



Community Agenda

Issue # 1: Social Indicator housing data show that the median price for most of the housing in the county is beyond what is affordable to young families, seniors and persons with disabilities.

Goal: *Promote affordable housing opportunities for young families, those who work in the county, seniors, and persons with disabilities with 24/7 supportive social services.*

Issue # 2: Perception of inadequate public transportation for seniors and disabled; and high percent of drivers making the county more dependent on automobile transportation.

Goal: *Devise strategies for expanding public transit targeting seniors, workers, and persons who are economically and physically challenged.*

Issue # 3: Whether GCI should promote expanded adult day care, personal care, and homemaking service for seniors.

Goal: *Increase services for homebound seniors.*

Issue # 4: Health care data show high rates of deaths from cancer, strokes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorders, accidents; higher regional rates of asthma, obesity, high blood pressure coupled with the perception of mental and behavior health, including stress and depression, as serious problems; lower rates of diagnostic testing and screening at the recommended ages and frequencies.

Goal: *Prevent chronic physical diseases that disproportionately affect county residents of all income levels.*

Issue # 5: Perception among some that unemployment and under-employment are serious issues.

Goal: *Support persons who are unemployed or under-employed.*

Issue # 6: Social Indicator data show a high percentage of families in the county live near or in poverty making it difficult to afford basic needs such as food and clothing.

Goal: *Ensure that individuals and families living in or near poverty have basic needs, such as food and clothing, met.*

Issue # 7: Perceived lack of centralized communication system connecting people in a more cohesive community; perception that residents are not tolerant of low-income residents.

Goal: *Improve communications to promote a sense of community and create a sense of inclusiveness for all groups in the county.*

Issue # 8 Students with economic and health disabilities and African Americans score lower on proficiency and performance tests; perception of lack of sensitivity to minority and low-income students.

Goal: *Work with schools to ensure that each child of school age, regardless of race, economic or health status is provided opportunities to achieve a high quality education.*

Issue # 9: Perception that there is a lack of coordination in providing social services to residents in need among the public service providers and religious groups.

Goal: *Coordinate the social service delivery system.*

PfS Issue: Reduce teen substance abuse.

PFS Issue: Enhance emotional and mental health development of our youth.