food assistance programs like Healthy Families, said that they need this service, but are not currently receiving it. This may indicate that although participants of these programs are receiving food assistance, they are still not able to afford healthy food or lack access to it.

Participants of senior dining programs were most likely to be receiving help accessing health food (62%). Households with children were more likely than households without children to say that they need this service, but are not receiving it.

"Like so many seniors at month's end I run out of food and have no car to go to the food bank,"

## **Greatest Need #3: Transportation**

Most Nevada County residents (83%) have a personal vehicle and drive to work or other activities, while only 1% use public transportation. When asked about the reasons why people cannot get or keep a full-time job, 24% of respondents commented that a lack of transportation was the biggest barrier to gaining employment. Specific transportation needs include help with accessing services, the cost of public transportation, and the need to provide significant notice for using other transportation services (24-72 hours in advance of specific need).

"My children are not able to participate in after school educational programs because depend on the school bus to bring my kids home; public transportation is not appropriate for younger school-aged children and doesn't meet our household needs due to cost."

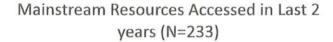
# **Greatest Need #4: Access to Mainstream Resources**

Mainstream resources like TANF, CalWORKs, CalFresh, Medicaid, Housing Choice Vouchers, Mental Health Assistance, Substance Abuse Assistance, health care, income supports and other

forms of assistance are all vital to improving the outcomes of its participants. Many mainstream resources target specific sub-populations; however, all resources provide assistance that is key to preventing homelessness and integral to getting/maintaining employments.

Fifteen percent of survey respondents reported the use of mainstream resources while 9% reported that someone in their household needed the service, but was not receiving it. Of all respondents, 21 percent use the SNAP benefit to help their family obtain food and 9 percent use WIC for monthly food vouchers and nutritional education-a direct correlation to the greatest need #2-Food. See Figure 7.

Mainstream resources that incorporate wrap-around services are in high demand in Nevada County. Respondents commented that there is a large illegal drug problem in the county because mentally ill persons are self-medicating. The county has the resources to serve mentally-ill people; however, it appears that the short-fall is in mentoring the mentally-ill to want to access the available services.



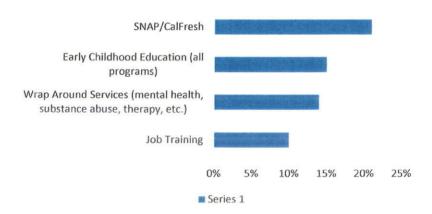


Figure 7

### Other Needs

Low-income residents have trouble paying for basic needs like clothing. Survey respondents commented that addressing their based needs would benefit their household. In order of most frequently mentioned: clothes, general basic needs (although not specified, it appears as food would be the need), furniture/beds, and a cell phone/service. When survey participants were asked, specifically, if they needed help getting clothes, 6 percent of respondents said they are currently receiving this service; however, 9 percent of respondents said that they need but are not receiving this services. Households with children (8%) were more likely than households without children (6%) to say they need this service, but are not receiving it.

Job training and technical skills development are employment related services that 10 percent of respondents accessed in the past two years. Community partners said that employment related needs are one of the greatest needs of low-income residents; subsequently, making a living wage followed as a common need expressed by community partners.

Although needs related to employment did not rise to the top for survey participants, it is likely that there is a need for employment services based on responses from survey participants regarding their employment status. Nearly 8% of respondents said that they are either employed part-time (which could mean that they are underemployed), or unemployed and looking for work. Employment needs may not have risen to the top for survey respondents because 16% reported that they are retired or on social security, likely out of the workforce.

### Moving Forward

- There is limited housing stock and extremely tight vacancy rates with the only vacancies at the highest cost per rental unit not affordable to low-moderate income households.

  Nevada CAA may consider partnering more closely with other organizations working on policy solutions to address housing needs and increase the affordable housing stock on a regional level.
- There are not enough beds in any of the housing programs (emergency, transitional or permanent housing) to meet the needs of the increasing number of people experiencing homelessness.
- In exploring solutions to transportation needs of low-income households in Nevada County, the Nevada CAA may consider partnering with transit authorities around advocacy and community engagement to ensure equity in the transit system across the entire county.
- Consider developing a transportation program that helps participants get to where they need to go to receive services and/or develop a food delivery program that addresses challenges families face to get to food pantries or grocery stores.
- Consider conducting future needs assessments and approach future program development from an asset-based framework rather than a needs-based approach with the idea that the community has knowledge and assets that can be capitalized on and can influence the types of services offered to promote self-sufficiency.

Chart 1: Data Sources		
Quantitative Data Source	Quantitative Data Source	
(e.g Census, client database, etc.) Community Commons-CAP CCNA Hub	(e.g Census, client database, etc.)	
U.S. Census Bureau		
American Housing Survey (AHS)		
Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)		
Department of Agriculture-food-nutrition- assistance		
Qualitative Data Source	Partner Organization/Stakeholder Engaged	
(e.g Surveys, focus Groups, interviews)  North Tahoe-Truckee Housing Study	(if Applicable)	
Nevada County Needs of Seniors Study		
Project Mana Community Needs Assessment Report		
Nevada County Economic Resource Council Report		
Web-based Survey Tool	Nevada County Citizens, Providers of Services	
Community Forums	Low-Income Persons and Service Providers	
Community Engagement Meetings	Homeless Resource Council of the Sierras, Nevada	
Commission Meetings	County Coordinating Council  Nevada County Health & Human Services, Adult and Family Services Commission	

## **Commission Approval**

Whereby, at a regular meeting of the Nevada County Adult and Family Services Commission, the Commission conducted its final review of the Community Needs Assessment Analysis and has voted to formally adopt the results of the assessment for fiscal years 2018-2020.

Tim Giuliani, Commission President