

UK Extension Community Needs Assessment Summary of Respondents' Comments Oldham 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 <u>here</u>. 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.

Category Description # of % of				
Category	Description	Respondents	Total	
Civic, Public &	Practical education targeting community	35	25.4	
Governance	cohesion, engagement, and involvement;			
(Community	governance and responsible use of public funds			
Wellbeing and	and taxes; civics education, election education,			
Governance)	election processes, and protection of			
	constitutional rights; diversity, inclusion, and			
	cultural understanding; etc.			
Substance Use	Practical education targeting substance use	5	3.6	
Prevention &	prevention, recovery, and sober living; treatment			
Recovery	centers and programs; smoking and vaping			
	cessation; transportation and employment			
	support for people in recovery; etc.			
School System/	Comments related to need for improvements in	38	27.5	
Education	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.			
Support for	Practical education to support seniors and	2	1.4	
Seniors the	elders in areas such as low-income housing,			
Elderly	transportation, help with chores and home			

Summary of Respondents' Comments (N=138)

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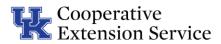
MARTIN-GATTON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT

Agriculture and Natural Resources Family and Consumer Sciences 4-H Youth Development Community and Economic Development Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or rescil status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, cred, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, physical or mental disability or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Reasonable accommodation of disability may be available with prior notice. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. University of Kentucky, Kentucky State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Kentucky Counties, Cooperating.



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	repairs; provision of senior centers, health care, nursing homes/assisted living; respite for caregivers; computer training for seniors; programs to enhance connection and reduce isolation; etc.		
Environmental Issues	Practical education on habitat protection/restoration, watershed (or stream) protection; dumping and littering; pesticide use and pollinator protection; recycling and sustainability; floodplain protection and drainage issues; etc.	23	16.7
Family Development	Practical education on topics related to 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.	10	7.2
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.	33	23.9
Food Access, Nutrition & Healthy Eating	Practical education and support on topics related to hunger and food insecurity; food banks and pantries; nutrition education and access to healthy food; education on growing, preserving, and canning food; etc.	20	14.5
Housing/Shelter	Need for support and education on 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.	5	3.6
Infrastructure	Comments related to need for (and improvements in) infrastructures including	15	10.9

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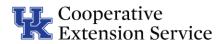
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	transportation, roads, sidewalks, public transit,		
	intercounty transit, trails; utility infrastructure		
	such as water, sewer, internet, and cell		
	service.		
Workforce	Education on workforce preparation and job	10	7.2
Preparation and	readiness; basic skills training; job training		
Employment	including vocational and trade schools; business		
	recruitment and economic development; support		
	for the working class (e.g., transportation to		
	work and childcare); need for living wage; etc.		
Youth	Need for youth development programs including	29	21.0
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	36	26.1
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	7	5.1
	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.	0	0.5
Mental Health	Education and support for mental health and	9	6.5
Issues	wellbeing including the need for counseling and		
	therapy services and suicide (hotline)		
Public Assistance	awareness.	4	2.0
Fublic Assistance	Comments related to the need for public and	4	2.9
	community assistance to address poverty, disaster recovery, child nutrition, single parents,		
	etc.		
Recreation &	Need for public buildings for exercise or	19	13.8
Physical Activity	recreation; parks and outdoor recreation	15	10.0
Activity	facilities (e.g., walking, hiking, and/or biking		
	admines (e.g., waiking, fliking, and/or biking		

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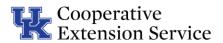
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	trails); entertainment and play areas for children,		
	youth, and family; need for organizations like		
	Boy Scouts.		
Public Safety	Comments related to need for (and	3	2.2
	improvements) in public safety including crime,		
	internet safety, fraud prevention, night safety,		
	and quality of law enforcement; safety training		
	(e.g., gun safety, safe driving, and driver's		
	education); first aid and disaster preparedness;		
	need for additional first responders and		
	ambulances; training and education on		
	combatting misinformation; animal control, loose		
	pets, and animal cruelty; jail and prison and re-		
	entry issues; etc.		
Special Needs	Practical education on support for disability or	8	5.8
	disabled; special education/ neuro divergent		
	veterans and immigrants; etc.		

Scan the QR code to access the UK **Community Needs** Assessment



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

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