

Washington County Health Needs Assessment

A summary of key informant interviews



2016

Prepared by:

Center for Urban Population Health

1020 N. 12th Street, Suite 4180

Milwaukee, WI 53233

414.219.5100

www.cuph.org

www.healthofmilwaukee.org



This report was prepared by the Design, Analysis, and Evaluation team at the Center for Urban Population Health. Carrie Stehman, MA and David Frazer, MPH prepared this report. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact them at 414.219.5100.

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Introduction

This report presents a summary of public health priorities for Washington County, as identified in 2016 by a range of providers, policy-makers, and other local experts and community members (“key informants”). These findings are a critical supplement to the Washington County community health needs assessment (CHNA) survey conducted through a partnership between the Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department, Aurora Health Care, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. The CHNA incorporates input from persons representing the broad community served by the hospitals, focusing on a range of public health issues relevant to the community at large.

Key informants in Washington County were identified by the Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department, Aurora Health Care, Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin. Staff from the Washington Ozaukee County Health Department, Aurora Health Care, and Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin also invited the informants to participate and conducted the interviews. The interviewers used a standard interview script that included the following elements:

- Ranking of up to five public health issues, based on the focus areas presented in Wisconsin’s State Health Plan, that are the most important issues for the County; and
- For those five public health issues:
 - Existing strategies to address the issue
 - Barriers/challenges to addressing the issue
 - Additional strategies needed
 - Key groups in the community that hospitals should partner with to improve community health

All informants were made aware that participation was voluntary and that responses would be shared with the Center for Urban Population Health for analysis and reporting. This report presents the results of the 2016 CHNA key informant interviews for Washington County, based on the summaries provided to the Center for Urban Population Health.

The report first presents a summary of the health issue rankings, including a list of the five issues which were ranked most frequently by respondents. The next section provides a summary of the strategies, barriers, and partners described by participants. Themes that crossed health topics are also presented.

Limitations: Twenty key informant interviews were conducted in Washington County. The report relies on the opinions and experiences of a limited number of experts identified as having the community’s pulse. However, responses may not be representative of the overall perception of community strengths and needs. It is possible that the results would have been substantially different if a different set of

informants had been interviewed. Results should be interpreted with caution and in conjunction with other Washington County data (e.g., CHNA surveys and secondary data reports).

A. Focus Area Ranking

A total of 20 key informants were asked to rank the 5 major health-related issues in their county from a list of 13 focus areas identified in the State Health Plan. The table below presents the results, including a summary of the number of times an issue was mentioned as a top five health issue, and the number of times an informant ranked the issue as the most important health issue.

Health Focus Area	Key Informant Rankings	
	Top 5	Number 1
Alcohol and Other Drug Use	19	7
Mental Health	15	6
Chronic Disease Prevention and Management	9	4
Nutrition	7	0
Physical Activity	6	2
Access to Health Services	5	1
Oral Health	4	0
Injury and Violence Prevention	3	0
Healthy Growth and Development	2	1
Environmental and Occupational Health	2	0
Tobacco Use and Exposure	2	0
Communicable Disease Prevention and Control	0	0
Reproductive and Sexual Health	0	0

B. Top Five Health Issues

The five health issues ranked most consistently as a top five health issue for the County were:

1. Alcohol and Other Drug Use
2. Mental Health
3. Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
4. Nutrition
5. Physical Activity

Summaries of themes for each issue are presented below in the order listed above. As a guide, issues ranked as the top five priorities for the County are marked with this thermometer symbol:



C. General Themes

Washington County key informants ranked five of the thirteen major health-related issues as priorities for the County.

It is important to note that since the last release of this report in 2012, the report has changed slightly. Many more key informants were interviewed in 2016 than in 2012. The top five health issues are similar with Alcohol and Other Drug Use and Chronic Disease Prevention and Management remaining in the top five. Access to Health Services and Oral Health have moved out of the top five, replaced by Mental Health, Nutrition, and Physical Activity.

The health issues key informants indicated were priorities for Washington County affect residents across the lifespan, requiring engagement across sectors to adequately address residents' needs. Key informants identified a wide range of stakeholders and community partners engaged to improve the county's health. The Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department, Washington County Human Services, Albrecht free clinic, the major health systems, other medical and social service providers, non-profits, businesses, law enforcement, schools, parks and recreation departments and government were all included in the discussion as playing an active role in the health priority areas. The county's parks, trails, and local farms were also named as unique features that support the health of the county across several health issue areas.

Many of the challenges and barriers identified by key informants across issues have to do with lack of funding for necessary services and programs, or lack of access caused by insufficient means or insurance to pay for needed services. Other common barriers and challenges noted across issues are related to access: lack of transportation, location, lack of familiarity with resources, and language

barriers. Another commonly cited barrier was lack of awareness of resources or services that do exist.

Key informants identified strategies needed to improve the health of the county. For many issues discussed, more education and public awareness are important. Other needs identified are related to health insurance policy and payment for services, and better systems of care that offer options for low-income patients. Across health issues, some key informants also discussed better engagement of parents and family units, as opposed to educating or serving individuals only.

D. Issue Summaries

Behavioral Health

Alcohol and Other Drug Use and Mental Health were the two issues receiving the most rankings in key informants' top five health focus areas. All key informants discussed mental health or alcohol and drug use as top priority areas, with many discussing both. Alcohol and Other Drug Use received the most rankings as the number one health issue in the county. Key informants' insights also suggest these topics overlap significantly with the issue of Access to Health Services, with the main barriers and challenges to addressing both Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drug Use being a lack of providers and services, waiting lists to access providers and services, difficulty paying for services or lack of coverage by insurance for services or medication, and difficulty physically accessing services without a robust public transportation system or transportation programs for those who cannot or do not drive. There was also some overlap in key informants' suggestions for what is needed to address these two related issues, with a focus on cross-sectoral partnerships, sharing and promoting effective community resources, as well as a desire to focus on education and prevention of substance abuse and mental illness.



Alcohol and Other Drug Use

Nineteen key informants ranked Alcohol and Other Drug Use as a top five health issue for the county. General themes related to this issue are the strength and importance of cross-sector partnerships to address substance abuse, and the necessity of acknowledging this issue across the life course, and engaging families and communities to identify, prevent, and treat substance abuse.

Existing Strategies: Law enforcement; the justice system; prescription drug drop boxes; the Heroin Task Force; community awareness; Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) at Albrecht Free Clinic and Casa Guadalupe; Well Washington County; health care providers, services, and systems in the county; Elevate, Inc.; Washington County Human Services and the Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department; Exodus House; Prevention Network of Washington County; before and after school care that offer drug free environments; Youth Futures'

alternative activities; Alcoholics Anonymous meetings; food pantry requirements that clients come sober; providers that accept Medicaid; Unity Club; and bilingual therapists and counselors are strategies in place to address Alcohol and Other Drug Use in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: Key informants named a number of barriers and challenges to addressing Alcohol and Other Drug Use in the County, including: lack of funding for staff and programs; the small number of police department staff; stigma about drug abusers; a perception that Narcan is a waste of tax money; Wisconsin's cultural acceptance of drinking and some drug use; parental awareness is lacking; not enough entry points to get help; not enough information on what and where resources are; lack of reimbursement for alcohol and other drug abuse services; lack of transportation; no female inpatient housing and lack of housing generally; lack of treatment facilities, especially for low income and uninsured; not enough focus on Exodus House and other related resources; laws are lenient; denial that alcohol and drugs are a disease; lack of a combined effort among schools and other agencies; Genesis closed unexpectedly and immediately leaving a lot of patients in limbo; 38 youth were hospitalized for drug abuse/overdose over the span of a year and a half; and too many addicts are sitting in jail where they are not able to get the help they need and become repeat offenders, going back to their addictions when they are released.

Needed Strategies: Key informants identified strategies needed to address this issue in the county, including: additional programs and services funded strictly through donations; public awareness of the issue through social media; more treatment programs, especially those accessible to Medicaid or uninsured populations; talking about the dangers of drug abuse with families; increased understanding of the signs of heroin and other drug abuse; peer-to-peer support groups, especially for youth; breaking the cycle of alcoholism; offer more sober housing; better coordination/collaboration with private and non-profit organizations focused on treatment and services; the senior population needs to be located; the community needs to be more open and to listen more; discussion among health systems, business leaders, schools and family units; parks and recreation departments could provide venues to hold alternative activities and education sessions; policy changes; Child Death Review Committee; and a common goal for the community to work toward and a plan of how all the agencies fit together.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Police departments, local government, civic groups, treatment providers, the general community, municipalities, families, children, the Albrecht Free Clinic, Washington County Human Services, Elevate, Inc., United Way of Washington County, youth service organizations, medical/hospital systems, Alcoholics Anonymous, the District Attorney's office, the Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department, and Youth Futures were named as the key partners to work together to improve health related to this issue.



Mental Health

Fifteen respondents ranked Mental Health as a top five health issue for the county. Key themes related to Mental Health include the need for better Access to Mental Health Services, increased awareness of the services and supports that do exist and how to access them, and the importance of multi-sectoral work to address this issue.

Existing Strategies: Crisis Intervention Team training with police officers; collaboration between organizations; Acute Care Services; police and paramedic; immediate services such as the inpatient mental health unit; Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) at Albrecht Free Clinic and Casa Guadalupe; Impact 2-1-1; crisis hotlines; counseling services; Elevate, Inc.; Washington County Human Services; National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Washington County; Affiliated Clinical Services; the Aging and Disability Resource Center; Mental Health Friendly Community pilot program; and the court system's work with students that are truant to get to root cause were identified as providers, services, and strategies in place to address Mental Health in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: Commonly named barriers and challenges were related to accessing services and a shortage of resources. There are not enough providers to serve the community, or those who need services either cannot afford them or do not have transportation to get to them, and it can be difficult to afford medications. There is a lack of resources available to train police, school staff, and other key community staff about these issues. Other barriers and challenges include the stigma and embarrassment around mental illness, lack of awareness about mental health, the lack of housing for those with mental illness, and Impact 2-1-1 is not up to date and has long wait times.

Needed Strategies: Increased access to services, refresher and ongoing trainings for police officers, public awareness, early interventions, proper housing and employment for those living with mental illness, additional support networks, better connected systems to treat cases (schools, health systems, agencies, providers), coordination between community groups and health care to work together in strategies and tactics to address root causes of issues, increased funding and reimbursement for services, services for homeless, social skill building, first responders trained in mental health first aid, and removing the stigma of mental illness were provided as strategies needed to improve health.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Friends of Abused Families, the county, non-profit organizations, police departments, Washington County Human Services, United Way of Washington County, Well Washington County, St. Vincent de Paul, Habitat for Humanity, senior centers, local health care providers, the YMCA, Albrecht Free Clinic, NAMI Washington County, Affiliated Clinical Services, Better Together funds, and "anyone who will help" were named as the partners necessary to improve Mental Health.



Chronic Disease Prevention and Management

Chronic Disease Prevention and Management was ranked as a top five health issue by nine key informants. Key informants' discussion of this issue identified overlap between Chronic Disease Prevention and Management and Nutrition, Access to Health Services, and Tobacco Use and Exposure.

Existing Strategies: Existing health care providers and health services in the county, the YMCA, programs and outreach through Casa Guadalupe Education Center for the Latino population, Albrecht Free Clinic's chronic disease case management focus, farmers markets, community wellness programs, walking and biking trails and parks in Washington County, Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County's transportation assistance, healthy vending machine policies, breastfeeding support, diabetes prevention programs, Moving for Better Balance, Live Strong, assistive devices available, health information materials from health systems, Well Washington County coalition facilitating and pulling community partners together, diabetes support groups, Stepping On, caregiver classes, farm-to-table initiatives, assisted living facilities, the Community Paramedic program, wellness and injury prevention education, smoking cessation programs, and group exercise classes were named as strategies in place to address Chronic Disease Prevention and Management.

Barriers and Challenges: Everyday life is very fast paced and people are busy, many residents commute long distances to work and work long hours, lack of physical education and health education, lack of focus on wellness and eating healthily, lack of motivation to be more active and healthier, lack of knowledge of how to navigate health care systems, lack of support or information regarding chronic disease, high rates of obesity, lack of sustainability of programs, lack of provider education, high costs of health care and medications, lack of transportation, not enough time spent during primary care visits, Wisconsin's drinking and food culture doesn't promote wellness, financial challenges of low return for ambulance services, lack of emergency medical service resources for the number and time spent on emergency calls, language barriers, many smokers are not committed to quitting, patients with many chronic issues cycle through all our systems, and lack of coordination of care with primary care providers were identified as challenges and barriers to addressing Chronic Disease in the county.

Needed Strategies: More programs; better availability of healthy eating options; youth education to develop healthy habits from a young age; increased focus on prevention and pretreatment; increased services and communication; more help for patients to successfully navigate insurance and health care; increased Medicaid reimbursement and increased access to affordable services; promotion of outdoor activities in winter; Community Paramedic program; nurse triage for 9-1-1 calls; better communication about fall prevention; better consumer education on appropriate use of Emergency Care, Walk-in, Urgent, and Primary Care; better partnerships among health care systems,

such as a partnership between Aurora Health Care and Froedtert Health on addressing root causes and prevention; and integrating mental health care with primary care are ideas of strategies that would be needed to improve health related to this issue.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: The YMCA, United Way of Washington County, Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department, Albrecht Free Clinic, NAMI Washington County, Elevate, Inc., senior centers, school districts, anyone doing evidence-based prevention programming, Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County, St. John's Lutheran Church Jackson Auto Ministry, Well Washington County coalition, assisted living facilities in the county, group homes, Fire and Rescue Departments, the American Heart Association, local pharmacists, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, and Washington County Human Services were named as key partners to improve health in the county.



Nutrition

Nutrition was ranked as a top five health issue by seven key informants. Discussion of Nutrition included some overlap with Physical Activity. Most respondents addressed healthy cooking and eating across the lifespan, especially within the family context. Some responses directly addressed food access and hunger in the county as it relates to nutrition.

Existing Strategies: The YMCA's programming and dieticians; children's programs that teach healthy cooking, kitchen safety, and eating healthily; after school programs that offer children healthy snacks; UW-Extension nutrition education includes recipes and samples; Wellspring, Inc.'s farm to school program; community gardens; parks and recreation department nutrition classes and weight loss classes; farmers markets; food pantries; Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program services; dieticians at the Aging and Disability Resource Center; and summer lunch programs and snack programs for kids were named as existing strategies that address Nutrition.

Barriers and Challenges: Lack of nutrition education; nutritious choices are not always mainstream choices; families are busy and lack time and lack of parent involvement; cell phones, computer games and other technology that take time away from wellness; items at food pantries are often not the most nutritious; some people only have access to a microwave or toaster oven that do not provide the optimal environment for healthy eating; cultural norms related to food lead to unhealthy choices; many unhealthy beverages are widely available; unhealthy vending machine options; and too much sugar in our diets were named as barriers and challenges to this issue.

Needed Strategies: More community gardens, nutrition education opportunities, more cooking classes and demonstrations, kiosks at grocery stores that provide information for fast and easy meals that are healthy for busy families, incorporating nutrition into existing programs, better communication and collaboration with programs and agencies that are already doing the work, and

health systems taking on more of a role in education and nutrition were strategies proposed by key informants to improve nutrition in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: The YMCA, Wellspring, Inc., school districts, UW-Extension, St. Vincent de Paul, health care systems in the county, grocery stores, local growers, parks and recreation departments, private gyms and fitness facilities, and Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington County were identified as the key partners needed to improve Nutrition.



Physical Activity

Six key informants ranked Physical Activity among their top five health priorities for the county. Some respondents noted the relationship between Physical Activity and Nutrition as an important factor in wellness. Responses emphasized Physical Activity among youth and families.

Existing Strategies: There are existing programs for youth in the county, such as Triple Play, Smart Moves, Spark, Play 60, Runner Club, and evidence-based programs that are run nationally through the Boys and Girls Clubs. Youth sports programs in schools, competitive youth sports, free and low-cost classes offered through community organizations, fitness and sports programs run through the parks and recreation departments, parks, playgrounds, and trails throughout the county, and Get Moving Washington County were named as strategies in place to increase Physical Activity in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: Technology makes kids more sedentary and less interested in physical activity, low income families may not be able to afford sports programs or gym memberships, families are too busy and many people in the county commute long distances to work, it is hard to do activities outside in cold weather, lack of motivation, lack of transportation, lack of knowledge about the benefits of physical activity, lack of health education and physical education in schools, and lack of focus on wellness and eating healthily were named as barriers and challenges to health in the county.

Needed Strategies: Limiting children's usage of phones and other devices, more collaboration among local partners in programming, providing ideas for what families can do at home indoors when the weather gets cold, employers and insurance companies promoting and incentivizing wellness, fun runs and fitness challenges, scavenger hunts, advertising and promotion of existing opportunities and resources, scholarships for low income families to enroll children in programs, and encouraging active lifestyle and healthy eating in children and the youngest ages so they will form healthy habits were identified as strategies needed to improve Physical Activity in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: The YMCA; school districts, particularly physical education and health education departments; UW-Extension; gyms and fitness centers; parks and

recreation departments; the county; senior centers; the Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington County; health systems and hospitals; and Well Washington County were named as key partners to improve health in this area.

Access to Health Services

Access to Health Services was ranked as a top five health issue by five respondents. Key informants' responses indicated overlap between this issue and Alcohol and Other Drug Use, Mental Health, and Oral Health.

Existing Strategies: Existing health care providers and health systems; Albrecht Free Clinic (AFC) provides medical services; AFC and Casa Guadalupe Education Center have Community Health Navigators; Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County; the Well Washington County coalition; the Boys and Girls Clubs of Washington County; non-profits with a focus on health in the county; ongoing supervision to keep clients safe before being seen by a professional; efforts to help people understand and navigate the health care system, such as diverting people from the Emergency Department when it is not necessary; Impact 2-1-1; the Washington County Human Services Department and the Washington Ozaukee County Public Health Department; and existing transportation providers in the county were identified as strategies in place to increase Access to Health Services in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: Difficulty navigating resources in the county because people don't know where to go for help or where to look for services until they need them and there is a lack of collaboration among agencies providing resources, lack of dental providers for patients on Medicaid, lack of central intake and coordination of services throughout the county, seniors may have a difficult time navigating programs and services throughout the county, impacted populations bounce around the system, and difficulty with transportation across county lines with wheelchair accessibility were named as challenges and barriers related to Accessing Health Services in the county.

Needed Strategies: Social media to connect agencies and services and better outreach and marketing strategies for resources that are available; increased delivery of services where people are in need; increased health care literacy; increased services/medications for people in between first contact and treatment services; enhanced Impact 2-1-1 and awareness of this service; increased knowledge of programs, services, and organization dedicated to healthcare access and related services; increased collaboration amongst key stakeholders; assessment of the greatest needs, especially for older adults; and an increase in the volunteer driver pool, especially among new retirees were identified as strategies needed to increase Access to Health Services.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Impact 2-1-1, the Aging and Disability Resource Center, non-profit organizations, Albrecht Free Clinic, Casa Guadalupe, churches, the Washington Ozaukee

County Public Health Department, treatment providers, transportation programs, Family Promise, funders in Washington County, Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County, and the wider community were named as the key partners to improve Access to Health Services in the county.

Oral Health

Four respondents ranked Oral Health as a top five health issue for the county. Discussion of the strategies and barriers to address Oral Health in the county closely relate to issues of Access to Health Services.

Existing Strategies: Adult dental clinic at Albrecht Free Days, Smile Days, Marquette Dental Clinic, a few dentists' offices open their time to patients with no insurance or those on Medicaid, and Head Start's requirement of an initial appointment are strategies currently in place to address Oral Health in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: Very few dental practices serve the Medicaid-insured population, reimbursement is low for dental services, the lack of dental plans in the Affordable Care Act, the lack of dental care for kids with special needs, lack of oral health education for families, sugary diets are common, and the lack of ongoing or primary dental care are barriers and challenges to Oral Health in the county.

Needed Strategies: Early education starting at the preschool level about proper oral hygiene, expansion of dental care for the poor and underserved, increased state funding for dental care, and a community expectation of the local dentists that they will provide some care for patients in need were examples of strategies needed to improve Oral Health in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Washington County's dental care providers, Head Start, employers, the Albrecht Free Clinic, and Well Washington County were named as key partners to improve the county's Oral Health.

Injury and Violence Prevention

Injury and Violence Prevention was noted as a top five health issue by three respondents. Responses to this health issue covered a range of issues related to accidents and injury prevention and emergency response, as well as sexual and domestic violence, and injuries and violence as the result of technology and online communication.

Existing Strategies: The work of Friends of Abused Families, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) working in the county, private donations to support abuse prevention and services, partnerships between fire and rescue departments in the county to cover additional needs, excellent equipment, St. Joseph's hospital's Emergency Department review meeting, the Every 15 Minutes program,

school-based programs, school resource officers, support for positive youth activities, law enforcement coverage, and more recovery of guns than ever before are strategies in place to prevent injuries and violence in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: A lack of community awareness, the lack of acceptance of available programs, reluctance to talk about abuse, hatred and violence sparked by social media, the abundance of technology available facilitates online threats and violent communications, a vocal pro-violence minority, lack of funding and training time for key staff, and lack of staff power to go around were barriers and challenges to improving health identified by key informants.

Needed Strategies: Increased collaboration and networking in the county, more prevention and education, more counselors, more health events and programs sponsored or supported by police departments, more critical care paramedics, increased funding for training to update new skills, outreach programs to help reduce motor vehicle accidents, and more news articles after significant crashes to educate the public about accident prevention were identified as strategies needed to improve health in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Friends of Abused Families, civic groups, police departments, local government, fire and rescue departments, and an injury prevention coalition were identified as the key partners needed to improve the health of the county.

Healthy Growth and Development

Two key informants ranked Healthy Growth and Development among their top five health issues for the county. These key informants focused on youth activities and business growth.

Existing Strategies: Programs offered to encourage socialization, learning, and team participation were named as strategies in place to support Healthy Growth and Development for youth. Companies coming to the county from Milwaukee for more space was named as one factor supporting growth of businesses.

Barriers and Challenges: A lack of space for programs; a lack of parent involvement, especially in sports; and divorce were named as barriers and challenges to Healthy Growth and Development for children in the county. Finding people to fill open jobs because of low pay and loss of young adults from the county and finding the right businesses for the community were named as barriers and challenges to Healthy Growth and Development of businesses in the county.

Needed Strategies: Online registration for youth programs, using social media to promote available programming and activities, and providing opportunities for community partners to share resources about youth activities with their clients were identified as strategies needed to improve this health area for the county. The Youth Apprentice Program partnering with Chamber of Commerce and

bringing in more manufacturing were named as strategies needed to improve business growth and development in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: School districts and chambers of commerce are key partners needed to improve health in the county related to Healthy Growth and Development.

Environmental and Occupational Health

Two key informants ranked Environmental and Occupational Health among their top five health priority areas. Key informants specifically addressed this issue as it relates to police officers and to the business community.

Existing Strategies: Safety equipment such as vests rated for rifles in each police vehicle, “jump out” bags for active shooter situations in each police vehicle, and tourniquets attached to officers’ belts were named as strategies currently in place to improve Occupational Health for police officers. The Youth Apprentice Program and existing job opportunities were named as strategies in place to improve the health of business in the county.

Barriers and Challenges: The lack of funding for equipment and officer education was named as a key challenge to Occupational Health for police officers in the county. The lack of qualified candidates for available jobs, challenges finding employees who want to work and who can pass drug screens, challenges bringing new talent to Wisconsin, challenges keeping jobs in Wisconsin, and integrating the non-English speaking population into English-language employment are some of the barriers to the health of businesses in the county.

Needed Strategies: Funding for new products for police officers’ safety and ballistic helmets for each police vehicle were named as the strategies needed to improve occupational health for police officers. Programs to help non-English speaking people to find employment was named as a key strategy needed to improve the business community in the county.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Chambers of commerce, schools, non-profit organizations, local government, civic groups, and police departments were named as the key partners needed to improve Environmental and Occupational Health in the county.

Tobacco Use and Exposure

Tobacco Use and Exposure was ranked as a top-five health issue by two key informants.

Existing Strategies: Referrals to smoking cessation classes, community education, and compliance checks were identified as strategies in place to address this issue.

Barriers and Challenges: Addiction and lack of readiness to quit, lack of understanding about vaporizers and electronic cigarettes and their health risks, and a lack of programs and support organizations are the key barriers and eliminating Tobacco Use and Exposure in the county.

Needed Strategies: Increased family support, a tobacco cessation clinic and more accessible smoking cessation programs, more education about the health and economic impacts of tobacco use, more research on vaporizers and electronic cigarettes, and smoke-free public housing were strategies suggested by key informants to improve health in this area.

Key Community Partners to Improve Health: Health care systems and providers and Elevate, Inc. were named as the key partners in the county to improve health in this area.

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

Communicable Disease Prevention and Control was not ranked as one of the top health-related priorities for the county. Neither existing strategies nor barriers were described.

Reproductive and Sexual Health

Reproductive and Sexual Health was not ranked as one of the top health-related priorities for the county. Neither existing strategies nor barriers were described.

Appendix A. Interview Participants for Washington County

Key Informant Interview Participants

Input about our community's most pressing health needs was provided by 20 individuals participating in key informant interviews. The organizations listed here include many that serve low-income, minority, and medically underserved populations. They represent an array of perspectives from communities that include, but are not limited to: racial and ethnic minorities, the elderly, youth, veterans, faith communities, individuals with disabilities, rural communities, survivors of domestic and sexual violence, and those living with mental illness and substance abuse.

Name	Title	Organization
Heidi Anderson	Community Outreach Nurse	Aurora Health Care Washington County
Noelle Braun	Executive Director	Casa Guadalupe Education Center
Janean Brudvig	Executive Director	Interfaith Caregivers of Washington County
Kristin Brandner	Executive Director	United Way of Washington County
Deacon Jim Chrisien	Director	St. Boniface/St. Gabriel Food Pantry
Eric Diamond	Client Services Director	Washington County Human Services Department
Craig Farrell	Executive Director	West Bend Area Chamber of Commerce
Jay Fisher	Executive Director	Boys and Girls Club of Washington County
Kathleen Fisher	Executive Director	Family Promise of Washington County
Mike Hermann	Director	City of Hartford Parks & Recreation
Peter Hoell	Chief of Police	Germantown Police Department
Kirsten Johnson	Director/Health Officer	Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department
Rob Johnson	Chief Executive Officer/ Executive Director	Kettle Moraine YMCA
Sharon Kailas	Pupil Services Director	West Bend School District
Gerald W. Kudek	Fire Chief	City of West Bend Fire & Rescue
Marc Lehnerer	Assistant Principal	Germantown High School
Kate Nickel	Program Director	Friends of Abused Families
Mark Schroeder	Director	Germantown Park & Recreation
Mary Simon	Executive Director	Elevate, Inc.
Jim Strachota	Executive Director	Albrecht Free Clinic