

community assessment

Purpose

The purpose of a community needs assessment is to provide insight into the real and perceived problems in the community. The assessment concludes with recommendations and identified areas that could be the focus of attention.

What We Do

Using a question-driven approach, Epiphany Community Services (ECS) develops and implements a data collection process inclusive of primary data and secondary data. Primary data is defined as surveys, conversations, and interviews designed to elicit answers not available through existing data. Secondary data is existing information available in the community. This question-driven approach is done with the active participation of the community engaging in the process. As such, all questions to be answered by the assessment are developed jointly with the community. The process starts with a community assessment survey which identifies the key issues that should be further explored. ECS is responsible for the construction of the data collection process. We work closely with the community to ensure the appropriate distribution of the primary data collection instruments and secondary data collection protocols. Additionally, ECS is responsible for analyzing all data, with the community being the local voice of the results.

Process The typical process to determine real and perceived needs in the community is as follows:

- Community assessment survey.
- Facilitated conversation with key stakeholders in the community resulting in key areas for quantitative and qualitative data collection.
- Secondary data collection around the real and perceived needs stated in the facilitated conversation including but not limited to:
 - Review of existing needs assessment
 - Review of existing strategic/community plans related to the key issues
 - Review of quantitative data related to key issues
- Primary data collection based on the gaps determined through secondary data collection and analysis.
- Compare and contrast secondary and primary data analysis

Time and Cost

This type of process typically takes approximately six months to complete depending on the timeliness of data collection. The standard starting price is \$10,000.00 plus expenses*.

*varies based on community size, scope of project and intent.

