

Benton County Needs Assessment



MISSION

To collaborate with regional stakeholders to create a dynamic needs assessment for Benton County.

SCOPE OF WORK

Every few years, the United Way creates a needs assessment to help determine funding priorities for the agency. This year, United Way would like to expand this assessment process to collaborate with regional stakeholders (i.e. individuals, organizations, communities, etc.) in a new way. In addition to helping create funding priorities, we would like this process to:

- Promote community engagement and collaboration
- Focus on vulnerable populations
- Address assets as well as deficits
- Fill identified gaps

As a starting point, this needs assessment will address the following areas:

1. Poverty reduction (includes Basic Needs, Housing, Homelessness)
2. Cultural Diversity
3. Education
4. Employment
5. Health (includes Mental Health, Substance Abuse)
6. Service Capacity
7. Transportation & Built Environment

PLANNING

This project will be organized into the following phases:

Phase I: Scope of the Project

Determine the scope of the assessment and key areas of emphasis.

Phase II: Research and Outreach

Collaborate with various stakeholders to get information (i.e. reports, documents, data, etc.) about key areas. This includes conducting several community forums on the key areas.

Phase III: Assets, Deficits, and Gaps Analysis

Take the information from phase II and determine key assets, deficits, and gaps.

Phase IV: Final Report and Celebration

Present final report to stakeholders and celebrate the process.

NEXT STEPS

After the assessment has been created, a new planning team will come together to determine key United Way planning priorities and how to better collaborate with the community partners. We are purposely separating the assessment from the priority setting.

CONTACT

The Needs Assessment is being chaired by Terry Ross, Director of Community and Diversity at Oregon State University. For further information, contact him at (541) 737-4384 or Terry.Ross@oregonstate.edu.

STAKEHOLDER GOUPS / REPRESENTATIVES

Organization	Representative
509J School District	Fred Kane
Benton County	Chris Stringer
Benton County Health Dept	Charlie Fautin Sandy Goeke
City of Corvallis	Jon Nelson
Community Services Consortium	Martha Lyon
Corvallis Clinic	Nancy Hiatt
Love INC	Wilma Van Schelven
Oregon State University	Larry Roper
RSVP	Beth Fox
Samaritan Health Services	JoAnn Miller
United Way <i>Convener</i>	Terry Ross, Needs Assessment Chair Biff Traber, Community Impact Chair Jennifer Moore, Executive Director