

# Homelessness



# Hunger



# Workforce



Community Basic Needs Report

**Genentech**  
FOUNDATION

# 16,087,000

children live in poverty

# 22%

of all children in the  
United States

# Introduction

## Purpose

This report was commissioned as part of the Foundation's strategic review, in order to provide context behind these investments and increase understanding of the current geographic landscape supported through its Community Basic Needs grantmaking.

## Methodology

Information was collected on each of the three issues and six geographic areas through review of numerous websites and reports, including reports by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Feeding America, National Low-Income Housing Coalition, United Way, and many local studies. Data was also extracted from American Community Survey, Census Bureau, Department of Labor, and Department of Housing & Urban Development data sets. More than 30 stakeholder interviews were conducted with homelessness, hunger relief, and workforce development leaders from the six counties to help identify specific gaps and opportunities.

## Report Structure

The report begins with an overview of the needs, service systems, existing funding sources, and opportunities to affect change in the three issue areas of homelessness, hunger, and workforce. It then provides context, demographics, and poverty rate information for Genentech's six geographic locations as well as specific data and opportunities within each of the issue areas.

**Genentech grantees** mentioned in the geographic sections are **bolded in color**.

## Overview

Although geographically dispersed, these communities have much in common, with all but Jefferson County having higher housing costs, higher household incomes, and more income disparity than the rest of the country. California has the third highest state housing costs, and San Francisco and San Mateo are tied for first highest county housing costs among all U.S. counties. **But this is not just a California issue – in no state in the U.S. can a person working full-time at minimum wage afford a one-bedroom apartment at the Fair Market Rent.** In fact, a renter earning the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour would need to work 85 hours per week to afford a one-bedroom rent and 102 hours per week to afford a two-bedroom.

Each of Genentech's counties wrestles with issues of poverty, from a low of 7.8% of residents living below the Federal Poverty Line in San Mateo to a high of 16.7% in Jefferson. Rates are even higher for children, single-mother headed households, African-Americans, and Latinos in these communities. Seniors living alone on fixed-incomes, individuals with prior criminal justice or foster care system involvement, and English language learners are also disproportionately represented.

According to the California Poverty Measure, which takes the state's high housing costs into account, more than 8.1 million Californians (22% of the population) struggle every month to meet their basic needs. California was recently ranked 38 out of 50 for overall child wellbeing and 49 out of 50 (with only Mississippi lower) for child economic wellbeing. Investment in housing, jobs, and basic needs is vital to increasing opportunity for the many families and children left behind in our communities.





Americans are homeless  
on a given night

## Need

On a single night in January 2014, 578,424 people were homeless in the United States — meaning they were found sleeping outside or in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. Of that number, 216,197 are people in families, and 362,163 are single adults. Forty percent of the adults are disabled; 15% are chronically homeless, and 9% are veterans.

**While specific circumstances vary, the main reason people experience homelessness is because they cannot find housing they can afford.**

Twenty-six percent of all renters face a severe housing cost burden, spending more than half their income on rent and utilities. In order to afford a modest, two-bedroom apartment, nationally renters need to earn a wage of \$19.35 per hour. This situation is even worse in California, where a wage of \$26.65 — the equivalent of three full-time minimum wage jobs — is required.

In addition to high housing costs, specific populations are more vulnerable to homelessness:

- **Families** — Typically become homeless as a result of an unforeseen financial or personal crisis such as a medical emergency, car accident, job layoff, or domestic violence
- **Youth** — Often become homeless due to family conflict, including divorce, neglect, or abuse; LGBT youth and youth from the foster care system are particularly at risk
- **Veterans** — Frequently become homeless due to war-related disabilities including physical disabilities, post-traumatic stress, and substance abuse
- **Chronic Homeless** — Usually the public face of homelessness, this includes adults experiencing long-term and/or repeated bouts of homelessness coupled with serious disabilities (physical and/or mental)

## Service System

Ideally, families and individuals facing a housing crisis can avoid homelessness by getting help before they lose their housing. Social service agencies play a key role in homelessness prevention, providing rental assistance and help with move-in costs to allow families to avoid shelter stays altogether. Legal aid organizations that assist with eviction proceedings, and discharge planners for institutions such as hospitals, foster care, and jails also play an important role in preventing homelessness.

Most homeless families are able to bounce back from homelessness quickly, with relatively little public assistance. Usually, they require rent assistance, housing placement services, job assistance, and other short-term, one-time services before being able to return to independence and stability. Veterans also particularly benefit from preventative measures, including job placement services, medical services, and housing assistance to mitigate the risk of them entering homelessness.

When homelessness can't be prevented, then emergency shelters offer a short-term place to stay with separate facilities for youth, families, and individuals. The best practice is rapid re-housing, or moving homeless individuals from shelter into permanent housing as quickly as possible, and then providing aftercare services to them in their new homes. When this isn't possible, then short-term transitional housing can provide a bridge to a more permanent place to live, while long-term stays in transitional housing should be reserved for special populations such as victims of domestic violence and youth aging out of the foster care system. Overall, the homeless service system is moving toward a Housing First approach that decreases costly shelter stays, and places people in affordable housing as rapidly as possible.



At risk families  
& individuals

Emergency  
Shelter

Transition

- Rapid re-housing in permanent homes
- or
- Transitional housing

Permanent Housing

- Permanent affordable housing
- or
- Permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless populations

Prevention

- Financial assistance
- Eviction prevention
- Institutional discharge planning

22% of homeless people in  
the U.S. are children

The best way to end homelessness is to provide permanent, affordable housing. Homeless service providers, other housing providers, and mental health specialists coordinate permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals, while affordable housing developers and public housing authorities are responsible for the development and management of affordable housing.

## Funding

Homeless services are heavily reliant on government funding (60-80% of total revenue), and most agencies have very tight operating budgets. The Department of Housing and Urban Development provides the largest federal investment with some additional support available from Health & Human Services and Veteran's Affairs. Some states, counties, and cities offer funding in addition to passing through the federal dollars. Foundations, corporations, individuals, and the faith community have long supported efforts to prevent and end homelessness, although on a much smaller scale.

## Opportunities

**Homeless Prevention Services:** One-time rent, utility assistance, or shallow short-term rent subsidies, coupled with limited case management services, can help many at-risk individuals and families avoid losing their housing. Benefits advocacy and financial management planning for individuals on fixed incomes are also cost-effective approaches. Case managers serve a critical function in homelessness prevention programs by screening clients for eligibility and identifying the most effective support to help clients retain their housing.

**Rapid Re-Housing:** Many individuals and families become homeless due to straightforward economic shocks, such as job loss, unusual medical expenses, or loss of income due to family break-up. Rapid re-housing programs solve this by providing rent assistance, followed by limited housing stabilization services.

**Permanent Supportive Housing:** For homeless individuals with serious mental health, substance abuse, and/or health problems, permanent supportive housing combines intensive services with affordable housing to help individuals retain housing. Support for investment in and advocacy for the development of more permanent supportive housing is needed, as well as direct support for nonprofit providers.

**Affordable Housing:** Investment in affordable housing more generally is also needed. Support for state, regional, and local housing advocacy organizations can help mobilize leadership and community support to find and fund affordable housing solutions. Partnerships of local governments, businesses, and foundations can explore innovative approaches to addressing housing affordability.

**Core Operating Support:** Given the highly restricted and insufficient governmental funding available, general operating support for core operations of effective homeless service providers continues to be critical.



# Hunger

# 1/6

individuals face  
hunger in the U.S.

## Need

Each year, as many as one in six individuals in the United States faces hunger or food insecurity, meaning they lack access to sufficient food for an active, healthy life. Those most frequently affected by food insecurity include extremely low-income and homeless individuals, single-parent families, children, and low-income seniors. With the increase in lower-paying service sector employment, and rising health care and housing costs, more and more working poor and under-employed families are finding themselves in need of food.

**In 2013, over 49 million Americans experienced food insecurity, including 33 million adults, nearly 17 million children, and 6 million seniors.** Hunger takes a particularly large toll on children, causing poorer educational outcomes, negative lifetime health consequences, shorter life expectancy, and a lower lifetime standard of living.

Hunger is generally divided into three categories with low-income households facing one or more of the following:

- **Hunger**—not having enough food or the means to secure food
- **Food Insecurity**—having enough food some of the time, but not consistently or all of the time, typically going hungry for part of the month when financial resources run out
- **Undernourishment**—having food, and even enough food, not to be hungry, but consuming food of such poor quality that it affects one's life and health outcomes. Undernourishment perversely results in epidemic levels of Type II diabetes and childhood obesity, both of which increasingly co-occur in low-income households and communities

## Service System

The food security safety net is largely based on a system of food banks — regional organizations that secure donated and purchased food, and then transport that food to local partner agencies such as food pantries, meal programs, and homeless shelters, which in turn distribute the food to those in need. Both food banks and local food distribution programs utilize volunteers extensively; in fact, many local programs are entirely volunteer-run.

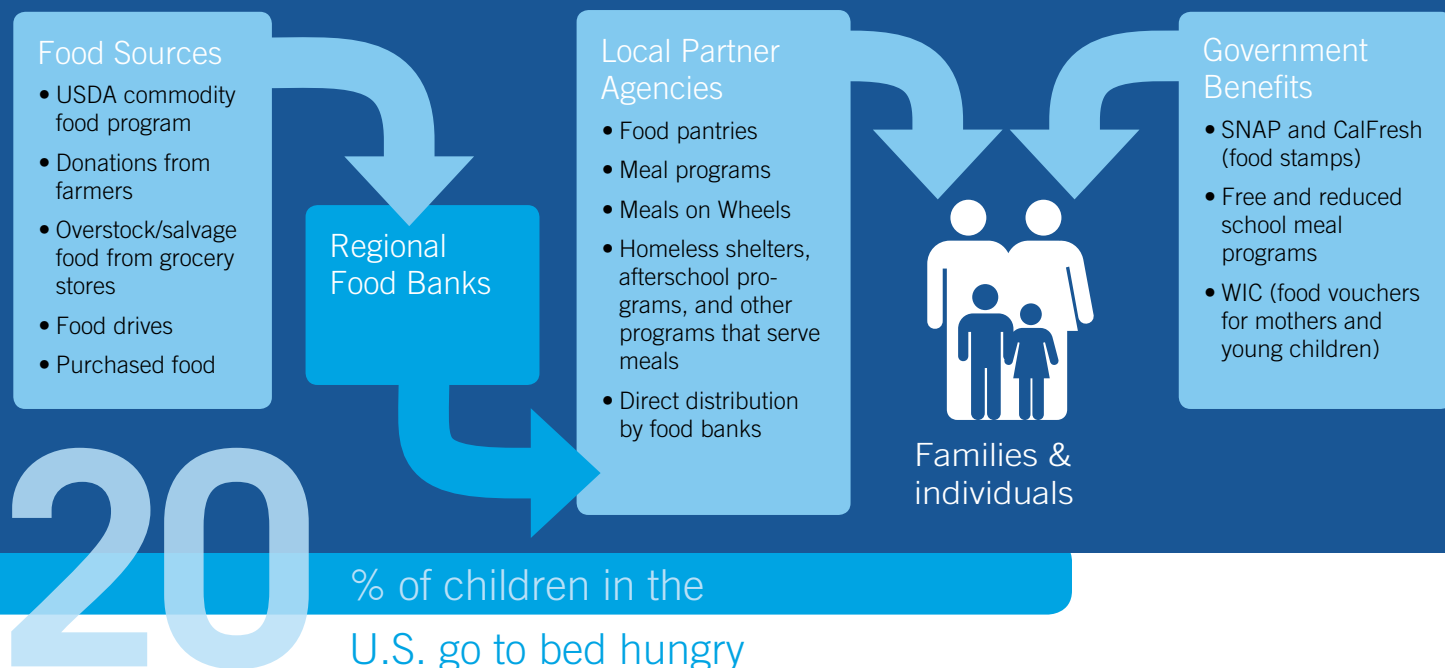
Longer-term solutions are found through family, community, and policy level interventions. Families can end or greatly reduce their hunger if they are aware of, qualify for, and enroll in federally funded food programs designed to prevent hunger. They can also improve their family's health through increased awareness of healthier shopping and cooking options and the importance of exercise. At the community level, free and reduced-price lunches in schools can help to eliminate childhood hunger, providing more than 70% of the recommended daily nutrition level for a child. At the policy level, ensuring these income supports are sufficient and easily accessible is central to the eradication of hunger.

## Funding

Regional food banks and local food programs receive financial and in-kind food donations from a number of sources:

- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program**, a federal program administered at the state level, provides free commodity food products such as beans, rice and canned fruits and vegetables





- **Food donations and purchases directly from food producers**, such as programs that enable food banks to purchase produce directly from farmers at reduced costs
- **Salvaged food from commercial food distributors**, such as major grocery stores
- **Private donations of food** from individuals, corporate employees, and community groups
- **Food purchased from wholesalers and retailers**, this has increased in recent years, as in-kind resources for protein, dairy, fruits and vegetables, and other healthy items are scarce

For individuals, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP called CalFresh in California) and its companion program for women and children (WIC) are critical supports that provide funds for low-income families and individuals with incomes less than 130% of the federal poverty line. **It is estimated that one in every two children in America will be on food stamps at some point during their childhoods.**

## Opportunities

### **Increase SNAP & CalFresh (Food Stamps) Enrollment:**

Many families who are eligible for these benefits do not receive them. In fact, California has the second lowest enrollment rate for food stamps, estimated at 63% of eligible households, compared to the national average of 83%. Support for Food Banks and community based agencies to conduct outreach and help families enroll in CalFresh is needed. More enrollment sites that provide linguistically and culturally competent hands-on assistance are also needed.

**Increase Access to Nutritious Foods:** Food banks are working to increase distribution of fresh produce, often coupled with nutrition education, but many of their partners lack capacity to receive fresh fruits and vegetables. They need updated storage facilities for perishable produce and protein sources.

**Funding for Food Purchase:** As overstock donations from grocery stores and other food distributors have declined, Food Banks increasingly need to purchase food to ensure sufficient quantity and diversity. Funding is particularly needed for lean protein sources and dairy products.

**Expanded Distribution Access:** Many local food pantries distribute food during normal weekday business hours, and need to add evening and weekend service hours for working poor and underemployed clients. Home-delivery of food is also vital to meet the needs of homebound seniors and people with disabilities. Food distribution through school can increase access, particularly for new clients and working families who may be unable or uncomfortable accessing traditional pantry locations.

**Close the Summer Meal Gap:** During the school year, 22 million children receive free or reduced-price lunches at school, but only 12% of them do over the summer. Support for innovative meal programs through community centers, libraries, and Food Bank's Kids Café, as well as increased family grocery bag access, are needed.



# Workforce

# 18

million Americans  
are underemployed

## Need

Although the official unemployment rate continues to decrease nationally (currently 5.3%) and in California (6.3%), this only tells part of the story. Individuals who have failed to find work and have stopped looking are not considered part of the labor force. Nor are underemployed people who are working part-time but want and need to work full-time. When these job seekers are accounted for, 11.3% of Americans and 14% of Californians are not fully employed, though they are able and would like to work.

Part of the challenge is that a significant number of adults in the U.S. labor force lack the basic skills needed to succeed.

**Eighty-eight million Americans have at least one serious educational barrier, such as no high school degree, deficient English language skills, or no postsecondary training.** Many of the nation's dislocated workers are finding that their skills are not at the level needed to access the jobs that remain or the new jobs being created.

These individuals face a bleak economic future. The percentage of the workforce requiring some college or above grew from 28% percent in 1973 to 59% in 2007 and is expected to increase to 62% by 2018. It will be virtually impossible to achieve a family-wage job without some type of postsecondary training. Today, the average wage for a full-time worker without a high school diploma (\$25,000) is less than half that of one with a college degree (\$57,000).

Specific populations face additional barriers to employment including at-risk youth, especially those with foster care or juvenile justice system involvement; formerly incarcerated individuals; adults with limited English proficiency; people with developmental, mental, and physical disabilities; and low-income single mothers.

## Service System

The workforce development system focuses on addressing the income needs of jobseekers and workers and the labor needs of employers, its 'dual customers.' The system's key actors include:

**Community Colleges** offer academic and vocational training including Adult Basic Education, English as a Second Language, and a number of specific certificate programs. They often partner with nonprofit providers to provide the job readiness training, wraparound supports, and job search services needed for low-income jobseekers to succeed.

**One-Stop Centers** provide core services including job listings, career information, and general search assistance, as well as more intensive services such as assessments, access to workshops, development of individual employment plans, and training vouchers.

**Workforce development nonprofit** providers often focus services on a specific target population, providing one or more of the following:

- Barrier removal such as support securing identification, legal services, and financial assistance
- Soft skills development such as attendance, appearance, interpersonal, and customer service
- Job search help including resume writing, interview coaching, and access to internships or transitional employment
- Connections to (or sometimes provision of) GED completion, Adult Basic Education, sector-based job training, stackable certificate programs, and accessible employment opportunities
- Wraparound services such as childcare, transportation, housing, case management and benefits access



Individuals  
with barriers to  
employment



#### Work readiness

- Basic Skills — literacy, math, GED completion, ESL
- Soft Skills — attendance, communication, presentation
- Hard Skills — sector-specific training, stackable credentials

#### Job Placement

- Job search
- Resume assistance
- Interview coaching
- Internships & transitional jobs

#### Job Retention & Advancement

- Wraparound support
- Job coaching
- Continuing training

5.3% National  
unemployment rate

## Funding

**Federal agencies** and funding streams, though insufficient relative to need, invest in workforce services including the Departments of Education, Labor, Agriculture, and Health & Human Services.

**Workforce Investment Boards** are regional intermediaries that pass through federal (and sometimes state) dollars for workforce development. They develop local plans, identify eligible training providers and report on performance measures.

**Employers** are the largest investors in building worker skills. Employer resources are usually directed toward their own employees and, occasionally, jobseekers whom they consider to be potential future employees. Unions also play a role in training, particularly through apprenticeship programs.

**Philanthropy** often supports nonprofit workforce development providers directly and through Workforce Funder Collaboratives, which align public and private resources toward specific education, workforce, and employment goals.

## Opportunities

**Best Practices:** Support for mixed-service models, which combine multiple types of assistance, result in greater long-term wage gains and more job placements for low-income populations than do any single service offered independently. Numerous studies have also demonstrated the correlation between academic attainment and higher wages. Therefore, programs targeting youth need to emphasize the importance of finishing high school and pursuing post-secondary education, while programs focusing on adults help them to attain industry-recognized credentials.

**Standards and Credentials:** Increased availability, awareness, and completion of Adult Basic Education (ABE) and GED preparation courses are needed. Support for stackable credentials for low-skilled adults that integrate adult literacy, non-credit occupational training, and credits for postsecondary degrees is also essential.

**Learning and Earning:** Many low-income youth and adults need to be earning income (in the form of wages or stipends) while they are participating in ongoing education and training. They also need help retaining employment with services such as conflict resolution training, career coaching, and career-ladder exploration.

**Career Pathways:** A dual-customer approach (job seeker and employer) that focuses on specific sectors of the economy and works to provide both family-wage jobs for low- and moderate-income residents and a more skilled workforce for employers. These sector workforce efforts often involve multiple employers within a specific industry (such as healthcare, manufacturing, or logistics), are led by a workforce intermediary, and attempt to create new pathways for low-income workers. Tools used in this strategy include coaching (case management, career development, and academic), pre-college and remedial training, and occupational training.



# San Mateo County

# 2nd

lowest enrollment in California of eligible families in CalFresh program

## Context

San Mateo County is comprised of more than 25 cities, towns, and unincorporated areas with the urban centers of San Francisco to the north and San Jose to the south. It is quite affluent with a median household income of \$101,900, and more than double that in enclaves such as Atherton, Hillsborough, and Woodside.

The information, professional, scientific and technical services sectors lead the Peninsula's economic base. As part of the regional economy, 36% of its residents commute to San Francisco or Santa Clara County for work, and 39% of its jobs are filled by residents of other counties. San Mateo County's job market is increasingly stratified with mostly low-wage (under \$20 per hour) and high wage (over \$35 per hour) positions.

San Mateo County is tied with San Francisco and Marin for having the highest housing wage in the country — a full-time worker needs to earn \$39.65 per hour to afford the average two-bedroom apartment. Three of its cities made the top 15 list for highest average one-bedroom apartment rents at over \$2,400 for units in San Mateo, Redwood City, and Daly City.

The County has a strong philanthropic presence with Packard Foundation, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, United Way and a number of active corporate foundations. Civic leaders from government, nonprofit, business, and community form productive partnerships to address pressing issues. One example is the Big Lift, a collaborative effort to increase 3rd grade reading proficiency by 40% that is chaired by the school superintendent, county board of supervisors, and community foundation.

## Demographics

San Mateo County has 758,581 residents, the majority of whom live in Daly City, San Mateo, Redwood City, and South San Francisco. It is fairly diverse demographically with 41% White, 27% Asian, 25% Latino, and 7% other. Thirty-four percent of residents are foreign born, and 46% speak a language other than English at home.

## Poverty

The county's federal poverty rate is 7.8%, more than 59,000 people, but varies greatly by city. East Palo Alto is at 18.4%, and unincorporated North Fair Oaks and rural areas along the coast are also higher. African-Americans and Latinos experience almost double the County's rates at 14.6% and 13% respectively, while more than 20% of single mother-headed households live in poverty.

Using the more accurate Self-Sufficiency Standard, which accounts for the high housing costs, the countywide poverty rate is 18.4%, with nearly 140,000 residents trying to make ends meet with household incomes of less than \$35,000 per year.



## Homelessness

### Need

- 1,604 homeless adults and children counted on one night
- 70% were single adults, and 43% were unsheltered
- Of the unsheltered population, 80% had at least one disability, and 65% were chronically homeless

### Services

- Eight core service centers located throughout the County provide basic needs and homeless prevention
- 834 emergency shelter and transitional beds; 64% are for families
- **InnVision Shelter Network** is the primary shelter and transitional housing provider, **HIP Housing** provides an innovative home-sharing program, and Mental Health Association takes the lead in permanent supportive housing
- HOPE (Housing Our People Effectively) is the countywide plan to end homelessness

### Gaps

- More than 7,000 additional units of affordable housing are needed by 2022 to meet the demand
- Section 8 subsidized housing vouchers are going unused
- Permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless adults

### Opportunities

- Flexible funding for homelessness prevention programs
- Support for regional and local affordable housing advocacy organizations
- Support for the local housing trust fund (HEART), affordable housing developers, and permanent supportive housing providers



## Hunger

### Need

- Food insecurity rate of 11.4%
- Only 40% of households eligible for CalFresh actually receive it, which is the second lowest participation rate in the state
- Nearly 35% of students in the County receive free or reduced lunch

### Services

- **Second Harvest Food Bank** provides food through more than 100 community partners
- **North Peninsula Neighborhood Services**, Saint Anthony's, **Samaritan House**, and **St. Vincent de Paul** provide congregate meals
- Peninsula Volunteers provides Meals on Wheels and food for seniors

### Gaps

- Majority of families eligible for CalFresh do not receive it
- Smaller food pantries, particularly in rural and Coastside areas, lack storage capacity

### Opportunities

- Increase CalFresh enrollment efforts through Second Harvest Food Bank and agency partners
- Support for facility improvements for smaller pantries in remote areas
- Funding to purchase lean protein and dairy products for distribution



## Workforce

### Need

- 3.3% unemployment rate, although likely double that
- East Palo Alto and unincorporated North Fair Oaks have much higher rates of long-term unemployment and underemployment
- Need is greatest for individuals with multiple barriers to employment including homelessness, criminal justice involvement, English language learners, and disconnected youth

### Services

- San Mateo County Workforce Investment Board provides funding
- PeninsulaWorks operates one-stops in Daly City, San Mateo, and Menlo Park
- Strong Community College District with Cañada College in Redwood City, College of San Mateo, and Skyline in San Bruno providing Adult Basic Education, certificate programs, and on-site support for populations with multiple barriers
- **JobTrain** is the largest nonprofit workforce development provider, providing comprehensive services

### Gaps

- Transitional employment opportunities for chronically homeless and other populations with multiple barriers
- Middle wage jobs

### Opportunities

- Support JobTrain's work with individuals with multiple barriers
- Enhance access to GED, ESL, and Basic Education Services
- Join Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative and support Community College partnerships





# San Francisco County

# 2nd

largest gap between high- and  
low-income earners in the U.S.

## Context

San Francisco enjoys one of the highest median household incomes (\$101,900), highest percentage of adults with Bachelor's degrees or above (52%) and lowest unemployment rates (3.5%) in the country. Unfortunately these figures mask an increasingly inequitable city that has the richest households in the nation, with households at the 95th percentile earning \$423,000 annually, while those at the 20th percentile only earn \$24,815.

The strong job market and desirable quality of life have driven San Francisco's housing demand through the roof, putting particular strain on the rental market in a city where 63% of residents (compared to 45% statewide) rent their homes. San Francisco continues to top the list of

the most expensive rental markets in the country, with record median rents of \$3,460 for a one bedroom and \$4,650 for a two-bedroom unit. In order to meet current demand, San Francisco needs to develop nearly 11,000 units of affordable housing by 2022 and more than 28,000 units overall.

San Francisco has strong philanthropic leadership from The San Francisco Foundation, United Way and numerous corporate and family foundations. The City invests deeply in safety net programs and partners well with private and nonprofit agencies on major initiative such as HOPE SF, which seeks to transform the city's most distressed public housing sites into thriving, mixed-income communities.

## Demographics

The City and County of San Francisco has 852,469 residents. It is demographically diverse: 42% White, 34% Asian, 15% Latino, 6% African-American, and 3% other. Unlike the rest of the state, it is becoming less diverse with its Latino and African-American populations leaving due to high housing costs. Thirty-six percent are foreign born, and 45% speak a language other than English at home. At 13%, San Francisco has the smallest percentage of children of any major U.S. city.

## Poverty

Despite its extremely high incomes, San Francisco has the highest federal poverty rate in the Bay Area at 13.8% or nearly 118,000 people. Rates vary greatly by neighborhood with the Tenderloin, Chinatown, and Bayview at over 22%. Poverty is also much higher for African-Americans at 30% and those without a high school degree at 25%.

The more accurate California Poverty Measure is 24.4%, with more than 200,000 people trying to stay in San Francisco with household incomes of \$35,700 or less annually.



## Homelessness

### Need

- 7,539 homeless adults, youth, and children counted on one night
- 91% are single adults
- 58% are unsheltered
- 34% have chronic health conditions
- 25% are chronically homeless

### Services

- 2,286 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds; 69% are for single adults
- 7,469 permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing beds
- Primary shelter and transitional housing providers include **Compass Family Services**, **Hamilton Family Center** and **Raphael House** for families; **Episcopal Community Services**, Salvation Army, **St. Vincent de Paul**, and **Swords to Plowshares** for adults; and **Larkin Street Youth Services**
- Catholic Charities, Community Housing Partnership, Mercy Housing and Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation provide permanent supportive housing

### Gaps

- Housing and services for transition age youth, with more than 1,200 homeless young adults counted living on the streets
- Affordable and permanent supportive housing

### Opportunities

- Support for expansion of Larkin Street Youth Service's housing and programs for homeless young adults
- Support for affordable housing advocacy, development, and services
- Flexible financial assistance funding for rapid rehousing and homeless prevention programs for families



## Hunger

### Need

- Food insecurity rate of 16.5%
- Over 62% of low-income students receive free or reduced-price lunches
- Only 57% of those eligible for CalFresh are enrolled

### Services

- **SF-Marin Food Bank** distributes food through more than 200 partners including an innovative school food pantry program
- **Glide**, St. Anthony's Dining Room, and United Council of Human Services are the largest congregate meal providers
- **Meals on Wheels** and Project Open Hand provide meal delivery

### Gaps

- Food Bank needs more distribution sites in Chinatown, Excelsior, Outer Mission, and South of Market to meet demand
- Home-delivered groceries to seniors and residents of SROs of appropriate type and quantity for their cooking capacity

### Opportunities

- Expansion of CalFresh in a Day program, training more community-based organizations to help clients enroll in CalFresh (food stamps)
- Support for collaboration between the Food Bank and permanent supportive, affordable, and public housing providers to provide on-site groceries
- Funding for partnership between Food Bank and In-Home Supportive Service workers to deliver food to homebound seniors and disabled individuals



## Workforce

### Need

- Official unemployment rate of only 3.5%, but likely double that
- Need is greatest for formerly homeless, homeless, public housing residents, and young adults

### Services

- San Francisco's Office of Economic and Workforce Development funds 18 Neighborhood Access Points to provide career planning, job search assistance, interview preparation, training workshops, unemployment information, access to computers, and supportive services such as childcare and transportation
- Goodwill Industries operates the centralized entry point into all workforce services, and Jewish Vocational Services, **Juma Ventures**, **New Door Ventures**, and Young Community Developers are key workforce providers
- City College of San Francisco offers Adult Basic Education, GED Completion, ESL, and multiple certificate programs at 11 centers

### Gaps

- Transitional employment and paid on-the-job training opportunities for youth and people with multiple barriers
- Flexible, co-enrollment opportunities for people receiving substance abuse and/or mental health treatment
- Post-placement and job retention services

### Opportunities

- Support youth serving programs with strong employer connections and paid training opportunities
- Expand job coaching, career pathway, and employment retention services
- Join Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative





# Solano County

# #9

ranking within Bay Area's 9 counties with  
lowest amount of philanthropic investment

## Context

Solano County was hit hard by the recession in 2008, resulting in some of the highest unemployment and foreclosure rates in the region. Although more affordable than much of the Bay Area, Solano housing costs are still well above national figures, requiring a \$48,000 salary to afford the average two-bedroom apartment. Solano County's wages are also significantly lower than the rest of the Bay Area, particularly in terms of professional and retail jobs. As a result, over half of the County's renters pay at least 30% of their income toward rent.

Due to the County's large geographic spread and mostly rural landscape, the public transportation system is very limited, particularly during evenings and weekends when many service sector jobs are active. Coordination between the different transportation companies is also lacking.

Philanthropic support and nonprofit capacity are much lower than in neighboring Bay Area counties, and sufficiency of services and funding availability vary greatly by city. United Way is increasing its presence, and the recently formed Solano County Safety Net Consortium holds promise for increased coordination and collaborative capacity in the future.

## Demographics

Solano County has 427,743 residents, the majority of whom live in Vallejo, Fairfield, and Vacaville. It is demographically diverse with rural, suburban, and urban communities: 40% of its residents are White, 25% Latino, 14% Asian, 14% African-American, and 7% other. Twenty percent are foreign born, and 30% speak a language other than English at home.

## Poverty

Although Solano County's median household income of \$67,177 is slightly above California's average and its poverty rate is slightly below, it has areas of concentrated poverty particularly in the urban core and rural areas. Single parents with young children, seniors, persons with disabilities, racial minorities, and immigrants are disproportionately represented.

The federal poverty rate is 13.9% or nearly 60,000 people. Vallejo has the highest concentration of poverty at 16% followed by Fairfield (12.9%), and Suisun City (12%). Overall, the poverty rate is higher for children (18.8%) and highest for single mothers with children under the age of five (44%). The more accurate California Poverty Measure is 18% and applies to the more than 77,000 family members living on less than \$30,000 annually.

The primary causes of poverty are the high cost of housing, lack of middle skill employment opportunities, and poor transportation infrastructure. These are exacerbated by individual's mental and physical health issues and credit, rental, and/or criminal justice histories.





## Homelessness

### Need

- 1,082 homeless adults and children counted on one night
- 73% were unsheltered
- 42% have chronic health conditions
- 21% are chronically homeless
- More than 2,100 (5%) of public school students are homeless annually

### Services

- 548 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds
- 55% of beds are for families, 45% for single adults
- Primary providers are Caminar, Christian Help Center, Community Action North Bay, Fighting Back Partnership, Mission Solano, and Opportunity House

### Gaps

- Services provided by a wide variety of agencies, most of which are smaller, faith-based, and lack professional service delivery models
- Unmet need of more than 700 permanent housing beds, 80% for rapid rehousing and 20% for permanent supportive housing

### Opportunities

- Expansion of homeless prevention and rapid rehousing services. Solano County housing costs are more affordable than other parts of the Bay Area, and a program offering financial support, case management, and housing retention and relocation assistance could effectively divert families from the shelter system
- Capacity building assistance to help existing shelter and transitional housing programs adopt homeless best practices around housing first and permanent supportive housing



## Hunger

### Need

- Food insecurity rate of 15.2%
- Nearly 40% of food insecure people are ineligible for Federal Assistance
- More than 35% of all families with children and adults over 60 in the County are on CalFresh
- Greatest need is in Vallejo, followed by Fairfield and then Vacaville

### Services

- **The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano County** distributes food through 65 food pantries, social service agencies, schools, and churches throughout the County
- Other primary providers include Christian Help Center, **Meals on Wheels of Solano County**, St. Vincent de Paul, and **Vacaville Storehouse**

### Gaps

- Lack of grocery stores in parts of the County, make it difficult to obtain healthy food and fresh produce at a reasonable cost
- More support for seniors is needed to enroll them on food stamps, provide grocery bags, and serve congregate meals
- Amount of food distributed in Vallejo is not sufficient to meet the need

### Opportunities

- Support for the Food Bank's agency enhancement program that helps food pantries and meal providers expand their capacity through technical assistance and purchase of capital items such as freezers, facility renovations, and individual grocery carts
- Support the Safety Net Consortium's work to address 'Food Deserts'
- Increase seniors access to food through CalFresh enrollment and direct food distribution



## Workforce

### Need

- Official unemployment rate of 5.9%, but likely double that when accounting for discouraged workers and underemployment; highest rate of Bay Area counties
- Vallejo even higher at 7.9%
- Earnings do not keeping pace with cost of living and have not returned to pre-recession levels
- Nearly 30% of residents commute outside the County for employment

### Services

- The Workforce Investment Board of Solano County funds the Solano Employment Connection's One Stop Centers in Vallejo and Fairfield
- System is less coordinated than many with a number of organizations offering some support including **Caminar**, Dream Catchers, Goodwill Industries East Bay, Fighting Back Partnership, Catholic Charities, and Community Action North Bay

### Gaps

- Computer skills, GED, adult basic education, and adult literacy classes are particularly needed
- Post-incarceration reentry assistance is also in demand
- Dual-approach, sector-based employment programs

### Opportunities

- Advocacy for increased alternative transportation series such as van pools, FAST (reduced taxi-fare program), and free bus passes for those who cannot afford the fares
- Support for affordable childcare, particularly for young children and non-traditional work hours
- Enhance presence of SparkPoint Centers in Vallejo and Fairfield and increase workforce coordination with the Solano Community College



# North San Diego County

# 8%

lower employment levels in North  
Inland than the rest of the region

## Context

San Diego's North County is a diverse stretch of land running from as far south as the 56 freeway to as far north as Camp Pendleton. It is often divided into two subregions — Coastal with Oceanside, Carlsbad, and Encinitas as the primary cities and Inland with Escondido, San Marcos, Vista, and Fallbrook. It is quite wealthy overall, with a median income of \$61,246, and 20% of households earning more than \$150,000 annually. This wealth obscures the poverty Inland, however, where 32% of households survive on \$30,000 or less annually.

As an economic region, it has approximately 460,000 jobs including many in higher-paying technology industry clusters. North County is generally an exporter of higher-skilled workers, such as those in management, business, and science occupations, and an importer of lower-skilled workers, such as those in service and production, transportation, and material moving jobs.

North County has higher housing costs than the rest of the County, with a median two-bedroom apartment at over \$1,500, and more than 50% of North Inland and Coast residents with high housing-cost burdens. Most of these low wage earners live farther away from their work places, and public transit is not readily available nor well-connected in North County.

The majority of philanthropic and large nonprofit organizations are located in the City of San Diego. The recently formed Alliance for Regional Solutions is a collaborative of cross-sector North County leaders working on solutions for the region's health, homeless, hunger, and transportation issues. It houses North County Works, North County Food Policy Council, and the North County Plan to End Homelessness.

## Demographics

Approximately 1,182,900 people live in North County, comprising 37% of the County's population. The majority of residents live in the coastal regions (677,900) with a smaller proportion Inland (505,000). North County has fewer people of color than the County as a whole comprised of 58% White, 27% Latino, 10% Asian, and 5% other. Due in large part to Camp Pendleton, San Diego County has the third-largest number of veterans in the Country, with nearly 236,000 former service members.

## Poverty

Of San Diego County's 3.1 million residents, 475,773 people (15.2%) live in poverty. Nearly 19% of children live in poverty, and more than 33% of single parent families do. The highest poverty rates in North County are in Escondido (19.6%), Vista (16.8%), and Oceanside (16.7%).

The more accurate California Poverty Measure for San Diego County is 21.7%, representing nearly 675,000 residents living on household incomes of \$30,608 or less. Individuals without a high school diploma, Latinos, and immigrants are particularly over-represented.



## Homelessness

### Need

- 1,553 homeless adults and children were counted on one night
- 70% were sheltered
- Primary cause is loss of job, followed by disability, abuse, and/or loss of spouse

### Services

- 179 beds of Winter shelter, limited year-round shelter for special populations such as victims of domestic violence, and transitional housing
- **Interfaith Community Services** is the primary North County provider; others include Bread of Life, Catholic Charities, Operation Hope, and **Solutions for Change**
- To address the high number of homeless veterans, Interfaith's Veteran's Assistance programs provide 288 designated beds
- The Alliance for Regional Solutions is working on implementation of a Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement system to improve housing access

### Gaps

- Permanent supportive housing
- Affordable housing
- Year-round emergency shelter

### Opportunities

- Support for the implementation of the Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement system
- Increase access to affordable housing through case manager funding to complement existing housing navigators and vouchers
- Rapid rehousing services especially in the under-served rural areas
- Landlord outreach, engagement, and incentive programs
- Expand 25 Cities work to end veteran homelessness into North County



## Hunger

### Need

- County food insecurity rate of 13.9%
- Over 160,000 children are food insecure
- Over 50% of students in the County receive free or reduced lunch
- Only 51% of households eligible for CalFresh actually receive it
- High housing and health care costs are primary causes

### Services

- **North County Food Bank**, which is merging with the **San Diego Food Bank**, distributes food through 112 food pantries, social service agencies, and churches
- Congregate and home-delivered meals are provided by Meals with Love (Vista & Oceanside) and **Meals on Wheels of San Diego**
- Other primary providers include Bread of Life, **Brother Benno Foundation**, and **Interfaith Community Services**
- North County Food Policy Council works to coordinate access to an adequate and nutritious supply of food

### Gaps

- Food distribution and access in the inland, rural areas of the County, particularly for seniors and farmworkers
- Access to fresh produce and healthier food choices
- Food for children during summer months

### Opportunities

- Funding for refrigerated mobile food pantries to reach rural areas
- Expansion of Food Bank's CalFresh outreach enrollment assistance program in North County
- Support for implementation of North County Food Policy Council's Plan to End Hunger



## Workforce

### Need

- 5% official unemployment rate, but likely double that with discouraged workers and under employment
- North Inland area has still not returned to pre-recession employment levels, running 8% below the rest of the region

### Services

- San Diego Workforce Investment Board
- North County Career Centers operate One-Stop Centers in Oceanside and Escondido and a satellite in Vista
- North County Works is a collaborative of public and private agencies working to identify and reduce employment barriers
- Escondido Adult School, Mira Costa College in Oceanside, and Palomar College in Vista offer Adult Basic Education, ESL, and GED prep classes
- Community-based agencies provide services to particular populations including North County Lifeline and **Partners with Industry**

### Gaps

- Dual approach, sector-based programs with strong employer connections
- Coordination of key workforce actors
- Career pathways for lower-skilled workers into middle-skill positions
- Public transportation systems to connect North Inland residents with Coastal and Southern employment

### Opportunities

- Increase availability and coordination of workforce-related services through support of North County Works
- Expand industry cluster through funding of the North County Partnership for Healthcare Work Development
- Join the San Diego Workforce Funding Collaborative to support other sector-based approaches





# Washington County

# #1

ranking in highest housing  
costs in the state of Oregon

## Context

Just west of Portland, the Washington County area is often called the Silicon Forest, due to the large number of technology companies. It is the economic engine for the state, boasting the highest median household income (\$64,180) and one of the lowest unemployment rates.

This wealth has created a tight housing market with a less than 2% apartment rental vacancy rate and the highest housing wage in the state: a worker must earn at least \$37,670 annually to afford the average two-bedroom apartment.

In addition to its urban centers, significant parts of Washington County are rural with an economic history of timber and farming. This sprawling urban-rural geography leads to transportation challenges, especially in the Western part of the County where access to services and employment is very limited for its primarily low-income and Latino residents.

Nonprofit and government partnerships are strong with philanthropic support from statewide foundations and some local corporate and community philanthropy. Collaborative initiatives are supported by the Vision Action Network that brings to together a broad array of community partners to tackle issues such as health care access, affordable housing, economic security, diversity, and education.

## Demographics

Washington County is Oregon's second most populous County with 565,998 residents, the majority of whom live in Hillsboro, Forest Grove, Tigard, and Beaverton. It is also the second most diverse, with 31% non-White residents due to recent growth in the Latino, Asian, and African-American populations. Currently, almost 17% of residents are foreign born and 23% of households speak a language other than English at home.

## Poverty

Washington County's strong economic indicators mask the underlying challenges faced by a growing number of residents who are struggling to afford basic needs. It follows national trends around the suburbanization of poverty, with low-income households being pushed farther out of the Portland Metro area. Families with children, people of color, people with disabilities, and adults with less than a high school education are particularly impacted.

The federal poverty rate is currently 11.4% or nearly 65,000 people. It is higher for children (15%) and highest for single mothers with children under the age of five (45%). Approximately 114,000 individuals (27% of County residents) live at or below 200% of the federal poverty rate, with even more below the Self-Sufficiency Standard.



## Homelessness

### Need

- 1,153 homeless adults and children counted on one night
- Majority living doubled-up, with over 62% sharing others' housing
- Primary causes are unemployment, under employment, and an inability to afford rent

### Services

- 96 shelter and transitional beds with majority reserved for families, and 434 permanent supportive housing beds
- Community Action is the lead for the Family Shelter Network providing homeless prevention, centralized intake and access to three family shelters in Hillsboro and Tigard; waiting list of 2-4 weeks for these shelters
- A Road Home is the County's 10-year plan to end homelessness, a strong public private partnership founded in 2008 that supports the shift to rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing

### Gaps

- Affordable housing is the largest and most pressing gap
- Emergency shelter for homeless adults without children

### Opportunities

- Increase the cost-effective and successful eviction prevention, homeless diversion, and rapid rehousing programs
- Expand Bridges to Housing, which provides permanent affordable housing and intensive family support services
- Support for collaborative efforts to increase the supply of affordable housing and for affordable housing developers



## Hunger

### Need

- Food insecurity rate of 12.4%
- 39% of food insecure people are ineligible for Federal Assistance
- Only 63% of those eligible for SNAP, and only 43% of eligible seniors, actually receive it
- 50% of students in rural areas eligible for free/reduced lunch program

### Services

- **Oregon Food Bank's** Washington County Services in Beaverton distributes food through 87 hunger relief agencies and programs
- Meals on Wheels People serves meals at seven dining centers and provides home delivery
- Community- and faith-based agencies host food pantries and congregate meal programs

### Gaps

- Approximately 15% of Washington County residents live in food deserts with little access to a grocery store
- Access to culturally appropriate food for new immigrant populations
- Low-Income seniors are not accessing the SNAP and emergency food resources that they need

### Opportunities

- Increase SNAP outreach and enrollment targeting seniors
- Support pantries to switch toward "shopping style," allowing clients to choose their own foods
- Expand availability of fresh produce and healthy food in rural areas
- Increase food literacy with classes in English and Spanish, particularly in Western Washington County



## Workforce

### Need

- 4.5% official unemployment rate, but likely double that
- Median income is the highest in the state, but hides a divided economy with high tech manufacturing professionals earning much more and agricultural and service sector workers far less
- Majority of new, high paying jobs go to people moving into the County

### Services

- Worksystems is the regional Workforce Investment Board, funding workforce-related services
- WorkSource operates One-Stop Centers in Beaverton and Tualatin
- Portland Community College provides Adult Basic Education
- Community-based agencies offer outreach, information and referral, and case management for people with barriers to employment

### Gaps

- Services in the rural parts of the County, particularly Forest Grove
- Opportunities for long-term unemployed and those with lower skills levels
- Adult Basic Education and literacy
- Career coaching services that go beyond general case management

### Opportunities

- Increase funding and internship slots for the youth summer employment program
- Expand Adult Basic Education services at One-Stop Centers and community-based agencies
- Match funding for an express One-Stop Center in Forest Grove that could offer English as a Second Language classes and bilingual services





# Jefferson County

# 11th

poorest city  
in the United States

## Context

Poverty is a statewide issue in Kentucky, where 19% of residents or about 800,000 people, are considered poor. Louisville, the State's largest city, has been coping with decades of lost manufacturing jobs, deindustrialization, and economic upheaval. Its economy is improving, however, and it now boasts one of Kentucky's higher median household incomes at \$46,701, which is \$5,000 above the State's median, but still below the U.S. median of \$50,502.

Kentucky is the most affordable state in the country for rental housing, with the Louisville area only slightly above the State median at \$737 for an average two-bedroom apartment. Despite the low cost, this housing still requires a full-time wage of \$14 per hour, remaining out of reach for the many residents earning minimum wage, families on public assistance, and seniors living on fixed incomes.

The Louisville City and Jefferson County governments merged more than ten years ago, creating a unified Louisville Metro Government. The philanthropic community is reasonably active with both local — The Community Foundation of Louisville, Humana Foundation, and the James Graham Foundation — and national foundations supporting 55,000 Degrees, a public-private partnership to increase education attainment by 55,000 post-secondary degrees by 2020.

## Demographics

Jefferson County is the most populous county in Kentucky with 760,026 residents, the majority of whom live in Louisville. Its demographics are 69.7% White, 21.4% African-American, 4.7% Latino, and 4.2% other.

## Poverty

The Federal Poverty Rate is 16.7%, representing nearly 127,000 residents in Metro Louisville. It is higher for children (24.7%) and highest for single mother headed households (41.6%). Nearly 30% of residents earn under \$25,000 annually, and less than 27% have college degrees.

The predominantly African-American communities in West Louisville have particularly high poverty rates at 45%, with only 8% of adult residents with college degrees, and an unemployment rate of 24%. Its Russell neighborhood provides a particularly stark example with a median household income of \$14,457, unemployment rate of 30%, and a poverty rate of 58%.

Overall, Jefferson County has some of the highest rates of concentrated poverty in the country with 23 census tracts showing poverty rates of 40% or higher.





## Homelessness

### Need

- 7,380 homeless adults and children counted annually and 1,466 on a single night
- Over 95% of homeless are sheltered
- 75% are single adults, 18% are family members, and 7% are unaccompanied youth
- 46% have disabilities

### Services

- 1,182 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds
- Louisville Coalition for the Homeless assesses and coordinates services, including Bed One-Stop that provides centralized intake to the shelter system
- Primary providers include Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul, Volunteers of America, and Wayside Christian Mission
- Longer-term housing is provided by Family Scholar House, Family Health Centers, and New Directions Housing Corporation

### Gaps

- Housing affordable for households with extremely low-incomes
- Landlords who will accept subsidized housing vouchers
- Housing and services for homeless young adults

### Opportunities

- Expand Family Scholar's education and affordable housing model for young families and adults
- Leverage Louisville CARES new \$12M affordable housing initiative by supporting nonprofit housing and permanent supportive housing developers
- Increase support for homeless youth through YMCA's Safe Place Services



## Hunger

### Need

- Food insecurity rate of 17.2%
- About 90% of those eligible for SNAP in Kentucky receive it
- Due to its high poverty rates, all public school students are eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch, which benefits more than 80,000 children at 127 schools

### Services

- **Dare to Care Food Bank** serves the Louisville Metro area and 12 adjacent counties in Kentucky & Indiana
- It works with more than 300 meal providers, food pantries, religious congregations, and community-based agencies
- Dare to Care also operates congregate meal programs for kids in low-income neighborhoods (Kids Café), while Louisville Metro Community Services and Meals on Wheels offer meals for seniors

### Gaps

- Fresh produce and health grocery delivery for seniors
- Food deserts especially in the low-income parts of downtown, the southwest side, and West Louisville

### Opportunities

- Support the development of a new, consolidated campus for the Food Bank in order to increase its storage, distribution, and cooking capacity
- Increase capacity of senior-serving food programs, particularly grocery and meal delivery ones
- Enhance fresh food storage facilities at food pantries



## Workforce

### Need

- 4.8% official unemployment rate, but likely double that
- High school graduation rates have increased, but enrollment in post-secondary education has declined to only 66% of graduates

### Services

- KentuckianaWorks is the Workforce Development Board for the Greater Louisville Seven-County Region
- Kentucky Career Centers are located in Downtown, South, and West Louisville
- Jefferson Community and Technical College provides Adult Basic Education and certificate programs
- Primary community-based providers include Goodwill Industries of Kentucky, Jewish Family and Career Services, Louisville Metro Community Services, Louisville Urban League, and YouthBuild Louisville

### Gaps

- Louisville's low rate of post-secondary education means that the majority of job seekers cannot secure living wage positions, 80% of which require a credential or degree
- Targeted services for West Louisville residents to help them overcome multiple employment barriers

### Opportunities

- Support 55,000 Degrees initiatives to increase educational attainment such as the College Transition Action Network
- Support career pathways programs into the growing advanced manufacturing, logistics, and lifelong wellness and aging care sectors
- Increase learning and earning opportunities for low-income families and young adults



## Community Basic Needs Report

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**csb consulting**

Researched & written by Cassandra Benjamin, Principal, csb consulting  
Graphic design by Jennifer Beales, Crook Beales Design

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