

UK Extension Community Needs Assessment Summary of Respondents' Comments Barren County

A statewide survey was conducted between August and December 2023 to understand Kentuckian's perceptions of the extent to which practical education and assistance is needed in their communities. More than 35,000 Kentuckians, representing all 120 counties of the Commonwealth, responded to the survey. The survey consisted of four scales targeting needs related to: Agricultural and Natural Resources, Youth Development, Family and Individual Development, and Community and Economic Development. State- and county-level survey results are available here. The survey also included an open-ended question that asked respondents to describe other issues in their communities that need practical education and/or assistance. The table below summarizes responses to this question.

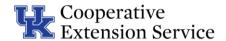
Summary of Respondents' Comments (N=21)

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Category	Description	# of	% of		
		Respondents	Total		
Civic, Public &	Practical education targeting community	4	19.0		
	cohesion, engagement, and involvement;				
(Community	governance and responsible use of public funds				
	and taxes; civics education, election education,				
	election processes, and protection of				
ŕ	constitutional rights; diversity, inclusion, and				
	cultural understanding; etc.				
Substance Use	Practical education targeting substance use	1	4.8		
Prevention &	prevention, recovery, and sober living; treatment				
Recovery	centers and programs; smoking and vaping				
	cessation; transportation and employment				
	support for people in recovery; etc.				
	Comments related to need for improvements in	5	23.8		
	public school facilities and public-school				
	programs; teacher pay and training; education				
	of special needs students; tutoring and other				
	supports for adult education; programs for				
	home-schooled children; vocational/trades				
	training; funding for college education; etc.				
	Practical education on topics related to	1	4.8		
Development	parenting, discipline, and child wellbeing;				
	training (and support) for relatives raising				
	children; support for parents raising children				
	with special needs; support and education on domestic, child, and sexual abuse; respite for caregivers; household money management and budgeting; affordable/accessible childcare; family time, activities for the family; etc.				







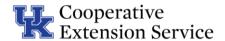


Support for Local Agriculture, Farming, and Gardening	Practical education and support for small and family farms and new farmers; support for organic (or sustainable) and low chemical farming; training on farmland preservation; training on farm safety and food safety on farms, and farmers markets; market support for locally produced foods; education on off-grid living and home gardening; etc.	4	19.0
Food Assess		2	9.5
Food Access,	Practical education and support on topics	2	9.5
	related to hunger and food insecurity; food		
Eating	banks and pantries; nutrition education and		
	access to healthy food; education on growing,		
	preserving, and canning food; etc.		
Housing/Shelter	Need for support and education on	2	9.5
_	homelessness and low income/ affordable		
	housing; housing for domestic abuse survivors;		
	teaching people how to take care of their		
	property/homes; and housing for families.		
Infrastructure	Comments related to need for (and	1	4.8
iiii aoti aotai o	improvements in) infrastructures including	•	1.0
	transportation, roads, sidewalks, public transit,		
	intercounty transit, trails; utility infrastructure		
	such as water, sewer, internet, and cell		
	service.		
Workforce	Education on workforce preparation and job	5	23.8
Preparation and		3	23.0
=	readiness; basic skills training; job training including vocational and trade schools; business		
Employment			
	recruitment and economic development; support		
	for the working class (e.g., transportation to		
V = (I-	work and childcare); need for living wage; etc.	4	40.0
Youth	Need for youth development programs including	4	19.0
Development	recreation and physical activities, mental health		
	support, prevention of bullying, youth violence		
	and programs targeting youth life skills.	_	
Land Use &	Comments related to land use planning and	3	14.3
Development	zoning; land preservation and historic		
	preservation; sign ordinances, visual quality,		
	and beautification of community facilities;		
	availability and use of parks, open spaces, and		
	conservation areas; need for (and		
	improvements to) public facilities (e.g., sports		
	and recreation centers and conference		
	centers).		
Health/Healthcare	Access to healthcare, cost of care, support for	2	9.5
	chronic illnesses; improvements to healthcare		
	systems; programs (and advocacy) to promote		
	holistic health, healthy choices (e.g., nutrition		
	and physical activity) and healthy lifestyle		
	advocacy.		

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Public Assistance	Comments related to the need for public and	1	4.8
	community assistance to address poverty,		
	disaster recovery, child nutrition, single parents,		
	etc.		

Scan the QR code to access the UK Community Needs Assessment



For additional questions, contact Dr. Lola Adedokun at lola.adedokun@uky.edu

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Family and Consumer Sciences
4-H Youth Development
Community and Economic Development

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