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| Community Themes & Strengths Assessment 2016**Greene County Results** |

**Summary**

To obtain feedback from community members living in Virginia’s Planning District 10 (PD10) which includes Charlottesville City and Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa and Nelson counties, a three-question survey was distributed between May 7, 2016 and June 12, 2016. The survey was designed to be minimally invasive – no personal information was collected, answer choices were closed-ended, and the survey length was one page. The survey team worked to reach community members by offering the survey in multiple languages, at several community events and partner sites, and online. In total, 2,885 PD10 residents completed the survey.

**Background**

The Community Themes and Strengths Assessment (CTSA) is an important component for community health improvement planning as it is designed to gather input from community members on the health of their communities. According to the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO), *“The Community Themes and Strengths Assessment answers the questions: "What is important to our community?" "How is quality of life perceived in our community?" and "What assets do we have that can be used to improve community health?" This assessment results in a strong understanding of community issues and concerns, perceptions about quality of life, and a map of community assets.”[[1]](#endnote-1)*

**Survey Design**

In an effort to perform true community-based data collection, the Thomas Jefferson Health District, UVA Department of Public Health Sciences, and Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital, with a team of Masters-level public health students, designed the CTSA survey and data collection to take place with residents in their communities. With input from each of the district’s Community Health Assessment (CHA) locality councils, planners designed a short survey to collect broad feedback from residents. Initially, fifty questions were drafted to assess community themes and opportunities for improvement, but given the goal of creating a non-invasive survey, the questions were fine-tuned and narrowed down to three questions. Planners developed answer choices based upon previously identified strategic issues and the social determinants of health. Question 2 – “What makes your community a health place to live?” had the same answer choices for each locality. Table 1 provides a summary of the answer choices provided for Question 3 – “What should your community improve?” with Greene Community Health Assessment Locality Council’s selected indicators for inclusion.

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| Table 1. Question 3 Indicators |
|  | Greene |
| Aging |  |
| Alcohol and drug |  |
| Children and youth |  |
| Dental care |  |
| Education |  |
| Food |  |
| Housing |  |
| Jobs |  |
| Medical care |  |
| Mental health |  |
| Obesity |  |
| Pregnancy and infant |  |
| Recreational opps |  |
| Tobacco |  |
| Transportation |  |

**Next Steps**

The CTSA is one of four assessments within the MAPP process. The information gathered in this phase is intended to provide community-driven input into areas that need improvement in communities and potential strengths for overcoming the identified needs.

Results from the CTSA will feed into the phase of priority selection by the MAPP partners, and will be distributed widely when the full Community Health Assessment and Health Improvement Plan is published in December 2016.

Thank you to the partnering agencies (Appendix A) that supported conducting this survey effort. For the results of this assessment for Greene County, please review pgs. 2 – 5. For more information, contact the Thomas Jefferson Health District at (434) 972-6200.

**Question 1 – *Where do you live?***

**Greene County Respondents**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| In-Person & Partner Site Respondents | **198** |
| Online Respondents | **114** |
| **Total**  | **312** |

**Question 2 – *What makes your community a healthy place to live?***

**Question 2 – *What makes your community a healthy place to live?***

**Top 5 responses in each locality**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank** | **Greene** | **Albemarle** | **Charlottesville** | **Fluvanna** | **Louisa** | **Nelson** |
| **1** | Local schools | Healthcare | Healthcare | Outdoors | Outdoors | Outdoors |
| **2** | Outdoors | Outdoors | Food options | Recreation | Spiritual Life | Healthcare |
| **3** | Spiritual Life | Food options | Outdoors | Spiritual Life | Healthcare | Recreation |
| **4** | Healthcare | Recreation | Safe Streets | Local schools | Local schools | Food options |
| **5** | Safe Streets | Culture and arts | Culture and Arts | Healthcare | Recreation | Local Schools & Spiritual Life |

**Question 2 – *What makes your community a healthy place to live?***

**Commonalities across Virginia’s Planning District 10**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Indicator** | **# of Planning District 10 Localities in which the indicator is ranked within top five**  |
| Outdoors | 6 |
| Healthcare | 6 |
| Recreation | 4 |
| Spiritual life | 4 |
| Food options | 3 |
| Local schools | 3 |
| Culture and arts | 2 |
| Safe streets | 2 |

**Question 2 – *What makes your community a healthy place to live?***

**Comments & Write-Ins**

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| Eat right, get outside, and do something and you will be healthy. The other items are occasionally nice but not necessarily a direct contributor to health. Access to locally grown, organic food. |
| Grew up here, love the area |
| clean water, land, and air |
| helpful "Country neighbors" |
| I am not sure it is a healthy place to live. |
| none of the above |

**Question 3 – *What should your community improve?***

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**Top 5 responses in each locality**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Rank** | **Greene** | **Albemarle** | **Charlottesville** | **Fluvanna** | **Louisa** | **Nelson** |
| **1** | Jobs | Mental health | Mental health | Children and youth | Jobs | Children and youth |
| **2** | Children and youth | Obesity | Housing | Aging | Children and youth | Aging |
| **3** | Alcohol and drug | Children and youth | Alcohol and drug | Transportation | Alcohol and drug | Transportation |
| **4** | Obesity | Aging | Children and youth | Mental health | Medical care access | Alcohol and drug |
| **5** | Mental health | Alcohol and drug | Education | Obesity | Mental health | Medical care access |

**Question 3 – *What should your community improve?***

**Commonalities across Virginia’s Planning District 10**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Indicator** | **# of Planning District 10 Localities in which the indicator is ranked within top five** |
| Children and youth | 6 |
| Mental health |   | 5 |
| Alcohol and drugs | 5 |
| Aging |   | 3 |
| Obesity |   | 3 |
| Transportation | 2 |
| Jobs |   | 2 |
| Medical care access | 2 |
| Housing |   | 1 |
| Education |   | 1 |

**Question 3 – *What should your community improve?***

**Comments & Write-Ins**

|  |
| --- |
| Better/more public transit |
| more restaurants |
| swimming pool |
| These are all gov't provided services. The gov't doesn't need to provide any more services- can't afford the ones already offered. Encourage and support local charity organizations to provide some of these services. |
| Remember 65+ age for health care. "? Not Sure" written next to Dental care availability. "More affordable" written next to Housing.  |
| more restaurants in S'ville |
| more teen jobs |
| need more low cost housing |
| need to improve affordable or free dental care |
| housing opportunities for first time home buyers |
| restaurants |
| outdoor recreation areas/parks |
| Lack of outdoor activities/parks and trails |
| There are too many free services in our community and not enough education on getting a job and providing for your family.  |
| Drug Use and Abuse Reduction services |
| Recreation (parks, community programs etc) |
| Indoor recreational facilities (other than the school gym) |

1. <http://archived.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/mapp/framework/phase3ctsa.cfm>

**Appendix A**

**Greene County Partnering Agencies**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Emmanuel Christian Center | Greene Department of Social Services |
| Feeding Greene | Greene Family Medicine |
| Greene Agencies Coming Together  | Greene Lions Club |
| Greene Care Clinic | Greene Region 10 CSB |
| Greene Department of Health | Stanardsville United Methodist Church |

 [↑](#endnote-ref-1)