

2014 Community Needs Assessment



Area Community Services Employment & Training Council (ACSET)
Community Action Agency of Kent County



2014 Community Needs Assessment

*An overview of the current community conditions
for Kent County, Michigan.*

Area Community Services Employment and Training Council (ACSET)
Community Action Agency of Kent County

121 Franklin SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49507
(616) 336-4000

communityactionkent.org

ACSET Community Action focuses on meeting basic needs such as, but not limited to food, utility assistance, weatherization and transportation for residents of Kent County. Additionally, ACSET assists with areas of self-sufficiency, senior socialization, medical insurance enrollment, tax preparation and information and referral services.

Mission Statement

To create opportunities for economic self-sufficiency for low income or economically disadvantaged individuals and families.

2014 ACSET Governing Board Members

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Executive Summary

Each year ACSET Community Action - with help from 25 partnering agencies and volunteers - serves over 5000 individuals, most living at 100% or less of federal poverty guidelines. For a family of four, that's less than \$2000/month.

We are very grateful for the number of responses received from this year's survey. With over 800 responses, the survey will allow us to:

- Better understand the needs of Kent County residents.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of services currently provided.
- Gain additional insight into gaps in service and where attention and resources need to be focused.

Over the last year, ACSET has shifted its focus from being reactive to its residents' needs to being more preventative through education on energy efficiency, partnerships with organizations and collaborations leading to better alignment of services and resources. This is a critical shift in light of Census and community data showing an increase in Kent County population and poverty rates.

Jacob Maas, Executive Director
Area Community Services Employment & Training Council

Introduction

The Community Needs Assessment 2014 provided board members, customers and agency personnel an opportunity to gather and evaluate valuable information regarding current and future trends that will impact the services provided by ACSET Community Action (ACSET CA). The information in this assessment will be used to assess existing services, evaluate the need for new service provision, coordinate services with local human service agencies, and advocate for new funding.

The Community Needs Assessment is a required activity for all Community Action Agencies that receive federal Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funding. It was conducted by ACSET CA Associate Director, Susan Cervantes and Marketing & Communications Manager, Jane Kreha.

Process

It is the goal of ACSET Community Action to provide services that are most effective in reducing the effects of poverty and increasing self-sufficiency. The Community Needs Assessment team first met in early 2014 to design and develop a Community Needs Assessment that would garner the information needed to help meet this goal. Staff asked for Advisory Board input during a scheduled meeting on May 7, 2014. Board members were unanimous in their insistence that the Community Needs Assessment utilize existing community data such as the 2010 Census data; the data received by 2-1-1, and the Information and Referral Center housed by the United Way of West Michigan. Additionally, the Advisory Board thought that internal data collected via FacsPro, the statewide database system required for Michigan Community Action Agencies, would provide valuable comparison data. After utilizing the available resources from the Community Action Partnership, and seeking feedback from the Advisory Board, it was decided that a survey would be the best tool to collect the data.

Prior to going live with the survey, ACSET CA staff were asked to take the survey and provide feedback based on their daily interactions with ACSET customers: Is the survey easy to use? Do the questions make sense? Are

Executive Summary

we asking the right questions? Is there any other information that the survey should capture? After incorporating their input based on years of expertise, the survey was finalized.

The Community Needs Assessment was conducted using both a paper version (Attachment A) and an electronic survey created with SurveyGizmo. Customers receiving services between June 17, 2014 and August 1, 2014 were asked to take the survey. Verbal assistance was given to customers who were monolingual/non-English speaking, unable to read, or disabled. The completed paper surveys were entered into SurveyGizmo by volunteers and staff. Every one completing a survey was given the chance to win a fifty dollar payment to the utility provider of their choice by completing a coupon (Attachment B) and placing it into a box. Six winners were selected throughout the process; one per week.

The original plan was to collect surveys for one month, but when evaluating the data, the Community Needs Assessment team found that nearly 85% of the respondents were elderly. While this is representative of the customers seeking assistance during this time of year, the team wanted a broader base of respondents. Therefore, ACSET staff expanded the survey to include the customers of the Michigan Works! Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program, a program that serves individuals who receive TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) funds. 834 individuals completed the survey over the 6 week period.

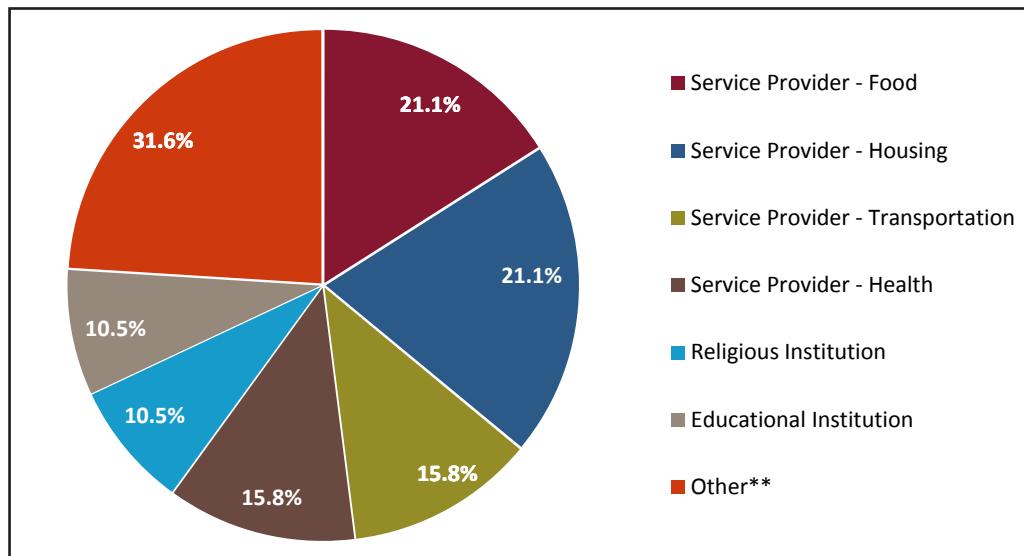
Partner Input

ACSET Community Action also asked for input from partnering agencies and board members to inform the Needs Assessment. A separate survey was designed (Attachment C) and a request to complete it was made via a member list of the Essential Needs Task Force (ENTF). The Essential Needs Task Force* is made up of community agencies throughout Kent County that provide assistance with employment, housing, energy, food, and transportation.

*Recently, the Kent County ENTF enhanced its legitimacy, structure and sustainability model to move from the community's emergency response network to the poverty reduction systems vehicle needed for the 21st century. The ENTF will insure that Kent County residents live stable lives while building a stronger, more clearly defined and supported systems structure that reduces poverty. ACSET staff participates on all committees and sit on the ENTF Governance Board.

19 members responded to the survey. They represent:

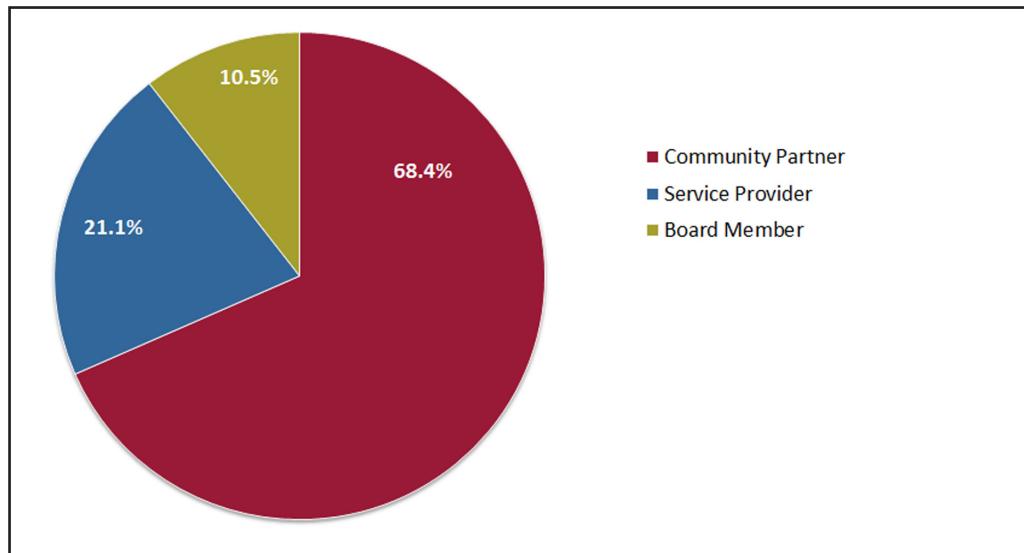
Figure 1 Partner Agencies



**Other agency designations included Coalition of Homeless Service Provider, Funder, social work case manager, United Way-funder, local government, and medical clinic.

Their relationship to ACSET Community Action is described below:

Figure 2 Partner Agencies - Relationship to ACSET



Partner survey respondents were asked, "Based on your experience servicing individuals in Kent County, what do you see as the key contributing factor(s) to instability in each of the following areas?" The four areas represented were food, housing, transportation and employment.

According to survey respondents, the biggest barrier to food stability is the cost of food, as expressed in terms of lack of income, affordability or ineligibility for food stamps. The second most recurrent response for food instability dealt with the availability of food, not only the lack of safe, neighborhood stores, but access to healthy food due to the high cost. Other responses included knowledge of cooking food and education on healthy food.

When asked the same question regarding the instability of housing, the overwhelming response was the lack of affordable housing in Kent County. Other housing instability factors identified were credit history, eviction history, landlord issues, safety, and criminal history.

Regarding transportation, respondents identified the high cost of owning a personal car as the biggest contributor to instability. The area's mass transit system was noted as having a lack of bus routes in the outlying areas of Kent County especially in the north county area and in the suburbs, as well as limited hours of operation, especially for 2nd and 3rd shift employees.

Employment instability factors included lack of education, skills, and training. Barriers such as criminal history, and employers not providing living wage/hours were also identified.

Additional comments were gathered, the most evident and pertaining to all four key areas, regarded institutional policies guiding food, housing, transportation and employment that were perceived as causing harm rather than assisting.

As for opportunities for improved service delivery through new or existing collaborations, several suggestions were collected: better communication with the religious community about ACSET and its resources, increased financial counseling opportunities for food and utility assistance, and increased efforts in advocacy and collaboration.

When asked their opinion about any new services that could be offered through ACSET CA to fill an existing service gap in our community, respondents identified the need for increased transportation services. Additional areas mentioned were: advocacy for cultural competency, more presence in local community centers, and support services for tenants. One issue that surfaced more than once was the need for fewer restrictions on the assistance for utilities. Unfortunately, this issue is controlled by grant guidelines put forth by the bureaucracy allowing for limited flexibility in interpretation.

ACSET Community Action Agency Overview

50 Years of Community Action

*“There are risks and costs to a program of action.
But they are far less than the long-range risks
and costs of comfortable inaction.”*

John F. Kennedy

2014 marked the 50th Anniversary of the War on Poverty and legislation that established Community Action Agencies across the nation. ACSET Community Action commemorated the anniversary with a time capsule ceremony where participants reflected on the agency's efforts to “help low-income people and families move out of poverty and achieve economic stability” and envisioned a world without poverty.

As previously noted, ACSET CA collaborates with partnering agencies and enlists the help of volunteers—logging over 45,000 hours of service—to provide assistance. During the 2014 program year, ACSET Community Action provided:

- outreach and assistance, transportation, congregate and home-delivered meals to 505 seniors
- 61,000 pounds of food distributed
- 716 utility bill payments
- 27 rent or mortgage payments
- weatherization services to 56 homes
- emergency assistance to 22 migrant farmworker households
- 5,497 Medicaid enrollments



ACSET Community Action
Time Capsule



ACSET Employees Commemorating
50 Years of Community Action

This report presents an overview of the current community conditions for Kent County, Michigan as well as the results of the Community Needs Assessment survey, the Community Services Block Grant Information Survey (CSBG IS) and other resources.

The report includes information derived from national, statutory and local sources on:

Population

- Population Change
- Age and Gender Demographics
- Race Demographics
- Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics

Poverty

- Poverty Rate Change, 2000-2012
- Households in Poverty
- Poverty Rate (ACS)
- Households in Poverty by Family Type
- Household Poverty Rate by Family Type
- Child (0-17) Poverty Rate Change, 2000-2012
- Seniors in Poverty

Employment

- Current Unemployment
- Unemployment Change

Education

- Educational Attainment

Housing

- Homeownership

Income

- Income Levels, 2008-2012

Nutrition

- Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)

Health Care

- Medicare and Medicaid Providers
- Persons Receiving Medicare
- Uninsured Population

Kent County Demographics

The following demographic information was obtained from the community assessment tool on the website of communityactionpartnership.com, the Community Services Block Grant Information Survey (CSBG IS), and additional resources as sited.

Population Profile

Population change within the Kent County report area from 2000-2012 is shown in Table 1. During the twelve-year period, total population estimates for the report area grew by 5.38%, increasing from 574,335 persons in 2000 to 605,244 persons in 2012. This is in contrast to the State of Michigan which experienced a decrease in population.

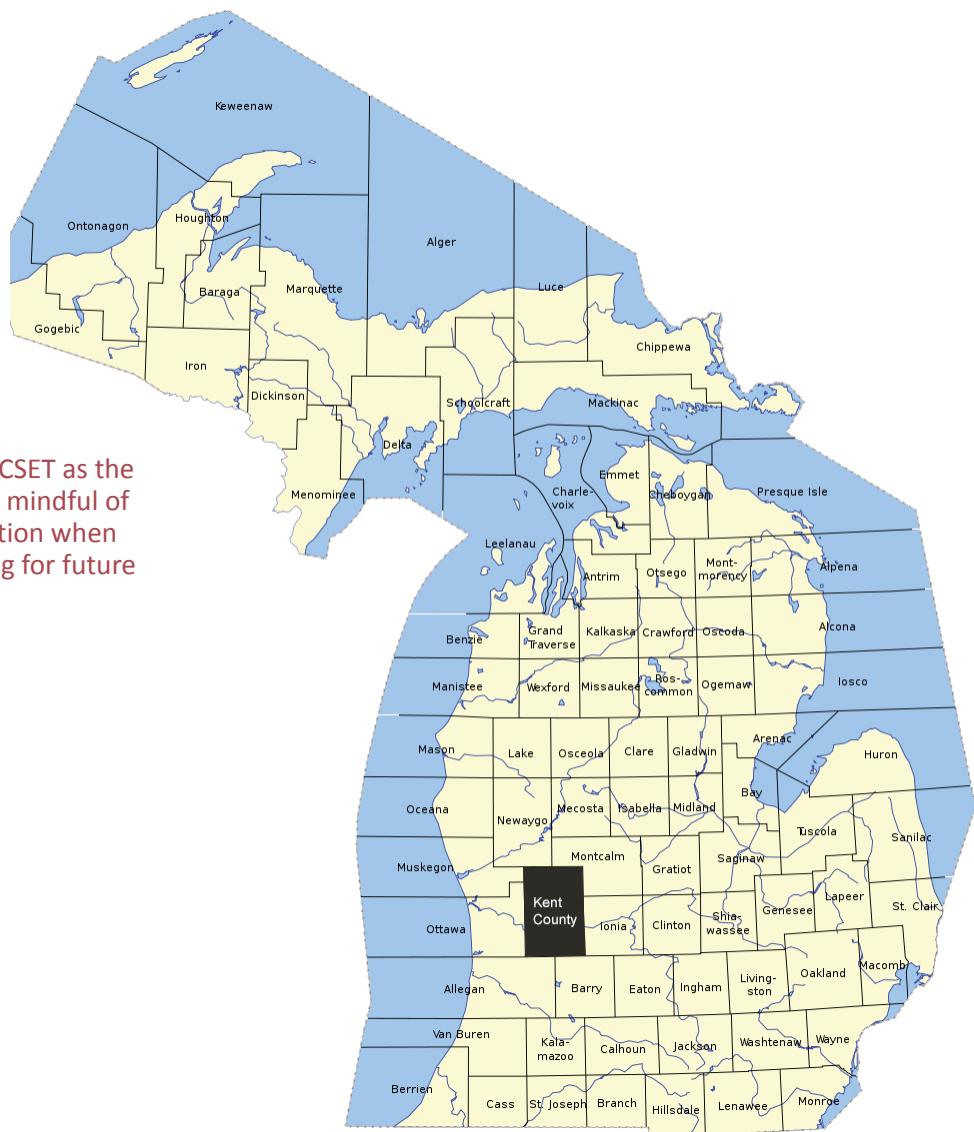
Table 1 Population Change 2000-2012

Geographic Area	Census 2000 Population	ACS 2008-2012 Population	Population Change	% Change
Kent County	574,335	605,244	30,909	5.38
Michigan	9,938,444	9,897,264	-41,180	-0.41

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.
The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.*



This is significant for ACSET as the agency will need to be mindful of the increase in population when planning and budgeting for future services.



Population Profile: Age and Gender

Population by gender within Kent County is shown in Table 2. According to ACS 2008-2012 5-year population estimates for the report area, the female population comprised 51.28% of the report area, while the male population represented 48.72%. The Community Services Block Grant Information Survey (CSBG IS), conducted annually, historically reports that 60% of the customers receiving assistance are females. While a high percentage of female clients is not unusual, the percentage of females seeking services through ACSET CA is much higher at over 70% (Figures 4-5). This is typical of individuals seeking the types of services offered by ACSET CA.

Table 2 Population by Gender

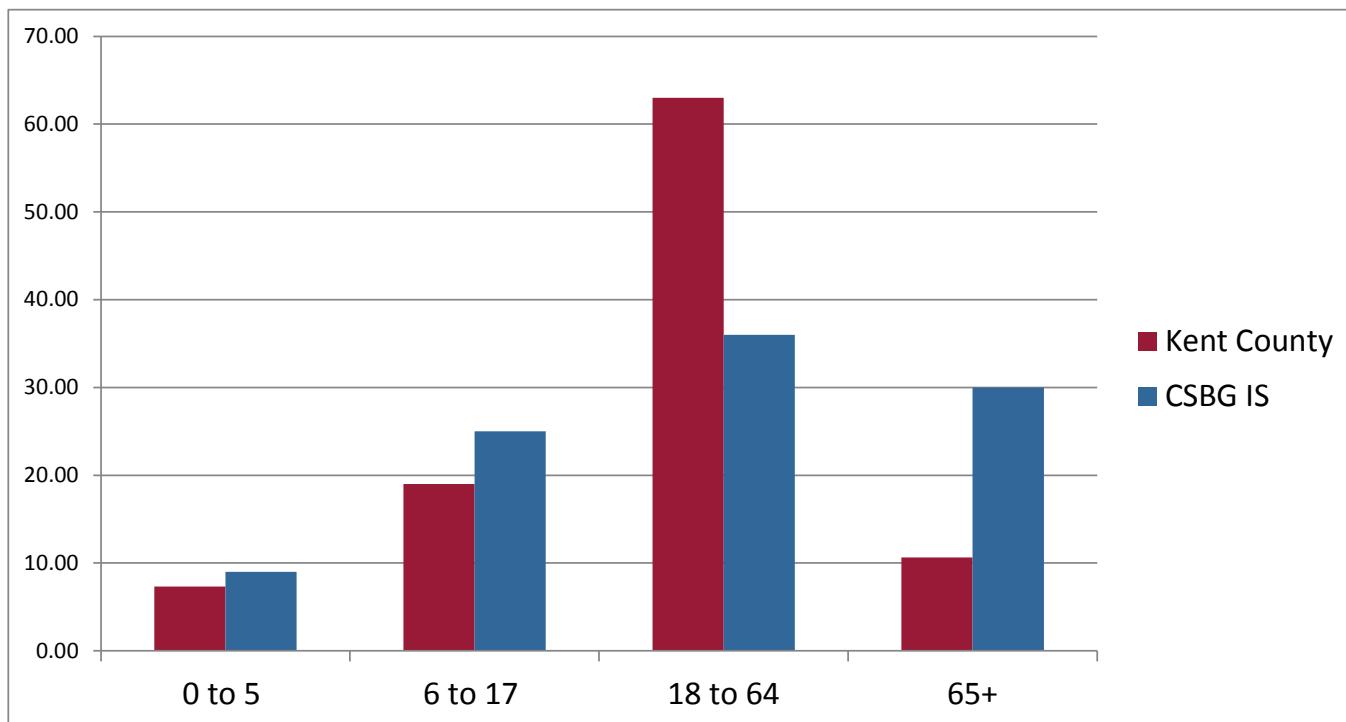
Geographic Area	Ages 0-4		Ages 5-17		Ages 18-64		Over 64	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Kent County	22,594	21,553	58,546	55,772	187,071	192,105	24,974	39,130
Michigan	303,688	290,088	893,306	851,330	3,065,910	3,120,717	531,366	779,768
United States	10,291,124	9,846,760	27,554,024	26,287,952	96,618,000	97,869,408	15,754,421	23,115,796

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

ACSET CA Survey Demographic*								
	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	129	168	463

*The above chart shows the results of the survey taking into account that the survey was completed by adults only and that family composition was not asked.

Figure 3 Comparison: Age - Kent County US Census Data vs. CSBG IS Annual Data



Population Profile: Age and Gender

Figure 4 Comparison: Percentage Population by Gender 18 to 64 Years

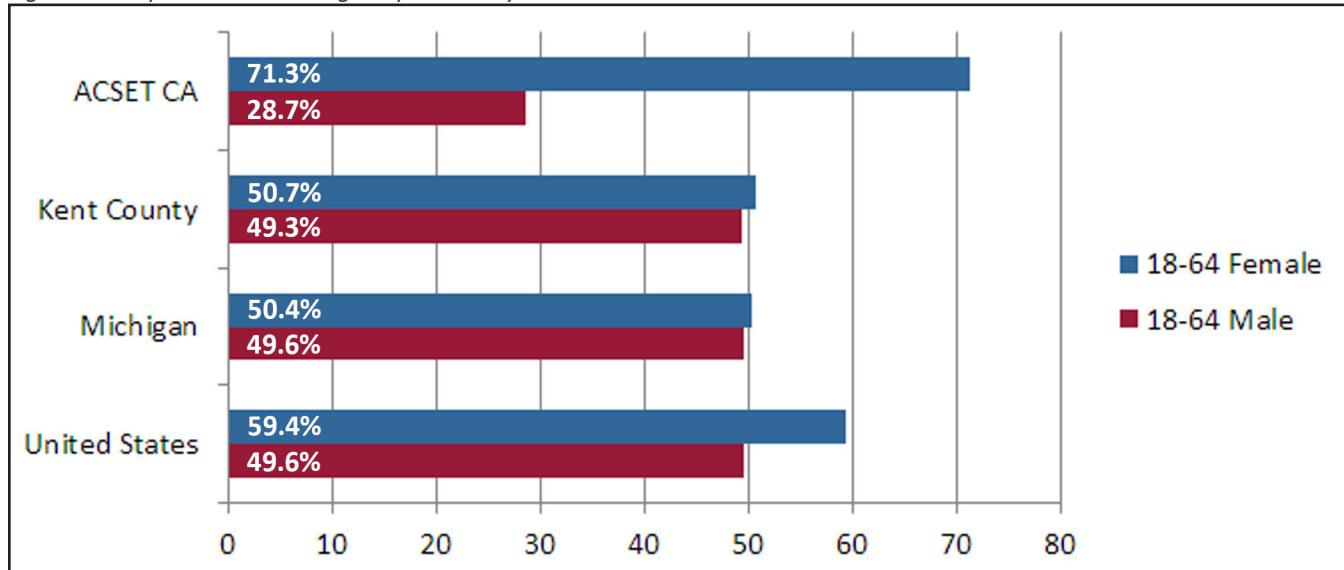
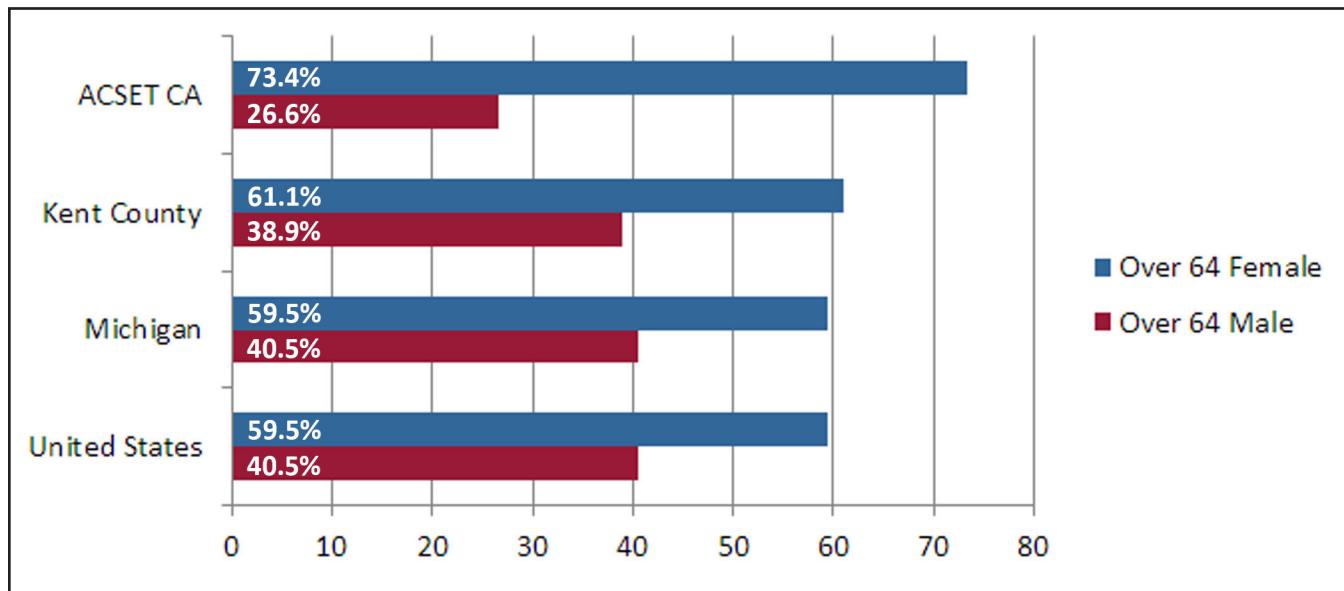


Figure 5 Comparison: Percentage Population by Gender Over 64 Years



A National Women's Law Center (<http://www.nwlc.org>) report, "Insecure and Unequal: Poverty and Income among Women and Families 2000-2011" found that even though poverty has stabilized, it is still at a higher level for women. The rate for women in poverty was 14.5% in 2010, compared to 10.9% for men. Therefore it is valid that women seeking assistance would make up the majority of those served by ACSET.



Because there continues to be a significant wage gap between females and males - females making .77 to each dollar a male earns - ACSET must continue to help female clients increase their earnings through resourcefulness and the attainment of higher levels of education and/or skills training.

Population Profile: Race/Ethnicity

Population by race and gender within Kent County is shown in Table 3. According to the American Community Survey 5-year averages, white population comprised 84.22% of the report area, black population represented 9.9%, and other races combined were 2.84%. Persons identifying themselves as mixed race made up 3.04% of the population. Figure 6 shows that ACSET CA clientele, compared to the population of Kent County, is comprised of a higher percentage of black individuals, supporting the fact that there are more minorities in poverty than whites.

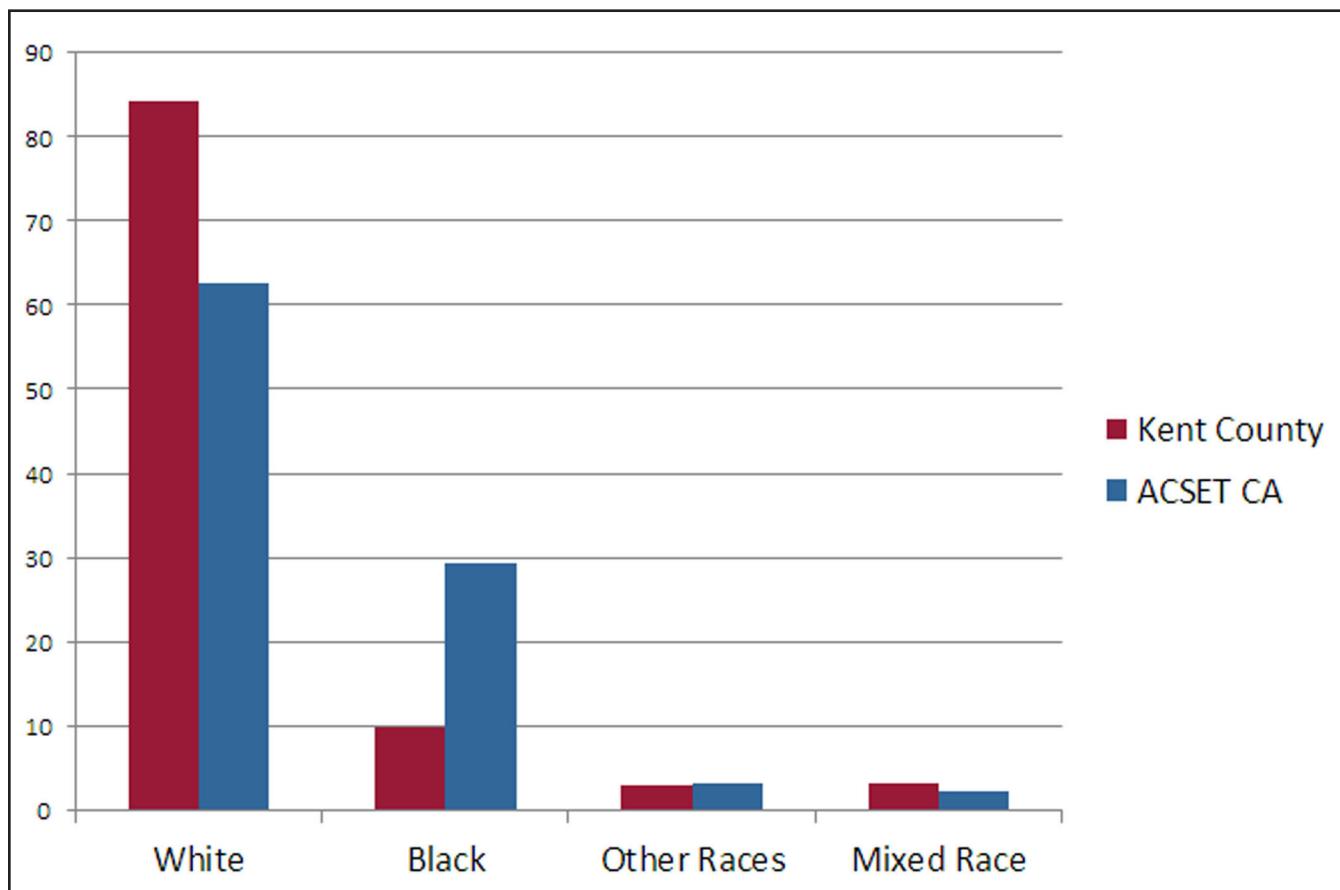
Table 3 Population by Race/Gender

Geographic Area		White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Mixed Race	Pacific Islander
Kent County	Male	243,527	28,123	1272	6,632	9,136	129
	Female	252,600	30189	1120	7,466	8,755	107
Michigan	Male	3,871,558	550,583	27,720	118,389	115,844	1,433
	Female	3,980,759	730,686	28,003	127,198	118,536	1,245
United States	Male	113,159,432	18,509,428	1,258,126	7,055,679	4,128,988	257,706
	Female	116,139,472	20,316,420	1,270,974	7,804,116	4,167,303	256,696

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

ACSET CA Survey Demographic							
	Male	137	69	3	5	6	0
	Female	386	176	11	6	12	1

Figure 6 Comparison: Race - Kent County vs. ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Population Profile: Race/Ethnicity

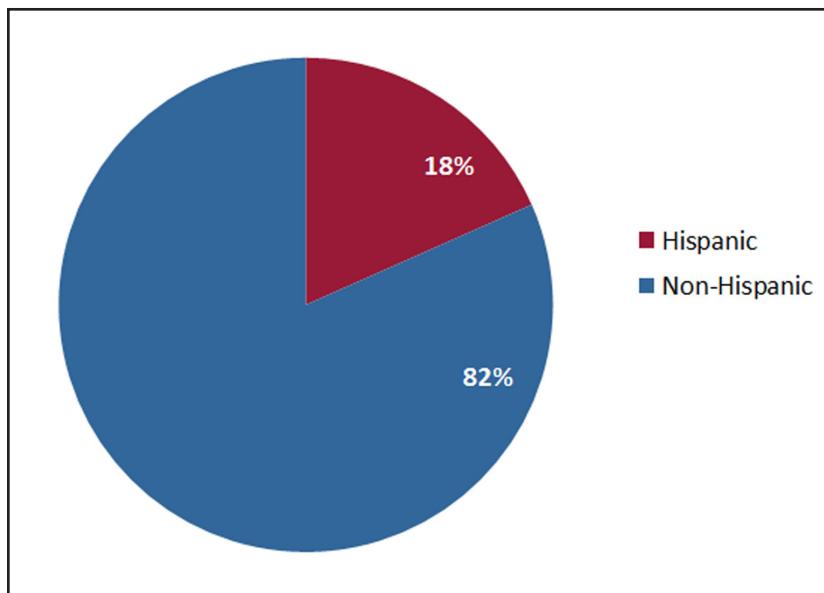
"Blacks and Hispanics are more likely than whites to be poor, and to be in poverty and deep poverty."

U.S. Census figures reveal a stark contrast in the percentages of non-Hispanic whites living in poverty as compared to Hispanics and blacks. In 2012, 9.7% of non-Hispanic whites (18.9 million) were living in poverty, while over a quarter of Hispanics (13.6 million), and 27.2% of blacks (10.9 million) were living in poverty.

The figures are more dismal when looking at the rates for deep poverty. People with income 50% below the poverty line are commonly referred to as living in deep poverty. Compared to non-Hispanic whites, Hispanics are more than twice as likely to live in deep poverty, and blacks are almost three times more likely to live in deep poverty. In 2012, 12.7% of blacks (almost 5.1 million), 10.1% of Hispanics (almost 5.4 million), and 4.3% (8.4 million) of non-Hispanic whites were living in deep poverty.

"Poverty in the US: A Snapshot"
National Center for Law and Justice

Figure 7 Ethnicity: ACSET CA Survey Demographic

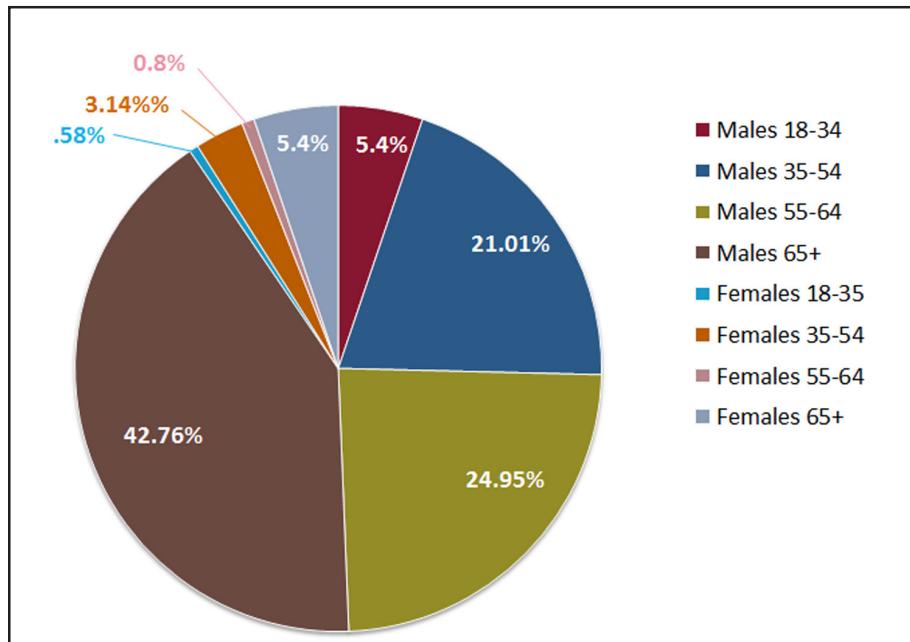


Population Profile: Veterans

Of the adult population in Kent County, 7.78% are veterans. This is comparable to the survey results as 7%, which represents 62 households, report having a veteran living in the house. This is less than the national average of 9.34%.

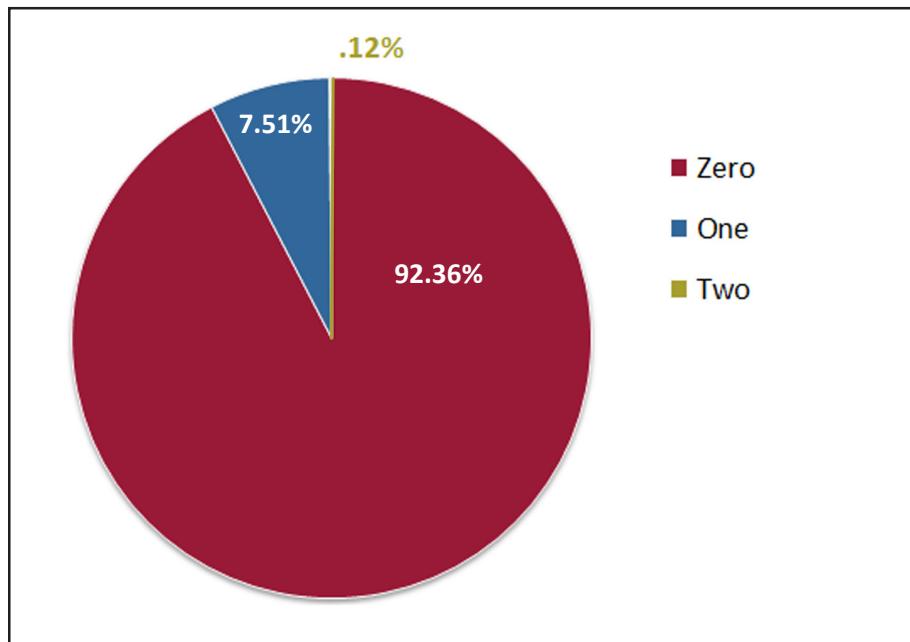
ACSET, in addition to being the administrative agent for Community Action, is a Michigan Works! Agency. The Agency houses a Veterans Services Representative at each of its Kent County Service Centers. These employment services professionals are available to assist program eligible veterans and spouses with employment-related services and work with ACSET CA to fully address, when possible, any need identified by a veteran.

Figure 8 Percent of All Veterans by Gender and Age, 2008-2012



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Figure 9 Percent Households with Veterans ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Poverty Profile

2012 poverty estimates show a total of 101,609 persons living below the poverty rate in Kent County. During this same time period, 58% of the households that were customers of ACSET were at or below 100% of the federal income guideline according to the CSBG IS. Most of the programs operated by ACSET CA are poverty based so there is an expectation that the majority of our customers are living in poverty. Some of the programs assist households up to 200% of poverty, and some programs (primarily senior programs) do not require income eligibility.

Table 4 Persons Living in Poverty

Geographic Area	All Ages		Age 0 to 17		Age 5 to 17	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Person	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate
Kent County	101,609	16.8%	35,821	23.0%	24,092	21.5%
Michigan	1,677,776	17.4%	549,131	24.7%	376,004	22.7%
United States	48,760,123	15.9%	16,396,863	22.6%	11,086,57	21.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Federal poverty guidelines (Table 5) are utilized when ACSET CA is required to establish eligibility to provide assistance. According to history and reflected at Wisegeek.com, “the federal poverty level is based upon work and research carried out in the early 1960s by Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration. Orshansky, aware that families of 3 or more often spent a third of their income on food, devised a scheme that took the cost of a cheap meal plan from the Department of Agriculture and multiplied it by three. For families of two or fewer, a multiplier of 3.7 was used. Since 1969, Orshansky’s original numbers have been adjusted for inflation annually using the Consumer Price Index. The federal poverty level is the minimum annual income required to avoid living in poverty in the U.S. Any level of income below this level is considered insufficient to meet the basic necessities of life.”

Table 5 Poverty levels for 2014 from the Community Service Policy Manual (CSPM)208.

Family Size	100% of poverty	75% of poverty	125% of poverty	150 % of poverty	200% of poverty	60% of SMI	LIHEAP WAP Eligibility 3 mos.	DOE WAP Eligibility 3 mos.	LCA-MEAP Eligibility 150% 30 days	LCA-MEAP Eligibility 60% SMI 30 days
1	\$11,670	\$8,753	\$14,588	\$17,505	\$23,340	\$22,866	\$4,376	\$5,835	\$1,459	\$1,907
2	\$15,730	\$11,798	\$19,663	\$23,595	\$31,460	\$29, 928	\$5,899	\$7,865	\$1,966	\$2,494
3	\$19,790	\$14,843	\$24,738	\$29,685	\$39,580	\$36,970	\$7,421	\$9,895	\$2,474	\$3,081
4	\$23,850	\$17,888	\$29,813	\$35,775	\$47,700	\$44,012	\$8,944	\$11,925	\$2,981	\$3,668
5	\$27,910	\$20,933	\$34,888	\$41,854	\$55,820	\$51,054	\$10,466	\$13,955	\$3,489	\$4,254
6	\$31,790	\$23,978	\$39,963	\$47, 955	\$63,940	\$58,096	\$11,989	\$15,985	\$3,996	\$4,841
7	\$36,030	\$27,023	\$45,038	\$54,045	\$72,060	\$59,416	\$13,511	\$18,015	\$4,504	\$4,951
8	\$40,090	\$30,068	\$50,113	\$60,135	\$80,180	\$60,737	\$15,034	\$20,045	\$5,011	\$5,061
9	\$44,150	\$33,113	\$55,188	\$66,225	\$88,300	\$63,377	\$16,556	\$22,075	\$5,519	\$5,281
10	\$48,210	\$36,158	\$60,263	\$72,315	\$96,420	\$64,698	\$18,079	\$24,105	\$6,025	\$5,391
	Add for each additional member									
	\$4,060	\$3,045	\$6.075	\$6,090	\$8,12\$	\$1,320	\$1,523	\$2,030	\$508	\$110

Poverty Rate Change, 2000-2012

Poverty rate change in Kent County from 2000 to 2012 is shown below. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for Kent County increased by 8.6%, compared to a national increase of 4.6%.

Table 6 Change in Poverty Rate

Geographic Area	Persons in Poverty, 2000	Poverty Rate	Persons in Poverty	Poverty Rate	Change in Poverty Rate, 2000-2012
Kent County	47,054	8.2	101,609	16.8	8.6
Michigan	951,435	9.7	1,677,776	17.4	7.7
United States	31,581,086	11.3	48,760k,123	15.9	4.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012.



The substantial poverty rate increase necessitates that ACSET plan for an increase in assistance services.

Households in Poverty

The table below shows the number and percentage of households in poverty in Kent County. In 2012, it is estimated that there were 31,429 households, or 13.77%, living in poverty within the report area. For ACSET CA customers, 58% are at or below 100% of poverty based on family size.

Table 7 Households in Poverty

Geographic Area	Total Households, 2008/2012	Households in Poverty, 2008/2012	% Households in Poverty 2008/2012
Kent County	228,204	31,429	13.8
Michigan	3,818,931	567,070	14.9
United States	115,226,800	15,920,513	13.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Poverty Rate (ACS)

The following table shows the total population estimates for all persons in poverty for Kent County. According to the American Community Survey 5 year estimates, an average of 15.6 percent of Kent County residents lived in a state of poverty during the 2008-2012 period. The poverty rate for all persons living in Kent County report area is greater than the national average of 14.9% but less than the state average of 16.3%.

Table 8 Poverty Rate (ACS)

Geographic Area	Poverty Rate for All Persons		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Kent County	595,152	92,821	15.6
Michigan	9,676,703	1,582,022	16.3
United States	301,333,408	44,852,528	14.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Households in Poverty by Family Type

“Poverty is a women’s issue; female-headed families are more likely to be poor.”

In 2012, over five million more women than men were living below the poverty line; and two million more women than men were living in deep poverty. For women aged 18 to 64, the poverty rate was 15.4%, compared to 11.9% for men of the same age range. At 11%, the poverty rate for women aged 65 and older is almost double that of men aged 65 and older—6.6%.

Families headed by a single adult are more likely to be headed by women, and these female-headed households are at a greater risk of poverty. Almost 31% of households headed by a single woman were living below the poverty line—nearly five times the 6.3% poverty rate for families headed by a married couple. For households headed by a single male, 16.4% were living in poverty.

“Poverty in the US: A Snapshot”
National Center for Law and Justice

Table 9 shows the percentage of households in poverty by household type in the report area. In 2012, it is estimated that 11.31% of all households were living in poverty within the report area, compared to the national average of 10.9%. Of the households in poverty, female headed households represented 59.63% of all households in poverty, compared to 10.85% and 29.52% of households headed by males and married couples, respectively (see Figure 10).

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that there were 17,384 households living in poverty within the report area. Female householders were the largest type of families living in poverty. This coincides with the CSBG IS information gathered by ACSET CA. In fact, of 475 households with children and a single parent, 92% were single female headed households.

Table 9 Percentage of All Households in Poverty by Type

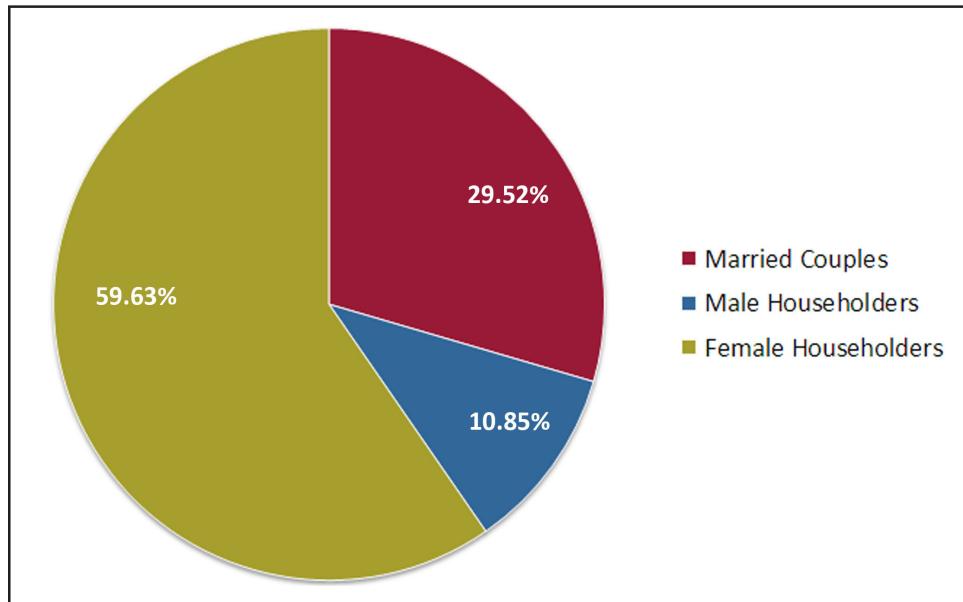
Geographic Area	All Types	Married Couples	Male Householder	Female Householder
Kent County	11.3	3.3	1.2	6.7
Michigan	11.7	3.9	1.3	6.5
United States	10.9	4.0	1.1	5.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012.

Note: The poverty rate for Household type is based on the total number of households for that household type.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Figure 10 Percent of Households in Poverty by Type 2008-2012



Due to the fact the single female headed households make up the majority of households in poverty, it is imperative that ACSET research the reasons for, and provide programmatic solutions by gearing services toward these households whenever possible.

Child (0-17) Poverty Rate Change, 2000 - 2012

"Children represent more than one-third of the people living in poverty and deep poverty."

In 2012, 73.7 million American children represented 23.7% of the total U.S. population, but made up a disquieting 34.6% of Americans in poverty and a full 35% of Americans living in deep poverty. Overall, 21.8% of children under 18—or some 16.1 million American youth—were living below the poverty line.

"Poverty in the US: A Snapshot"
National Center for Law and Justice

The poverty rate change for all children in the Kent County report area from 2000 to 2012 is shown in Table 10. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for Kent County area increased by 12.1%, compared to a national increase of 6.4%. Unfortunately, this increase is greater than both the state and federal increase.

Table 10 Child Poverty Rate Change

Geographic Area	Children in Poverty, 2000	Poverty Rate, 2000	Children in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Change in Poverty Rate, 2000-2012
Kent County	17,616	10.9	35,821	23.0	12.1
Michigan	347,234	13.7	549,131	24.7	11.0
United States	11,587,118	16.2	16,396,863	22.6	6.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2012.

Child (0-17) Poverty Rate (ACS)

Table 11 shows the population and poverty estimates for children in Kent County report area. According to the American Community Survey 5-year data, an average of 22.09% of children lived in a state of poverty during the 2012 calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in Kent County is greater than the national average of 20.8%. According to the CSBG IS, 34% of the persons in households that are served annually at ACSET CA are children from 0-17 years of age.

Table 11 Child Poverty Rate

Geographic Area	Children, Ages 1 to 17 Years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Kent County	156,221	34,511	22.1
Michigan	2,300,573	524,943	22.8
United States	72,869,120	15,188,844	20.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.



Although ACSET does not specifically offer services for children, it is imperative that families seeking assistance are provided substantial information, referrals, and community connections to alleviate children living in poverty.

Seniors in Poverty

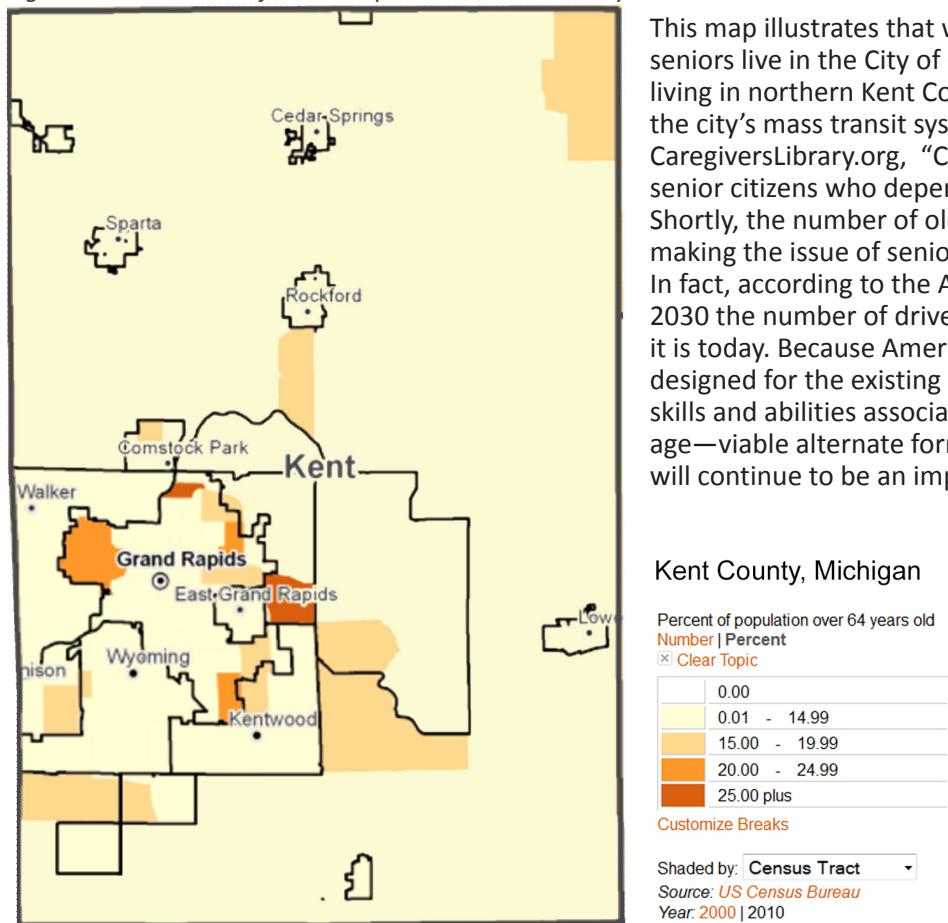
Poverty rates for seniors (persons age 65 and over) are shown in Table 11. At 6.6%, Kent County had the lowest percentage of seniors in poverty as compared to the state and national percentages. According to American Community Survey estimates, there were 4,325 seniors, or 6.6%, living in poverty within the report area. Due to the fact that thirty percent of the customers served at ACSET are seniors, it is not hard to extrapolate that most of our seniors are living in poverty based on program guidelines.

Table 11 Seniors in Poverty

Geographic Area	Seniors in Poverty, 2008-2012		
	Seniors	Senior In Poverty	Senior Poverty Rate
Kent County	65,145	4,325	6.6
Michigan	1,333,325	109,414	8.2
United States	39,358,824	3,702,237	9.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is an average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Figure 11 Distribution of Senior Population in Kent County



This map illustrates that while the highest concentrations of seniors live in the City of Grand Rapids, there are many seniors living in northern Kent County who do not have access to the city's mass transit system. As reported on the website CaregiversLibrary.org, "Currently, there are about 8.4 million senior citizens who depend on others for their transportation. Shortly, the number of older drivers will more than double, making the issue of senior transportation even more critical. In fact, according to the Administration on Aging, by the year 2030 the number of drivers over age 85 will be 4–5 times what it is today. Because America's roads and automobiles are not designed for the existing elderly population—and because the skills and abilities associated with driving tend to diminish with age—viable alternate forms of transportation for the elderly will continue to be an important issue for years to come."

Kent County, Michigan



ACSET will need to increase their transportation services for Kent County seniors in order to address the lack of access to essential services, the loss of social independence, reduced mobility and isolation issues that seniors face daily.

Employment Profile

Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for Kent County is provided in Table 12. Overall, the report area experienced an average 5.2% unemployment rate in May 2014. Five percent of the households responding to the survey were receiving Unemployment Benefits which aligns with the unemployment rate of 5.2%.

Table 12 Current Unemployment

Geographic Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Kent County	337,289	319,686	17,603	5.2
Michigan	4,736,790	4,349,857	345,933	7.3
United States	156,987,069	147,385,695	9,601,374	6.1

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, July 1, 2014.

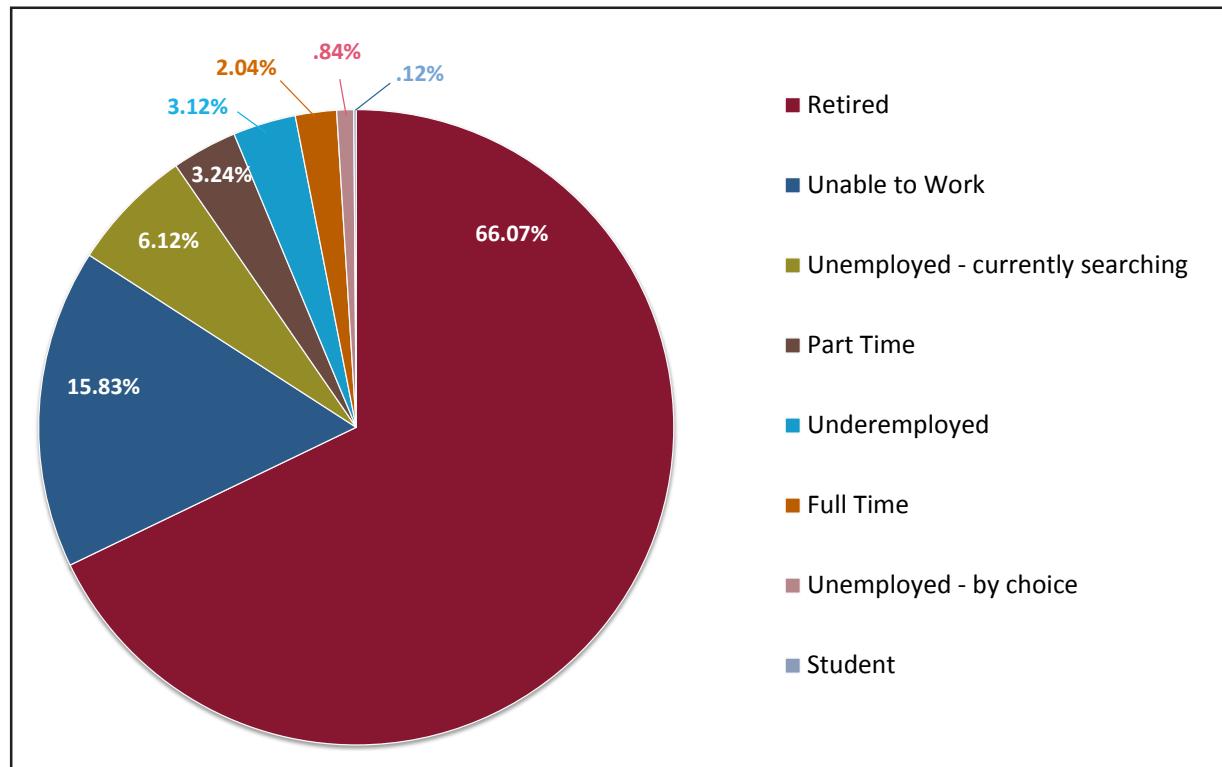
Unemployment change within Kent County during the 1-year period from May 2013 to May 2014 is shown in the table below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this one year period fell from 21,498 persons to 17,603 persons, a rate change of -1.37 percent.

Table 13 Employment Change

Geographic Area	Unemployment, May 2013	Unemployment, May 2014	Unemployment Rate, May 2013	Unemployment Rate, May 2014
Kent County	21,498	17,603	6.60	5.20
Michigan	405,883	345,933	8.60	7.30
United States	11,459,647	9,601,374	7.30	6.10

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, July 1 2014.

Figure 12 Employment ACSET Community Action Demographic

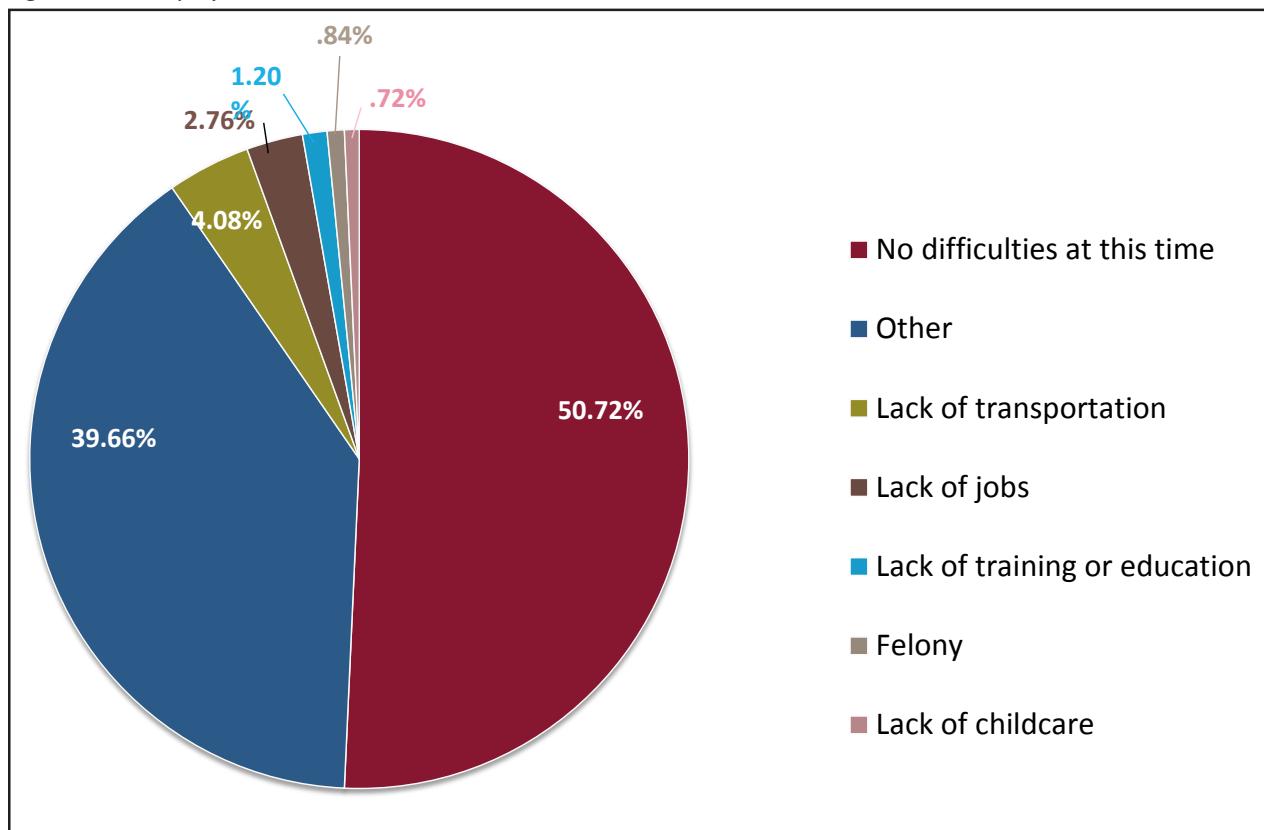


Employment Profile

Survey respondents were asked for their opinion on four issues as they relate to their household. One of the questions concerned unemployment, but ACSET knew that most of the respondents were seniors and therefore retired. The following results were presented.

Which of the following, if any, make it difficult for you to find and/or keep a job?

Figure 13 Unemployment Factors



Education Profile

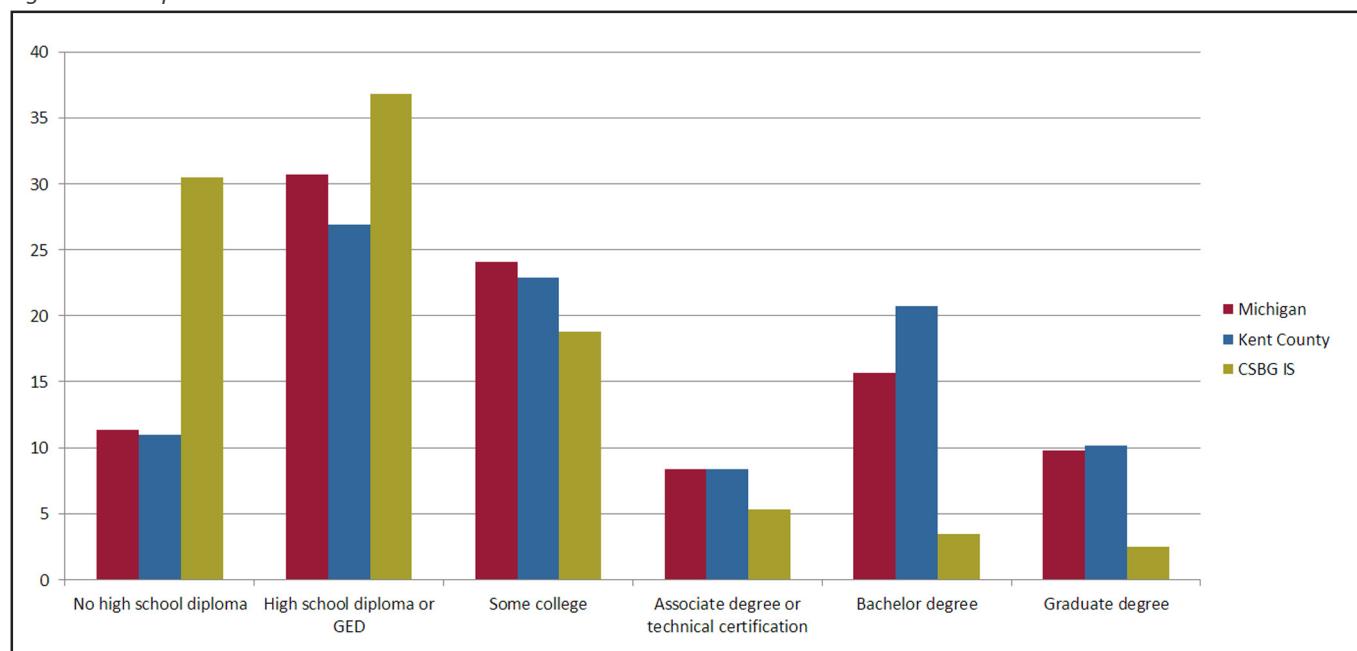
Educational Attainment

Table 14 shows the distribution of educational attainment levels in Kent County. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25, and is an average for the period from 2008 to 2012. On the CSBG IS, educational attainment is extracted for those individuals 24 and older. Of the 2,620 persons reported over 24, 31% were non-graduates, 38% had graduated or obtained their GED, 13% had some post-secondary training/education, and 18% were 2 or 4 year graduates.

Table 14 Educational Attainment

Geographic Area	% No High School Diploma	% High School Only	% Some College	% Associates	% Bachelors	% Graduate or Professional
Kent County	10.99	26.9	22.9	8.4	20.8	10.1
Michigan	11.36	30.7	24.1	8.4	15.7	9.8
<i>Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012. Estimates for 2011 were released in December 2012.</i>						
CSBG IS						
	30.4	36.8	21.4	5.2	3.4	2.5

Figure 14 Comparison: Educational Attainment



With the exception of the recent economic recession, people with more than a high school diploma or GED are less likely to live in poverty. ACSET staff needs to recognize those clients with lower educational attainment and ensure they are referred to Michigan Works! for education and/or training.

Housing Profile

Homeownership

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 149,679 homeowners in Kent County in 2000, and an estimated 160,286 homeowners for the 5 year period from 2008-2012.

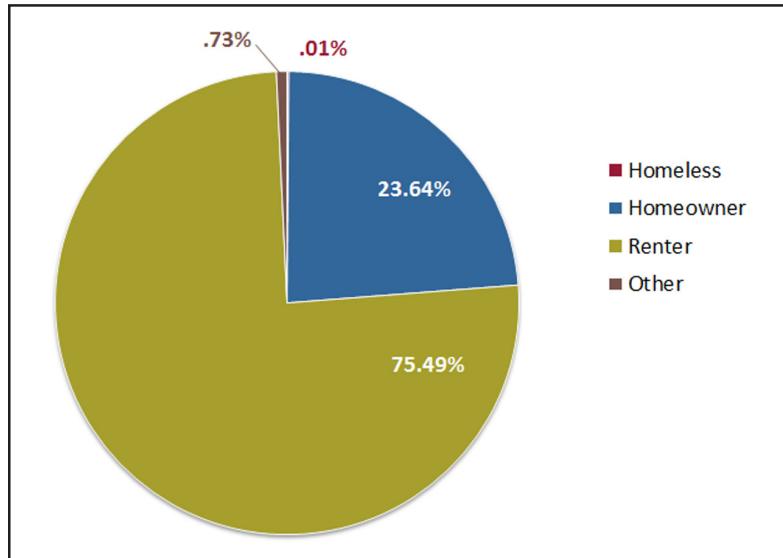
Table 15 Homeowners

Geographic Area	Homes, 2000	Homes, 2008/2012
Kent County	149,679	160,286
Michigan	2,793,124	2,780,213
United States	1,293,556	1,544,719

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census of Population and Housing, Summary File 1, 2000; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

Figure 15 Housing Status ACSET CA Survey Demographic



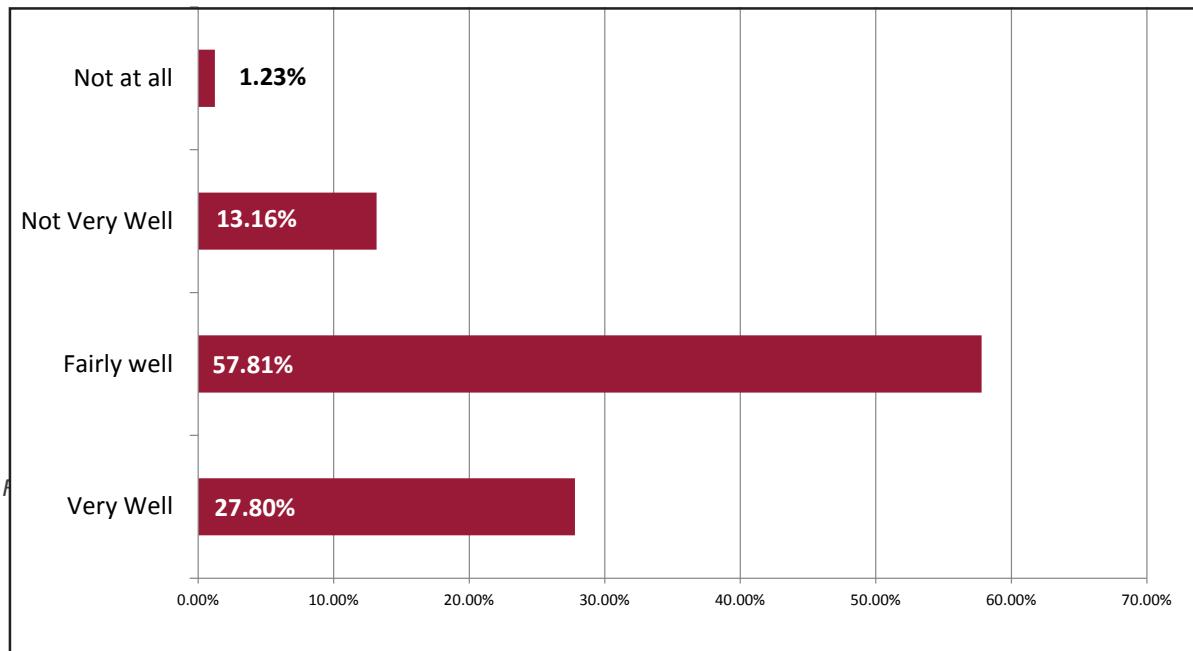
*Other responses included living with family, subsidized housing

There are several reasons why the survey respondents overwhelmingly identified as renters. First, it is difficult to save for the down payment to buy a house, and credit scores are evaluated so that when one lives in poverty, homeownership is not easily attainable. On the other hand, rent is controlled for the lease term and it makes budgeting more efficient. Renting also releases the responsibility of maintenance and repairs to the landlord. Unforeseen housing expenses may put undue stress on a person's housing situation, or may allow for the housing to depreciate due to lack of funds to make the repair. For seniors, rent is most times subsidized and affordable to those at a lower income. For some seniors, renting is what they have known as it was not a lifestyle option to buy a home in their earlier years. The upkeep of a home is hard when your health and mobility are declining so it is easier to rent, you are not isolated in a rental community/senior housing complex and your rental situation is better for your safety and economics.

In addition to the demographic information, survey respondents were asked for their opinion on the following issues related to their housing.

In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's housing needs?

Figure 16 Housing Needs



Of the barriers identified, which of the following, if any, makes it most difficult to find suitable housing in your community?

Figure 17 Housing Barriers

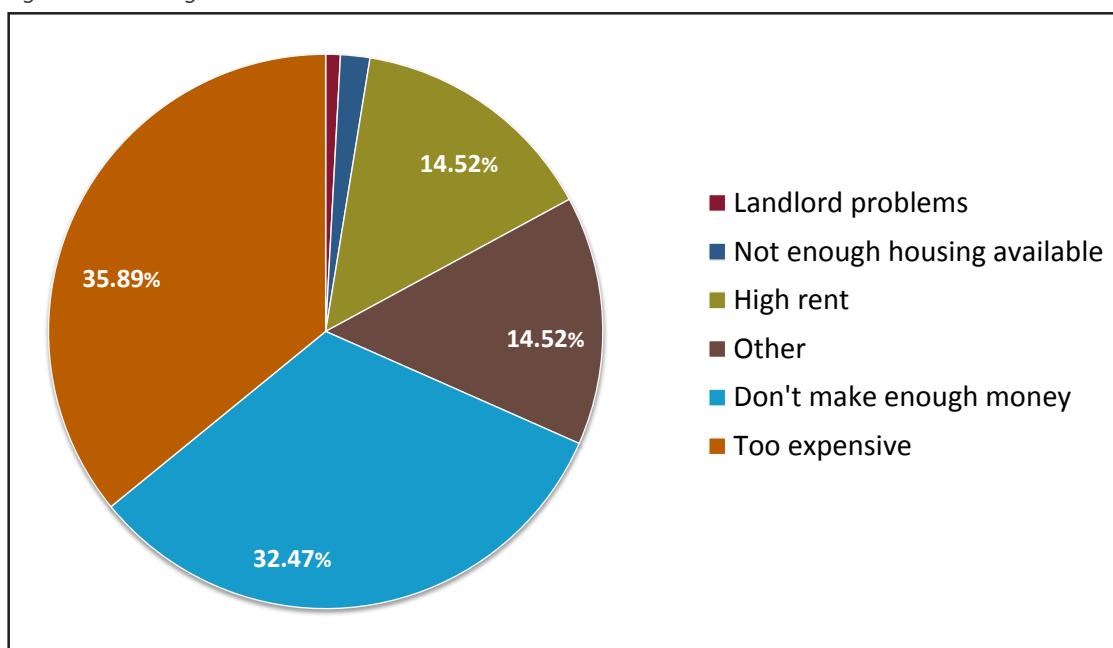
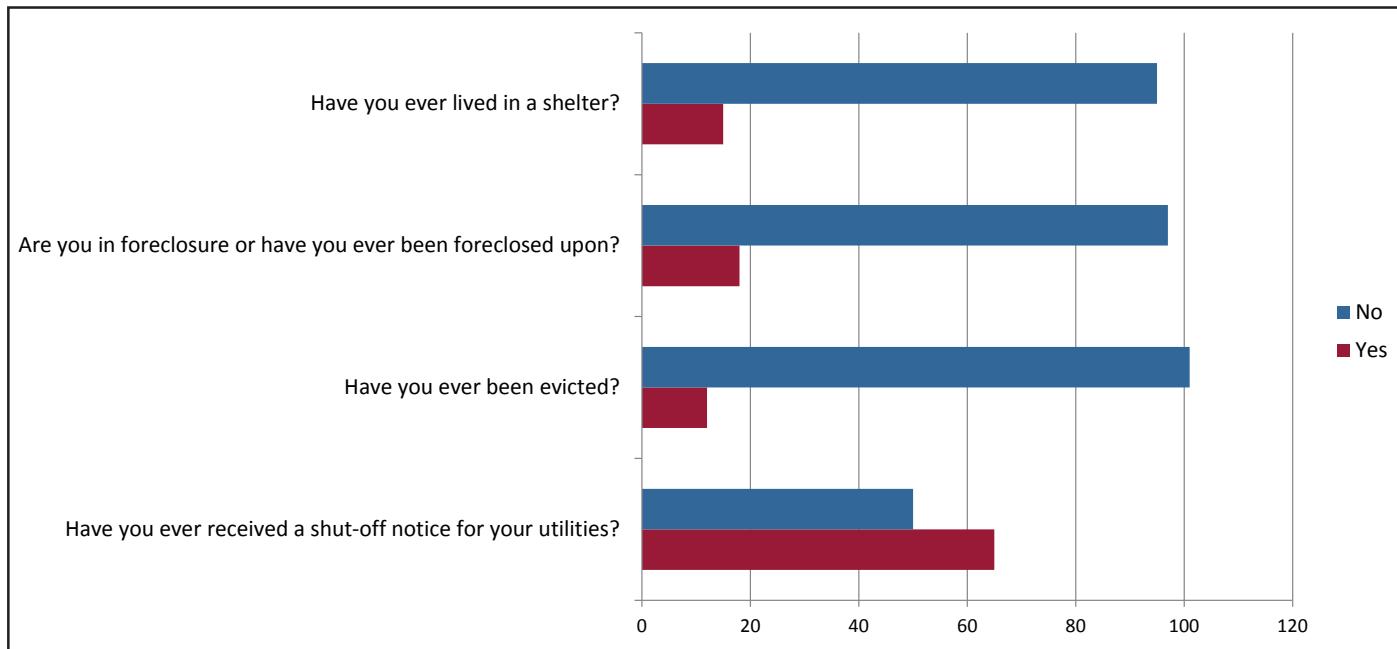


Figure 18 Housing Questions



The high incidence of utility shutoffs shown in Figure 18 illustrates the need for ACSET CA to remain steadfast in providing utility assistance to its customers. It is critical to prevent an incident of homelessness whenever possible; homeless prevention measures are less costly than homeless services. ACSET CA also needs to strongly advocate with funders for funding allocations that are most beneficial to those facing poverty.

Income Profile

Income Levels, 2008-2012

Two common measures of income are Median Household Income and Per Capita Income*, based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates. Both measures are shown for Kent County in the table below. The average Per Capita income for the report area is \$25,541 as compared to a national average of \$28,051.

Table 16 Income Levels

Geographic Area	Median Household Income, 2012	Per Capita Income, 2012
Kent County	51,030	25,541
Michigan	48,471	25,547
United States	60,119	29,733

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013. The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012.

*Median income is the amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups, half having income above that amount, and half having income below that amount. Mean income (average) is the amount obtained by dividing the total aggregate income of a group by the number of units in that group.

Per capita income is often used to measure a country's standard of living. The median household income and per capita income are not comparable to the Federal Poverty Guidelines (Table 5) and use completely different formulas to calculate.

Figure 20 Gross Monthly Income ACSET CA Survey Demographic

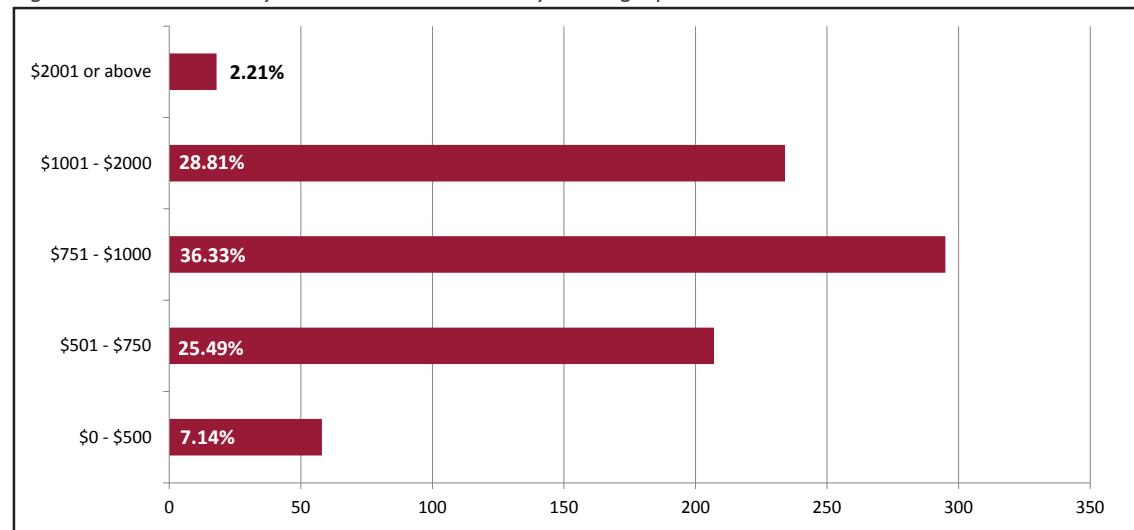
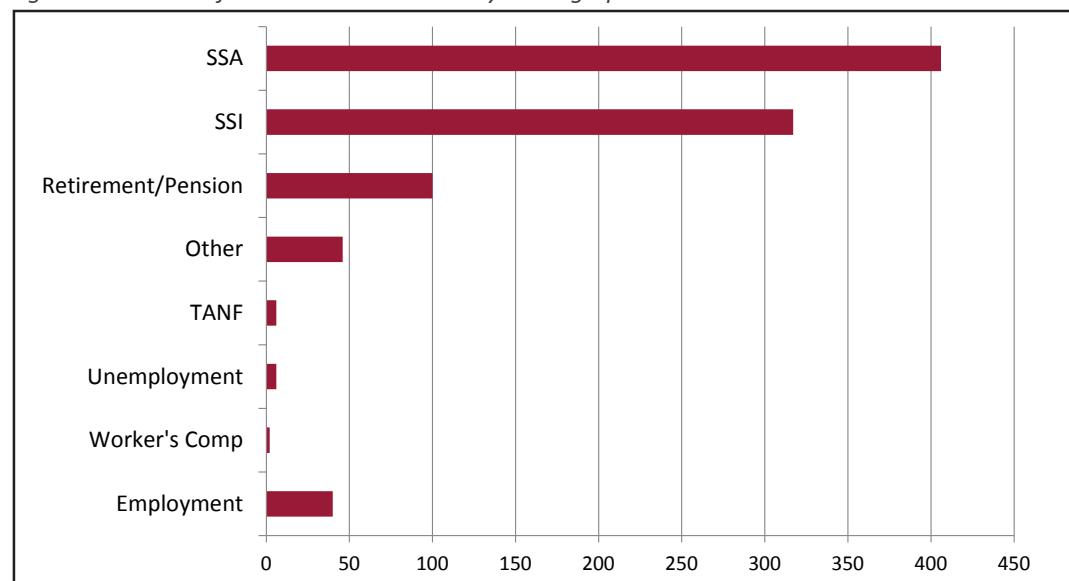


Figure 21 Sources of Income ACSET CA Survey Demographic

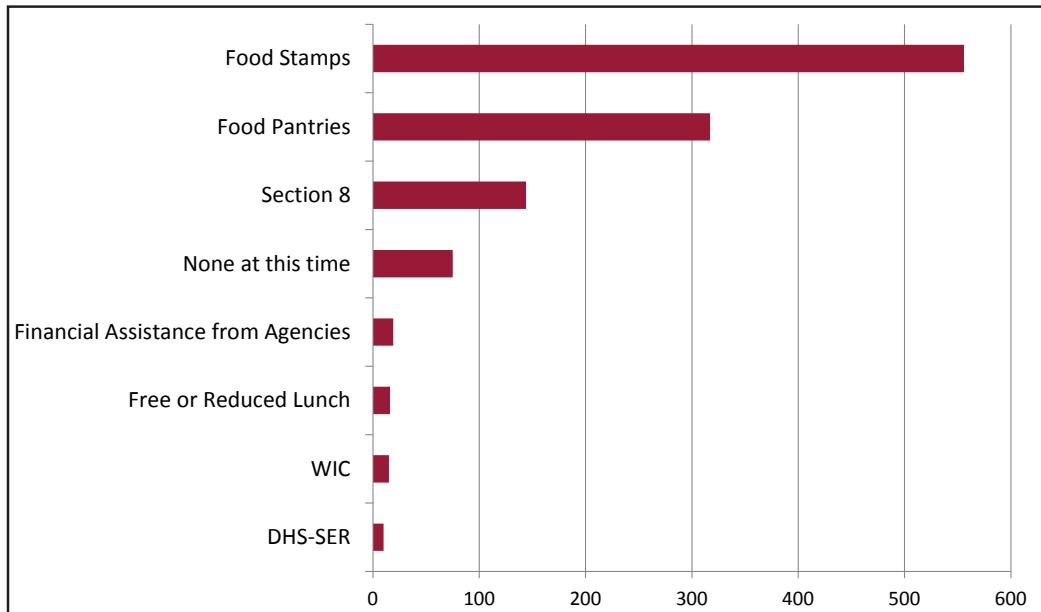


*Other category of sources of income include but are not limited to child support, alimony, veteran's benefits, assistance from friends and/or families, and Section 8 Housing.

Public Benefits

When providing services to customers, ACSET CA is always concerned about the long term self-sufficiency of the family, be it one person or more. Although perceived negatively by some for using government benefits, families living in poverty must focus on ways to maximize their resources to sustain themselves when there are resource gaps or instability. Often it may just be a visit to a food pantry, for example, that allows an individual or family to build and maintain economic self-sufficiency. Below is a sampling of the resources utilized by the survey respondents to ensure that their needs are being met. Customers were asked to choose all that apply.

Figure 22 Public Benefits ACSET CA Survey Demographics



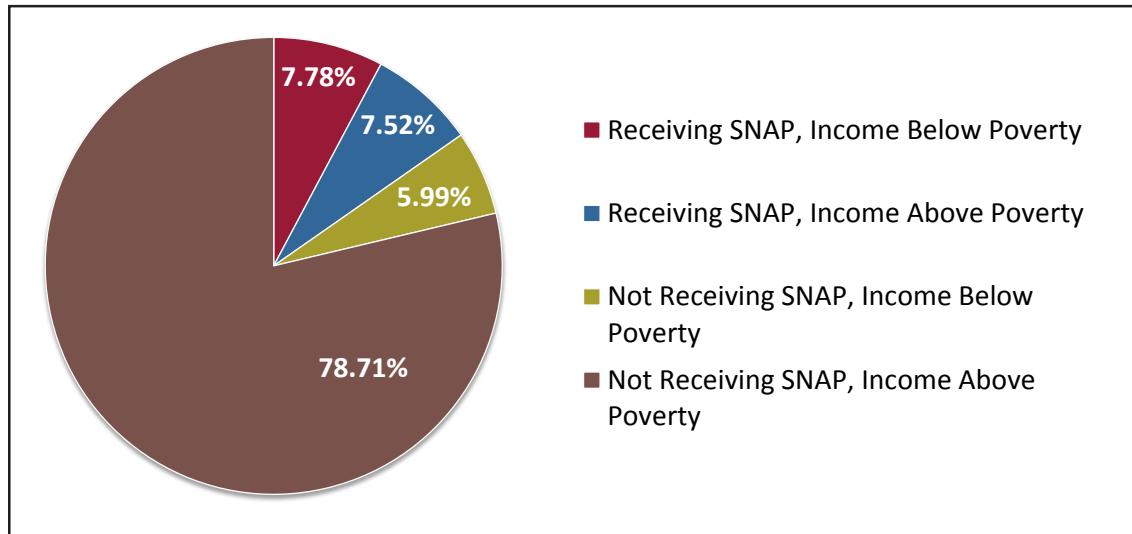
Community resources must be viewed as promoting self-sufficiency and the resources provided by ACSET CA must be considered sustaining. In light of that, ACSET must continue to assist customers in obtaining public benefits that will allow them to maintain their level of sufficiency.

Nutrition Profile

Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)

Figure 23 shows that 34,917 households (or 15.30%) received Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as “food stamps”) payments during 2012. During this same period there were 13,669 (or 5.99%) households with income levels below the poverty level that were not receiving SNAP payments, which is less than the national average of 7.8%. The CSBG IS indicates that about 86% of the households seeking assistance from ACSET CA may be eligible to receive SNAP benefits.

Figure 23 Households Receiving SNAP by Poverty Status (ACS)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2012 Data Release, December 2013.

The 2012 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2008 through 2012. SNAP numbers are for the last 12 months of the five-year average (2012).



ACSET CA needs to be involved in identifying and assisting those households that may be eligible to apply and receive SNAP benefits.

Nutrition Profile

Survey respondents were asked for their opinion on the following issues related to nutrition.

In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's nutrition needs?

Figure 24 Nutrition Needs

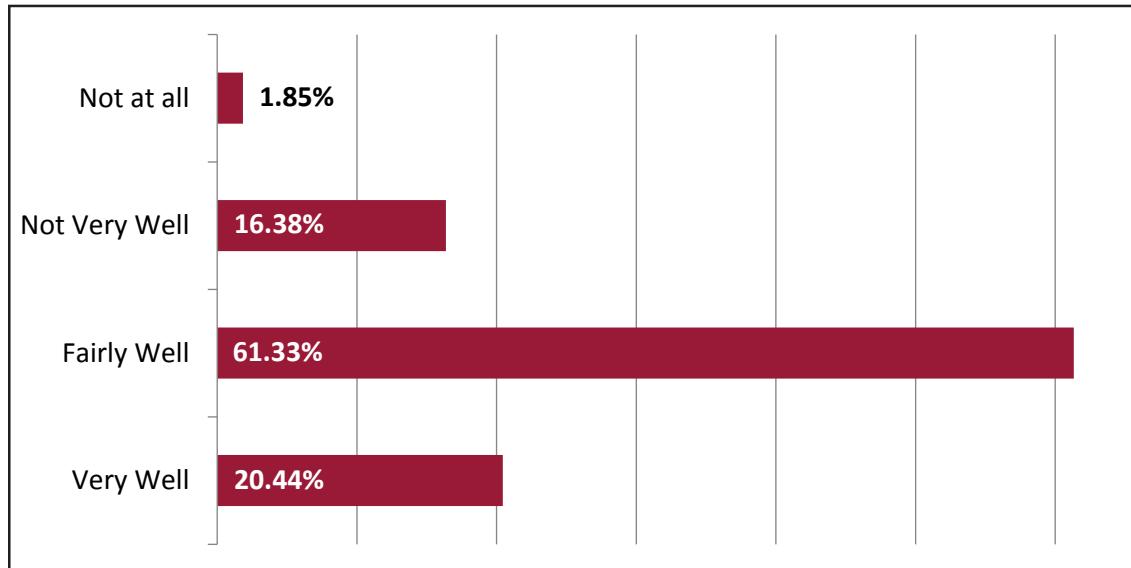
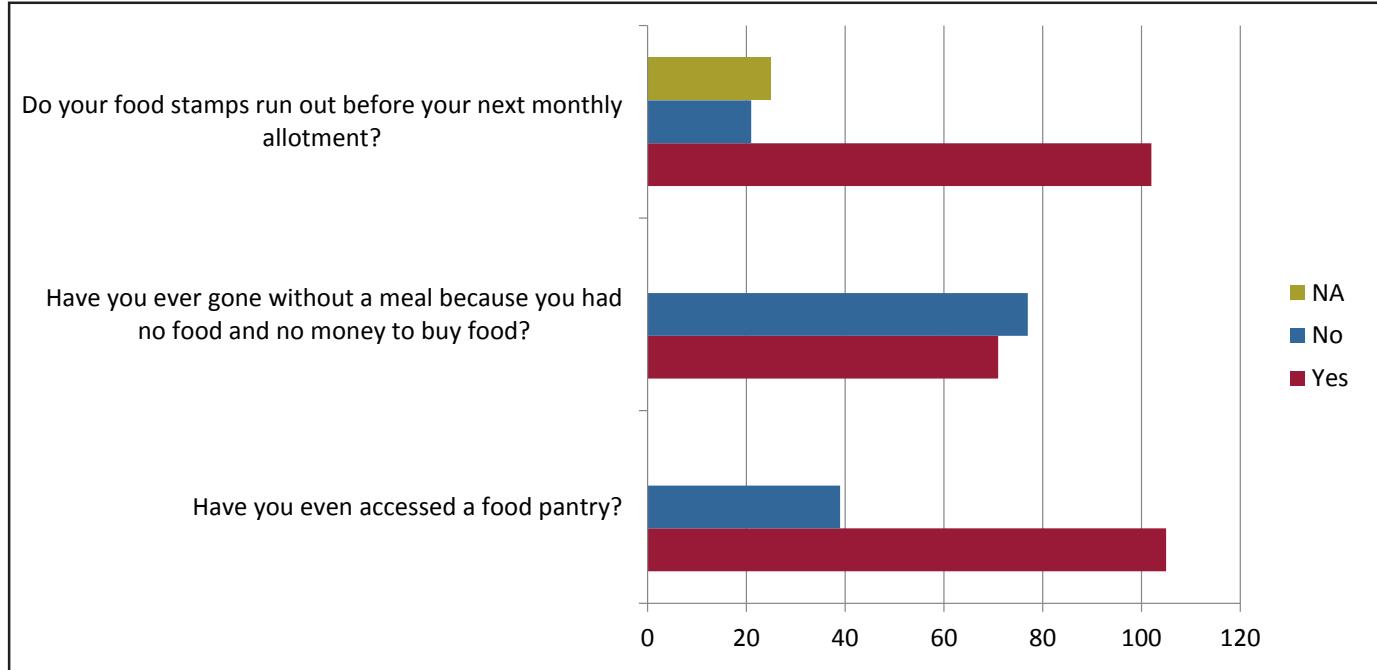


Figure 25 Nutrition Questions



Health Care Profile

Medicare and Medicaid Providers

Total institutional Medicare and Medicaid providers, including hospitals, nursing facilities, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics and community mental health centers for Kent County are shown below. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were 95 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in the report area in the third quarter of 2013. , which is advantageous to those living in poverty

Table 17 Institutional Medicare and Medicaid Providers

Geographic Area	Total Institutional Provider	Hospitals	Nursing Facilities	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics	Community Mental Health Centers
Kent County	96	11	24	16	1	1
Michigan	2,278	190	431	170	183	7
United States	70,657	7,191	15,683	5,768	4,013	537

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, Third Quarter, 2013.



Because ACSET CA provides Outreach and Assistance to seniors, it is essential to establish a relationship with care managers at medical facilities so that there can be a reciprocal referral procedure in place to meet their needs.

Persons Receiving Medicare

The total number of persons receiving Medicare, shown in Table 18, is broken down by number over 65 and number of disabled persons receiving Medicare for Kent County. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that a total of 95,723 persons were receiving Medicare benefits in the report area in 2012. A large number of individuals are aware that persons over 65 years of age receive Medicare; however, many of them are unaware that disabled persons also receive Medicare benefits. A total of 21,044 disabled persons in the report area received Medicare benefits in 2012.

Table 18 Persons Receiving Medicare

Geographic Area	Persons Over 65 Receiving Medicare	Disabled Persons Receiving Medicare	Total Persons Receiving Medicare
Kent County	74,679	21,044	95,723
Michigan	43,739,904	10,384,773	54,124,727

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare County Enrollment Report, 2012.

Note: It is important to mention that the current poverty rate does not take into account health care costs. These costs further reduce the available income to those families/individuals living in poverty.

Uninsured Population

The uninsured population is calculated by estimating the number of persons eligible for insurance (generally those under 65) minus the estimated number of insured persons. In 2011, the percentage of persons uninsured was 12.8 in Kent County. Nineteen of the 834, or 2%, of the respondents of the survey were uninsured and 2% of the persons identified in the CSBG IS were uninsured.

Table 19 Uninsured Population

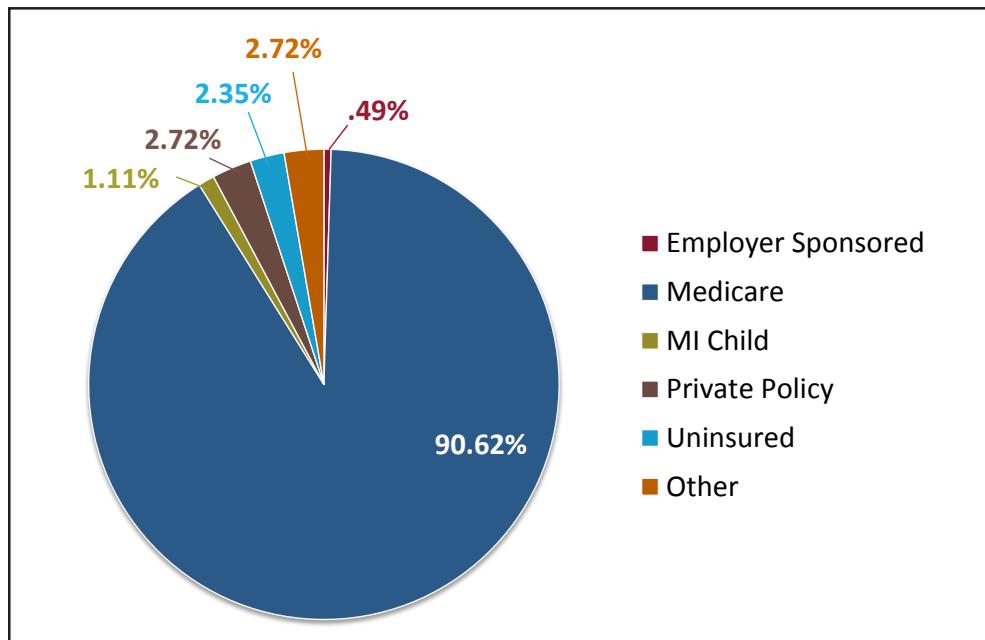
Geographic Area	Insurance Population (2011 Estimate)	Number Insured	Number Uninsured	Percent Uninsured
Kent County	602,046	463,011	68,190	12.8
Michigan	9,920,621	7,170,822	1,130,594	13.6
United States	306,603,774	217,966,406	45,725,534	14.91

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2011 (August 2013 release).



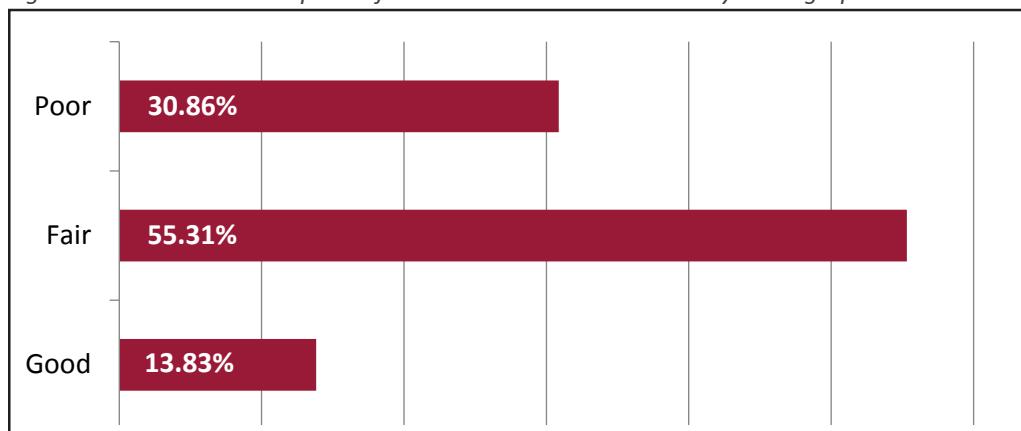
ACSET CA needs to identify and assist those that are uninsured in obtaining insurance.

Figure 26 Insurance ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Survey respondents were asked for their opinion on the following issues related to their health.

Figure 27 individuals' Perception of Overall Health ACSET CA Survey Demographic

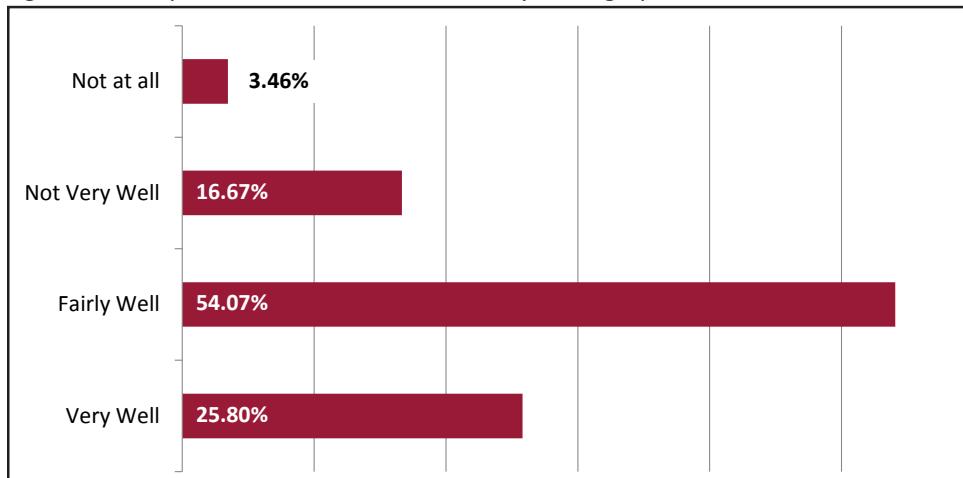


Transportation Profile

Transportation is an issue that is always at the forefront of discussions. For the seniors, Ridelink services are available, although there are waitlists. For those that are located in the northern or southern part of the County, transportation is not readily available. For those that own automobiles, the expense of repairs, gas and insurance can be cost prohibitive. That being said, the Assessment asked respondents the following three questions:

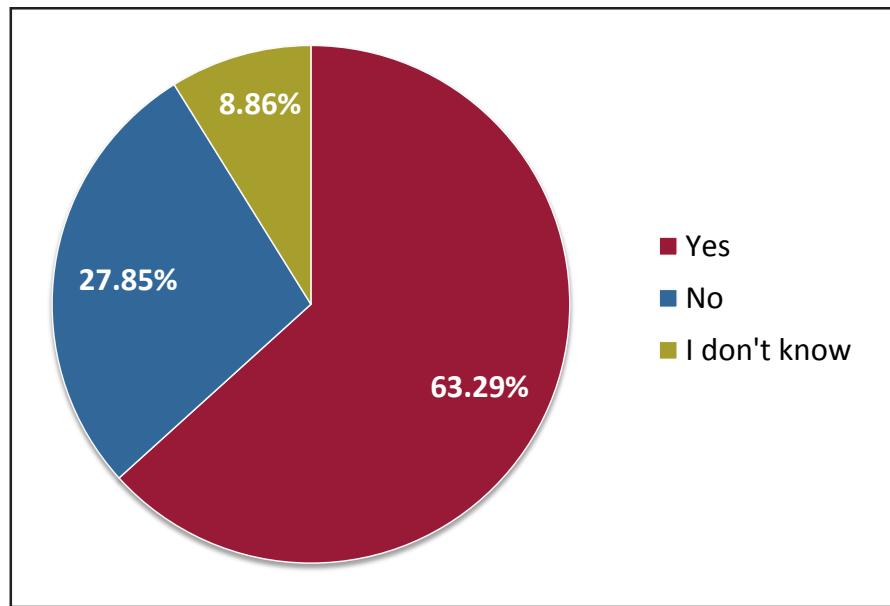
In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's transportation needs?

Figure 28 Transportation Needs ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Do you have access to public transportation?

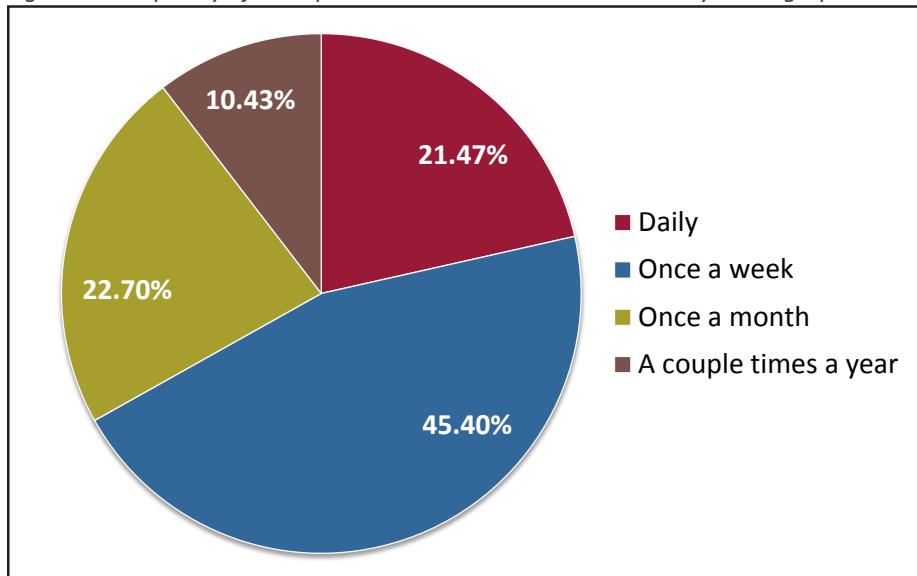
Figure 29 Access to Transportation ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Transportation Profile

If you have transportation problems, how often?

Figure 30 Frequency of Transportation Problems ACSET CA Survey Demographic



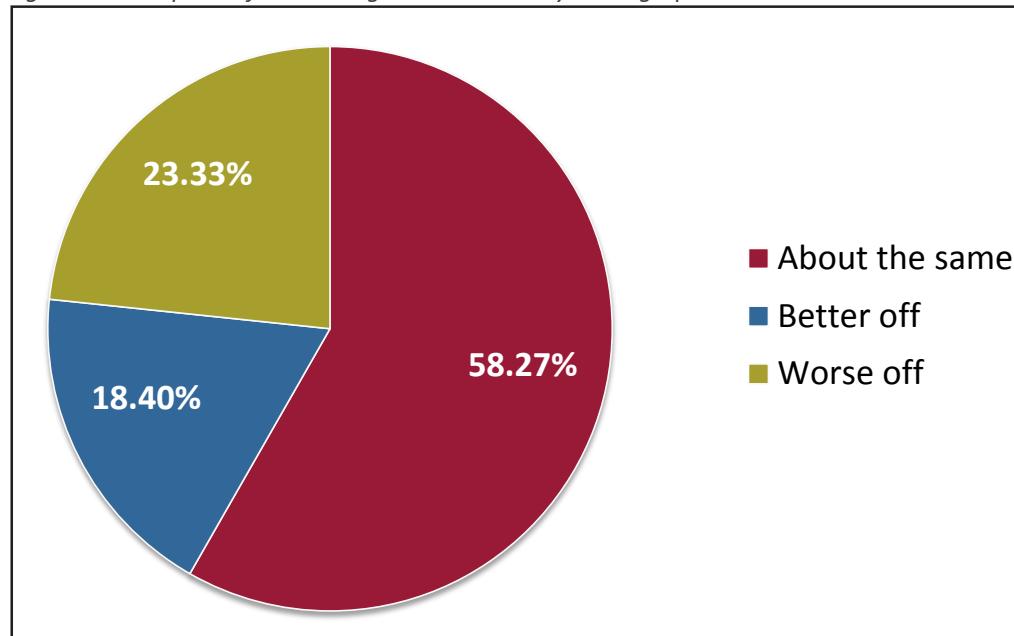
ACSET CA needs to respond to meet the increased requests for transportation, especially for those who reported that they were unable to meet their needs, those that did not know if they have public transportation and those having daily or weekly transportation problems.

Well-Being

Lastly, ACSET wanted to know what the respondents thought about their overall situation. Their responses are reported below.

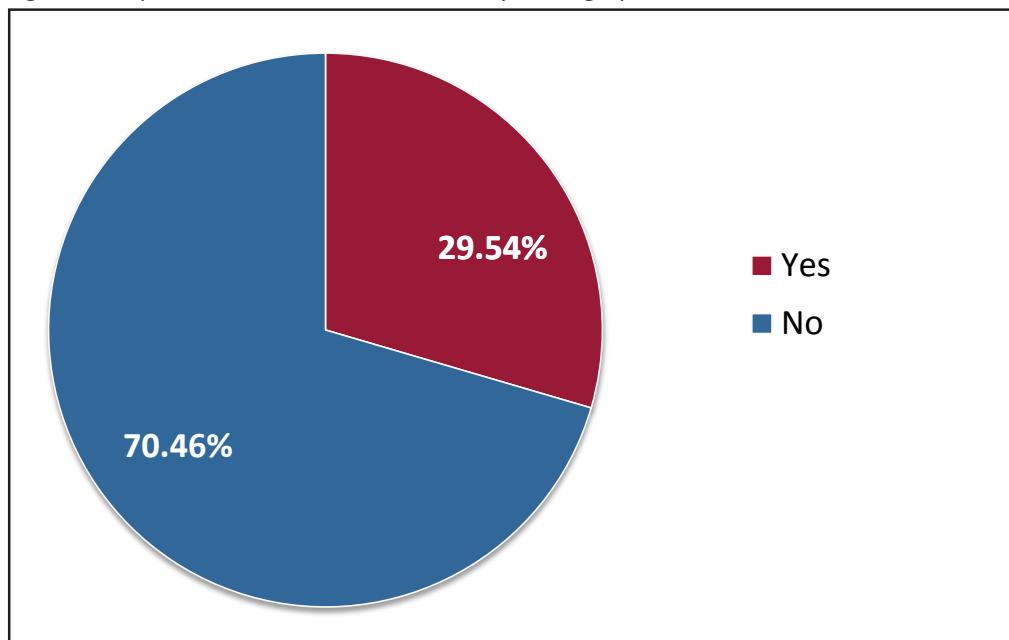
Are you better or worse off today than you were a year ago?

Figure 31 Perception of Well-Being ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Do you have any goals to improve your/your family's standard of living?

Figure 32 Improvement Goals ACSET CA Survey Demographic



Here are a few of the goals identified by ACSET CA survey respondents:

Be more active.

Better my health situation by eating better to feel better.

Budget better with what I have.

Continue to look for employment.

Eliminate credit card debt.

Finding another full-time or part-time job.

Get more assistance.

Get into college. Save money, spend less. Get active in the community and find a church home. Apply myself more.

I am looking for employment that would help me make more than \$7.50/hr.

I used to have a CDL, but let it lapse because I thought I'd never use it again, but my health is improved. I've lost 132 pounds. My cholesterol is 140. I'm getting my blood pressure under control and I'm cancer free for 10 years.

To move to Section 8 housing.

Would like to have a car and a computer to get a job and own my own business at home.

What problems, if any, are keeping you from achieving these goals?

Health.

Higher Costs.

Can't find employment because of my age.

Lack money for car repairs.

My lights and gas are high, plus rent and three kids.

No transportation/child care.

Money.

Language barriers.

Conclusion

The data collected by the Community Needs Assessment does not wholly reflect Kent County population but does reflect the population served by ACSET CA. While our customers are primarily seniors, the time of year when the survey data was collected disproportionately allowed for more seniors to answer. In the future it would be best to conduct the survey when ACSET CA is preparing taxes and has financial assistance available to collect surveys from a more general low income population. This will allow for a more comprehensive view of client needs.

The Community Needs Assessment identified some trends that need to be considered for future programming. They are:

- ACSET CA will need to be mindful of the increase in population when planning and budgeting for future services.
- ACSET CA must continue to help female clients increase their earnings through resourcefulness and the attainment of higher levels of education and/or skills training.
- ACSET CA needs to plan for an increase in assistance services because of the substantial poverty rate increase.
- ACSET CA needs to research the reasons for, and provide programmatic solutions by gearing services toward single female headed households whenever possible.
- ACSET CA needs to provide substantial information, referrals, and community connections to families with children.
- ACSET CA will need to increase their transportation services for Kent County seniors in order to address the lack of access to essential services, the loss of social independence, reduced mobility and isolation issues that senior face daily.
- ACSET CA staff needs to recognize those clients with lower educational attainment and ensure they are referred to Michigan Works! for education and/or training.
- ACSET CA must remain steadfast in providing utility assistance to its customers.
- ACSET CA needs to strongly advocate with the funders for funding allocations that are most beneficial to those facing poverty.
- ACSET CA must continue to assist customers in obtaining public benefits that will allow them to maintain their level of sufficiency.
- ACSET CA needs to be involved in identifying and assisting those households that may be eligible to apply for and receive SNAP benefits.
- ACSET CA must establish a relationship with care managers at medical facilities so that there can be a reciprocal referral procedure in place to meet senior needs.
- ACSET CA needs to identify and assist those that are uninsured in obtaining insurance.
- ACSET CA needs to respond to meet the increased requests for transportation, especially for those who reported that they were unable to meet their needs, those that did not know if they have public transportation and those having daily or weekly transportation problems.

Conclusion

When answering the subjective questions, respondents seemed to be in better shape than the stereotypical person in poverty. This could be due to the fact that the majority of respondents were seniors. Most seemed to be in fair health, had adequate housing and food, and were able to access transportation to meet their basic needs. They were also very resourceful in making their situations complete. While most felt that their situation had stayed the same as compared to last year, there were more respondents that indicated that they were worse off than better off.

ACSET CA will utilize the data obtained going forward with program evaluation and development. ACSET CA will learn from this Community Needs Assessment to integrate clients in a more equitable way when performing a community need assessment. ACSET CA will become the leader in addressing poverty in Kent County.



Kent County Community Needs Assessment

Demographic Information

1) Age* _____

2) Race*

- | | |
|---|---|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) African American | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Pacific Islander |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Asian | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Multiracial/Biracial |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) White/Caucasian | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Other: _____ |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Native American | |

3) Ethnicity*

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Hispanic | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Non Hispanic |
|---------------------------------------|---|

4) Sex*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Male | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Female |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

5) Marital Status*

- | | |
|--|---|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Married | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Separated |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Partnered | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Widowed |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Single | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Other: _____ |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Divorced | |

6) Education*

- | | |
|---|--|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) No high school diploma | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Associate degree or technical certification |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) High school diploma or GED | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Bachelor degree |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Some college | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Graduate degree |

Household Information

7) Type of Household*

- | | |
|---|--|
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Two parent household | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Single person |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Single parent household - female | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Multiple adults - no children |
| (<input type="checkbox"/>) Single parent household - male | (<input type="checkbox"/>) Multiple adults with children |

[] Other: _____

17) Public Benefits Received (choose all that apply)

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| [] Food stamps | [] Financial assistance from agencies |
| [] WIC | [] Section 8 |
| [] Food Pantries | [] Free or reduced lunch |
| [] DHS-SER | |

Basic Needs

18) How would you rate your overall health?*

- () Poor () Fair () Good

19) Health Insurance*

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| () MI Child | () Employer Sponsored |
| () Medicare | () Uninsured |
| () Medicaid | () Other: _____ |
| () Private Policy | |

20) In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's food needs?*

- () Very well () Fairly well () Not very well () Not at all

Basic needs - food

	Yes	No	Not applicable
Have you ever accessed a food pantry?	()	()	
Have you ever gone without a meal because you had no food and no money to buy food?	()	()	
Do your food stamps run out before your next monthly allotment?	()	()	()

21) In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's housing needs?*

- () Very well () Fairly well () Not very well () Not at all

22) Basic needs - housing

	Yes	No
Have you ever received a shut-off notice for your utilities?	()	()
Have you ever been evicted?	()	()
Are you in foreclosure or have you ever been foreclosed upon?	()	()
Have you ever lived in a shelter?	()	()

23) Which of the following makes it most difficult to find suitable housing in your community?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| () Too expensive | () Don't make enough money |
| () Not enough housing available | () High rent |
| () Landlord problems | () Other: _____ |

24) In the past year, how well have you been able to meet your/your family's transportation needs?*

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| () Very well | () Fairly well | () Not very well | () Not at all |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|

25) If you answered "Not very well" or "Not at all" above, how often do you have transportation problems?

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| () Daily | () Once a week | () Once a month | () A couple times a year |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------------|

26) Do you have access to public transportation?

- | | | |
|---------|--------|------------------|
| () Yes | () No | () I don't know |
|---------|--------|------------------|

27) Are you better or worse off today than you were a year ago?*

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| () Better off | () Worse off | () About the same |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------|

28) Do you have any goals to improve your/your family's standard of living?*

- | |
|---------|
| () Yes |
| () No |

If yes, what are these goals?

What problems, if any, are keeping you from achieving these goals?

29) ACSET Community Action Services requested and/or received: (Check all that apply)

- | | |
|---|---|
| [<input type="checkbox"/>] Utility Assistance | [<input type="checkbox"/>] Commodities |
| [<input type="checkbox"/>] Migrant Services | [<input type="checkbox"/>] LAS Senior Meals |
| [<input type="checkbox"/>] Weatherization | [<input type="checkbox"/>] Transportation |
| [<input type="checkbox"/>] Tax Preparation | |

30) ID: Birth month, Birth year, First and last Initial (MMYYYYAB)* _____

(example: John Smith born on May 15, 1977: 051977JS)



**I COMPLETED THE
SURVEY!**

Thank You!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Kent County Community Needs Assessment - Board & Community Partners

Organization Information

Page description:

1. Please describe the organization you represent (choose all that apply).

- Service Provider - Food
- Service Provider - Housing
- Service Provider - Transportation
- Service Provider - Health
- Religious Institution
- Educational Institution
- Other

2. Based on your experience serving individuals in Kent County, what do you see as the key contributing factor(s) to instability in each of the following areas?

	Food/Nutrition	Housing	Transportation
Key Factor 1	Food/Nutrition <input type="text"/>	Housing <input type="text"/>	Transportation <input type="text"/>
Key Factor 2	Food/Nutrition <input type="text"/>	Housing <input type="text"/>	Transportation <input type="text"/>
Key Factor 3	Food/Nutrition <input type="text"/>	Housing <input type="text"/>	Transportation <input type="text"/>

Additional Comments on Key Factors above.

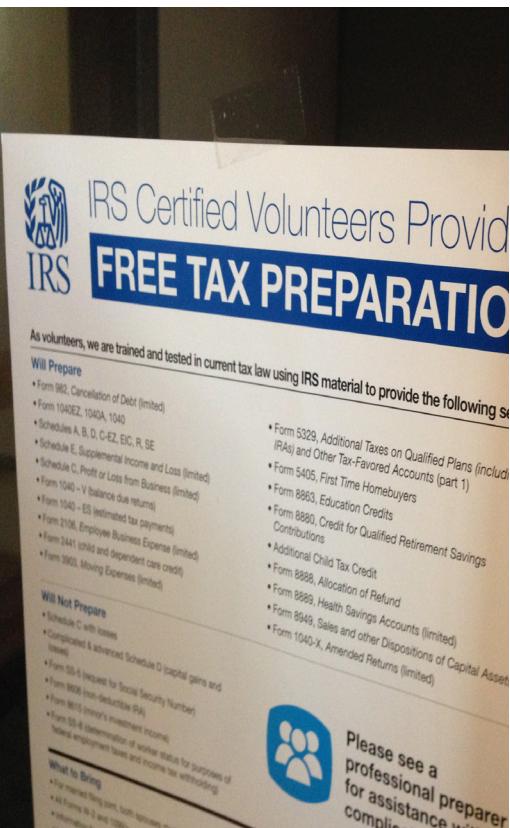
3. Based on past experience and your knowledge of ACSET Community Action, what opportunities do you see for improved service delivery through new or existing collaborations?

4. In your opinion, are there any new services that could be offered through ACSET Community Action that would fill an existing service gap in our community?

5. What is your relationship to ACSET Community Action? *

- Board Member
- Service Provider
- Community Partner
- Staff

Thank You!



www.communityactionkent.org