**About the Survey**

From November 8, 2019 through December 8, 2019, the Kenosha Community Foundation in collaboration with the University of Wisconsin (UW) Extension in Kenosha County, conducted #WhatKenoshaNeeds2019 - an on-line Community Needs Assessment Survey.

The purpose of the survey was to identify the emerging needs of our region with the results to be used by the Foundation to help focus future grant making – the types of initiatives the Foundation should direct dollars to where they are needed the most. In addition to sharing these results with the public, the Foundation and the UW Extension will also discuss the survey with other public and private charitable organizations and community development groups in Kenosha County.

We wish to thank the 164 respondents who completed the survey.

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**What are three things that you like about living in Kenosha County that you would not want to lose?**

Respondents could choose up to three options—here are the responses:

- Uniqueness of the urban/rural mix: 54 responses
- City & County has much to offer: 48 responses
- Arts and Culture: 37 responses
- Family Life: 51 responses
- Jobs and the economic climate: 32 responses
- Safety: 33 responses
- Ethnic diversity of the population: 27 responses
- Recreation/Sports: 28 responses
- Health Care Options: 16 responses
- Shopping: 12 responses
- School System: 28 responses
- Others: 16 responses

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**What do you think are the most significant social issues/challenges facing the communities of Kenosha County?**

Respondents could choose up to three issues—here are the results:

- Homelessness and Affordable Housing: 63 responses
- Mental Health: 63 responses
- Crime: 57 responses
- Public/Affordable Transportation options: 45 responses
- Youth Concerns: 45 responses
- Substance Abuse: 44 responses
- Poverty: 26 responses
- School Issues (attendance, graduation rates): 22 responses
- Other responses: Economic Development (15), Hunger (13), Employment Opportunities (12), Health Care Options (11), Child Abuse or Neglect (6), Early Childhood Education (6), Child Care (4), Elder Abuse or Neglect (2), Gender Issues (2), Sexual Violence (2), and Others not specified above (14).

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**Charitable and non-profit organizations in Kenosha County address many of the community’s challenges. Which types of organizations, if any, do you support via donations, volunteering or both?**

Respondents could select up to three types of organizations—here are the results:

- Human Services and Emergency Assistance programs: 68 responses
- Educational programs (schools, reading, literacy): 49 responses
- Religious organizations: 45 responses
- Youth opportunities in sports: 40 responses
- Charities (foundations, scholarship funds): 33 responses
- Animal welfare: 31 responses
- Performing arts: 29 responses
- Environment: 28 responses
- Visual arts and humanities: 24 responses
- Aid to physically/mentally challenged & their families: 19 responses
- Child Welfare: 18 responses
- Eldercare / hospice: 18 responses
- Domestic Violence Prevention: 15 responses
- HIV/AIDS: 15 responses
- Health Care-related includes substance abuse support: 13 responses
- Economic improvement or development: 9 responses
- Transportation (Pick-up and Delivery) Services: 8 responses
- Other: 15 responses

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**Which of the following issues concern you? Which issue require more attention by the community groups?**

Respondents could select up to three options—here are the results:

- Access to mental health services: 57 responses
- Need for basic assistance (food, shelter, paying bills etc.): 49 responses
- Abuse of alcohol and/or drugs by adults and youth: 35 responses
- Access to affordable health insurance: 31 responses
- Homelessness: 28 responses
- Public transportation / lack of affordable options: 25 responses
- Reduce violence in community: 24 responses
- Affordable housing for low income seniors: 21 responses
- Bullying and harassment: 20 responses
- Ethnic/racial discrimination: 19 responses
- Access to substance abuse services: 18 responses
- Services senior citizens (housing, meals, at-home care, etc.): 18 responses
- Other responses: Hunger (13), Availability of counseling services (14), Availability of after-school activities (11), Availability of affordable child care (10), Adult job training (9), Services for disabled adults and children (9), Suicide at any age (8), Availability of summer activities (7), Child abuse and neglect (7), Quality of early childhood education (7), Underemployment (7), Loss of personal freedoms (6) Access to transportation for the elderly (5), Age discrimination (5), Gender discrimination (5), Unemployment (5), Access to early childhood education (4), Domestic abuse (4), Juvenile delinquency (4), Illiteracy (2), Access to nutritious meals for seniors (1), and Others not specified above (14).

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**If you could establish a fund that awards grants to local non-profit groups, what would be the area of focus?**

Respondents could select one option.—here are the results:

- Access to Medical and Mental Health Care and Support: 19 responses
- Housing, Shelter and Combating Homelessness: 18 responses
- Arts and Culture: 14 responses
- Children and Youth Support Services (recreational activities, anti-bullying, suicide prevention, etc.): 14 responses
- Community Safety and Violence Prevention: 12 responses
- Education (K-12): 11 responses
- Other responses: Employment, Financial Literacy and Stability (8), Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Support Services (7), Transportation Support (6), Promote Human Rights, Equality, Personal Freedom (5), Support to Families in Need—e.g. prevention violence, reduce financial stress, etc. (4), Literacy and Adult Education (3 Strengthening Communities through Development/Engagement (3), Other not specified above (8).
We asked: “What one thing would make Kenosha and Kenosha County a better place to live?”

Here are the responses we received:

**Better roads.**

More affordable housing.

Affordable health for all.

Better school system. Ours is terribly lacking. So much waste and insurance families and individuals.

More money put into mental health and shelter services.

End of discrimination, and equity among our learners.

More interaction between various service agencies, including sharing of resources, information and services.

More affordable housing options for individuals...and families.

Building up of current community gardens.

Better more abundant workforce housing.

Affordable housing.

More gainful employment.

Higher paying jobs.

A more diverse school system!

Kindness and understanding by its residents for its residents.

A reorganization of the bus system/routes. A regional transportation authority.

Human trafficking prevention education.

Kenosha county is a great place to live.

There are a lot of Seniors that cannot afford the housing in Kenosha.

More for housing.

More jobs that pay a living wage.

More support for police and sheriff's department. More coverage and employees on the road.

Kenosha county could use a couple more restaurants.

More off road trails and connecting sidewalks. Very unsafe to live west of I-94.

Affordable housing in conjunction with elimination of food deserts.

Make the Northside as nice as south side! More shops, restaurants.

Stabilize neighborhoods with home ownership and assistance fixing up homes, neighborhood clean ups.

More bus routes that run all week allowing low income individuals to get to and from work.

We have good county and city government. Lots of local entertainment and two excellent universities.

An improvement in education and a culture of literacy.

I’d pay a few more dollars in taxes to have better roads and services.

More affordable housing.

Affordable health for all.

Manufacturing of all biodegradable/recyclable products should be mandatory.

Improve schools - better pay to retain well-qualified teachers. And, fix the roads.

End the cycle of poverty.

Stop the shootings and violent crimes with stiffer penalties.

Tolerance/acceptance of our differences. Humility...need to truly listen to and respect another's point of view.

More upscale restaurants and shopping. More employment opportunities and pay scale.

Better roads.

Affordable housing.

Expanded services for senior citizens.

For profit companies participating fully in supporting the community: giving to United Way, volunteering...

More quality affordable access to skating rinks, and other places our children can go.

Focus on transformative justice rather than punitive - abolish the school-to-prison pipeline.

End of discrimination (racism, homophobia, sexism, ageism, and classism). Especially at KUSD.

More affordable housing.

Conservation of the environment and development planning friendly the environment.

Legalize marijuana.

More diversified entertainment.

Affordability in Health care and housing.

Less crime.

Decreasing poverty by providing better access to jobs...

Another homeless shelter so there are no waiting lists...

More access to mental health services.

Making services more accessible in the county.

Fewer uncontrolled, loose barking dogs.

Infrastructure changes for a future public transit system. Connect Kenosha with Milwaukee, Chicago by train.

Safer neighborhoods in some sections of town.

Downtown development/redevelopment with a focus on providing more housing options.

This survey is a partnership of: Kenosha County Community Foundation & UW Extension.

For full results of the survey, visit www.kenoshafoundation.org.