Community Needs Assessment

Community Demographics

1. What is the population of the community as defined above?
   a. How has that trended over time?
   b. What are the underlying reasons for the increase / decrease in the population over time?
2. What age range is represented in the population?
3. What level and range of socioeconomic statuses are present in the community?
   a. How have median household incomes trended in the community?
   b. How has employment trended in the community?
4. How geographically dense is the population?
5. What is the race / ethnicity split of the population?
6. What major religious / cultural affiliations exist within the community?
7. What is the average household size within the community?
8. What non-COVID health issues are experienced by the populace generally?
9. How prevalent are COVID exposure, hospitalizations and deaths?
   a. What is the availability of COVID-19 testing in the community?
   b. How many have been tested?
   c. How are these variables evolving?
10. What is the breakdown of health insurance payers in the community (i.e. Private/Medicare/Medicaid/uninsured, etc.)?
11. What is the educational attainment breakdown across the community?
12. What are the dominant languages spoken in the community outside of English?
13. What percentage of the population fall into the following categories?
    a. Homeowners
    b. Renters
    c. Homeless

Government Resources to Facilitate Inclusion

1. What resources and institutions are available through your local governments to help individual constituents achieve their goals?
2. What processes has the community put in place or considered to include the perspectives and abilities of marginalized and underrepresented groups within the community?

3. What incremental resources, institutions or processes can local governments put into place to include the perspectives and abilities of marginalized and underrepresented groups within the community?
   a. What resources can your state and federal governments provide to help you develop these incremental resources, institutions or processes?

Community Needs and Goals

1. In which areas do the results of the community's policies and administration fall short of your hopes?
   a. What efforts are being made by the government and / or private stakeholders to address them?
2. What are your goals for the community?
3. How do community members gain access to fundamental necessities such as shelter, food, water / sanitation, health care, electricity / gas, high-speed internet?
   a. What infrastructure that the community relies on is not managed by the local government?
4. What are your community's needs related to unemployment and food insecurity?
5. What are the barriers to accessing public services such as healthcare, etc.?
6. What is your community healthcare system's plan to provide for the community's healthcare needs over the next 4 months?
7. What are your community's plans to reduce COVID-19 transmission over the next 4 months?
8. What services does the local government provide to the population?
9. Who are the elected or appointed local officials responsible for making decisions?
   a. Do these elected officials appropriately represent the interests of the community?
10. How are decisions made in the community with respect to the application of local laws and allocation of resources?
11. What is your current process for requesting and receiving feedback from community members regarding their needs?
    a. How does your process include the engagement and receipt of information from community members that are less likely to engage, or have not engaged with community leadership in the past?
    b. What resources have you employed to facilitate this process of outreach and data aggregation?
12. How do the layers of local government complement or overlap with one another?

13. How does the government communicate information throughout the local population?
14. What processes do you have in place to provide visibility to areas of community need where willing community members can volunteer their services to assist?
    a. What resources would you need from us to create/improve on this process?
15. How does the local government fund its activities and projects?
16. What support does your community receive from the following?
    a. State programs
    b. Federal programs
17. What decisions affect the community that are made at the state or federal level of government?
    a. Where are these decisions at odds with the needs of the community?
18. Who are the key private stakeholders (e.g. major employers, industries) in the community?
19. How much funding do non-essential small businesses within your community need to survive closures over the next 4 months?
20. What publications / radio / broadcast networks does the community depend on for local news?
21. What funding sources are available to the individuals and businesses in the area?
22. Does the community have adequate access to banking services?
    a. For consumers
    b. For businesses and investors
23. What interconnections exist at the public or private level between your community and the communities around you?
24. What other questions should we be asking to fill in the gaps in our knowledge that span the community's needs?