

Exhibit "A"

**Executive Summary of Findings
FREMONT COUNTY
COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT
OF NEEDS AND SERVICES
February 18, 2021**



Prepared For:
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Executive Summary of Findings

As a requirement to the receipt of Community Services Block Grant funds for Fremont County by the State of Wyoming Department of Health a community needs assessment is to be conducted every three years. The goal of the 2021 Fremont County Community Needs Assessment is to better understand the needs of people who are in poverty in Fremont County Wyoming. The intent of the Community Needs Assessment was to find out the following:

- What is the extent of poverty in Fremont County that includes data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age and race/ethnicity?
- What factors support the creation of poverty?
- What factors exacerbate the impacts of poverty?
- What services and resources are currently available to offset the creation or impacts of poverty by providing a direct and/or supportive role in the delivery of CSBG services and activities?
- What are the gaps in services to the low income?
- What are the barriers to services? (i.e., knowledge, getting to the resources, childcare)
- What are the priorities for meeting needs of the low income in Fremont County?

To complete the Fremont County Community Needs Assessment a four-pronged strategy was used in gaining information that included the following:

- Community surveys administered to low-income individuals and providers of services to low income;
- Community ZOOM focus group meetings for seven communities in Fremont County including Hudson, Dubois, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Pavillion, Shoshoni, Lander and Riverton from January 12-28, 2021;
- Review of relevant quantitative data regarding the low income in Fremont County; and
- Dialogue on Poverty to gain additional public comment held on February 18, 2021 on the preliminary results of the Fremont County Community Needs Assessment.

Survey Results

The survey consisted of demographic questions and questions related to human services' needs. Ten service categories allowable under the Community Services Block Grant Program were used to guide the development of the categories of need used throughout the study. These categories were as follows:

- Education
- Emergency Services
- Employment and Training
- Health
- Housing (non-emergency)
- Income Management/Making Better Use of Available Resources
- Linkages with Other Programs
- Nutrition/Food (non-emergency)

The provider agencies that responded are as follows:

Almost Home Wyoming	Independent Living
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Fremont County	Injury Prevention Resources
Center of Hope /VOA	Lander End-of-life Doula LLC
Central Wyoming College (2)	Lander Medical Clinic
Child Development Services of Fremont County	Lander Police Department
City of Lander	Lander Wyoming Housing Authority Board
City of Lander City Council (2)	LOR Foundation
Community Entry Services	Museum of the American West
CWC Adult Education ABE program	None
Dubois St. Thomas EC Fremont Co., Suicide Prevention	Riverton Branch Library (2)
Eastern Shoshone Department of Family Services	Riverton Community Food Bank
Eastern Shoshone Elderly Assistance Program	Riverton Senior Citizens Center
Eastern Shoshone Tribal Member	Shoshoni Senior Citizens Center
Eastern Shoshone Tribe (3)	SOSL Fremont Co. WY
Eastern Shoshone Tribe Red Feathered Eagle Vocational Rehabilitation Program (2)	State of Wyoming Vocational Rehabilitation
FCSD#38	St. Thomas Community Food Bank
Fort Washakie Learning Center	Sunrise Villa Apartments
Fremont Counseling Service (2)	The Help Center (3)
Fremont County Association of Governments	Thrive Independent Living Program
Fremont County Attorney Office	Town of Dubois
Fremont County Group Homes	Town of Hudson (3)
Fremont County Public Health	Town of Shoshoni (3)
Fremont County School District #1 (7)	United Way of Southwest Wyoming (2)
Fremont County School District #6	U. W. Cent\$ible Nutrition Program (4)
Fremont County School District #14 (2)	Vocational Rehabilitation
Fremont County School District #24 (2)	Volunteers of America/Center of Hope
Fremont County Prevention Program	Westward Heights Care Center
High Country Senior Citizens	Wind River Dialysis Center
ICWA for Eastern Shoshone and tribal legal service (2)	Wyoming Cancer Resource Services

Demographic questions for the provider agency respondents were asked so that a baseline of services data was determined. Their responses are as follows:

DEMOGRAPHICS OF FREMONT COUNTY SURVEY OF HUMAN SERVICE AGENCY RESPONDENTS	
Demographic Characteristic	Provider Respondents - 87 respondents, 152 surveys sent (57.2% rate of return)
Organization Status	29.3% - 24 other organizations (11 of these are tribal organizations), 24.4% - 20 private, not for profit organizations.
Part of Larger Organization	No - 57.7%
Employees/Volunteers	Full-Time: 0-310 Average: 44 Part-Time: 0-100 Average: 9 Volunteers 0-100 Average: 9
How Many People Served	0-26,377 Average: 1,770
How Many Low Income Served	0-19,800 Average: 836

Executive Summary of Fremont County Community Assessment of Needs and Services 2021

Services and Resources Currently Available to Offset Creation or Impact of Poverty

- **Hudson**
 - Hudson Closet – clothes, bread and household items. Open 4 days/week.
 - Volunteer Fire Department –special events during of the year, i.e., Christmas.
 - Town of Hudson – Free Christmas dinner. no library but books are in Town Hall.
 - First Stop Help Center.
 - Frontier Hospice.
 - Fremont County Social Services.
 - Fremont County Public Health – COVID Shots.
 - United Way of Southwest Wyoming - diapers at Health Center in Lander and both tribes and provided 500 books through Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (birth -school age).
 - Fremont County School District #1 – children go to school in Lander.
 - Wind River Transportation Authority – transportation from Hudson 3-4 times/day.
- **Dubois**
 - High Country Senior Center – meal program (currently home-delivered meals and curbside pick-up) recreational events, health clinic, events.
 - Food Banks – Food Bank of the Rockies and St. Thomas Episcopal Church.
 - Needs of Dubois (NODS) – pay utility and doctor bills and relieves poverty and distress within the Dubois and Crowheart, Wyoming, communities.
 - Churches outreach – church get together and based on helping the community.
 - Opportunity Shop operated by the Episcopal Church.
 - Senior Center – meals, other health programs for blood pressure and foot care.
 - Many churches have benevolent funds.
 - VFW and VFW Auxiliary have funds for veterans.
- **Eastern Shoshone Tribe**
 - High school equivalency test training.
 - For people with disabilities, there is employment training and education mostly with tribal member businesses.
 - Services for children with disabilities including wrap-around.
 - Golden pathways – travel program, elderly assistance, and complements with the 477 program.
 - 477 program – services and training.
 - Link TANF/WIC/High school equivalency completion (5 tests) and higher education for individuals.
 - United Way of Southwest Wyoming.
 - Head Start and Early Head Start.
- **Pavillion**
 - Fremont County School District #6 provides education. Pre-K to college courses; free and reduced lunches and referrals to churches for clothing, Food Bank of the Rockies, and the Department of Family Services.
 - The Pre-School program goes to individual homes with pre-school children and there are about 50 children in the program
 - United Way of Southwest Wyoming
 - Local churches donated money to the school to help support families.
 - Pavillion has a food bank and clothing store run by the Baptist Church.
 - The Methodist Church has Meals on Wheels. Volunteers drive to Riverton to pick up the meals and deliver them to residence in need.
- **Shoshoni**
 - Senior Center – currently shut down due to COVID. When it is safe, they take seniors to Riverton 1 day per week for shopping and appointments.
 - Senior housing/low-income housing.
 - Shoshone Recreation District – get kids involved in recreation and sports.
 - Motel.
 - Health care center – recently opened and is an outreach of the Gottsche Clinic in Thermopolis. It will be opened Monday -Thursday.

- United Way of Southwest Wyoming indicates there is no Emergency Food and Shelter Grant available for Fremont County this year.
- There are no resources to defer the monthly water, sewer and garbage charges provided by the Town when someone is struggling to pay them.
- There is no medical or ambulance service.
- **Shoshoni**
 - No grocery store.
 - Restaurants are all closed. Access to food is an issue.
 - Going to Riverton once per week for the seniors is not adequate for the needs.
 - Other transportation services are needed.
 - Many churches have closed.
- **Lander**
 - Lack of affordable housing as very few are available in the range of \$500-\$600/month. The rent has to be in this range so that people can make it on their own. The average rent is way more than \$500-\$600/month and it is hard to find housing in Lander for under \$1,000.
 - Substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation.
 - Suicide prevention.
 - Domestic violence – Had classes but they have been suspended because of COVID.
 - Public transportation – Don't have any way in-county to pick up diaper, toiletries, etc.
- **Riverton**
 - In-patient treatment center for substance abuse and mental health.
 - Better access to psychiatrist.
 - Needs support for maintenance programs after clients get out of substance abuse and mental in-patient program.
 - Many programs won't take the disabled.
 - Transients with disabilities need emergency assistance for transportation to get back home.
 - Transportation – Out of county is pretty much non-existent unless the client is in a certain group, i.e., cancer patients.
 - Resources – Don't have a centralized database of services.

Most Important Needs

- **Hudson**
 - Jobs – COVID has destroyed two businesses. Need 3-4 businesses to move into Hudson that would hire 3-4 workers.
 - Child Care – The Town of Hudson has a physical facility where a child care could be set up if someone was willing to run it.
 - Housing – There is a need for affordable housing for families.
- **Dubois**
 - Need for recreational facility that would be beneficial for seniors and families that provide affordable fitness programs and social interaction.
 - Getting jobs and earning money are very important.
 - Residents also need a place to live and have transportation to get to work.
- **Eastern Shoshone Tribe**
 - Housing for tribal members is a major concern.
 - Homelessness – Need to connect homeless persons with additional rental assistance. Need a list of available housing off of the reservation.
 - Competitive grants with Indian Housing Block Grant.
 - Need to talk with Fremont County officials about the number of families that are in need of housing and rental assistance. There are over 200 families on the waiting list.
 - Funding and incentives for students to complete the high school equivalent certificate.
- **Pavillion**
 - Education – The Preschool Program is the driver for children to be educated. It is all grant-based.
 - Connectivity with the community is a problem as it would be impossible for the schools to go to virtual learning as many families do not have internet services.
 - Wind River School provides the most jobs in our community.

- Affordable housing and low-income housing. Affordable housing and working a full-time job help families to become self-sufficient.
- Need sustainable jobs year-round so that some people don't have to work 2-3 different jobs.
- Need good paying jobs.
- Need diversity of industry.
- **Eastern Shoshone Tribe**
 - Housing needs are great but they also need job opportunities. They have members who are able to do construction-type work but there are no jobs. There is Job Corps in Riverton that is a trade school. Each high school also teaches trade skills as well.
 - Financial empowerment would be helpful for families to become self-sufficient. The 477 program provides that information along with literacy.
 - United Way of Southwest Wyoming indicates that there is a financial empowerment program.
- **Pavillon**
 - Improve basic services – water, sewer and trash.
 - Develop economic development program to help people in the community.
- **Shoshoni**
 - Employment.
 - Grocery Store.
- **Lander**
 - Low-income housing and affordable housing.
 - Daycare – If families don't have daycare, they are going to be limited to a one-person income.
- **Riverton**
 - Affordable Housing – current rent for families in Riverton is \$1,300-\$1,500/month.
 - Transportation.

What are the barriers to services in our community?

- **Hudson**
 - Transportation – The Wind River Transportation Authority does provide services to Hudson approximately 2-3 times/day. While this is a great service there needs to be expanded offerings. Doesn't believe that all people are aware of it nor the times that it comes. There also needs to be a shelter by the bus stop.
 - Not Aware of Services – People are not aware of the services that are available to them or the information is incomplete or up-to-date. In the past the Town of Hudson has provided 211 cards. Agencies that are providing services need to update the 211 web site.
- **Dubois**
 - Agencies advertise their services so that people can get help. Churches don't advertise. Churches have come together in the Ministry Alliance and they will provide services.
 - High Country Senior Center provides transportation. If folks can't find services in Dubois the next place is Riverton and Lander which 75 miles away. The Senior Center sends a bus to Riverton and Lander once a month.
 - There is grocery store and Family Dollar in Dubois. There is a 100% mark-up on groceries.
 - The Senior Center tries to help seniors. If we had more county-sponsored programs a case worker would be more helpful. They need a resource person two times a week.
 - People need to know where to go for help. The newspaper is published once per week and lists where people can get help. Fliers from VFW also advertise for people that need help.
 - Generally, when someone comes to town they will find out. It doesn't take long for them to find out, unless they are a recluse.
 - Lots of people don't want others to know they need help.
- **Eastern Shoshone Tribe**
 - Communication – internet services as many families do not have internet capability.
 - Seniors also need someone to walk with them through the process so they are more comfortable with using the computer.
- **Pavillon**
 - The remote location is a barrier to services.
 - Lack of services is a barrier to services.

Community Service Block Grant Poverty factors

Healthy Lifestyle

- General health
- Health care access
- Birth rates
- Teen births
- Maternal and infant health
- Mental health
- Tobacco use
- Obesity

- Divorce rate
- Suicide rate
- COVID-19
- Crime rate
- Disabilities

Children and Youth in Poverty

- Population and poverty by families
- Free and reduced lunch rates,
- District graduation rates
- Child care

The data mirrors the priority of needs as discussed in the surveys and community meetings.

Summary of Conclusion

Following is a summary of the conclusions for each of the goals of the 2021 Fremont County Community Needs Assessment:

A. Extent of Poverty in Fremont County:

- Fremont County holds 10.1% (6,070) of the statewide low-income population (60,098) who live in poverty. The 2019 U.S. Census Bureau estimates the Fremont County population is 39,812. Thirteen percent (13%) or 5,038 people are in poverty.
- Of the Fremont County population that lives in poverty, over eleven percent (11.4%) (2,210) are males and 14.6% (2,818) are females.
- The Asian Alone race in Fremont County has the greatest amount of poverty at 28.7% or 50 people. The American Indian/Alaska Native race has the second greatest amount of poverty at 25.1% or 2,033 people.
- Of ethnicity Hispanic or Latino showed the greatest percentage of people living in poverty at 19.1% or 527 people.
- The largest age population that lives in poverty is the under 5 years old population with 21.3% or 581 children of the population.
- In Fremont County there are 15,003 households; of these there are 1,434 (9.6%) households that earn under \$15,000, 708 (4.7%) families that earn \$15,000-\$19,999 and 671 (4.5%) families that earn \$20,000-\$24,999.
- According to the 2018 Kids Count Data Report, of the 9,906 families in Fremont County there are 1,803 (18.2%) families living in poverty with related children; of these, 615 (9.9%) families are married couples, 305 (25.8%) are single fathers with related children and 883 (34.8%) are single mothers.
- Of the various communities in Fremont County, Fort Washakie CDP had the largest percentage of those in poverty at 28.5%; Pavillion had the second largest population in poverty at 19.1%; Ethete CDP and the Town of Shoshoni had the third largest population at 16.3%.
- Nearly forty-nine percent (48.6%) or 3,266 school aged children Fremont County School Districts #1, #2, #6, #14, #21, #25, 38 are eligible for free or reduced lunch.

C. Factors that Exacerbate the Impacts of Poverty:

- COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on the Native American population, single mothers with children and seniors, etc.

In response to Question 32, "What is the greatest concern regarding your family?" a client respondent stated, "My great concern is . . . my job to support my family, while not trying to expose my loved ones, while looking for the right childcare. . . I am a single mother of two and I don't know how to manage a job and making sure my kids are not falling behind in school and other things, mental health, physical education, nutrition education, drug awareness, covid-19 awareness."

- Lack of housing on the Wind River Reservation is either forcing families to be homeless or forcing families to live together.

In the article, "Wyoming tribes face unique challenges in coronavirus fight" Charles Washakie the executive director of the Eastern Shoshone Housing Authority indicated that 642 people are reported to live in 136 Eastern Shoshone housing units right now – more than 4.5 people per home.

In the ZOOM community meeting for the Eastern Shoshone Tribe held on January 20, 2021, Eastern Shoshone Housing Authority personnel indicated that, "Currently there are over 200 families that are on a waiting list. Every individual that is on the waiting list is in a dire situation."

- More job training needs to occur as there is a lack of job skills to meet requirement of employers.
- Lack of internet services to outlying areas in the county and general lack of knowledge to use the computer, especially for the seniors.
- Lack of affordable child care or pre-school programs particularly for children under the age of 2. This provides issues for those parents with children trying to work.
- Illegal drugs/substance abuse, alcohol, and addiction adversely affect the Fremont County low-income population. There is need for in-patient treatment center for substance abuse and mental health rehabilitation.
- Numbers of seniors in all age levels have increased significantly from 2014-2019 in Fremont County; ages 65 to 74 (20.4%), ages 75 to 84 (14.2%). Many issues arise with this growing number, i.e., increasing accessibility and affordability to medical care, prescription drugs, dental and vision care, food insecurity, affordable housing, loneliness, and support and care with bills being paid on a fixed income.

In response to the question, "Who in your community is most affected by poverty?" the High County Senior Center director indicated. "Seniors – most of the seniors are single, most on income of \$800 and most live on small amounts of food stamps. The food stamp program is set up for families and discriminate against seniors. One senior at the High County Senior Center gets \$17/month in food stamps. It's really an injustice to the seniors in Wyoming as they paid their dues, worked, paid their taxes and now when they don't have the ability to work, they can't meet their living expenses. They are penalized for putting in the effort and don't get enough to live from the government."

- There is a lack of knowing where to get resources in the community.

In response to Q. 15 in the provider survey, "What kind of assistance can Fremont County Association of Governments provide to your organization so that you can better serve your clients? Provider respondents indicated, "Design an information sharing system so that we can provide information to

rent is way more than \$500-\$600/month and it is hard to find housing in Lander for under \$1,000.

- In-patient treatment center for substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation and better access to psychiatrist. Needs support for maintenance programs after clients get out of substance abuse and mental in-patient program.
- Suicide prevention
- Domestic violence – Had classes but they have been suspended because of COVID.
- Many programs won't take the disabled.
- Resources – Don't have a centralized database of services.
- Communication between the Eastern Shoshone tribe and local governments as to assistance with specific issues.

F. Recommended Priorities for Meeting Needs:

Priority #1: Emergency Services: Crisis intervention activities; financial assistance; food assistance; clothing assistance, medical assistance, shelter - housing and utilities assistance, transportation assistance and other urgent needs & last resort services.

Priority #2: Self-Sufficiency: Case management, child care, youth programs or services, family/individual counseling programs, family development/intervention for family stabilization; and activities to cooperate with and participate in the planning and/or coordination of community services for low-income groups.

Priority#3: Transportation: includes transportation to and from medical services in-county and out of county; transportation to and from work; and transportation to and from grocery shopping and other needed services.

Priority #4: Health – Medical or dental screening; primary health services as medication, clinic visits, and home health care; immunization, prevention of drug abuse or alcoholism, treatment of drug abuse; health services for expectant and new mothers and infants; mental health counseling; family planning and counseling, and transportation to medical services in other communities.

Priority #5: Education – Information, referral & follow-up; counseling & guidance; public information & information regarding issues associated with lack of education & poverty; head start support; day care & parenting information; alternative educational measures; literacy projects; adult basic education; bi-lingual education and early childhood development.

Priority #5 Employment and Training - Job training; job counseling; job development; job referral & follow-up; work experience; spot labor; employment generating projects; application & resume assistance; job aptitude training; occupation and labor force information; transportation services to work including repair of a vehicle.

G. Barriers to Services:


- Clients need to know of services available and how to apply for them. Some possible aids would be:
 - A Fremont County Resource Directory on-line, on face book and in print.
 - Flier or business card printed with the names/numbers of agencies and services provided.

Exhibit 'B'

2/15/2021


**Fremont County
Community
Needs Assessment
2021**

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**What Are We Trying To Find
Out**

- What is the extent of poverty in the county that includes data specific to poverty and its prevalence related to gender, age and race/ethnicity?
- What factors support the creation of poverty?
- What factors exacerbate the impacts of poverty?
- What services and resources are currently available to offset the creation or impacts of poverty?
- What are the gaps in services?
- What are the priorities for meeting needs of the low income?
- What are the barriers to services? (i.e., knowledge, getting to the resources, childcare)



Four-Pronged Strategy

- Community Surveys
- Community ZOOM Meetings for Hudson, Dubois, Eastern Shoshone Tribe, Pavillion, Shoshoni, Lander and Riverton
- Review of Relevant Quantitative Data
- Dialogue on Poverty – Fremont County Association of Governments, Fremont County Action Committee



Survey Population

- CSBG clients
- Low-income clients of other government and non-profit agencies
- Agencies that serve the low-income
- Other government and non-profit Agencies
 - Client Surveys Returned - 93/290 (32.1% returned)
 - Agency Surveys Returned - 87/152 (57.2% returned)

Demographics of Clients Residence, Sex and Age Groups

- 1.) Residence - Every community except Pavilion; Eastern Shoshone Tribe - 34.8%, Riverton - 23.9%, and Lander - 22.8%.
- 2.) Gender - Female - 76.7%.
- 3.) Age Group- 24-44: 48.5% and 55-69: 23.7%.
- 4.) Ethnicity: Not Hispanic - 98.7%.
- 5.) Race: American Indian - 48.4%; White - 40.8%
- 6.) Highest Grade Completed in School: 2 or 4 year college graduate: 33.3%; high school graduate (GED): 25.8%; and 12+ some post secondary: 23.6%.
- 7.) Disabled - No, 76.6%; Health Insurance - Yes, 64.5%
- 8.) Medicaid - No: 73.2%; Medicare - No: 72.4%

Demographic Generalities

- 9.) Family Type - Single Parent Families: 26.3%; Single Person: 22%; and Two Parent Household: 18.8%.
- 10.) Number of Persons That Live in Household - 1 person living in the household: 25%; 2 persons: 21.7%.
- 11.) No. of Children Under 18 Living in Household - 0 children: 47.3%.
- 12.) Household Yearly Income - 0-\$25,020: 58.1%.
- 13.) No. of Sources for Family Income - One source: 61.6%.
- 14.) No. of Adults Employed in Household - 1: (44.8%)

Demographic Generalities

- 15.) Source of Family Income – Employment Only: 39.1%.
- 16.) Housing Situation of Clients – Own: 46.7% and Rent: 42.4%.
- 17a.) Amt Spent Per Month On Housing – \$0-250: 40.2%.
- 17b.) Amt Spent Per Month on Groceries - \$151-\$300: 34.5%.
- 17c.) Amount Spent Per Month on Medical - \$151-\$300: 73.3%.
- 17d.) Amount Spent Per Month on Medical/Prescriptions - 0-\$150: 66.6%.

Q. 19 Most Important Needs

- Transportation: 457 points, #1
- Self-Sufficiency: 456 points, #2
- Emergency Services: 428, #3
- Nutrition/Food (non-emergency): 419 points, #4
- Education: 418, #5
- Linkages to Other Programs: 407, #6

Q. 1-11 CSBG & Human Service Agencies Demographics

- Agencies responded: 67.
- Organization Status: State Government: Other: 17.1% (11 are tribal organizations); Private, Not for Profit: 24.4%.
- Part of a Larger Organization: No: 57.7%.
- Employees: 0-50 FT Average: 44; 0-100 PT, Average: 9; 0-100 Volunteers, Average: 9.
- People Served: 0-25,377, Average: 1,770.
- Low Income Served: 0-19,800, Average: 836.
- Age Groups: Adolescents: 32; Adults: 32; Seniors: 32; and Children: 28
- Majority serve: Fremont County: 13; Lander community: 11; and Wind River Indian Reservation: 9.
- Criteria to Receive Services: Age: 19; Other criteria to obtain services: 16; and Problem/Diagnosis: 14.
- Kinds of Services Provided: Linkages to Other Resources: 26; Education/Literacy: 14; Food, Commodities and Nutrition: 14; Youth Services: 14; and Other: 14.

Q. 15 Assistance Provided by CSBG Board

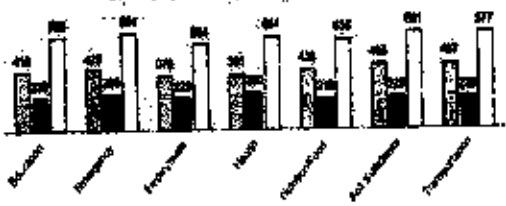
- Transportation (on-call bus) and for students to attend class.
- Funding to better assist those who are in need.
- Information sharing system so that agencies can provide information to families on how best to access services.
- More affordable housing in the county.

Q. 16 Most Important Needs of Agencies

- Health (Medical Services, Dental Services, Prescription Drugs, Eye care and Mental Health): 260 points, #1
- Emergency Services: 258 points, #2
- Education: 238 points, #3
- Income Management: 228 points, #4
- Employment and Training, 225 points, #5 (tied)
- Self-Sufficiency: 225 points, #5 (tied)
- Transportation: 220 points, #6

Comparison of Highest Ranked Needs Clients and Agencies

Franklin County Comparison of Needs - CSBG Clients and Agencies
CSBG Clients: 2018-2019 Survey | Agencies: 2018-2019 Survey | 2018



Comparison of Clients and Providers

- How Well Are Human Service Needs Being Met in Area:
 - Clients: Education, health and malnutrition were given a ranking of fair. Emergency assistance, employment and training, housing, linkage with other programs and income management/strategies better use of available resources were given a ranking of poor. Transportation and self-sufficiency received a ranking of poor to not at all.
 - Providers: All needs except education, employment/training, housing transportation were ranked fair. Education was ranked good. Employment and training was ranked poor. Housing and transportation was ranked poor to not at all.

- Ranking of health problems in Framont County:
 - Clients: Use of illegal drugs/substance abuse - #1; Alcohol abuse - #2; COVID-19 - #3; Mental Health - #4; and Suicide - #5.
 - Providers: Alcohol abuse - #1; Use of illegal drugs/substance abuse - #2; Mental Health - #3; Suicide - #4; and COVID-19 - #5.

- Community meet the needs of . . .
 - Clients: All areas were ranked poor. Improving the conditions in which low-income peoples' lives are improved was ranked not at all.
 - Providers: All areas were poor except partnerships are achieved among agencies so that low-income people are helped. It was ranked fair.

Comparison of Clients and Agencies

- In the past year has your household income . . .
 - Clients: Decreased (48.9%).
 - Providers: Decreased (89%).

- What changes have the majority of your clients seen in the past year that affected how much money they have?
 - Clients: High cost of living (29); unemployment (23); and reduction of work hours (23).
 - Providers: Clients unemployed (29); reduction of work hours (28); high cost of living (24); and serious or chronic illness(20).

Comparison of Clients and Agencies

- Difficulty Meeting Expenses:
 - Clients: Yes (68.7%) due to COVID-19 wherein they lost their job and were unable to find work, reduced hours at work, and working mothers could not find child care.
 - Providers: Yes (82.9%) due to COVID-19 effects including loss of jobs or taking care of family members. Housing costs are high and there is a lack of affordable and accessible living sites.

Comparison on Clients and Agencies

- **New services needed in the past year**
 - Clients: Food Bank (40); SNAP (31); LIEAP (39); Medicare, Medicaid or Medicaid Waiver (27).
 - Providers: Low-income housing/renter's assistance (24), Food Bank (20), LIEAP (19).
- **Were the services**
 - Clients: Received (70.1%)
- **Providers: Received (76.3%)**

Comparison of Clients and Agencies

- **How serious a problem?**
 - Clients: Affordable food choices, affordable dental care, affordable vision care, and transportation out-of-county are serious problems.
 - Providers: Affordable place to live, paying for utilities, transportation in-county and out-of-county, and affordable medical care.
- Two Agencies Providing Same Service**
 - Clients: No (85.6%)
 - Agencies: No (57.5%); Yes (42.5%)

Comparison of Clients and Agencies

- **Who do you see as a vulnerable (at-risk) population in Fremont County and why?**
 - Clients: Elderly and disabled (16), children (10), Native Americans (9), None (7), youth and teens (6), single mothers (5), drug and alcohol users (4), families in poverty (4), addicts (3), young adults (3), and ex-felons (2).
 - Providers: Seniors (9), low-income (7), children (5), single parent homes (5), persons with mental health issues (3), and homeless persons.
- Are there any programs that would help low-income families in Sublette County that are currently not available?**
 - Clients: Affordable, low-income housing (8), transportation with bus/travel (5), better food banks (4), more daycare (3), homeless shelter (3), treatment facility (2), expanding Medicaid (2) and Alzheimer's and dementia outreach programs (2).
 - Providers: Local in-patient residential mental health and substance treatment center (5), homeless shelter (3) and low income child care centers (2).

What is the Greatest Concern that You Have Regarding Clients and Their Families?

- Clients: Affordable housing and paying rent and utilities (13), drug and alcohol abuse (5), steady employment (8), money (5), child care and after school programs for children (5), not being able to pay bills (4), enough food (4), access to mental health (3), losing governmental programs (3), more home health care (3), health (3), staying safe through the pandemic (2), being able to work and being a single mother (2).
- Agencies: Affordable mental health, alcohol and drug counseling (3), families will continue to struggle and lose what little resources they currently have due to resources being tapped out from COVID, i.e., SNAP benefits and Medicaid are their biggest concerns.

Questions about the Surveys??

May I take questions?



ZOOM Community Meetings

- January 12-28, 2021 in Fremont County with 85 participants.
- Find out the following:
 - Services and resources currently available to offset creation or impact of poverty
 - Gaps in Services
 - Priorities for meeting needs
 - Work on for families so they can become self-sufficient
 - Barriers to services



Services and Resources Currently Available

Bridges

Senior Center, Volunteer Fire Department, Town of Hudson (First Christmas Dinner, an Elderly hot lunch are at Town Hall), First Step Child Center, Frontier Hospice, Fremont County Social Services, Fremont County Public Health, United Way of Southwest Wyoming - Fremont County School District #1, Wind River Transportation Authority.

Dubois

High Country Senior Center, Food Bank - Food Bank of the Rockies and St. Theresa Episcopal Church, Meals of Dubois (NODM), Churches outreach, Opportunity Shop, VFW and VFW Auxiliary.

Eastern Shoshone Tribe

High school equivalency test training, employment training and education for disabled, services for adults with disabilities including wrap-around, Golden Pathways, 417 program, and TANF/WIC/High school equivalency completion (3 units) and higher education for individuals, United Way of Southwest Wyoming and Head Start and Early Head Start.

Pringles

Fremont County School District #6 provides education, Pre-K to college courses, low and reduced lunches and referrals to churches for clothing, Food Bank of the Rockies, and the Department of Family Services, United Way of Southwest Wyoming, Baptist Church (meal bank and clothing store), Methodist Church for meals on wheels.

Services and Resources Currently Available

Shoshone

Senior Center, senior housing/low-income housing, Shoshone Recreation District, Home, outworkplace stores, health care center, schools, United Way of Southwest, and working on an affordable housing project.

Lander

First Step Help, Food Pantry and provides restaurant Lander Chamber track vouchers up to \$50 for families to eat out, gas cards, Bank Pwllt program, Care and Share Food Bank, Good SAM program, Leadership Lander Veterinary (food and medicine).

Christmas Seniors with Lander ESN Club, serve hot meal outdoors once per week to 100 people, Lander Senior Center, United Way of Southwest Wyoming.

Riverton

Mental health and substance abuse counseling and transitional housing for clients (22 low-income apartments), Carlisle Nutrition, United Way of Southwest Wyoming, Bel-Free Church - Bible-based programs (get people off of drugs and become clean and sober, teach how to open money, mentor and guide them, provide food and meals), Help for Health Hospice and Home Care.

Gaps in Services

Hudson

- Senior Center - There is a need for a place so that seniors can gather and eat meals. Town Hall could provide a room for seniors to eat and gather.
- Child Care - Need child care for working women in community-based health care community.
- Youth activities - Need things for the kids to do.
- There is no convenience store in Hudson.

Dubois

- There is generally a lack of services. High Country Senior Center has to hand-deliver resources that are available to help them.
- Seniors need an able program to help the seniors in their residences. This program needs to help them that way between the major food banks and there are no day care.
- Seniors will help those that are out of work and may need help.

Eastern Shoshone Tribe

- Local transportation to go to appointments, etc. It would be great to have transportation on the four roads in Fort Washakie.
- More childcare especially now with some children not in school.
- Because of COVID, approximately 50% of programs and services have been stopped or have limited services, especially out-of-town programs. Programmers have been trying to do appointments by distance learning.
- Services have been hindered by federal regulations. Talking about how to be more stringent than other local and state regulations.

Gaps and Services

Problems

- There are no transportation services.
- The community is largely a mix of grocery stores, gas stations – restaurants.
- Thirdly, Way of Freedom Wyoming indicates there is an emergency food and shelter fund available for Summit County this year.
- There are no resources to defer the monthly costs, taxes and perhaps charges provided by the Town when someone is struggling to pay them.
- There is no mental or substance service.

Block/Gap

- No grocery store.
- Restaurants are all closed. Access to health services.
- Going to services was postponed by the closure and not subsequent to the needs.
- Other transportation services are needed.
- Many services have closed.

Let's hope

- Lots of affordable housing at very low rates available in the range of \$50-200/month. The real issue is in the range so that people can afford it on their own. The average cost is way over the \$500-800/month and it is hard to find housing in Laramie for under \$1,000.
- Education - distance and virtual learning.
- Health care services.
- Domestic violence - End violence but they have been postponed because of COVID.
- Public transportation - Don't have any way to easily to pick up drops, activities, etc.

Gaps and Services

Riverton

- In-patient treatment center for substance abuse and mental health.
- Better access to psychiatric.
- Needs support for maintenance programs after clients get out of substance abuse and mental in-patient program.
- Many programs won't take the disabled.
- Transients with disabilities need emergency assistance for transportation to get back home.
- Transportation - Out of county is pretty much non-existent unless the client is in a certain group, i.e., cancer patients.
- Resources - Don't have a centralized database of services.

Most Important Needs

Hudson

- Jobs - COVID has destroyed the job market. Need 3-4 businesses to move into Hudson that would hire 3-4 workers.
- Child Care - The Town of Hudson has a physical facility where a child care could be set up if someone was willing to run it.
- Housing - There is a number affordable housing for families.

DuBois

- Need for recreational facility that would be for residents and families that provides affordable leisure and social interaction.
- Getting jobs and earning money are very important.
- Residents also need a place to live and have transportation to get to work.

Eastern Shoreline Tribe

- Housing for tribal members is a major concern.
- Healthcare - Need to get good health services with additional mental services. Need a list of available housing off of the reservation.
- Companies particularly Indian Housing should drop.
- Need to talk with Powell County officials about the number of facilities that are in need of housing and rental assistance. There are over 200 families on the waiting list. Funding and resources are needed for students to complete the high school equivalent certificate.

Most Important Needs

Payette

- **Education** – The preschool program is the driver of literacy to be educated. It is all grant-based.
- **Connectivity with the community** is a problem as it would be impossible for the schools to go to other locations or many families do not have internet services.
- **What the school provides the most jobs in our community.**

Shoshone

- **Education.**
- **Job Training** – They need to offer some type of job corps to both plumbers, electricians, construction and auto mechanics.

Lander

- **Job training and job availability.**
- **Place to live where you have safe to get a job.**
- **Low-to-mid family planning assistance** including health check and prescription of some that isn't covered by health insurance.

Riverton

- **Affordable housing.**
- **Education and Job Training.**
- **Access to jobs.**
- **Transportation to country.**

Gaps in Services

Madison

- **Senior Center** – There is a need for a place to that seniors can gather and eat meals. Town Hall would provide a room for seniors to eat and gather.
- **CSA Care** – Good child care for working women is necessary that isn't one in the community.
- **Youth services** – Opportunities for the kids to do.
- **There is no construction in the town.**

Dubois

- **There is generally a lack of services.** High County Senior Center that is nearby the community that are available to help them.
- **Seniors need an after program to help the seniors in their residences.** This program needs to help those that are believed to require services and those that can help them.
- **Changes will help those that are out of work and need extra help.**

Beaumont-Blanchard-Tyler

- **Local transportation to go to appointments, etc.** It would be great to have transportation of the bus route in Fort Washieles.
- **Many children especially ones with other children not in school.**
- **Because of COVID, approximately 80% of programs and services have been stopped or have limited services, especially out-reach programs.** Programs have been trying to do appointments by phone or mail.
- **Services have been limited by other regulations.** COVID regulations tend to be more stringent than other local and state regulations.

Gaps in Services

Payette

- **Education** – The preschool program is the driver of literacy to be educated. It is all grant-based.
- **Connectivity with the community** is a problem as it would be impossible for the schools to go to other locations or many families do not have internet services.
- **What the school provides the most jobs in our community.**

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- **Education.**
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Lander

- **Job training and job availability.**
- **Place to live where you have safe to get a job.**
- **Low-to-mid family planning assistance** including health check and prescription of some that isn't covered by health insurance.

Riverton

- **Affordable housing.**
- **Education and Job Training.**
- **Access to jobs.**
- **Transportation to country.**

Work on so families can become self-sufficient?

Pavillion

- Improve basic services—water, sewer and trash.
- Develop economic development program to help people in the community.

Blount

- Employment.
- Grocery Store.

Lander

- Low-income housing and affordable housing.
- Daycare – If families don't have daycare, they are going to be limited to a one-parent income.

Riverdon

- Affordable Housing – current rent for families in Riverdon is \$1,300-\$1,500/month.
- Transportation.

Barriers to Services in Community

Hudson

- Transportation – The West River Therapeutic Authority does provide services to Hudson approximately 2-3 times a week. With this is a great service that needs to be expanded outside. Doesn't believe that all people are able to get to the store that's across. There also needs to be a shelter for the homeless.
- Not Access of Services – People are not aware of the services that are available to them or the information is incomplete or up-to-date. In the past the Town of Hudson has provided 211 cards. Services that are providing services would update the web site.

Dubuque

- Agencies advertise their services so that people can get help. Churches don't advertise. Churches have come together in the Ministry Alliance and they will provide services.
- High County Senior Center was closed in 2019. If they could find services in Dubuque the need place in Riverdon and Lander which is 75 miles away. The Senior Center serves a need in Riverdon and Lander area a need.
- There is grocery store and Family Dollar in Dubuque. There is a 100% work-up on groceries.
- The Senior Center tries to help seniors. If we had more county-sponsored programs a state would need to have help. They need a need assessment done on needs.
- People need to know where to go for help. The newspaper is published once per week and lets others know what help. There is a need for also advertising people that need help.
- Generally, when someone comes to town they will find out. It doesn't take long for them to find out, unless they are a refugee.
- Lots of people that want to come to town they need help.

Barriers to Services in Community

Eastern Shoreline Tribe

- Communication – If you're services so many families do not have internet capability.
- Barriers also need someone to walk with them through the process so they are more comfortable with using the computer.

Pavillion

- The service location is a barrier to services.
- Lack of services is a barrier to services.
- The Town of Pavillion has a very limited budget.

Shardis

- Attitude of the young people as they have a lack of confidence because they haven't taken advantage of opportunities.

Lander

- Pride as they don't want to ask for help.
- Services are hard to access if you're in a building at the same time that services are offered.
- Some of the day care centers are shutting down or reducing the number of children that they are taking. There's not enough day-care facilities and facilities.
- Providers are not doing enough outreach to accept services.
- Don't have a plan to access services.
- Need public transportation for people who have to go to see a Dr.

Riverdon

- People do not know what is available for services.
- Lack of transportation.
- People – need to get the help and know what other are offering.

Is there anything that you wanted to say?

Hudson

- Subsidize in Town of Hudson need to be revamped so that they can be paid for services or businesses.
- Internet provider – Fiber optic goes through the Town of Hudson but there is not any access to the towns people and the community. Hudson is working to a Working Business Council grant that would help pay for \$1,000,000 charge.
- There is a need for a policeman in the Town to protect homes and businesses. Currently there isn't a budget to hire an officer. Law enforcement would have to be established through a grant.
- It would seem so much to the Town of Hudson to have 20 families move in – have permanent housing and school children going to school in Hudson. The Hudson elementary school is severely closed.

Dubois – The Mayor of Dubois wanted to know what will happen from this information.

Pavillion – Do not know what more the Fremont County School District #6 can do.

Sheehon – Especially proud of the Fremont County Action Committee that cares for everyone.

Questions on Community Meetings?

- May I take questions?



Fremont County CSBG Demographic Profiles

- 517 individuals and 266 households served October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2020
- Male: 48.34%; Female: 51.64%
- Between the ages of 25-44: 40.23%
- White: 48.81%; American Indian: 42.84%; and Not-Hispanic: 77.95%
- 14-24 yrs. old: Grade 9-12/Non-Graduate: 45.45%
- 25+ yrs. old: High School Grad/GED: 34.66%
- No military affiliation: 86.56%
- Not disabled: 77.37%
- Has health insurance: 48.38%; Through Medicaid: 34.91%; Unspecified: 24.85%
- Single persons: 45.33%; Household size of 1: 60%
- Rent: 38.89%; Homeless: 20.56%
- Up to 80% of poverty income guidelines: 47.5%
- Unemployed not in the labor force: 28.35%
- Other income source: Other: 34; Supplemental Security Income: 18; Social Security Disability Income: 17
- Non-Cash Benefits: Other: 18; SNAP: 9

Employment and Unemployment

- Employment
 - Fremont County's labor force, defined as the number of people working or actively seeking work decreased by 635 persons to 19,485 (10/2020) from 18,833 (10/2019).
 - Employment increased by 355 persons to 15,435 (10/2020) from 15,080 (10/2019).
 - Unemployed numbers increased by 260 persons to 1,033 (10/2020) from 753 (10/2019)
 - Unemployment rate decreased by 1.3% from 4% (10/2019) to 5.3% (10/2020). This is .3% higher than the State of Wyoming unemployment rate of 5% (10/2020).

Housing and Cost of Living

- Housing
 - Average apartment rent increased to \$707 (by \$21.25) in 4th quarter 2019 with vacancy rate of 3.7% (21 units) compared to 4.0% (88 units) one year ago.
 - Cost of a home in 4th quarter 2019 was \$236, a 3.6% increase in 4th quarter 2018.
 - Average sales price of existing, detached, single family home is \$222,800.45, an increase of 2.4% over previous year.
 - 284 (7.6%) units are lacking kitchen facilities.
 - 144 (11%) units are with incomplete plumbing facilities.
 - 470 (3.1%) households are overcrowded with 1.1 to 1.5 people per room.
 - 148 (7%) households are severely overcrowded with more than 1.5 people per room.
 - 2,133 households: 31-39% of their income on housing; 1,760 households above 50% of their income on housing.
- Cost of Living - The cost of living for Fremont County is 10th lowest in the state (96). Ranking compares food, housing, apparel, transportation, medical, recreation and personal care. 100 is statewide average.
 - Medical is the highest at 110
 - Transportation at 90
 - Apparel, recreation and personal care at 87
 - Food at 85
 - Housing at 84

CSBG Poverty Factors

- Community Services Block Grant Poverty Factors reflects a poverty ranking of 10.3% or 10.25% of CSBG funds and is determined as follows:
 - Fremont County ranked 3rd highest among the counties or 6,070 (10.1%) of the State Low Income Population among all counties
 - Unemployed people - 824 (7.8%) of State Unemployed population
 - People on SNAP - 1,440 (8.2%) of SNAP population
 - People on Medicaid - 7,146 (12.0%) of State Medicaid population.
 - People on POWER/TANF - 85 (6.7%) of POWER/TANF population
 - Applications Received for Assistance - 42 (13.0%) of State Applications received
 - People receiving SSI - 691 (12.0%) of State population of SSI

Healthy Lifestyle

General Health:

- 80.7% of County residents compared to 78.5% of all Wyoming counties reported that they were not living a healthy lifestyle that included reporting smoking, no leisure time activity or not being at a healthy weight.

Health Care Access

- 15.8% of County population as compared to 14.1% of all Wyoming counties has no health care coverage.

- 28.8% of County population as compared to 31.5% of all Wyoming counties reported that they do not have one or more persons they think of their personal doctor or health care provider.

- 18.8% of County population as compared to 16% of all Wyoming counties indicated that they needed to see a doctor but couldn't because of the cost at least one time in the past month.

- 42.8% of County population as compared to 42.8% of all Wyoming counties indicated that they had any of the 3 access issues as described above.

Obesity

- 67.3% of County population as compared to 64.7% of all Wyoming counties reported that they have a body mass index ≥ 30.0 and 36.1% as compared to 28.8% of all Wyoming counties have a body mass index ≥ 35.0 .

Birth Dates, Teen Births & Maternal and Infant Health

Birth Rates - 512 births in 2019 which was -1.59% (-8) less than the previous year.

Teen Births - 43 teen births or 12.7% of the total Wyoming number of teen births.

Maternal and Infant Health - Generally worse than WY population:

-Woman Receiving Less Than Adequate Prenatal Care - 32.4% compared to WY of 25.5%.

-Smoking Mothers During Pregnancy - 16% compared to WY 13%.

-Low Birth Weight Babies - 48 (8% compared to WY of 10%.

Mental Health/Suicide/Divorce/Crime & Domestic Violence

- 19.6% of county population reported that they have been told that they a depressive disorder (21.3% statewide).

- 10.8% of County population reported they are binge drinkers having 5 or more drinks on an occasion at least once in the past 30 days and women reporting 4 or more drinks on an occasion in the past 30 days. (18% statewide)

- 2017 divorce rate for Fremont County was 135 (3.4%) as compared to the statewide average of 3.8%.

- Suicide rate for Sublette County is 38.4 as compared to 28.6 statewide. Rates per 100,000 people and age adjusted to the 2000 US Standard Population.

- Sublette County had 813 index crimes, 445 other assaults (simple, not aggravated), 7 arsons and 128 domestic violence incidents.

COVID-19

Fremont County has been significantly impacted by the number of COVID-19 cases as shown below:

- Number of Lab confirmed cases in Fremont County: 3,888 (8.6% of state population of 44,911)
- Number of cases recovered: 4,346 (9.9% of state population of 43,537)
- Number of COVID-19 related deaths: 79 (12.6% of state population of 624)

Disabilities

Keynote Context

- The prevalence of disability was 14.7% (6,752) for persons of all ages and the greatest number for an age category was 3,285 persons in the 35-44 age range (15.7%) and the greatest percentage was 30.9% or 1,361 persons in the age range 75+.
- There are 3,177 males and 2,895 females.
- The greatest prevalence of the six disability types (blind, hearing, ambulatory, cognitive, self-care, and independent living) was sensory disability (7.8%) or 2,860 persons.

Statistics

- The prevalence of disability for working-age people (ages 21 - 64) was most prevalent among persons among female Americans at 16.4% and persons of some other race at 14.1%. The prevalence of disability among Hispanics or Latino origin in Wyoming was 11.4%.
- In 2017 the employment rate of the 24,000 working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in Wyoming was 51.3%. Wyoming among South Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska have the best outcomes for employment of people with disabilities.
- Ten percent (10%) of people with disabilities were actively looking for work in 2017.
- The median annual income of working-age people with disabilities working full-time last year was \$48,000 in 2017.
- The poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities was 24.2% in 2017.
- 59.6% of working-age people with disabilities had health insurance in 2017.

Children and Youth Concerns

- Child Care – 63 licensed child care facilities with a capacity of 1,164 children.
- Children & Youth in Poverty (2018)
 - 8,668 all families in Fremont County; 779 (9%) of all families that live in poverty.
 - 7,274 married-couple families; 280 (3.6%) live in poverty.
 - 843 male householder, no wife present; 169 (21.6%) live in poverty.
 - 1,441 female householder, no husband present; 338 (24%)
 - 683 (13%) of all families that live in poverty in related children
 - *134 (4.8%) of all families living in poverty are married couple families
 - *189 (22.8%) are single fathers with related children
 - *315 (28.5%) single mothers with related children
- Free and Reduced Lunch - Nearly forty-nine percent (48.6%) or 3,288 school aged children Fremont County School Districts #1, #2, #6, #14, #21, #25, and #38 are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
- Graduation Rates – 89.6% of Fremont County School Districts #1, #2, #6, #14, #21, #25 and #38. The Wyoming Average – 82.1%.

Questions on Data Analysis?

May I take questions?



Extent of Poverty in Fremont County

- Fremont County holds 10.1% (6,070) of the statewide low-income population (60,098) who live in poverty. The 2019 U.S. Census Bureau estimates the Fremont County population is 39,812. Thirteen percent (13%) or 5,038 people is in poverty.
- Of the Fremont County population that lives in poverty, over eleven percent (11.4%) (2,210) are males and 14.6% (2,818) are females.
- The Asian Alone race in Fremont County has the greatest amount of poverty at 28.7% or 50 people. The American Indian/Alaska Native race has the second greatest amount of poverty at 25.1% or 2,033 people.
- Of ethnicity Hispanic or Latino showed the greatest percentage of people living in poverty at 19.1% or 527 people.

Extent of Poverty in Fremont County

- The largest age population that lives in poverty is the under 5 year old population with 21.2% or 581 children of the population.
- In Fremont County there are 15,003 households; of these there are 9.4% that earn under \$15,000, 4.7% families that earn \$15,000-\$19,999 and 4.3% families that earn \$20,000-\$24,999.
- According to the 2018 Kids Count Data Report, of the 9,306 families in Fremont County there are 1,883 (20.2%) families living in poverty with related children; of those, 615 (32.7%) families are married couples, 305 (25.8%) are single fathers with related children and 863 (34.8%) are single mothers.
- Of the various communities in Fremont County, Fort Washelle CDP had the largest percentage of those in poverty at 28.9%, Paradise had the second largest population in poverty at 19.1% Ethans CDP and the Town of Sheehans had the third largest population at 16.3%.
- Nearly thirty-nine percent (38.6%) or 1,006 school aged children Fremont County School Districts #1, #2, #4, #14, #21, #22, 30 are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Fremont County School Districts #14, #21 and #22 had the most children on free and reduced lunch at 1,140 children or 100% of their total population.

Factors Support Creation of Poverty:

- The cost of living is the tenth lowest in the state. Medical is the highest cost of living category at 140 in Fremont County. All other categories including food, housing, apparel, transportation, recreation and personal care ranked below 100 with 100 being the statewide average. Transportation is the next highest category at 90.
- Women working full time year-round in Fremont County are paid only 73 cents to every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men working full time. The average hourly wage for males is \$25.16 and for women it is \$18.03.
- Service providing employees are typically female workers. Many low-income women work in the accommodation and food services industry with no health benefits. The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that accommodation workers make \$20,562 and food services and drinking places workers make \$14,348. These statistics do not take into consideration the effect COVID-19 has had on wages made in the accommodation and food and drinking businesses during the past year.

Factors Support Creation of Poverty:

- The high cost of rent for an average apartment is putting a heavy burden on the low-income. According to the Wyoming Housing Database Partnership there are 2,132 households that are spending 31%-50% of their income on housing, and 1,155 households that are spending above 50% of their income. Note: Spending over 31% of a household income on housing places a family at-risk.
- The unemployment rate has increased by 1.3% from 4% in October 2019 to 5.3 % in September 2020, resulting in people still looking for work or taking part-time jobs or temporary jobs that does not give them enough income to live on or just giving up.
- Lack of good-paying jobs. Many jobs have left the smaller communities. The jobs that are left are in the accommodation and food-service industries (which has been tremendously affected by COVID-19).
- While transportation is offered in the communities of Riverton, Hudson and Lander by the Wind River Transportation Authority and the buses offered by the senior centers in the county to seniors, there still is a need for transportation to outlying centers, transportation is needed in the outlying communities on week-days so that people can go to work and obtain necessary services in the county seat of the county, i.e., medical services.

Factors Exacerbate Impacts of Poverty

- COVID-19 has had a devastating effect on the Native American population, single mothers with children and veterans, etc.
- Lack of housing on the Wind River Reservation is often forcing families to be homeless or forcing families to live together.
- More job training needs to occur as there is a lack of job skills to meet requirement of employers.
- Lack of internet services to outlying areas in the county and general lack of knowledge to use the computer, especially for the seniors.
- Lack of affordable child care or pre-school programs particularly for children under the age of 3. This provides income for those parents with children trying to work.
- Illegal drugs/alcoholism, abuse, alcohol, and addiction adversely affect the Fremont County low-income population. There is need for in-patient treatment center for substance abuse and mental health rehabilitation.
- Numbers of seniors in all age levels have increased significantly from 2014-2019 in Fremont County; ages 65 to 74 (22.6%), ages 75 to 84 (34.2%). Many health aids with the growing number, i.e., increasing accessibility and affordability to medical care, prescription drugs, dental and vision care, food insecurity, affordable housing, loneliness, and support and care with bills being paid on a fixed income.
- There is a lack of knowing where to get resources in the community.

Services/Resources to Offset Creation or Impact of Poverty

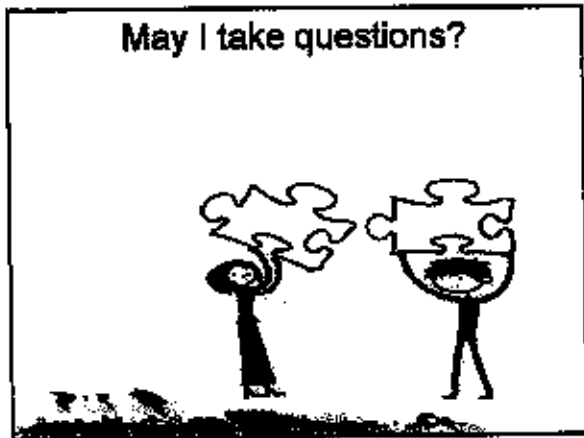
- Many services are available primarily in Lander and Riverton, Fort Washside, and Elletts with fewer or little services offered in Hudson, Payson, Shoshoni and Dubois.
- At least 25 agencies provide linkages to resources on a regular basis to their clients as a part of their services.
- A number of private agencies provide resources to fill in gaps for the low-income in including churches, schools, local governments, Veterans of Foreign Wars and VFW auxiliary, foundation, senior centers and private donors.
- Wyoming 2-1-1 is an on-line service to obtain information and referrals for emergency housing, food, social services, utilities assistance, legal services, child support, transportation, healthcare, mental health counseling, senior services, family issues employment and job training, volunteer opportunities and financial assistance.
- There are a number of food banks in the county that provide meals and food to those in need. The senior centers also provide home-delivered meals, curbside pick-up and congregate meals (when safe to do so).

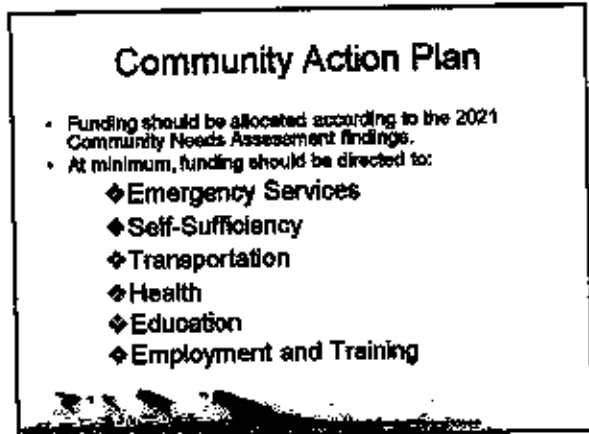
GAPS IN SERVICE

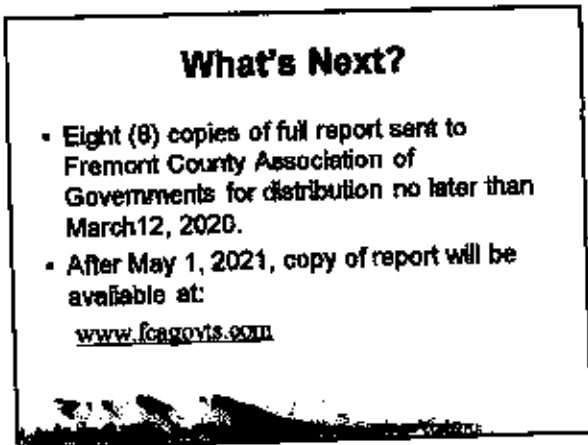
- Senior Services
 - > Senior Center in Shoshoni - There is a need for a place so that seniors can gather and eat meals. Town Hall could provide a room for seniors to eat and gather.
 - > Shoshoni need an aide program to help them in their residences. Needs a program needs to help those that are beyond the upper low income and those that are doing okay.
- Child Care - Need child care for working women or currently have her care in the community and children are not in school.
- Needs walk-in - Need things for the kids at the.
- Lack of senior services in outlying areas including convenience store (to buy milk and eggs), gas station or restaurant or grocery store or medical/dental services.
- Transportation in outlying areas
 - > Eastern Shoshone Tribe - Local transportation to get to appointments, etc. It would be great to have transportation on the Star route in Fort Washside.
 - > Going to Elletts once per week for the station is not adequate for the needs.
 - > Use of county transportation is pretty much non-existent unless the client is in a service group, i.e., senior patients.
 - > Don't have any way to county to pick up things, groceries, etc.
 - > Transition with disabilities need emergency assistance for transportation to get back home.

GAPS IN SERVICE

- Many churches have closed.
- Lack of affordable housing as very few are available in the range of \$500-\$800/month. The rent has to be in this range so that people can make it on their own. The average rent is way more than \$800-\$800/month and it is hard to find housing in Lander for under \$1,000.
- In-patient treatment center for substance abuse treatment and rehabilitation and better access to psychiatrist. Needs support for maintenance programs after clients get out of substance abuse and mental in-patient program.
- Suicide prevention
- Domestic violence - Had classes but they have been suspended because of COVID.
- Many programs won't take the disabled.
- Resources - Don't have a centralized database of services.
- Communication between the Eastern Shoshone tribe and local governments as to assistance with specific issues.







Thank You!

- Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this Needs Assessment.
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