

Community Readiness Questions

The term “this issue” is used in the example questions, communities must decide on what the issue is for them and replace “this issue” with their specific issue, such as alcohol use, domestic violence, etc.

A. COMMUNITY EFFORTS (Programs, Activities, Policies, etc.)

B. COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE OF EFFORTS

1. Using a scale from 1-10, how much of a concern is this issue in your community, with one being not at all and ten being a very large concern? Please explain.
2. Please describe the efforts that are available in your community to address this issue?
3. How long have these efforts been going on in your community?
4. Using a scale from 1 to 10, how aware are people in the community of these efforts, with one being no awareness and ten being very aware? Please explain.
5. What are the strengths of these efforts?
6. What are the weaknesses of these efforts?
7. Who do these programs serve? (For example: individuals of a certain age group, ethnicity, etc.)
8. Would there be any segments of the community for which these efforts/services may appear inaccessible? (For example: individuals of a certain age group, ethnicity, income level, geographic region, etc.)
9. Is there a need to expand these efforts/services? Why?
10. Is there any planning for additional efforts/services going on in your community surrounding this issue? If yes, please explain.
11. What formal or informal policies, practices and laws related to this issue in place in your community, and for how long? (Prompt: An example of formal would be school, police, or courts and an example of informal would be like the police not responding to a particular part of town, etc.)
12. Are there segments of the community for which these policies, practices and laws may not apply? (Prompt: for example, due to socioeconomic status, ethnicity, age, etc.)
13. Is there a need to expand these policies, practices and laws? If yes, are there plans to expand? Please explain.
14. How does the community view these policies, practices and laws?

LEADERSHIP

15. Who are the leaders specific to this issue in your community?
16. Using a scale from 1 to 10, how much of a concern is this issue to the leadership in your community, with one being not at all and ten being a very large concern? Please explain.
17. How are the “leaders” in your community involved in efforts regarding this issue? Please explain. (For example: Are they involved in a committee, task force, etc.? How often to they meet?)
18. Would the leadership support additional efforts? Please explain.

C. COMMUNITY CLIMATE

19. Describe *your community*.
21. What is the community’s attitude about this issue?
22. What are the primary obstacles to efforts in your community?
20. Is there ever a time or circumstance in which members of your community might think that this issue should be tolerated?

D. KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ISSUE

23. How knowledgeable are community members about this issue. Please explain. (Such as: dynamics, signs, symptoms, statistics, effects on family and friends, etc.)
24. What type of information is available in your community regarding this issue?

25. What local data on this issue is available in your community?
26. How do people obtain this information in your community?

E. RESOURCES FOR PREVENTION EFFORTS

27. Whom would an individual affected by this issue turn to first for help and why?
28. On a scale from 1-10, what is the level of expertise and training among those working on this issue?
Please explain.
29. Do efforts that address this issue have a broad base of volunteers?
30. What is the community's and/or local business' attitude about supporting efforts with people volunteering time, making financial donations, and/or providing space?
31. How are the current efforts funded? Please explain.
32. Are you aware of any proposals or action plans that have been submitted for funding to address this issue in your community? If yes, please explain.
33. Do you know if there is any evaluation of these efforts? If yes, using a scale from 1 to 10, how sophisticated is the evaluation effort, with one being not at all and ten being very sophisticated?
34. Are the evaluation results being used to make changes in programs, activities, or policies or to start new ones?

The following questions are optional, but help us to know the types of people we have interviewed. Would you be willing to answer questions such as your profession, ethnicity, age, etc.? If "yes":

What is your work title?

What is your gender?

What is your ethnicity?

Anglo
Hispanic
African American
Asian American
Native American
Native Alaskan
Other

What is your age range?

19-24
25-34
35-44
45-54
55-64
65 and above

Do you live in (name of community)?

If not the community we have selected, what community?

How many miles is this from the community we have selected?

Do you work in (name of community)?

If not the community we have selected, what community?

How many miles is this from the community we have selected?

How long have you lived in your community?

The Tri Ethnic Center is honored to be able to supply this information to interested parties, and hopes that it can be useful, but please call the Center and seek permission before duplicating any of its materials.