

Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment 2021

Galveston County Community Action Council/

Greater Coastal Community Action Council

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GCCAC Board of Directors

Joe Compian.....Board President
Denice Pringle.....1st Vice President
Rose Pickens.....2nd Vice President
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Sharonda Easter.....Board Member
Domingo Martinez, Jr.....Board Member
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Rosalyn Preacher.....Executive Secretary
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Carol Freeman.....Crime Victims Services
Mark Stephens.....Crime Victims Services
La Tanya Turner.....Fiscal
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Priscilla Brown.....Administrative Assistant and Project Manager
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DeNasha Harris.....Case Manager
Kanisha Horton.....Case Manager
Asension Macias.....Case Manager
Marcia Randolph.....Case Manager
Edna Swist.....Case Manager
Anna Whistler.....Case Manager
Exdacie Phillips.....Screeners/Receptionist

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background/Introduction

The Galveston County Community Action Council (GCCAC) was established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to fight America's War on Poverty. GCCAC is a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the state of Texas in 1965, and is recognized by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program as the proper body to carry out the functions and purposes set by the organization.

The Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment was conducted and compiled from June through July 2021 by the staff of the Galveston County Community Action Council/Greater Coastal Community Action Council (GCCAC). This assessment was completed as a resource to develop and implement a new three-year strategic plan for GCCAC. This assessment was developed to determine the areas of critical need in Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, and Wharton Counties. The areas of critical needs were identified by community members, GCCAC Board Members, and community leaders, thus enabling GCCAC to continue to adapt programs and services offered that would best meet the community needs.

Methodology

GCCAC collected data from community members and clients through the use of surveys (quantitative) and focus group participation (qualitative). The surveys were in English and in Spanish, and they were available via paper and online. The paper surveys were placed at various partner service provider locations during a two-week period. Community members and clients were encouraged to complete the short survey by the partner service providers using the online link on the GCCAC website, or the paper survey. Additionally, interviews were conducted with community leaders and GCCAC Board Members to obtain qualitative data to enhance the understanding of specified community needs. Lastly, a roundtable/forum was held with the staff of GCCAC (case managers, screeners, and receptionists) to examine their perceptions regarding community needs.

Summary of Findings

Primary Areas of Concern (Community Respondents' Surveys)

Community respondents were asked to complete a survey and select all areas of concern to them. Community Respondents consisted of low-income individuals and other persons who live in the service area. The low-income participants were either clients of GCCAC, or they were clients of the Housing Authority City of Galveston, or they were residents of HUD low-income housing (Lexington Square Apartments, Angleton, Texas). They then ranked those concerns in order of highest priority. The areas of concern by priority and by county are as follows:

Overall Areas of Concern (Client Survey)
Housing/Help with utility bills
Housing/ Help paying rent or mortgage
Housing/Help to make my home more energy efficient
Education/Assistance to attend trade or technical school, or college
Employment/Help finding a job with a living wage
Education/Computer Skills Training
And
Health & Social/General Assistance for Seniors and Disabled

Top Areas of Concern by County (Client Survey)

Areas of Concern	Brazoria County	Fort Bend County	Galveston County	Wharton County
Concern One	Housing/Utility Assistance	Housing/Utility Assistance	Housing/Utility Assistance	Housing/Utility Assistance
Concern Two	Housing/Rent or Mortgage Assistance	Housing/Rent or Mortgage Assistance	Housing/Rent or Mortgage Assistance	Education/Computer Skills Training
Concern Three	Emergency Food	Health & Social/General Assistance for Seniors and Disabled	Housing/Help Making my Home More Energy Efficient	Housing/Rent or Mortgage Assistance
Concern Four	Education/Computer Skills Training	Housing/Help Making my Home More Energy Efficient	Health & Social/General Assistance for Seniors and Disabled	Education/Assistance to Attend Trade, Technical School or College
Concern Five	Employment/Help with Finding a Job w/a Living Wage	Emergency Food	Emergency Food	Housing/Finding Affordable Housing

Major Concerns Voiced by Clients in Virtual Client Focus Group

A client focus group session was held to provide clarity and understanding of the concerns that were articulated via surveys. Clients who completed surveys were contacted to participate in the focus group session. This session was a virtual event, held via Zoom. Clients also had the ability to call in to the session. Below is a summary of the major concerns that were voiced by clients during a virtual focus group session:

Utility Assistance-

Clients have stated that they are unable to pay utility assistance due to various conditions (Hurricane Harvey, Winter Storm Uri). These conditions have caused added expenses such as having to pay to live in a rental during renovations, and having to pay out of pocket for renovations such as mold remediation, busted pipes, wells, and septic tanks (all frozen due to Uri), as well as added insurance in some cases that was not needed before.

Education/Employment-

Clients expressed concern that many good jobs are not located in the counties served, which means that clients must travel outside of the counties that they live in for good jobs. This was predominant in the rural counties, where as the in the urban counties, clients just expressed the need for better paying jobs/jobs with livable wages. Clients have also stated that childcare is an issue.

Transportation:

Clients expressed a need for transportation to get to the job. Clients in the more rural counties expressed a need for more public transportation so that they could travel within county boundaries to get to work.

Primary Areas of Concern (GCCAC Staff Roundtable/Forum)

During the Roundtable/Forum Discussion with GCCAC Case Managers, screeners, and receptionists, the following areas of concern were identified as top priority:

Top Concerns According to GCCAC Staff
Food
Shelter
Healthcare
Work/Education
Transportation
Childcare

Primary Areas of Concern (Board Members, Community Leaders-Interviews)

Board Members and Community Leaders were interviewed by the lead writers of this assessment. The following areas of concern were identified as top priority:

Top Concerns for Board Members, Community Leaders
Utilities and Rent Payment
Affordable Child Care
Drug Program for Seniors Who Do Not Have Medicare/Medicaid
Air Conditioning Program
Parenting Educational Program

METHODOLOGY

Survey Design: Due to time constraints, a new, detailed survey was not developed. A basic sample survey that was representative of community needs was obtained from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) website and was used for the community member assessment. The survey was translated into Spanish to be completed by Spanish speakers. Both surveys were also designed to be completed online in Qualtrics and Microsoft Forms (MS Forms) in English and in Spanish.

The basic survey obtained from the TDHCA website consisted of a listing of basic needs that the respondent checked as being important. Next, the respondent ranked the top five needs that were most important to him or her.

The only demographic information that was asked of the respondent was to identify the city and county of residence (Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, or Wharton County). The GCCAC team decided against integrating more demographic information (race, age, sex, etc.) into the survey as the concern here was that having to complete this kind of information would dissuade possible respondents from completing the survey.

Roundtable/Forum/Focus Group Question Design: Again, due to time constraints, a basic interview protocol was obtained from the TDHCA website. The questions asked were open ended questions that facilitated conversation. The staff and client roundtable/forums/focus groups were taped for clarity, and they were facilitated by the GCCAC technology person, who was viewed as an impartial party to facilitate the forum and focus group.

Board and Community Leaders Interviews: Board member and community leader interviews were conducted via telephone. The *Interview for Elected Officials and Board Members* was obtained from the TDHCA Website, and questions 1-6 were used. The questions asked were open ended questions that facilitated conversation. Each interview was audiotaped and transcribed. Each transcription was then analyzed for response similarities.

Administration/Analysis of Surveys: Possible participants were contacted via community stakeholders and or partner service providers. Community Stakeholders were contacted by GCCAC Staff via telephone and email. GCCAC staff explained the intended use of the survey, and why there was a need for the survey. The worldwide COVID pandemic played an integral part in the participation and completion of the surveys, as many of the community partner service providers and stakeholders who were initially contacted by GCCAC staff declined to participate due to the fact that they did not have in person foot traffic to solicit participation. Surveys were either sent out to participating community partner service providers or stakeholders via email, or they were hand delivered to the participating community partner service provider or stakeholder site. Participating community partner service providers or stakeholders also received flyers with information in English and in Spanish with the internet platform link to utilize if they chose to do so. Persons who completed the surveys using the flyer links completed the surveys using the Qualtrics platform.

GCCAC employed several digital vehicles to promote and increase response to the 2021 Client Needs Analysis:

- SEM (Google Ads) – Text ads encouraging respondents who search for similar or related topics online. The text ads would direct potential respondents to gccac.org/needs-analysis where they could anonymously and conveniently fill the survey from a desktop computer or smart device.
- Social Media – GCCAC has profiles on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. GCCAC used the attached graphic sending respondents to the same survey on Qualtrics (see below):



Email – using Constant Contact, invitations were sent to past clients to fill the survey with the html form below:



Internet links were also set up on the GCCAC website so that present and potential clients could participate in the surveys. The Constant Contact platform was utilized to contact current clients to request that they participate in the surveys. Persons completing the surveys from the GCCAC website completed the surveys using MS Forms.

Below are the following number of survey respondents by County:

Community Respondents by County

County	Number of Respondents
Brazoria	51
Fort Bend	76
Galveston	84
Wharton	11
Total Number of Community Respondents	222

POPULATION OVERVIEW BY COUNTY

Brazoria County, Texas

Brazoria County, Texas is widely known as “Where Texas Began”, and Texas’ first capital was located here. More recently, economic growth is abundant in Brazoria County. According to the Brazoria County website (2021), billions of dollars are being poured into industry growth in the area. The Port of Freeport is expanding its boundaries to accommodate importing and exporting growth. The City of Pearland continues to grow providing local amenities that once were only had by traveling to surrounding areas. Brazoria County is one of the fastest growing areas in the region and is being recognized as a great place to work, raise a family and retire. According to World Population Review (2021), Brazoria County is the fifteenth largest county in the state of Texas.

Brazoria County, Texas has an estimated population of 385,018 with a growth rate of 1.42% in the past year. (World Population Review, 2021) Brazoria County is the 15th largest county in Texas. The 2010 Population was 314,428 and has seen a growth of 22.45% since this time. (World Population Review, 2021) Below is a map of Brazoria County and a chart that shows the population growth in this county since 2018:

Map of Brazoria County, Texas



*Map Source: Texas Almanac, 2021.

Brazoria County, Texas Population Rate 2018-2021

Year	Population	Growth	Growth Rate
2021*	385,018	5,377	1.42%
2020*	379,641	5,377	1.44%
2019	374,264	5,377	1.46%
2018	368,887	7,034	1.94%

*This indicates that the data for these years is projected data.

Data Source: World Population Review, 2021.

According to the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), the majority of the population of Brazoria is comprised of persons who describe themselves as Anglo, or white (74.9%), followed by Black or African American (15.1%). A large portion of the population is classified as Hispanic or Latino (31.6%), followed by Asian (6.9%), two or more races (2.1%), American Indian or Alaskan Native (.8%), and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (.1%). Fewer people in Brazoria County have gone past the completion of a high school diploma, as noted by the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), 87.9% of persons 25 years old and up have a high school diploma, but only 30% of this same age group have a bachelor's degree or higher.

The Impact of Poverty and The COVID Pandemic on Brazoria County

Poverty

According to the U. S. Census, the median household income between 2015-2019 is \$81,447.00, however, the percentage of persons in poverty in Brazoria County is 8.6%. (U. S. Census Quick Facts, 2021)

Brazoria County, Texas Poverty Rate 2018-2019

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2018	Poverty Rate 2018	Persons in Poverty 2019	Poverty Rate 2019
Brazoria County, Texas	24,487	10.3%	31,116	8.6%
Texas	3,870,944	14.9%	4,181,623	13.6%
United States	41,852,315	13.1%	39,490,096	12.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2019.

Females and families have been impacted severely by poverty. According to the American Community Survey (2021), there are more females and female headed households in poverty in Brazoria County than there are males, male headed households, and married couple households.

Population in Poverty by Gender in Brazoria County, Texas

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Brazoria County, Texas	12,921	17,396	7.54%	9.81%
Texas	1,816,876	2,255,318	13.34%	16.09%
United States	18,909,451	23,601,392	12.19%	14.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Families in Brazoria County, Texas in Poverty 5 Year Estimates 2015-2019

Report Area	Total Families	Families in Poverty Total	Families in Poverty Married Couples	Families in Poverty Male Householder	Families in Poverty Female Householder
Brazoria County, Texas	88,881	6,032	2,657	434	2,941
Texas	6,712,183	759,269	307,767	66,704	384,798
United States	79,114,031	7,541,196	2,764,595	803,863	3,972,738

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children and seniors over 65 in Brazoria County are even more severely impacted by the ravages of poverty. Children ages 0-17 are below the state and national average for poverty, and the same is true for seniors age 65 and up. Female children have a higher incidence of being in poverty than male children. Female seniors 65 and up also have a higher incidence of being in poverty than senior males 65 and up. The following tables show the number of children in poverty and seniors in poverty.

Child Poverty Rate Ages 0-17, Brazoria County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Poverty Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Age 0-17 2019	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2019
Brazoria County, Texas	9,930	14.1%	10,670	11.1%
Texas	2,475,255	20.7%	2,802,390	19.2%
United States	34,757,074	16.2%	35,996,680	16.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children in Poverty by Gender, Age 0-19, Brazoria County, Texas 5 Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Brazoria County, Texas	4,665	5,437	9.61%	11.72%
Texas	776,781	740,204	21.02%	20.81%
United States	6,799,287	6,578,491	18.43%	18.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Seniors in Poverty, Ages 65 and up, Brazoria County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up in Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Brazoria County, Texas	40,363	2,528	6.3%
Texas	3,377,357	359,396	10.6%
United States	49,488,799	4,587,432	9.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Poverty By Gender, Age 65 and up, Brazoria County, Texas 5-year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Brazoria County, Texas	1,088	1,440	5.90%	6.57%
Texas	135,431	223,965	8.96%	12.00%
United States	1,656,650	2,930,782	7.51%	10.68%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Causes and Conditions of Poverty in Brazoria County

There could be various causes and conditions of poverty in Brazoria County. Some of the most prevalent are as follows:

A condition of poverty in Brazoria County may arise from the fact that Brazoria County is a rural county. As such, many good jobs are located outside of the county (Fort Bend, Harris Counties). One of the concerns stated in the client focus group was that, “many of the good jobs are not located in our area”. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), eighty percent of Brazoria County residents travel from 30 minutes to one hour for work, which could mean that they travel to another county to work. Thus, low wage paying jobs are the only jobs that may be left in Brazoria County.

Educational access and high school completion could also be noted as a cause and a condition of poverty in Brazoria County. According to U. S. Census data (2021), ten percent of Brazoria County residents do not have a high school diploma, and only thirty (30) percent have a college degree. This would indicate that those traveling outside of the county to the better paying jobs in other counties are persons with college degrees, and those with less than a high school education may be employed with lower paying jobs in the county. If they are traveling outside of the county for a job, transportation could also be a barrier (cause). As another person in the client focus group stated, “We need good transportation to get to work. Transportation like metro from and around Brazoria would be nice.”

Homes that are unsafe and unsanitary could be considered a major condition that contributes to poverty in Brazoria County. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), there were 375 units without plumbing in 2020. Some causes could be attributed to this condition are Hurricane Harvey (2017) and Winter Storm Uri (2021). One client from the client focus group meeting contended that, “In Brazoria, pipes, wells, and septic tanks were frozen due to Uri.” Another stated, “Many homeowners did not have to have flood insurance prior to Harvey, but now they do. This has brought the mortgages up for many people.”

Cost of living is another condition of poverty in in of the four counties, however in Brazoria, affordable housing is a condition that is needed. As a client in the client focus group stated, mortgages for homeowners have gone up tremendously for many people, thus making homeownership more expensive. Another consideration is that many people are still living in temporary housing due to Hurricane Harvey and Winter Storm Uri. As a client in the client focus group contended, “Many folks in Brazoria and Wharton Counties are in motel rooms from Harvey. Homes before Harvey were paid for, they cannot live in them, now they are paying for motel and hotel rooms. Rent has gone up and renters are not able to live.”

Household Income and Employment

The U. S. Census (2019) reported that the median household income for Brazoria County is \$83,704.00. The U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021) reports that the median household income is \$81,447.00. This is a decrease in income for many Brazoria families. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2021), the unemployment rate during a five-year period grew in Brazoria County. Most noticeably, the unemployment rate peaked during 2020 at the height of the COVID Pandemic. The rate is higher in comparison to the rest of Texas but not in comparison to the United States.

Unemployment Rate, Brazoria County Texas 2017-2021

Report Area	April 2017	April 2018	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021
Brazoria County, Texas	5.1%	4.3%	3.5%	13.1%	7.6%
Texas	4.2%	3.7%	3.1%	12.7%	6.3%
United States	4.2%	3.7%	3.4%	14.4%	5.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021.

Food Insecurity

According to Feeding America (2021), Food insecurity refers to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) measure of lack of access, at times, to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members and limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally adequate foods. This may mean that the household may need to make trade-offs between important basic needs, such as housing and or medical bills, and purchasing nutritionally adequate foods. Prior to the COVID global pandemic of 2020-2021, 45% of Brazoria County’s population was below

the SNAP threshold of 165% poverty. (Feeding America, 2021) In 2019, Feeding America (2021) contends that Brazoria County had an annual food budget shortfall of \$20,037,000.00.

Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure People in Brazoria
51% Above Other Nutrition Program Threshold of 185% Poverty
4% Between 165%-185% Poverty
45% Below SNAP Threshold of 165% Poverty

*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

Feeding America (2021) contends that as the COVID Pandemic began to spread in early 2020, an economic recession ensued. This recession ended years of declining rates of food insecurity. Prior to the COVID Pandemic, food insecurity was at the lowest point that it had been in 20 years. (Feeding America, 2021) Feeding America has projected that the overall projected food insecurity rate for 2020 in Brazoria County will be 14.4%, whereas the projected overall food insecurity rate for 2019 was 11.4%. As previously stated, this projection is an increase from previous years.

Overall Food Insecurity Rate in Brazoria County
Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2019 11.4%
Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2020 14.4%
Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2021 14.5%

*Data source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

Fort Bend County, Texas is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. According to the Fort Bend County website (2021), the county has almost tripled in population, and is expected to reach one million inhabitants in the next several years. As noted by the Fort Bend County Webpage (2021), master planned communities such as River Park, Bridlewood, and Texana have joined the ranks of communities such as New Territory and Cinco Ranch to increase the population of this county. Fort Bend is nearly 900 square miles, and this county leads the region in population diversity and median household income. (Fort Bend County Website, 2021)

Map of Fort Bend County, Texas

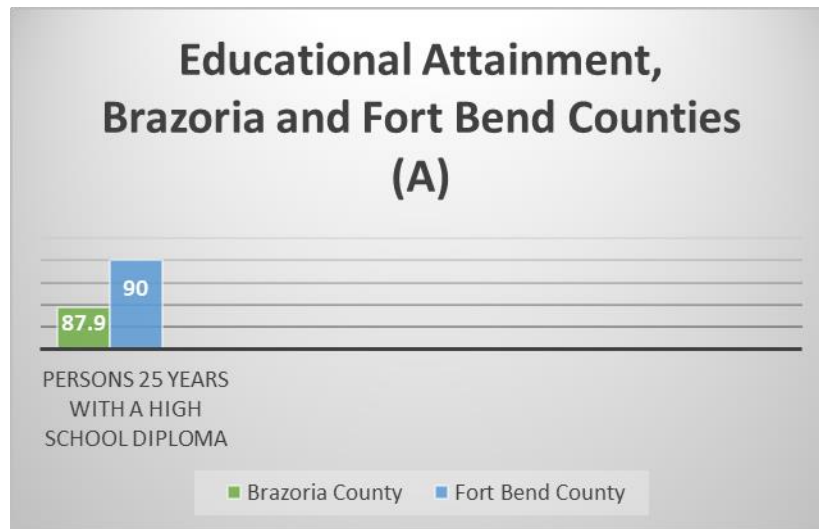


Fort Bend County, Texas Population Rate 2018-2021

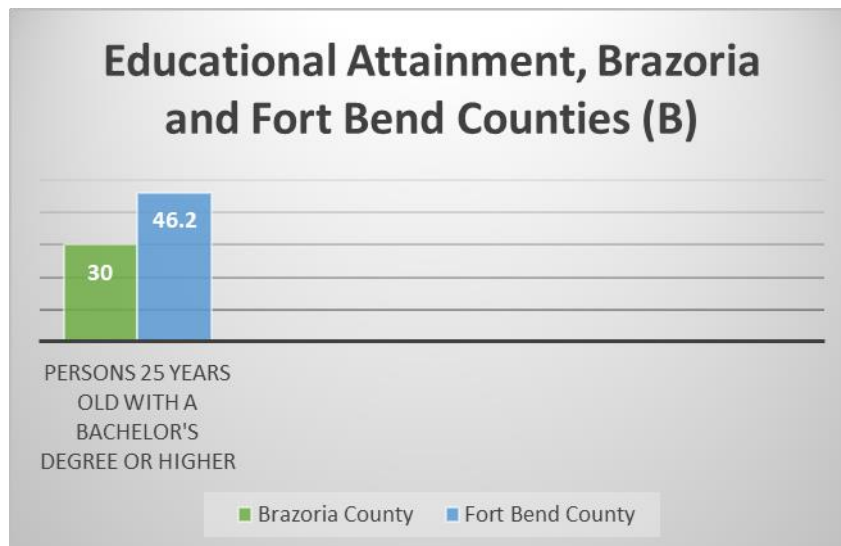
Year	Population	Growth	Growth Rate
2021*	858,902	23,607	2.83%
2020*	835,295	23,607	2.91%
2019	811,688	23,607	3.00%
2018	788,081	20,369	2.65%

Data Source: World Population Review, 2021.

According to the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), the majority of the population of Ft. Bend County is comprised of persons who describe themselves as Anglo (54.7%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (24.9%). Black or African American (21.3%) and Asian (20.9%) follow, with American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.6%) and Pacific Islander (0.1%) completing the county population makeup. In educational attainment, more people in Fort Bend County have completed higher than a high school diploma than in Brazoria County. As noted by the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), 90.6% of persons 25 years old and up have a high school diploma, and 46.2% of persons 25 years old and up have a bachelor's degree or higher. Both figures for Fort Bend County are higher than the figures for Brazoria County.



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.

The Impact of Poverty and The COVID Pandemic on Fort Bend County

Poverty

According to the U. S. Census, the median household income between 2015-2019 is \$97,473.00 however, the percentage of persons in poverty in Fort Bend County is 6.6% (U. S. Census Quick Facts, 2021)

Fort Bend County, Texas Poverty Rate 2019-2019

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2018	Poverty Rate 2018	Persons in Poverty 2019	Poverty Rate 2019
Fort Bend County, Texas	61,455	7.9%	53,151	6.6%
Texas	3,870,944	14.9%	4,181,623	13.6%
United States	41,852,315	13.1%	39,490,096	12.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2019.

In Fort Bend, all have been impacted severely by poverty. According to the American Community Survey (2021), there are more females in poverty than males, however, there are more married couple households in poverty, followed by female headed households and lastly, male headed households.

Population in Poverty by Gender in Fort Bend County, Texas

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Fort Bend County, Texas	25,450	30,801	6.86%	7.94%
Texas	1,816,876	2,255,318	13.34%	16.09%
United States	18,909,451	23,601,392	12.19%	14.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Families in Fort Bend County, Texas in Poverty 5 Year Estimates 2015-2019

Report Area	Total Families	Families in Poverty Total	Families in Poverty Married Couples	Families in Poverty Male Householder	Families in Poverty Female Householder
Fort Bend County, Texas	195,729	11,449	5,884	924	4,641
Texas	6,712,183	759,269	307,767	66,704	384,798
United States	79,114,031	7,541,196	2,764,595	803,863	3,972,738

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children and seniors over 65 in Fort Bend County are also impacted by the ravages of poverty. Children ages 0-17 are below the state and national average for poverty, and the same is true for seniors age 65 and up. In Fort Bend County, male children have a higher incidence of being in poverty than female children. Female seniors 65 and up also have a higher incidence of being in poverty than senior males 65 and up. The following tables show the number of children in poverty and seniors in poverty.

Child Poverty Rate Ages 0-17, Fort Bend County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Poverty Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Age 0-17 2019	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2019
Fort Bend County, Texas	11,638	10.0%	16,225	7.4%
Texas	2,475,255	20.7%	2,802,390	19.2%
United States	34,757,074	16.2%	35,996,680	16.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children in Poverty by Gender, Age 0-19, Fort Bend County, Texas 5 Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Fort Bend County, Texas	9,934	9,357	9.24%	9.10%
Texas	776,781	740,204	21.02%	20.81%
United States	6,799,287	6,578,491	18.43%	18.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Seniors in Poverty, Ages 65 and up, Fort Bend County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up in Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Fort Bend County, Texas	80,647	5,841	7.2%
Texas	3,377,357	359,396	10.6%
United States	49,488,799	4,587,432	9.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Poverty By Gender, Age 65 and up, Fort Bend County, Texas 5-year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Fort Bend County, Texas	2,398	3,443	6.50%	7.87%
Texas	135,431	223,965	8.96%	12.00%
United States	1,656,650	2,930,782	7.51%	10.68%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Causes and Conditions of Poverty in Fort Bend County

There are many parts of Fort Bend County that are growing by leaps and bounds. Those are urban areas such as Sugar Land and Missouri City. There are other parts of Fort Bend County that are rural, such as Fulshear, East Bernard, Kendleton, and Beasley. As these areas are rural, they may not have employment that pays well if there is any employment at all, which indicates

that the residents who live here have to drive a distance to work. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), 81% of residents drive anywhere from thirty (30) minutes to one hour to work. Considering that jobs may be plentiful in various parts of the county, residents may actually drive an hour to get to work within the county just for a low paying job. To be noted, gainful employment could be a cause of poverty, especially in the rural northern areas of Fort Bend, as it was stated in the client focus group meeting that transportation to work is an issue for clients, as well as “good paying jobs in my area”.

Educational access and high school completion could also be noted as a cause and a condition of poverty in Fort Bend County. According to U. S. Census data (2021), ten percent of Fort Bend County residents do not have a high school diploma, and forty-six (46) percent have a college degree. Although these percentages may look better than the other three counties in this report, the disparities are still significant enough to cause concern. Persons in this county may live in one city, but travel to another city within the county just for a low paying job. Here again, transportation could also be a barrier (cause). Here, persons may live in Kendleton but may travel to Sugar Land or Missouri City for a low paying job at a restaurant or the mall. Costs incurred here are costs for a car or to commute with someone.

Homes that are unsafe and unsanitary could be considered a major condition that contributes to poverty in Fort Bend County. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), there were 607 units without plumbing in 2020. This is higher than the Brazoria, Wharton, and Galveston counties, and dangerously close to the state and national averages. Here, causes could be attributed to this condition are Hurricane Harvey (2017) and Winter Storm Uri (2021). When a client from the client focus group meeting contended that, “In Galveston, many people have not been able to get plumbing fixed from Winter Storm Uri,” another client stated, “This is the same for Fort Bend.”

Cost of living is another condition of poverty in all of the four counties. Several clients in the client focus group verbally agreed with the statement, “Mortgages for homeowners have gone up tremendously for many people, thus making homeownership more expensive.” Another consideration is that many people are still living in temporary housing due to Hurricane Harvey and Winter Storm Uri.

Household Income and Employment

The U. S. Census Bureau Quick Facts (2021) reports that the median household income for Fort Bend County between 2015 and 2019 is \$97,743.00. This is above the median household income for the United States as a whole (\$62,843.00), and Brazoria County (\$81,447.00). One consideration could be that whereas Brazoria County is known for agriculture, rice farming, and cattle production, Fort Bend County is one of the fastest growing regions in terms of commercial development. (Brazoria County Texas Website, 2021; Fort Bend County Website, 2021) According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (2021), unemployment in Fort Bend County

rose sharply during April, 2020. To be noted, this was during the height of the COVID Pandemic. Although this was a sharp increase, the increase was not quite as high as it was in Brazoria County during the same time period (13.1%).

Unemployment Rate, Fort Bend County Texas 2017-2021

Report Area	April 2017	April 2018	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021
Fort Bend County, Texas	4.6%	3.8%	3.0%	12.5%	6.8%
Texas	4.2%	3.7%	3.1%	12.7%	6.3%
United States	4.2%	3.7%	3.4%	14.4%	5.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021.

Food Insecurity

According to Feeding America (2021), there are at least 72, 370 persons in Fort Bend County who are classified as food insecure. Feeding America (2021) asserts that the annual food budget shortfall for 2019 was \$37,426,000.00.

Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure People in Fort Bend County

53% Above Other Nutrition Program Threshold of 185% Poverty

2% Between 165%-185% Poverty

45% Below SNAP Threshold of 165% Poverty

*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

As with Brazoria County, the COVID Pandemic has brought an economic recession. With the ensuing economic recession came a surge in food insecurity. Feeding America (2021) asserts that the overall food insecurity rate for Fort Bend County did rise in 2020 and 2021.

Overall Food Insecurity Rate in Fort Bend County

Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2019 9.5%

Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2020 12.4%

Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2021 14.5%

*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

Galveston County, Texas

Galveston County, Texas is a diverse county. According to the Texas State Historical Association (2021), this county is 80 miles southwest of the Louisiana state line. Galveston County is inclusive of suburbs of Houston, particularly League City and Friendswood, and unincorporated areas such as Bacliff, Bayshore, San Leon, and Bolivar Peninsula. (Galveston County Website, 2021) Galveston County encompasses nearly 400 miles of coastline, and is home to the National Space and Aeronautics Administration (NASA) in League City, and to the University of Texas Medical Branch (City of Galveston). (County of Galveston Website, 2021)

Galveston County Texas has an estimated population of 350,701 with a growth rate of 1.24% within the last year. (World Population Review, 2021) Galveston County is the 18th largest county in the state of Texas. Below is a map of Galveston County, Texas and a chart that shows the population growth in this county since 2018:

Map of Galveston County, Texas



Map Source: Texas Almanac, 2021.

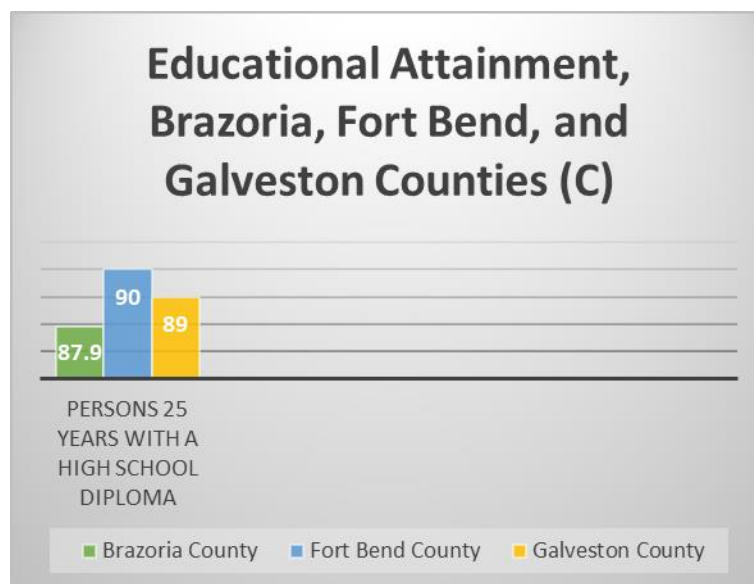
Galveston County, Texas Population Rate 2018-2021

Year	Population	Growth	Growth Rate
2021*	350,701	4,281	1.24%
2020*	346,420	4,281	1.25%
2019	342,139	4,281	1.27%
2018	337,858	3,225	0.96%

*This indicates that the data for these years is projected data.

Data Source: World Population Review, 2021.

According to the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), the majority of the population of Galveston County is comprised of persons who describe themselves as Anglo (80.3%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (25.4%). Black or African American (13.2%) and Asian (3.5%) follow, with American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.8%) and Pacific Islander (0.1%) completing the county population makeup. In educational attainment, slightly more people in Galveston County have completed higher than a high school diploma than in Brazoria County, however, it is slightly less than Fort Bend County. As noted by the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), 89.0% of persons 25 years old and up have a high school diploma, and 31.1% of persons 25 years old and up have a bachelor's degree or higher.



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.

Educational Attainment, Brazoria, Fort Bend, and Galveston Counties (D)



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.

The Impact of Poverty and The COVID Pandemic on Galveston County

Poverty

According to the U. S. Census, the median household income between 2015-2019 is \$73,330.00 however, the percentage of persons in poverty in Galveston County is 11.3% (U. S. Census Quick Facts, 2021)

Galveston County, Texas Poverty Rate 2019-2020

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2018	Poverty Rate 2018	Persons in Poverty 2019	Poverty Rate 2019
Galveston County, Texas	40,109	12.1%	38,181	11.3%
Texas	3,870,944	14.9%	4,181,623	13.6%
United States	41,852,315	13.1%	39,490,096	12.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2019.

In Galveston County, the ravages of poverty again are evident. According to the American Community Survey (2021), there are more females in poverty than males. Unfortunately, the poverty levels for both genders follow closely behind the state and national averages. In

Galveston County, there are more female headed households in poverty followed by married couple headed households, and lastly, male headed households.

Population in Poverty by Gender in Galveston County, Texas

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Galveston County, Texas	18,446	22,039	11.49%	13.29%
Texas	1,816,876	2,255,318	13.34%	16.09%
United States	18,909,451	23,601,392	12.19%	14.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Families in Galveston County, Texas in Poverty 5 Year Estimates 2015-2019

Report Area	Total Families	Families in Poverty Total	Families in Poverty Married Couples	Families in Poverty Male Householder	Families in Poverty Female Householder
Galveston County, Texas	84,986	8,068	3,187	450	4,431
Texas	6,712,183	759,269	307,767	66,704	384,798
United States	79,114,031	7,541,196	2,764,595	803,863	3,972,738

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Again, children and seniors over 65 in Galveston County are also impacted by the ravages of poverty. Children ages 0-17 are below the state average for poverty, but unfortunately, in Galveston County, children are right at the national average for poverty. This is also true in regards to the gender differences, as the county and the national average are similar. Unfortunately, seniors in poverty in Galveston County follow close behind the national and state average as a group, but not by gender. Females follow closely behind the state and national poverty averages whereas males do not. The following tables show the number of children in poverty and seniors in poverty.

Child Poverty Rate Ages 0-17, Galveston County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Poverty Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Age 0-17 2019	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2019
Galveston County, Texas	11,364	16.9%	13,069	16.1%
Texas	2,475,255	20.7%	2,802,390	19.2%
United States	34,757,074	16.2%	35,996,680	16.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children in Poverty by Gender, Age 0-19, Galveston County, Texas 5 Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Galveston County, Texas	7,792	6,158	18.97%	15.71%
Texas	776,781	740,204	21.02%	20.81%
United States	6,799,287	6,578,491	18.43%	18.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Seniors in Poverty, Ages 65 and up, Galveston County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up in Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Galveston County, Texas	45,197	3,637	8.0%
Texas	3,377,357	359,396	10.6%
United States	49,488,799	4,587,432	9.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Poverty By Gender, Age 65 and up, Galveston County, Texas 5-year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Galveston County, Texas	1,394	2,243	6.73%	9.17%
Texas	135,431	223,965	8.96%	12.00%
United States	1,656,650	2,930,782	7.51%	10.68%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Causes and Conditions of Poverty in Galveston County

As with the other counties, there could be various causes and conditions of poverty in Galveston County. Some of the most prevalent are as follows:

Galveston is not considered a rural county. There are many urban centers within Galveston County, and there are some good jobs within the county. An interesting fact to note is that according to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), eighty percent of Galveston County residents travel from 30 minutes to one hour for work. Interestingly enough, this could mean that they travel within the county to work. Even though there are large employers such as school districts, hospitals, and the hospitality industry (fast food, hotels, etc.), persons living within the county could be traveling within the county not just for high paying jobs, but also for low paying jobs.

Educational access and high school completion could also be noted as a cause and a condition of poverty in Galveston County. According to U. S. Census data (2021), eleven percent of Galveston County residents do not have a high school diploma, and only thirty-one (31) percent have a college degree. Many persons in this county may live in one city, but travel to another city within the county just for a low paying job. Here again, transportation could also be a barrier (cause). In many instances, persons may live in Texas City but may travel to Galveston for a low paying job at one of the hotels. Costs incurred here are costs for a car or to commute with someone.

Homes that are unsafe and unsanitary are also a major condition that contributes to poverty in Galveston County. According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), there were 558 units without plumbing in 2020. This is higher than the Wharton and Brazoria counties, and dangerously close to the state and national averages. Here too, causes could be attributed to this condition are Hurricane Harvey (2017) and Winter Storm Uri (2021). One client from the client focus group meeting contended that, "In Galveston, many people have not been able to get plumbing fixed from Winter Storm Uri." In coastal communities such as

Galveston, homeowners must have flood insurance, however, the insurance has gone up due to the number of flooding issues that have taken place.

Cost of living is another condition of poverty in all of the four counties, however in Galveston County, the issue is that homes and rentals are extremely high due to the fact that much of Galveston County is visited by people on vacation. Several clients in the client focus group verbally agreed with the statement, “Mortgages for homeowners have gone up tremendously for many people, thus making homeownership more expensive.” Another consideration is that many people are still living in temporary housing due to Hurricane Harvey, Winter Storm Uri, and in some cases, Hurricane Ike.

Household Income and Employment

The U. S. Census Bureau Quick Facts (2021) reports that the median household income for Galveston County between 2015 and 2019 is \$73,330.00. This is above the median household income for the United States as a whole (\$62,843.00), but it is below the median income for Fort Bend County (\$97,743.00) and Brazoria County (\$81,447.00). Considerations worth noting are that whereas Brazoria County is known for agriculture, rice farming, and cattle production, and Fort Bend County is one of the fastest growing regions in terms of commercial development, Galveston County is best known for jobs in the medical field (University of Texas Medical Branch), aeronautics (NASA), and the tourism industry. (Brazoria County Texas Website, 2021; Fort Bend County Website, 2021, County of Galveston Website, 2021) The unemployment rate for Galveston County was at the state and national level from 2017-2019, however, during the COVID Pandemic, unemployment had a sharp increase that was markedly higher than the state and national levels. Even in April 2021, the unemployment rate was higher than the state, national, and higher than Fort Bend County but not Brazoria County (6.8% and 7.6% respectively).

Unemployment Rate, Galveston County Texas 2017-2021

Report Area	April 2017	April 2018	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021
Galveston County, Texas	3.5%	4.4%	3.5%	15.2%	7.4%
Texas	4.2%	3.7%	3.1%	12.7%	6.3%
United States	4.2%	3.7%	3.4%	14.4%	5.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021.

Food Insecurity

According to Feeding America (2021), there are at least 46,810 persons in Galveston County who are classified as food insecure. Feeding America (2021) asserts that the annual food budget shortfall for 2019 was \$23,608,000.00.

Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure People in Galveston County

46% Above Other Nutrition Program Threshold of 185% Poverty

2% Between 165%-185% Poverty

52% Below SNAP Threshold of 165% Poverty
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*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

As with Brazoria and Fort Bend Counties, the COVID Pandemic has brought an economic recession. A consideration worth noting is that many people in the tourism and service industries lost jobs due to the pandemic. The loss of jobs and the ensuing economic recession brought about a surge in food insecurity. As with Brazoria and Fort Bend Counties, Feeding America (2021) predicts that the overall food insecurity rate for Galveston County did rise in 2020 and 2021.

Overall Food Insecurity Rate in Fort Bend County

Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2019 14.1%

Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2020 17.3%

Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2021 17.2%

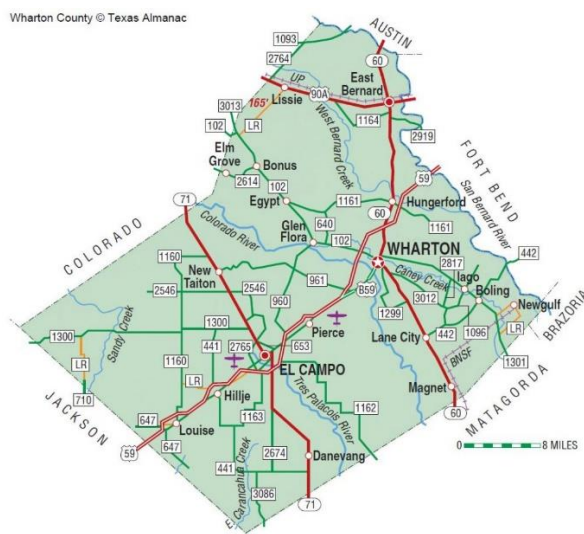
*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

Wharton County, Texas

Wharton County, Texas is located southwest of Houston on U.S. Highway 59 on the Coastal Plain of Southeast Texas at the coastal bend. According to the Texas State Historical Association (2021), this county was named for two brothers. It comprises 1,086 square miles, and it is divided by prairie and timber land. Wharton County is the 55th largest county in Texas, and livestock farming is the county's main agricultural staple. (Wharton County Texas Website, 2021) Cities located in Wharton County are Wharton (the county seat), El Campo, East Bernard, and Burr.

Wharton County Texas has an estimated population of 41,670 with a growth rate of .14% within the last year. (World Population Review, 2021) As previously mentioned, Wharton County is the 55th largest county in the state of Texas. Below is a map of Wharton County, Texas and a chart that shows the population growth since 2018:

Map of Wharton County, Texas



Map Source: Texas Almanac, 2021.

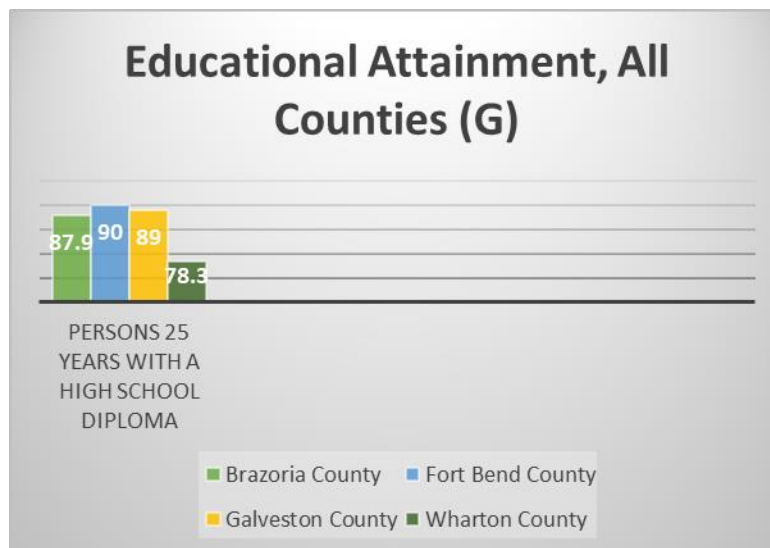
Wharton County, Texas Population Rate 2018-2021

Year	Population	Growth	Growth Rate
2021*	41,670	57	.14%
2020*	41,613	57	.14%
2019	41,556	57	.14%
2018	41,449	-338	-0.81%

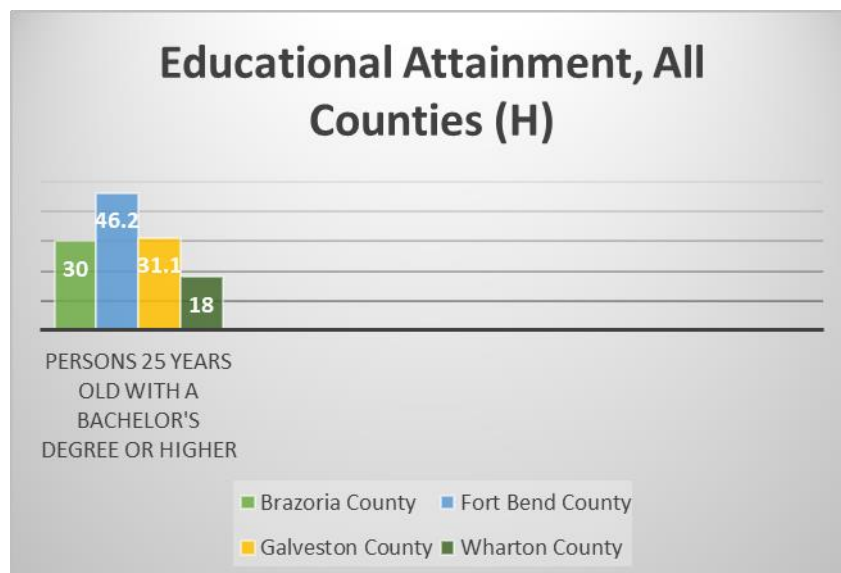
*This indicates that the data for these years is projected data.

Data Source: World Population Review, 2021.

According to the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), the majority of the population of Wharton County is comprised of persons who describe themselves as Anglo (83.8%), followed by Hispanic or Latino (42.6%). Black or African American (13.6%) and American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.8%) follow, with Asian (.6%) and Pacific Islander (0.1%) completing the county population makeup. In educational attainment, Wharton County has a significantly lower number of people who have completed high school, and who have completed college. As noted by the U. S. Census Quick Facts (2021), 78.3% of persons 25 years old and up have a high school diploma, and 18.0% of persons 25 years old and up have a bachelor's degree or higher.



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.



*Data Source: U.S. Census Quick Facts, 2021.

The Impact of Poverty and The COVID Pandemic on Wharton County

Poverty

According to the U. S. Census, the median household income between 2015-2019 is \$48,310.00 however, the percentage of persons in poverty in Wharton County is 16.4% (U. S. Census Quick Facts, 2021) It should be noted that the table below shows the poverty rate for Wharton County and the other counties mentioned in this report, along with the Texas poverty rate and the poverty rate of the United States.

Wharton County, Texas Poverty Rate 2018-2019
(Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston Counties along with Texas and U. S. Statistics)

Report Area	Persons in Poverty 2018	Population 2018	Poverty Rate 2018	Persons in Poverty 2019	Population 2019	Poverty Rate 2019
Brazoria County	24,487	368,887	10.3%	31,116	374,264	8.6%
Fort Bend County	61,455	788,081	7.9%	53,151	811,688	6.6%
Galveston County	40,109	337,858	12.1%	38,181	342,139	11.3%
Wharton County	6,909	41,449	16.8%	6,711	41,556	16.4%
Texas	3,870,944	N/A	14.9%	4,181,623	28,995,881	13.6%
United States	41,852,315	N/A	13.1%	39,490,096	328,239,523	12.3%

*Data Sources: U. S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, 2019.
U. S. Census Bureau, Quick Facts, Population Count 2019, 2021.
World Population Review, 2021.

In comparing all of the poverty rates in comparison to the number of persons in each county's population, all counties have a high poverty rate, however, Wharton and Galveston County's poverty rate is significantly higher than Fort Bend and Brazoria. Wharton's poverty rate is higher than the state and the national average. It is worth noting that Fort Bend County is the most populous county in this area, followed by Brazoria, Galveston, and Wharton Counties.

Wharton County appears to be consumed by poverty. According to the American Community Survey (2021), there are more females in poverty than males. Unfortunately, the poverty levels for both genders surpass the state and national averages. In Wharton County, there are more female headed households in poverty followed by married couple headed households and lastly, male headed households.

Population in Poverty by Gender in Wharton County, Texas

Report Area	Male	Female	Male, Percent	Female, Percent
Wharton County, Texas	3,091	4,121	15.47%	19.62%
Texas	1,816,876	2,255,318	13.34%	16.09%
United States	18,909,451	23,601,392	12.19%	14.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Families in Wharton County, Texas in Poverty 5 Year Estimates 2015-2019

Report Area	Total Families	Families in Poverty Total	Families in Poverty Married Couples	Families in Poverty Male Householder	Families in Poverty Female Householder
Wharton County, Texas	10,555	1,510	531	138	841
Texas	6,712,183	759,269	307,767	66,704	384,798
United States	79,114,031	7,541,196	2,764,595	803,863	3,972,738

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Again, children and seniors over 65 in Wharton County are also impacted by the ravages of poverty. Children ages 0-17 are above the state and national averages for poverty. This trend is also true in regards to the gender differences. Unfortunately, seniors in poverty in Wharton County surpass the national and state average as a group and by gender. The following tables show the number of children in poverty and seniors in poverty.

Child Poverty Rate Ages 0-17, Wharton County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Poverty Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2000	Poverty Age 0-17 2019	Poverty Rate Age 0-17 2019
Wharton County, Texas	1,630	19.3%	1,604	20.6%
Texas	2,475,255	20.7%	2,802,390	19.2%
United States	34,757,074	16.2%	35,996,680	16.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Children in Poverty by Gender, Age 0-19, Wharton County, Texas 5 Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Wharton County, Texas	1,439	1,332	26.70%	25.08%
Texas	776,781	740,204	21.02%	20.81%
United States	6,799,287	6,578,491	18.43%	18.61%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Seniors in Poverty, Ages 65 and up, Wharton County, Texas 5-Year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Ages 65 and Up Total Population	Ages 65 and Up in Poverty	Ages 65 and Up Poverty Rate
Wharton County, Texas	6,770	894	13.2%
Texas	3,377,357	359,396	10.6%
United States	49,488,799	4,587,432	9.3%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Poverty By Gender, Age 65 and up, Wharton County, Texas 5-year Data (2015-2019)

Report Area	Total Male	Total Female	Percent Male	Percent Female
Wharton County, Texas	252	642	8.32%	17.16%
Texas	135,431	223,965	8.96%	12.00%
United States	1,656,650	2,930,782	7.51%	10.68%

*Data Source: U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2015-2019 (2021).

Causes and Conditions of Poverty in Wharton County

There could be various causes and conditions of poverty in Wharton County. The issues here are similar to Brazoria County. Some of the most prevalent are as follows:

A condition of poverty in Wharton County may arise from the fact that Wharton County is a rural county, more so than Brazoria County. As with Brazoria, many good jobs are located outside of Wharton County (Fort Bend, Harris Counties). Again, a major concern stated in the client focus group was that, “many of the good jobs are not located in our area”. An interesting fact to note is that according to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), sixty percent of Wharton County residents travel from 30 minutes to one hour for work. This is twenty percent less than Brazoria County, but it is still significant in that it may mean that forty percent of the residents in Wharton County have low paying jobs within the county.

Educational access and high school completion could also be noted as a cause and a condition of poverty in Wharton County. According to U. S. Census data (2021), eighteen percent of Wharton County residents do not have a high school diploma, and only eighteen percent have a college degree. Again, this may indicate that those traveling outside of the county to the better paying jobs in other counties are persons with college degrees, and those with less than a high school education may be employed with lower paying jobs in the county, however, the numbers traveling outside of the county may be significantly less. In this case, traveling within the county as well as outside of the county is a barrier or a cause of poverty, as many folks have issues getting around this largely rural area. A person in the client focus group readily agreed with the person who stated, “We need good transportation to get to work.

Similar to Brazoria County, homes that are unsafe and unsanitary could be considered a major condition that contributes to poverty in Wharton County. Interesting data shows that according to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), there were 202 units without plumbing in 2019. Something to remember is that there are fewer people living in Wharton County, as it is more rural than the other counties. Again, the causes could be attributed to this condition are Hurricane Harvey (2017) and Winter Storm Uri (2021).

According to the U. S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (2021), homes in Wharton County are around forty-four years old. This could account for a comment by a client during the client focus forum which is as follows, “Homes in Wharton County are old, and they need to be brought up to standard in regards to plumbing.”

Cost of living is another condition of poverty in all of the four counties, but in Wharton County, affordable housing is a condition that is needed. As a client in the client focus group stated, “Many people are living in homes with leaking roofs and mold because they have nowhere to go.” As in the other counties, some people are still living in temporary housing due to Hurricane Harvey and Winter Storm Uri. As a client in the client focus group contended, “Many folks in Brazoria and Wharton Counties are in motel rooms from Harvey. Homes before Harvey were paid for, they cannot live in them, now they are paying for motel and hotel rooms. Rent has gone up and renters are not able to live.”

Household Income and Employment

The U. S. Census Bureau Quick Facts (2021) reports that the median household income for Wharton County between 2015 and 2019 is \$48,310.00. This is far below the median household income for the United States as a whole (\$62,843.00), the state of Texas (\$61,874.00), and it is far below the three other counties (Fort Bend, \$97,743.00; Brazoria, \$81,447.00; Galveston, \$73,330.00). Some considerations that are worth noting are that whereas Brazoria County is known for agriculture, rice farming, and cattle production, and Fort Bend County is one of the fastest growing regions in terms of commercial development, and Galveston County is best known for jobs in the medical field (University of Texas Medical Branch), aeronautics (NASA), and the tourism industry, Wharton is known for livestock agriculture. (Brazoria County Texas Website, 2021; Fort Bend County Website, 2021; County of Galveston Website, 2021; Wharton County Website, 2021) It is also worth noting that the educational attainment in Wharton County is much lower than the three other counties in both areas. Also, worth noting is that the population count is much lower in Wharton than the other three counties, thus, this could account for the lower unemployment rate in Wharton County. During the height of the COVID Pandemic, the unemployment rate in Wharton was significantly lower than the neighboring counties.

Unemployment Rate, Wharton County Texas 2017-2021

Report Area	April 2017	April 2018	April 2019	April 2020	April 2021
Wharton County, Texas	4.4%	3.5%	2.9%	9.2%	6.4%
Texas	4.2%	3.7%	3.1%	12.7%	6.3%
United States	4.2%	3.7%	3.4%	14.4%	5.8%

*Data Source: U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021.

Food Insecurity

According to Feeding America (2021), there are at least 6,200 persons in Wharton County who are classified as food insecure. Feeding America (2021) asserts that the annual food budget shortfall for 2019 was \$2,725,000.00.

Estimated Program Eligibility Among Food Insecure People in Wharton County
20% Above Other Nutrition Program Threshold of 185% Poverty
3% Between 165%-185% Poverty
77% Below SNAP Threshold of 165% Poverty

*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

The COVID Pandemic has brought an economic recession throughout the United States. A consideration worth noting is that Wharton County's economy relies on livestock. Many people have just a high school diploma. This may indicate that the majority of jobs come from livestock, and possibly the service industry, and of course, these areas were hard hit with job loss. The loss of jobs and the ensuing economic recession brought about a surge in food insecurity. As with the aforementioned counties, Feeding America (2021) predicts that the overall food insecurity rate for Wharton County will rise in 2020 and 2021.

Overall Food Insecurity Rate in Wharton County
Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2019 14.9%
Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2020 17.4%
Projected Overall Food Insecurity Rate 2021 17.6%

*Data Source: Feeding America Website, 2021.

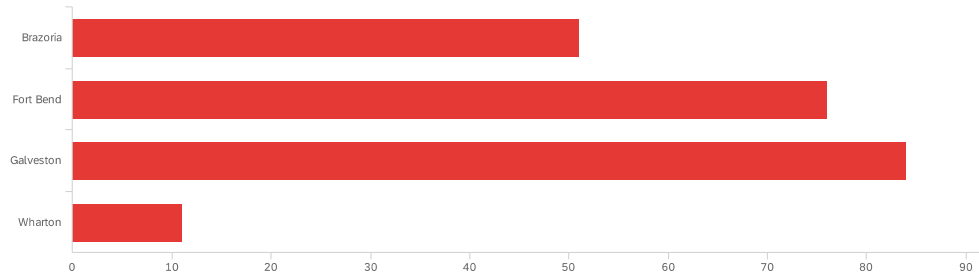
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Default Report

Client Needs Analysis

July 21, 2021 11:22 PM MDT

Q2 - What county do you live in? Our services are limited to these four counties:



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What county do you live in? Our services are limited to these four counties:	1.00	4.00	2.25	0.86	0.74	222

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Brazoria	22.97% 51
2	Fort Bend	34.23% 76
3	Galveston	37.84% 84
4	Wharton	4.95% 11

222

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

Q3 - What city do you live in?

What city do you live in?

Richmond

Lake Jackson

Freeport Texas

Clute

Freeport

Freeport

Brazoria

Galveston

Freeport

Galveston

Houston

Texas city

Missouri City

Texas City

League City

Sugar Land

sugarland

lake jackson

Galveston

Lake Jackson

Freeport

League City

What city do you live in?

MissouriCity

Freeport

Alvin

Galveston

Lake Jackson

LaMarque

Freeport TX

Freeport TX

Freeport

Freeport

Galveston

Pearland

Clute

Sugar Land

Sugar Land

League City

Texas City

houston

Houston

Sugar Land

Texas city

Rosenberg

Richmond

Freeport

What city do you live in?

Rosharon

Lamarque

Texas City

Dickinson

Alvin Tx

Wharton

Sugar Land

Hitchcock

Katy

Missouri City

Galveston

Katy

Texas City

Richmond

houston

Richmond

Texas City

Texas

League city

Galveston

Rosenberg

Missouri City

El Campo

Hitchcock

What city do you live in?

Katy

El Campo

Galveston

Houston

Stafford

Hitchcock

san leon

Galveston

Missouri City

El Campo

Sweeny

League City

Richmond

Needville

Galveston

Pearland

Dickinson

Galveston

Sugar Land

Freeport

Texas city

Freeport

Freeport

Freeport

What city do you live in?

Freeport

Freeport

Sugarland

Galveston

LaMarque

Pay my bills water and light

Missouri city

Sugar land tx

Missouri City

Missouri city

Galveston

Galveston

Needville

Clute

Missouri city

Alvin

El Campo

San Leon

Clute

Stafford

Dickinson

Richmond

Missouri City

Pearland

What city do you live in?

Richmond

El Campo

SUGAR LAND

Lake Jackson

Texas City

Richwood

Hitchcock

MISSOURI CITY

Alvin Tx

Alvin Tx

Rosenberg

Wharton

Sugar Land

Rosenberg

Kemah

Dickinson

Galveston

League City

Freeport

Freeport

League City

El Campo

Houston

Rosenberg

What city do you live in?

wharton

Katy

Texas City

stafford

Fort bend

Rosenberg

SAN LEON

Sugar Land

Sugar Land

Missouri City

Hitchcock

Galveston

Galveston

League City

La Marque

Missouri City

Galveston

Pearland

Richmond

Missouri city

Galveston

Stafford

houston

La Marque

What city do you live in?

Houston

Galveston

Houston

Dickinson

Missouri City Tx 77489

Texas City

Rosenberg

Galveston

Katy

Angleton

Dickinson

Richmond

Rosenberg

Galveston

San Leon

Freeport

Rosenberg

Lake Jackson

Texas city

Missouri City

Richmond

What city do you live in?

Richmond

What city do you live in?

Lake Jackson

Freeport Texas

Clute

Freeport

Freeport

Brazoria

Galveston

Freeport

Galveston

Houston

Texas city

Missouri City

Texas City

League City

Sugar Land

sugarland

lake jackson

Galveston

Lake Jackson

Freeport

League City

Texas City

Galveston

Galveston

What city do you live in?

Galveston

Galveston

Texas City

Texas City

Angleton

Angleton

Angleton

Galveston

San Leon

Galveston

Texas City

sugar land

Dickinson

League City

Dickinson

Missouri City

Alvin

Wharton

Texas city

Houston

League city

MissouriCity

Freeport

Alvin

What city do you live in?

Galveston

Lake Jackson

LaMarque

Freeport TX

Freeport TX

Freeport

Freeport

Galveston

Pearland

Clute

Sugar Land

Sugar Land

League City

Texas City

houston

Houston

Sugar Land

Texas city

Rosenberg

Richmond

Freeport

Rosharon

Lamarque

Texas City

What city do you live in?

Dickinson

Alvin Tx

Wharton

Sugar Land

Hitchcock

Katy

Missouri City

Galveston

Katy

Texas City

Richmond

houston

Richmond

Texas City

Texas

League city

Galveston

Rosenberg

Missouri City

El Campo

Hitchcock

Katy

El Campo

Galveston

What city do you live in?

Houston

Stafford

Hitchcock

san leon

Galveston

Missouri City

El Campo

Sweeny

League City

Richmond

Needville

Galveston

Pearland

Dickinson

Galveston

Sugar Land

Freeport

Texas city

Freeport

Freeport

Freeport

Freeport

Freeport

Sugarland

What city do you live in?

Galveston

LaMarque

Pay my bills water and light

Missouri city

Sugar land tx

Missouri City

Missouri city

Galveston

Galveston

Needville

Clute

Missouri city

Alvin

El Campo

San Leon

Clute

Stafford

Dickinson

Richmond

Missouri City

Pearland

Richmond

El Campo

SUGAR LAND

What city do you live in?

Lake Jackson

Texas City

Richwood

Hitchcock

MISSOURI CITY

Alvin Tx

Alvin Tx

Rosenberg

Wharton

Sugar Land

Rosenberg

Kemah

Dickinson

Galveston

League City

Freeport

Freeport

League City

El Campo

Houston

Rosenberg

wharton

Katy

Texas City

What city do you live in?

stafford

Fort bend

Rosenberg

SAN LEON

Sugar Land

Sugar Land

Missouri City

Hitchcock

Galveston

Galveston

League City

La Marque

Missouri City

Galveston

Pearland

Richmond

Missouri city

Galveston

Stafford

houston

La Marque

Houston

Galveston

Houston

What city do you live in?

Texas City

Galveston

Galveston

Galveston

Galveston

Texas City

Texas City

Angleton

Angleton

Angleton

Galveston

San Leon

Galveston

Texas City

sugar land

Dickinson

League City

Dickinson

Missouri City

Alvin

Wharton

Texas city

Houston

League city

What city do you live in?

Dickinson

Missouri City Tx 77489

Texas City

Rosenberg

Galveston

Katy

Angleton

Dickinson

Richmond

Rosenberg

Galveston

San Leon

Freeport

Rosenberg

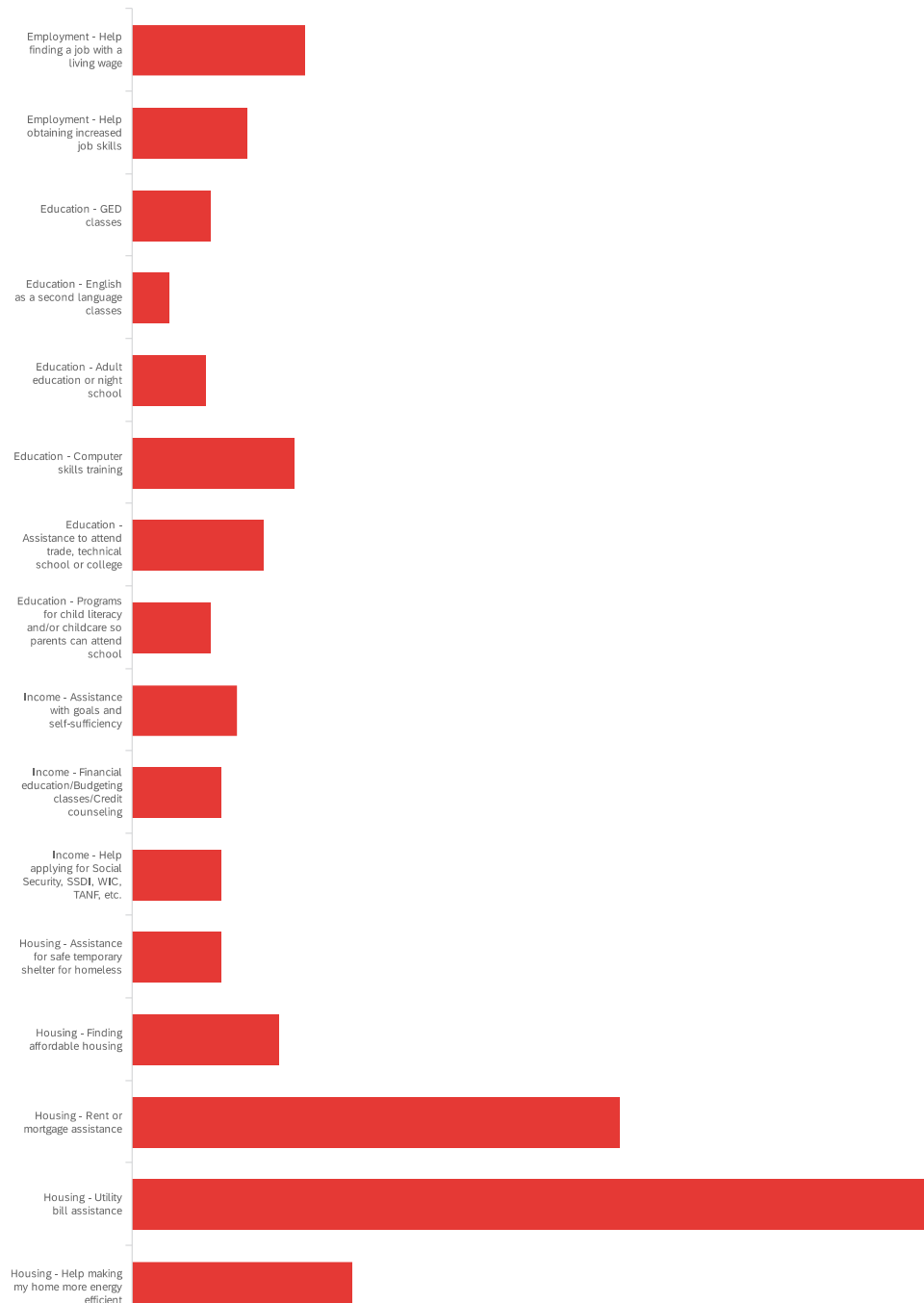
Lake Jackson

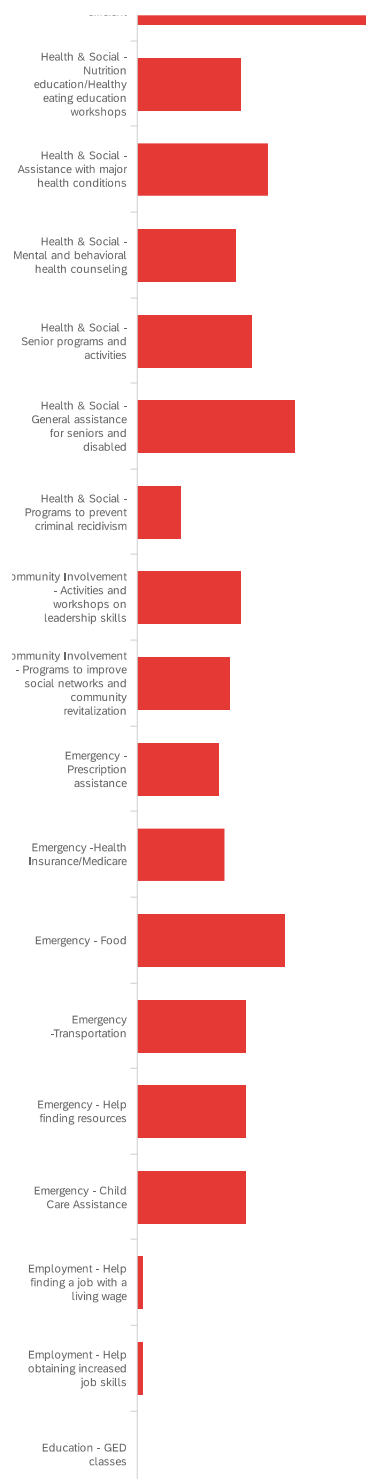
Texas city

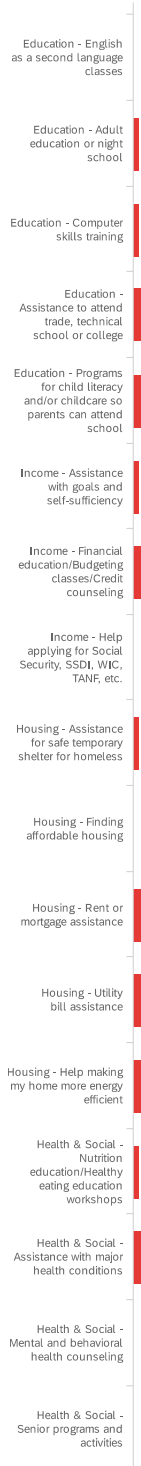
Missouri City

Richmond

Q4 - Please select services that you are currently in need of:









#	Field	Choice Count
1	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	3.85% 33
2	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	2.56% 22
3	Education - GED classes	1.75% 15
4	Education - English as a second language classes	0.82% 7
5	Education - Adult education or night school	1.63% 14
6	Education - Computer skills training	3.61% 31
7	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	2.91% 25
8	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	1.75% 15
9	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	2.33% 20
10	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	1.98% 17

#	Field	Choice Count
11	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	1.98% 17
12	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	1.98% 17
13	Housing - Finding affordable housing	3.26% 28
14	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	10.84% 93
15	Housing - Utility bill assistance	17.83% 153
16	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	4.90% 42
17	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	2.21% 19
18	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	2.80% 24
19	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	2.10% 18
20	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	2.45% 21
21	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	3.38% 29
22	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	0.93% 8
23	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	2.21% 19
24	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	1.98% 17
25	Emergency - Prescription assistance	1.75% 15
26	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	1.86% 16
27	Emergency - Food	3.15% 27
28	Emergency -Transportation	2.33% 20
29	Emergency - Help finding resources	2.33% 20
30	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	2.33% 20
31	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	0.12% 1
32	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	0.12% 1
33	Education - GED classes	0.00% 0
34	Education - English as a second language classes	0.00% 0
35	Education - Adult education or night school	0.12% 1
36	Education - Computer skills training	0.12% 1
37	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	0.23% 2
38	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	0.23% 2
39	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	0.12% 1

#	Field	Choice Count
40	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	0.23% 2
41	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	0.00% 0
42	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	0.12% 1
43	Housing - Finding affordable housing	0.00% 0
44	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	0.23% 2
45	Housing - Utility bill assistance	0.35% 3
46	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	0.23% 2
47	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	0.12% 1
48	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	0.23% 2
49	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	0.00% 0
50	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	0.00% 0
51	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	0.12% 1
52	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	0.12% 1
53	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	0.23% 2
54	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	0.00% 0
55	Emergency - Prescription assistance	0.23% 2
56	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	0.23% 2
57	Emergency - Food	0.23% 2
58	Emergency -Transportation	0.12% 1
59	Emergency - Help finding resources	0.23% 2
60	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	0.12% 1

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Showing rows 1 - 61 of 61

Q5 - Rank your expressed needs below



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	1.00	15.00	2.95	3.22	10.37	19
2	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	1.00	7.00	3.85	2.07	4.28	13
3	Education - GED classes	2.00	8.00	5.33	2.13	4.56	6
4	Education - English as a second language classes	6.00	8.00	7.25	0.83	0.69	4
5	Education - Adult education or night school	1.00	9.00	4.67	2.91	8.44	9
6	Education - Computer skills training	1.00	10.00	4.17	2.89	8.36	18
7	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	1.00	11.00	4.65	2.97	8.82	17
8	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	1.00	12.00	7.56	3.06	9.36	9
9	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	2.00	13.00	5.83	3.39	11.47	12
10	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	2.00	14.00	7.71	4.10	16.78	7
11	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	1.00	15.00	6.56	4.72	22.25	9
12	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	1.00	13.00	5.38	3.65	13.31	13
13	Housing - Finding affordable housing	1.00	14.00	4.35	4.03	16.23	17
14	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	1.00	11.00	2.83	2.59	6.69	36
15	Housing - Utility bill assistance	1.00	15.00	3.49	2.95	8.71	43
16	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	1.00	16.00	5.85	4.36	18.98	26
17	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	5.00	17.00	10.00	3.87	15.00	12

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
18	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	2.00	18.00	7.85	5.29	27.98	13
19	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	2.00	19.00	9.00	5.48	30.00	14
20	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	3.00	20.00	11.09	5.66	32.08	11
21	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	1.00	21.00	8.17	6.34	40.14	12
22	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	7.00	23.00	17.80	5.71	32.56	5
23	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	1.00	24.00	14.45	6.36	40.43	11
24	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	2.00	24.00	11.90	6.95	48.29	10
25	Emergency - Prescription assistance	4.00	25.00	15.83	7.10	50.47	6
26	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	3.00	26.00	14.25	6.92	47.94	8
27	Emergency - Food	1.00	27.00	9.00	7.45	55.53	17
28	Emergency -Transportation	4.00	28.00	12.92	7.52	56.53	13
29	Emergency - Help finding resources	6.00	29.00	14.08	6.74	45.46	13
30	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	2.00	30.00	13.75	7.71	59.52	12
31	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
32	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
33	Education - GED classes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
34	Education - English as a second language classes	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
35	Education - Adult education or night school	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
36	Education - Computer skills training	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
37	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
38	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
39	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
40	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count		
41	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
42	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
43	Housing - Finding affordable housing	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
44	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
45	Housing - Utility bill assistance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
46	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
47	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
48	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
49	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
50	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
51	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
52	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
53	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
54	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
55	Emergency - Prescription assistance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
56	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
57	Emergency - Food	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
58	Emergency -Transportation	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
59	Emergency - Help finding resources	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
60	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0		
#	Field	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

#	Field	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		€
1	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	47.37%	9	10.53%	2	15.79%	3	10.53%	2	5.26%	1	5.26%	1	0.00%	0	0.00
2	Emergency - Food	5.88%	1	5.88%	1	11.76%	2	5.88%	1	17.65%	3	11.76%	2	0.00%	0	5.88
3	Emergency - Transportation	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	7.69%	1	23.08%	3	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
4	Emergency - Help finding resources	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	15.38%	2	0.00%	0	0.00
5	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	0.00%	0	8.33%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	8.33%	1	8.33%	1	0.00%	0	0.00
6	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	12.50%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	12.50
7	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
8	Education - GED classes	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
9	Education - English as a second language classes	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
10	Education - Adult education or night school	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
11	Education - Computer skills training	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
12	Emergency - Prescription assistance	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	16.67%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
13	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
14	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	0.00%	0	10.00%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	10.00%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	20.00
15	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00

#	Field	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		€
16	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	9.09%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	9.09
17	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
18	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	20.00%	1	0.00
19	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
20	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	8.33%	1	16.67%	2	0.00%	0	8.33%	1	8.33%	1	0.00%	0	25.00%	3	8.33
21	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
22	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	9.09%	1	9.09%	1	0.00%	0	18.18%	2	9.09%	1	0.00
23	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
24	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	0.00%	0	7.14%	1	7.14%	1	14.29%	2	14.29%	2	7.14%	1	7.14%	1	0.00
25	Housing - Finding affordable housing	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
26	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	0.00%	0	7.69%	1	23.08%	3	7.69%	1	15.38%	2	7.69%	1	0.00%	0	0.00
27	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
28	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	25.00%	3	0.00%	0	16.67%	2	0.00
29	Housing - Utility bill assistance	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
30	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	15.38%	4	3.85%	1	11.54%	3	23.08%	6	11.54%	3	3.85%	1	3.85%	1	3.85

#	Field	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		€
31	Housing - Help making my home more energy efficient	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
32	Housing - Utility bill assistance	18.60%	8	27.91%	12	20.93%	9	13.95%	6	6.98%	3	2.33%	1	0.00%	0	2.33
33	Health & Social - Nutrition education/Healthy eating education workshops	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
34	Housing - Rent or mortgage assistance	44.44%	16	19.44%	7	11.11%	4	5.56%	2	5.56%	2	0.00%	0	8.33%	3	0.00
35	Health & Social - Assistance with major health conditions	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
36	Housing - Finding affordable housing	29.41%	5	11.76%	2	23.53%	4	11.76%	2	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
37	Health & Social - Mental and behavioral health counseling	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
38	Housing - Assistance for safe temporary shelter for homeless	7.69%	1	23.08%	3	15.38%	2	7.69%	1	0.00%	0	15.38%	2	0.00%	0	0.00
39	Health & Social - Senior programs and activities	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
40	Income - Help applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.	11.11%	1	33.33%	3	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	22.22
41	Health & Social - General assistance for seniors and disabled	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
42	Income - Financial education/Budgeting classes/Credit counseling	0.00%	0	14.29%	1	14.29%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	14.29%	1	0.00%	0	14.29
43	Health & Social - Programs to prevent criminal recidivism	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
44	Income - Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency	0.00%	0	8.33%	1	25.00%	3	25.00%	3	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	8.33%	1	16.67
45	Community Involvement - Activities and workshops on leadership skills	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00

#	Field	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		€
46	Education - Programs for child literacy and/or childcare so parents can attend school	11.11%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	22.22%	2	22.22%	2	0.00
47	Community Involvement - Programs to improve social networks and community revitalization	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
48	Education - Assistance to attend trade, technical school or college	11.76%	2	17.65%	3	17.65%	3	5.88%	1	17.65%	3	5.88%	1	0.00%	0	11.76
49	Emergency - Prescription assistance	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
50	Education - Computer skills training	16.67%	3	22.22%	4	5.56%	1	27.78%	5	5.56%	1	0.00%	0	5.56%	1	0.00
51	Emergency -Health Insurance/Medicare	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
52	Education - Adult education or night school	22.22%	2	0.00%	0	22.22%	2	11.11%	1	11.11%	1	0.00%	0	11.11%	1	0.00
53	Emergency - Food	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
54	Education - English as a second language classes	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	25.00%	1	25.00%	1	50.00
55	Emergency - Transportation	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
56	Education - GED classes	0.00%	0	16.67%	1	16.67%	1	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	33.33%	2	16.67%	1	16.67
57	Emergency - Help finding resources	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
58	Employment - Help obtaining increased job skills	7.69%	1	38.46%	5	0.00%	0	15.38%	2	7.69%	1	15.38%	2	15.38%	2	0.00
59	Emergency - Child Care Assistance	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00
60	Employment - Help finding a job with a living wage	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00

Showing rows 1 - 60 of 60

Q7 - Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for services

here: <https://www.gccac.org/application> Please feel free to leave an additional comments

or questions for or about services you have received from GCCAC previously below

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

Lights

Lights was paid now I have a notice water will be turn off in 24 hrs

I still haven't heard from you guys about assistance. I left all information that was needed with the application and I haven't heard from GCCAC if I was approved for help or not

I have gotten help before with my lights, and I need help again with them and with my gas also, I sent a email earlier on them requesting help and didn't get any answers. Thank you all for helping me before.

GCCAC is wonderful program, the staff was very nice. I really appreciate your help

Utility bil

It has been a great help with my Electric Bill in the past and I would like to ask for help again in the future

I have submitted an application several months ago

Very helpful

Iui

Thank you

It's good to be able to get assistance here, I don't have sufficient income or transportation. It's hard but with your help it's much better.

I have already filed an application and have not gotten a response other than we have your application and we are very busy.

I have received help with my electric bill and waiting on help with my gas bill

Had previous help with electric until funding was cut off.

What a failure of an agency! Unbelievable low intelligence in hiring the bottom of the barrel staff. Reported to the TDHCA staff

Employees are mean spirited and incredibly rude. Trifling and so lazy. Zero follow up. Have to keep calling and emailing without resolution. Reported to the State of Texas many times

GCCAC has the absolute laziest and rudest employees. They sound illiterate and ghetto on the phone. I hope another agency gets the contract to provide services

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

Thank you It help a lot

Application submitted In April. I have called several times and was told they will get with me at some point. I really need help with paying my Rent

Thank you for your offer

I thank y'all for y'all do to help people like me. Be blessed

I received help with my light bill & it was a tremendous help for me on a fixed income,,I'm on social security but unable to do any light work to help maintain

I want thank GCCAC for all the rental assistance that they helped me with so very helpful in the times I needed help so very satisfied with all they have done thank you again Edna Gonzales

This is my second time doing this survey

Greetings. Will do. Thank you for your support... I really appreciate your team, so much.

I am relieving help for light bill at this time. it would be helpful to have windows & doors sealed.& attic insulation.

NONE, NEVER HAVE EVEN GOTTEN A CALL FREOM THIS AGENCY

I have filled out an application for utility assistance and was referred to Baker Ripley which I have filled an application with them. I ask for assistance for making my home more energy efficient, but I have not heard from anyone yet

I submitted my application dince 02-22-2021. Got assistance with the electric n gas. But i have not heard anything on the rent. Real appreciate if someone contact me thank you Leticia Garcia 216 Mellon st Richmond TX 77469

very cooperative and quick response

Thank you

Lights

I really need help paying my utility bills.

I mailed in application for help already

I don't have birth certificates I don't know what happened to them I need them to apply

too slow

I think I have filled out application! Took it to Wharton a few months back. Put it in a box because they were not seeing anyone

GCCAC has helped my family tremendously during COVID. My son has a degenerative disease that requires monthly infusions, because of his illness he has no immune system. He was required to do school 100% from home. During the pandemic I lost my job, and was going through a divorce. Everything that could go wrong was going wrong. We received a great amount of support from GCCAC. Unfortunately, the landlord ending up selling the house, but the help we received helped us stay through the holidays. We are grateful for the kindness and attentiveness we received throughout the whole process.

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

I have already submitted an application on January 12, 2021. I have received assistance before and was very satisfied. I have also responded to this feedback survey several time before. Please advise the status of my application. Thanking you in advance.

This year, I submitted the complete application. It's been gone through the previous agent. But when it reached Ms Edna, she said missed something. I submitted to her the missing documents. I emailed her if she got the message, she said she had got it. Then after that, I emailed her, called her left messages, she never responded. I also talked to her assistant, she said there was a letter mailed to me asking for the missing documents, which was totally a lie. I never received any letter from her and I sent the missing documents to her long time ago. She just refused to help me until it delayed. Application reached to her in February. She delayed it for several months. She needs to be known as a very unprofessional and unhelpful agent.

I AM CURRENTLY YOUR CLIENT AND WAS ALREADY APPROVED AND WAS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE WHEN YOU SENT ME AN EMAIL INFORMING ME THAT YOU HAD LOST YOUR FUNDING WOULD NO LONGER BE HELPING ME!

The previous services were very helpful and appreciated thanks

No response from you

Need to be better in communication, keep us updated on the status or if you need more information instead of us waiting not knowing what's the next step. There was no communication from GCAAA

A great service was done for my electric service. No choice I now have a car note; has put me in a bind. I don't make very much SS income & what bills I have to pay, leaves me \$50. for rest of month.

I thank God for the help of GCCAC

Thank you for your help and kindness during this difficult time for me.

I need the ladie in ext 1009 to call me back please

Need to get better on call back calls!

I have already applied and I've received email stating you are not handling this anymore and a new company is taking over , please call 773-681-2104

i applied for assistance this year and I haven't received any response.

GCCA help me last year with rent and light bill and I am very grateful. The one thing that could use improvement is the amount of time it takes to get responses from case workers

GCCAC has helped me with rent in the past and was a life saver!

I didn't apply again sooner because I thought since I was already helped that I couldn't get help again but I will apply again.

Already filled out application last year. Told I was in line, and that's all that they could tell me.

My name is William Zhang. I am disabled. I have very low income and always got utilities assistance. This year after I submitted the complete documents. My case manager said 2 are missing. I emailed her the missing documents right away. She told me to wait. I waited for a long time. Meanwhile, I tried to contact her by email her and calling her and leaving messages even to her co-workers for many times. She just stopped responding me. I did my best. She never responded. And I heard her coworker or assistant said she sent a letter request missing documents a while ago. Which is totally not true. I sent her the missing documents almost 6, 7 times. She should have received them long time ago. So that this year I don't have the utilities assistance. I am facing a very difficult financial hardship.

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

I have had my completed application and supporting documents submitted to you all three months ago. I am still waiting to receive any help at all. I applied for energy assistance and rent assistance.

This was completed in January and I still haven't received a response from you

The GCCAC Organization has been a blessing to me time and time and again. They have helped keep my lights on for 2 years straight. They have also helped me pay 2 months of rent for 2 years. I'm ever SOOOOOO grateful for the organization. You see my income is a disability check and the amount of my monthly check is \$1309.00. My rent alone is \$1390.00 without water, sewer, and trash. The GCCAC Organization helped relieve SOOOOOO stress and anxiety for for those 2 years. I've been here at this apartment complex since Hurricane Harvey. They are the only ones who let me move in after living in a motel in Houston for 10 months. I was supposed to move back to Houston in a cheaper apartment in March 2020 but do to COVID-19 my move was canceled. So I've had to renew my lease a second time.

I faxed my application since 02-22-2021, i got the pledges for electricity n gas. But i have not heard from no one on the rent i am behind 2 months. I emailed n called left messages n no one has gotten with me leticia-garcia 832-692-9150 216 Mellon st Richmond TX 77469

I had filled out an application a few months back and left it in Wharton in the box because they were not seeing anyone. Have not heard back. Call me at 979-616-7274. Barbara Rod

I HAVE COMPLETED THE APPLICATION IN 01/2021 BUT STILL I AM NOT APPROVED.WE BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE AGED DISABLED AND ARE ON SSI

Recieving help with utilities, thankkkful for assistance.

I'm so very thankful for all the assistance that Brazoria Community Actions has Helped us they were so understanding with our situation and got plenty of help and assistance Thank you very much

Just thankful for organization's out there like Y'all to help those in need.

I sent in my application over 3 months ago and still haven't heard back from anyone regarding assistance. My family has helped to sustain me for these months to make sure I have my utility bills paid and not turned off. Please get back to me as soon as possible. Thank you!

GCCA has been a horrible experience

06

God bless you. Any help is appreciated.

Received assistance for electric. Most grateful.

Overall it was very helpful and came when it was most needed. please keep your support. Thanks

GCCAC personnel are rude and unprofessional. Poor follow up

Help with utilities

I filled my application in February in behalf of my mother Rebecca Jimenez as of today I have not heard back. I've called numerous times to no avail.

I AM PERMANENTLY DISABLED AND WAS APPROVED FOR SERVICES IN 2/21. I RECEIVED A PAYMENT SCHEDULE IN THE MAIL. ON 6/21/21 I RECEIVED AN EMAIL NOTIFYING ME THAT THEIR FUNDING HAD BEEN SUSPENDED AND TO CONTACT BAKER RIPLEY.THIS IS TERRIFYING TO HAVE MY UTILITY SECURITY RIPPED FROM ME.

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

Difficulty in receive application response. Personnel change frequently with no notification. Very difficulty to communication through your phone system, leave message no response.....has to call State to help out.....

I filled an application in January 2021. I am still waiting to be approved. My funds has run out. I am 78 years old and can not visit and offices who help pay my bills due to Covid19. I am ringing your office regularly without any success.Each time I am told. you will hear from CASE WORKER soon Please help me.

I have applied for assitance and havent received anything.

I am a current Applicant

People are hurting we need help

I am needing help now for rent ... have already filled out application but case worker will not respond left over 10 message and emails still no response please help me

I have applied for three years now and never have gotten a call to even ask what I need help for

I have been in contact with two people so far about my case Edna swift & Marcia Randolph. both have been such a big help with utility assistance if I could get help with my water bill that would be great or my most concern is getting help with housing so I can live in a home with rent assistance or section 8 not sure what I need to do at this point. I appreciate all the help I receive I'm truly blessed. I am currently on the waiting list I believe.

I already submitted an application for services back in January. After taking forever to get started, I received one small check, noticed that payments had stopped and had to call to find out that you ran out of funding. You put people through a hell of a lot to get help, and then you let them down. It's exhausting.

I been waiting for someone to call me on my application for rent assistance my application was dax since 02-22-2021 my is Leticia Garcia 216 mellon st Richmond TX 832-692-9150. Please help me please

Lights

Was very satisfied with services I received but your funding ran out in JUNE so am seeking other resources-no luck so far.

CEAP adminstration by GCCAC SUCKS. Multiple complaints to the state of TX

waiting on a update from application

Y'all are great people and service I love yall

GCCAC has helped me before, forever grateful

I really appreciate y'all helping me Last year! But this year I was highly disappointed because I sent a application Thur email in January 2021 too times because the Lady said that she could not read it so I feel another application and took it to Rosenberg office left paper with Mr. Philip With to no response. Keep calling and still no response. I am in need of assistance with my light bill then I called again to be told that they where not doing Lights. I really need y'all Help I am disabled and have mother way of getting help. Can I resend my application? Thanks in advance!

This office is God sent. Everyone very helpful and pleasant to speak with.

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

I submitted my application in February of 2021. I called in May to get current status of my application. I was told that they never received my application and sent me to a person that handles the emails. I never received a call back. Continue to calls numerous times even ask for a supervisor to please call me and let me know what was going on. I never received a call back from not one person. As of June the 22 I resubmitted my application. I'm currently awaiting a response. It is now July and the summer months are upon us and I am disabled with an oxygen condenser. Thank you and I would appreciate any help on this matter.

I already did way back in february. I was already contacted that my application was approved and recieved electricity pledge but NOTHING was ever paid

I have apples twice was approved and my mortgage never got paid. I was at risk for losing my home!

Its a great service what it does for community

After I submitted all my documents no one ever reached out to me. I called several times and sometime the person who answered the phone was extremely rude and provided no assistance. I've complained about the person but never heard back from anyone

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

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I had filled out an application a few months back and left it in Wharton in the box because they were not seeing anyone. Have not heard back. Call me at 979-616-7274. Barbara Rod

I HAVE COMPLETED THE APPLICATION IN 01/2021 BUT STILL I AM NOT APPROVED.WE BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE ARE AGED DISABLED AND ARE ON SSI

Receiving help with utilities, thankful for assistance.

I'm so very thankful for all the assistance that Brazoria Community Actions has Helped us they were so understanding with our situation and got plenty of help and assistance Thank you very much

Just thankful for organization's out there like Y'all to help those in need.

I sent in my application over 3 months ago and still haven't heard back from anyone regarding assistance. My family has helped to sustain me for these months to make sure I have my utility bills paid and not turned off. Please get back to me as soon as possible. Thank you!

GCCA has been a horrible experience

06

God bless you. Any help is appreciated.

Received assistance for electric. Most grateful.

Overall it was very helpful and came when it was most needed. please keep your support. Thanks

GCCAC personnel are rude and unprofessional. Poor follow up

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

Help with utilities

I filled my application in February in behalf of my mother Rebecca Jimenez as of today I have not heard back. I've called numerous times to no avail.

I AM PERMANENTLY DISABLED AND WAS APPROVED FOR SERVICES IN 2/21. I RECEIVED A PAYMENT SCHEDULE IN THE MAIL. ON 6/21/21 I RECEIVED AN EMAIL NOTIFYING ME THAT THEIR FUNDING HAD BEEN SUSPENDED AND TO CONTACT BAKER RIPLEY. THIS IS TERRIFYING TO HAVE MY UTILITY SECURITY RIPPED FROM ME.

Difficulty in receive application response. Personnel change frequently with no notification. Very difficulty to communication through your phone system, leave message no response.....has to call State to help out.....

I filled an application in January 2021. I am still waiting to be approved. My funds has run out. I am 78 years old and can not visit and offices who help pay my bills due to Covid19. I am ringing your office regularly without any success. Each time I am told. you will hear from CASE WORKER soon Please help me.

I have applied for assistance and haven't received anything.

I am a current Applicant

People are hurting we need help

I am needing help now for rent ... have already filled out application but case worker will not respond left over 10 message and emails still no response please help me

I have applied for three years now and never have gotten a call to even ask what I need help for

I have been in contact with two people so far about my case Edna swift & Marcia Randolph. both have been such a big help with utility assistance if I could get help with my water bill that would be great or my most concern is getting help with housing so I can live in a home with rent assistance or section 8 not sure what I need to do at this point. I appreciate all the help I receive I'm truly blessed. I am currently on the waiting list I believe.

I already submitted an application for services back in January. After taking forever to get started, I received one small check, noticed that payments had stopped and had to call to find out that you ran out of funding. You put people through a hell of a lot to get help, and then you let them down. It's exhausting.

I been waiting for someone to call me on my application for rent assistance my application was dax since 02-22-2021 my is Leticia Garcia 216 mellon st Richmond TX 832-692-9150. Please help me please

Lights

Was very satisfied with services I received but your funding ran out in JUNE so am seeking other resources-no luck so far.

CEAP administration by GCCAC SUCKS. Multiple complaints to the state of TX

waiting on a update from application

Y'all are great people and service I love yall

GCCAC has helped me before, forever grateful

Based on your feedback we recommend that you fill our application for servi...

I really appreciate y'all helping me Last year! But this year I was highly disappointed because I sent a application Thur email in January 2021 too times because the Lady said that she could not read it so I feel another application and took it to Rosenberg office left paper with Mr. Philip With to no response. Keep calling and still no response. I am in need of assistance with my light bill then I called again to be told that they where not doing Lights. I really need y'all Help I am disabled and have mother way of getting help. Can I resend my application? Thanks in advance!

This office is God sent. Everyone very helpful and pleasant to speak with.

I submitted my application in February of 2021. I called in May to get current status of my application. I was told that they never received my application and sent me to a person that handles the emails. I never received a call back. Continue to calls numerous times even ask for a supervisor to please call me and let me know what was going on. I never received a call back from not one person. As of June the 22 I resubmitted my application. I'm currently awaiting a response. It is now July and the summer months are upon us and I am disabled with an oxygen condenser. Thank you and I would appreciate any help on this matter.

I already did way back in february. I was already contacted that my application was approved and recieved electricity pledge but NOTHING was ever paid

I have apples twice was approved and my mortgage never got paid. I was at risk for losing my home!

Its a great service what it does for community

After I submitted all my documents no one ever reached out to me. I called several times and sometime the person who answered the phone was extremely rude and provided no assistance. I've complained about the person but never heard back from anyone

End of Report

DISCUSSION

There are some concerns that have been identified by community members that are being addressed by GCCAC such as housing concerns (rent or mortgage assistance, utility assistance). The fix for these concerns is short term via our rental/mortgage/utility assistance programs. Several community members mentioned educational assistance, home weatherization assistance, senior citizen and disabled citizens assistance, and food assistance in their survey responses. Although there are various community agencies who help with the aforementioned (United Way, Catholic Charities, etc.), it may in this agency's best interest (as well as the best interest of the various communities that are served) to explore ways and various means of funding to service these needs.

When community members/clients noted the responses on the surveys, it may appear that that they were focused on only receiving aid for the immediate need (utility assistance, rental or mortgage assistance). To be noted, in the client focus group, needs were explained and clarified. Mortgages have risen, and the cost of living has risen due to environmental situations (Hurricane Ike, Hurricane Harvey, and Winter Storm Uri). Many persons were living in homes that may be in dire need of repair, and many are living in motels or hotels due to environmental situations. Thus, with the aforementioned quantitative and qualitative data from the clients and community members, it may appear that leaders and board members have other ideas regarding what is most important (for example, affordable child care, affordable drug program for seniors who do not have Medicare and or Medicaid), however, it appears that the immediate needs of the community members/clients fall under the all-encompassing needs that community leaders and board members have verbalized. This would indicate that indeed, the needs mentioned by all parties are the same.

When community members/clients come to GCCAC for assistance, at times, it appears that they are focused just on receiving aid for the immediate need (utility assistance, rental or mortgage assistance). It then becomes the job of case management to focus their questioning and conversations with community members/clients around whether or not the community member/client is in need of assistance so that they can transition out of poverty, or whether the assistance is just temporary, as they have hit a rough patch and the assistance is needed to get past the situation. Thus, it is imperative that case managers and all staff have thorough and continuous training so that they will know the various types of questions to ask in a kind and discreet manner.

GCCAC truly has the opportunity to become focused not just on immediate assistance, but continual assistance to help community members become more self-reliant. Thus, this tool can and will be used to identify more ways that this agency can be of service to the community.

LIMITATIONS OF ASSESSMENT

There are limitations to this assessment with the majority of those limitations center around the time frame in which the community needs survey was administered.

Ideally, the actual survey (questionnaire) should have a time duration of completion for a month, minimum. The agency completed the actual survey (questionnaire) in a two-week timeframe. With that being said, it is admirable that the survey generated 222 respondents throughout the four-county region.

Another factor to be considered was the community forums. A client focus group was held virtually, and a roundtable discussion/forum was conducted with staff members. Whereas the client focus group responses clarified survey responses, responses of the staff members mirrored what was said by the community leaders and board members, and what the respondents noted in the surveys (questionnaires).

Survey design was another factor, and this goes back to the initial timeframe that the survey was conducted in. The survey used was the sample survey from the TDHCA website, thus, it was not customized to specifically for the four-county region surveyed. It can be noted, however, that the survey was conducted via paper, and via two online platforms in English and in Spanish. Thus, because of these efforts, the agency was able to obtain the previously mentioned number of respondents.

The COVID Pandemic has made it difficult for all communities to function in a manner that works in the best interest of society. All communities have had to improvise, make do, and find other ways to resolve various issues that have arisen. One of the major issues with conducting this survey was that GCCAC's major community partners (United Way, Catholic Charities, etc.) did not have the foot traffic (clients) that they would have normally had to conduct the survey, as most entities were closed to in person assistance. Thus, GCCAC had to find innovative ways to garner survey respondents. GCCAC reached out to different community partners that did have foot traffic, and or access to possible respondents via internet or Zoom. The following partners were instrumental in assistance with the survey:

Housing Authority City of Galveston	Galveston, Texas
Wright Cuney Community Center	Galveston, Texas
New Jerusalem Baptist Church	Freeport, Texas
Temple Emanuel Christian Church	Galveston, Texas
NAACP Dickinson Bay Area Unit #6280	Dickinson, Texas
New Vision Baptist Church	Dickinson, Texas

First Emanuel Baptist Church

Freeport, Texas

The Gathering Place

Angleton, Texas

Lexington Square Apartments

Angleton, Texas

Finally, it must be noted that there have been numerous staff changes in this agency within the past three years, most notably, there have been three different program directors (Director of Neighborhood Services) since January of this year. This has impacted the outcome of this assessment, as there could have been more in the reporting. With this being said, the information gathered in the time frame that was gathered is impressive, and shall be used to make changes that will positively impact this four-county region.

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APPENDIX A

Community Needs

Community Needs Survey for Residents

Greater Coastal Community Action Council/Galveston County Community Action Council, Inc. would like your input to better serve you.

City and County where you live:				
Local Official	Client	Volunteer	Board Member	Resident
Other:				

Ranking needs from 1 to 5, 1 being the highest and 5 being the lowest

Domain/ Category	Needs	Select All Your Needs	Rank your top 5 needs from
<i>Employment</i>	Help finding a job with a living wage		
	Help obtaining increased job skills, job training in order to		
<i>Education</i>	GED classes		
	English as a Second Language Classes		
	Adult Education or Night School		
	Computer Skills Training		
	Assistance to attend trade or technical school, or college		
	Education programs for children to gain literacy skills and		
	Childcare so that parent can attend school		
<i>Income & Asset Building</i>	Assistance with goals and self-sufficiency		
	Financial Education/Budgeting Classes/Credit Counseling		
	Help with applying for Social Security, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.		
<i>Housing</i>	Assistance with safe temporary shelter for homeless		
	Affordable Housing		
	Help paying rent or mortgage		
	Help with utility bills		
	Help to make my home more energy efficient		
<i>Health and Social/ Behavioral Development</i>	Nutrition Education/Healthy Eating Education workshops		
	Assistance with major health conditions in your area (i.e.,		
	Mental and Behavioral Health Counseling or Classes		
	Programs and Activities for Seniors		
	Assistance for elderly and disabled and persons with chronic		
<i>Civic Engagement & Community Involvement</i>	Programs and activities to prevent criminal recidivism for		
	Programs, activities, workshops on leadership skills,		
	Activities and or programs to improve social networks and		
<i>Emergency Assistance</i>	Community Revitalization (such as neighborhood clean-up		
	Prescription Assistance		
	Health Insurance/Medical Care		
	Food		
	Transportation		
	Help finding resources in the community		
	Child Care Assistance		

Thank you for taking time to provide us your feedback.

APPENDIX B

Necesidades De La Comunidad

Encuesta De Necesidades De La Comunidad Para Residentes

Greater Coastal Community Action Council/Galveston County Community Action Council, Inc. quisiera que su opinión le sirviera mejor.

Ciudad y condado donde vive:	Funcionario Local	Cliente	Voluntario	Miembro de la Junta Directiva	Residente
Other:					

El ranking necesita de 1 a 5, siendo yo el más alto y 5 el más bajo

Dominio/ Control	Necesidades	Seleccione Todas Sus Necesidades	Clasifique sus 5 necesidades principales
Empleo	Ayuda para encontrar un trabajo con un salario digno		
	Ayuda a obtener mejores habilidades laborales		
Educación	Clases de GED		
	Clases de inglés como segundo idioma		
	Educación para adultos o escuela nocturna		
	Entrenamiento en la computadora		
	Asistencia para asistir a una escuela comercial, técnica o universitaria		
	Programas de alfabetización infantil y / o cuidado de niños para que los padres puedan asistir a la escuela		
Ingresos	Ayuda con las metas y la autosuficiencia		
	Educación financiera / clases de presupuestación / asesoramiento crediticio		
	Ayuda para solicitar el Seguro Social, SSDI, WIC, TANF, etc.		
Vivienda	Asistencia para un refugio temporal seguro para personas sin hogar		
	Encontrar una vivienda asequible		
	Asistencia para el alquiler o la hipoteca		
	Asistencia con la factura de servicios públicos		
	Ayuda a que mi hogar sea más eficiente energéticamente		
Salud y sociales	Salud y desarrollo social/conductual		
	Asistencia con problemas de salud importantes		
	Asesoramiento sobre salud mental y conductual		
	Programas y actividades para personas mayores		
	Asistencia general para personas mayores y discapacitadas		
Participación Comunitaria	Programas para prevenir la reincidencia delictiva		
	Actividades y talleres sobre habilidades de liderazgo		
Emergencia	Programas para mejorar las redes sociales y la revitalización de la comunidad		
	Asistencia con recetas		
	Seguro de salud / Medicare		
	Alimentos		
	Transporte de emergencia		
	Ayuda para encontrar recursos		
	Asistencia para el cuidado de niños nunca revele su contraseña. Denuncie el abuso		

Gracias por tomarse el tiempo para proporcionarnos sus comentarios.

APPENDIX C

Greater Coastal Community Action Council (GCCAC)

Invites you to complete a survey to assess the needs of our community.

Please complete a paper survey or utilize one of the links below online:

Spanish: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1N3oHmOetWI4dxQ

English: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6XXZ27IvtSfXgUu

Thank you for your support! Completion of this survey may help us to obtain services for our community!

Greater Coastal Community Action Council (GCCAC)

Lo invita a completar una encuesta para evaluar las necesidades de nuestra comunidad.

Favor de completar una encuesta en papel o utilice uno de los enlaces a continuación en la red:

Spanish: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1N3oHmOetWI4dxQ

English: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6XXZ27IvtSfXgUu

¡Gracias por su apoyo! Completando esta encuesta puede ayudarnos a obtener servicios para nuestra comunidad.

APPENDIX D

Interview Questions Elected Officials and Board Members

Date of Interview:

Name of Elected Official:

Title of Elected Position:

City or County Represented:

- 1. What do you know about our Community Action Agency and the services we provide?**
- 2. What do you think are the top five key needs of low-income persons in your community?**
- 3. What suggestions can you provide on how the needs could be addressed?**
- 4. What do you think are some key community revitalization needs?**
- 5. How do you think our community can address the identified community revitalization needs?**
- 6. What do you think are some of the gaps or barriers to services in the community and do you have any suggestions related to this?**

APPENDIX E

Roundtable Questions for Staff

Date of Interview:

- 1. What do you know about our Community Action Agency and the services we provide that help address needs of low-income persons?**
- 2. What do you think are the top five key needs of low-income persons in the community?**
- 3. Is this organization currently addressing any of the needs that you identified? If yes, please specify which are being addressed and how?**
- 4. How can this agency partner with other organizations to address the needs that you identified?**
- 5. What do you think are some of the gaps or barriers to services in the community and do you have any suggestions related to this?**
- 6. Do you have any other feedback?**

APPENDIX F

Focus Group Questions for Client Meeting (Moderator Questions)

Explain the Purpose: *The purpose of our meeting is to obtain feedback from a small group of individuals to have an in-depth discussion of the contributing factors to the top five needs identified in our community.*

Explain the Community Needs Assessment: *As required by the Community Services Block Grant funds from the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, we must conduct a needs assessment to identify and prioritize the needs in the community in key areas such as employment, education, income and asset building assistance, housing, health and social behavioral development, civic engagement, and emergency assistance.*

Explain the format for the Focus Group Meeting:

We will first inform you of the top 5 needs that have been identified through community surveys:

1. Housing/Help with utility bills.
2. Housing/Help paying rent or mortgage.
3. Housing/Help to make my home more energy efficient.
4. Education/Assistance to attend trade or technical school, or college.
5. Employment/Help finding a job with a living wage.

Education/Computer Skills Training.

Health and Social/General Assistance for Seniors and Disabled.

We will then ask some questions to identify contributing factors:

For each need, we will now identify the conditions, root causes and barriers contributing to the need. Then we will identify community assets and resources that can address the needs and lastly, identify solutions.

Identified Need	Conditions	Root Causes	Barriers	Resources	Solutions
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					

Now that we have delved deeper and identified barriers and obstacles, are there any needs that you would add to the list? If yes, which needs?