

Summary results of Survey 2011 Macro Assessment of Community Needs:

Nestled in the south central Blue Ridge Mountains, Franklin County is a remarkable community that reflects the roots of its historic make-up with the diversity of new community members, businesses, and technology introduced over the last twenty years. This rural county is the fifth largest geographic county in the Commonwealth and provides the unique opportunities and challenges of areas as divergent as Endicott and Smith Mountain Lake.

There are many components of Franklin County which remain historically grounded in family, faith, and hard work. Extended families are recognized throughout the county, over 200 churches find recognition in local registers, and farming and manufacturing jobs are still held by 20% of the workforce. Technology has changed the face of how business is done not only at a national and state level but it impacts how Franklin County responds to community needs. Coupling changes in technology, economic strategy, and a notable increase of over 18% in the last 10 years in the County's population, the Franklin County Best Practice Court Community Team through participation and collaboration with courts, local government, businesses, education, service providers and citizens remain committed to providing opportunities to:

Examine the strengths and challenges of the court and the community to meet the needs of the children and families in Franklin County by developing family focused, child centered, community based care with a focus on permanence for all children.

Two hundred and thirty-four (234) individuals responded to the community needs project implemented by the Franklin County Best Practice Court. Comparisons in general community demographics to the respondents' answers considered reliability of information obtained and included:

Survey Race/Ethnicity:

90% of respondents were Caucasian
9.5% were African American
.5% were Hispanic/Asian/Multi-Racial (1-Chinese)

County Demographic Information

88.5% of County's ethnicity
8.0% of County's ethnicity
2.5% of County's ethnicity

We made added emphasis to translate the survey into Spanish and distribute to local business with noted Hispanic traffic; however, when we went to pick up the surveys, the business was closed.

Survey Age

1% Birth to 18
25% 18-35
47% 36-55
27% 56+

27% of residents are under 18
57% of residents fall between 18-64
16% of residents are over 65

The information we were trying to access through this survey, we believed, was more relevant to 18 years of age and older populations. Therefore, the design and the market did not proportionately emphasize insight being garnered from the under 18 years of age bracket. We can see however, a good significant breakdown of age brackets, educational levels, and household make-ups within the responses collected.

Survey Education

1% Not a high school graduate
14% High school graduate/GED
36% Some College/Associate's Deg./Technical Certif.
23% Bachelor's Degree
25% Master's Degree/Other Advanced Degree

County Demographic Information

21% of residents noted this level of education
37% of residents noted this level of education
21% of residents noted this level of education
9% of residents noted this level of education
5% of residents noted this level of education

This is where we see some the greatest disparaged results compared to community demographics and survey results. We did print copies of surveys and place them in places which would show diversity in education – however the responses weren't captured to reflect our County's educational breakdown.

Survey Residency

Ninety-one (91%) of respondents who answered electronic and printed copies of the survey indicated they lived in Franklin County.

Survey Household Characteristics

14%	Single	28%
64%	Married	75%
6%	Single Parent	9%
11%	Single or Married household with extended family	4%
2%	Unmarried Adults with children in common living in the same house	unable to locate

County Demographic Information

Number Living in Household and Income

We based the survey household income on the state's poverty guidelines for families with 3 people equaling \$20,440. The census indicates 2.3 people per household in Franklin County with 14% of the individuals who live in Franklin County living under the poverty level. Twelve percent (12%) of the respondents indicated they were under the poverty level. This is a very close reflection to our actual community demographic. The total number of individuals this survey reflects is 581 adults and 255 children based on household reporting. There is the possibility of duplicative count if more than one member of the household completed the survey.

Employment

As of May 2011, Franklin County held an unemployment rate of 6.3%. Statistic indicated 90% of the respondents indicated someone within their household was employed and 10% indicated no one in their household was employed.

Disability

15% of indicated a disability found within their household, unable to track information
85% indicated no disabilities were found in their household, unable to track information

Each of the sections related to prioritizing allowed for comments. We reviewed each and every comment, tracked themes and compared these to the survey generated results. Any concern that by comment changed the priority of the statistically generated result will show an asterisk by the concern.

Top 5 Community Concerns

Employment

Substance Use and Abuse

Abuse and Neglect

*Medical Care (could be 3 or 4)

Youth Programs

Top 5 Community Concerns needing support/resources

Employment

Youth Programs

Substance Use and Abuse

Abuse and Neglect

Financial Assistance to Meet Basic Needs

*Other very strong contenders for this category are Medical Care and Services for the Elderly each scoring at least 70 responses.

Top 5 Community Concerns Direct Impact/Household Impact

Employment

Medical Care

Awareness of Services

Service for the Elderly

Financial Needs for Basic Services

Correlated Health Problems Direct Impact/Household Impact

Depression

Smoking

Alcoholism

Health Related Quality of Life

Early Initiation of Smoking

Nothing in the written comments changed the priority.

Top 5 Services Needed Unable to Access – Direct Access

Medical

Transportation

*Financial Assistance for Basic Needs

*Employment

*Mental Health

*Youth Programs

*DV Services

*Service for Disabled and those with limited resources

* All scored the same number of responses for barriers to personal access.

Top 5 Services Needed Unable to Access – Household Access

Mental Health

Medical

Assistance with Meeting Basic Needs

Services for Disabled and those with limited resources

Abuse/Neglect

Top 5 Comments Related To Community Concerns (Themed)

Youth Programs

*Services for the Elderly

*Employment

*Transportation

Mental Health

*All scored the same number of responses.