

Community Health Needs Assessment

Masonicare conducted a survey to better understand the communities that we serve and to satisfy the one of the IRS Non-profit requirements. The survey purpose was to uncover the top 3 unmet needs of the older adults (60+) in the Wallingford/Meriden area. Data was collected from 173 total respondents. The following report details the information unearthed by analyzing the data provided by respondents. The assessment did not uncover any novel or new needs rather solidified the need to continue to provide and increase the services that are already available in the community.

Masonicare is currently meeting many of the needs that arose from the data through the availability of Masonicare Community Services and the Masonicare HelpLine. We are a resource for up to date and clear information about Masonicare, assistance available in the community, general wellness, as well as, providing educational luncheons, home visits, screenings and assistance at health fairs and community events. This survey has reconfirmed the general needs of the community and supports our continued assistance in the community.

Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Plan

Timeframe	Action	Completed
January 2015	Share full report with Masonicare Executive Management Team	January 2015
January 2015	Meet with the Town of Wallingford Officials to discuss results of the survey	February 2015
March-June	Work additional community activities into the plan for the 2015-2016 Grand Master's Day including more community transportation and health and wellness mini sessions	Ongoing
Ongoing	Continue to provide Masonicare Lunch and Learn Program to meet the needs of health education identified in the survey	Ongoing
Ongoing	Meetings of employee groups to engage the entire Masonicare continuum in community benefit events and continue to discuss new ideas. Continue education of MSACT	Ongoing
Ongoing	Continue to provide community benefit events and outreach while also reporting the occurrence and success of each activity	Ongoing

Purpose:

Masonicare collected information through a short questionnaire in order to better understand the communities that we serve. The survey purpose was to uncover the top 3 unmet needs of the older adults (60+) in the Wallingford/Meriden area.

Survey Design:

A short 4-item questionnaire was created to provide a quick and simple way to collect data. The Wallingford Health Department and the United Way of Meriden and Wallingford shared with us previous community surveys they had conducted in order to inform the creation of our survey instrument.

Question one and two were demographic questions. First, the participant was asked to check the following categories that described them best, participants were allowed to check more than one response: **1)** Caregiver for a person age 60 & older, **2)** Family member of a person 60 & older, **3)** Community member age 60 & older, **4)** Community member age 18 to 59, **5)** Community youth age 13 to 17, **6)** Employee of an agency that serves individuals age 60 & older, **7)** Other (please specify). The second demographic question asked the participant to provide the city/town & state that they were from as well as their postal zip code. Postal zip code was used to confirm the city/town in case we could not decipher what the participant wrote.

The third question asked, "In your opinion, what are the greatest, second greatest and third greatest UNMET needs of residents age 60 and over in your community? Please ONLY pick one answer per column, so that there are only three needs selected."

The listed categories were: **1)** Access to wellness, disease prevention, and ongoing health care services. **2)** Difficulty understanding Medicare/Medicare Part D. **3)** Difficulty understanding age-related illnesses **4)** Home care services for those with limitations in their daily activities of living. **5)** Affordable housing. **6)** Adequate social interaction and engagement. **7)** Information and/or assistance in obtaining benefits and services. **8)** Interior and exterior home maintenance. **9)** Financial difficulties in paying for everyday needs. **10)** No unmet needs.

Lastly, the fourth question was an open-ended question where participants could add any additional comments.

Methods:

For our Community Health Questionnaire convenience sampling was used. Within the Masonicare community there were two stations set up in plain sight of visitors. At this sight there were blank questionnaires available that they could return complete questionnaires. The two locations were at the main entrance of the Masonicare Health Center and the Medical office-building waiting room. Additionally, Masonicare volunteers were asked to fill out a questionnaire and return them to the volunteer coordinator.

The intercept technique was also employed to collect responses. A representative would stand in the vicinity of the main entrance for the Health Center and ask passing residents or visitors to take a few moments and fill out the survey.

The final way responses were collected was by a representative traveling to two different Senior Centers within the community, Wallingford Senior Center and Meriden Senior Center. Once again, the intercept technique was used. All physical responses were collected and manually entered into the Survey Monkey database. Any surveys that were illegible or filled out incorrectly were not used. The only piece of information used from incorrectly filled out surveys was the answers to the demographic questions and the additional comments if any were given. If there were no additional comments the questionnaire was completely disregarded, no demographic information or any other information was used.

Results:

Demographics -

The demographics of our participants broke down as followed (173 responses):

- 9.2% (16) categorized themselves as a caregiver for a person 60 & over.
- 17.3% (30) categorized themselves as a family member of a person 60 & over.
- 63.6% (95) categorized themselves as a community member age 60 & over.
- 8.1% (14) categorized themselves as a community member age 18 to 59.
- 2.3% (4) categorized themselves as a community member age 13 to 17.
- 13.9% (10) categorized themselves as an employee of an agency that serves individuals 60 & over.
- 2.3 % (4) responded as other

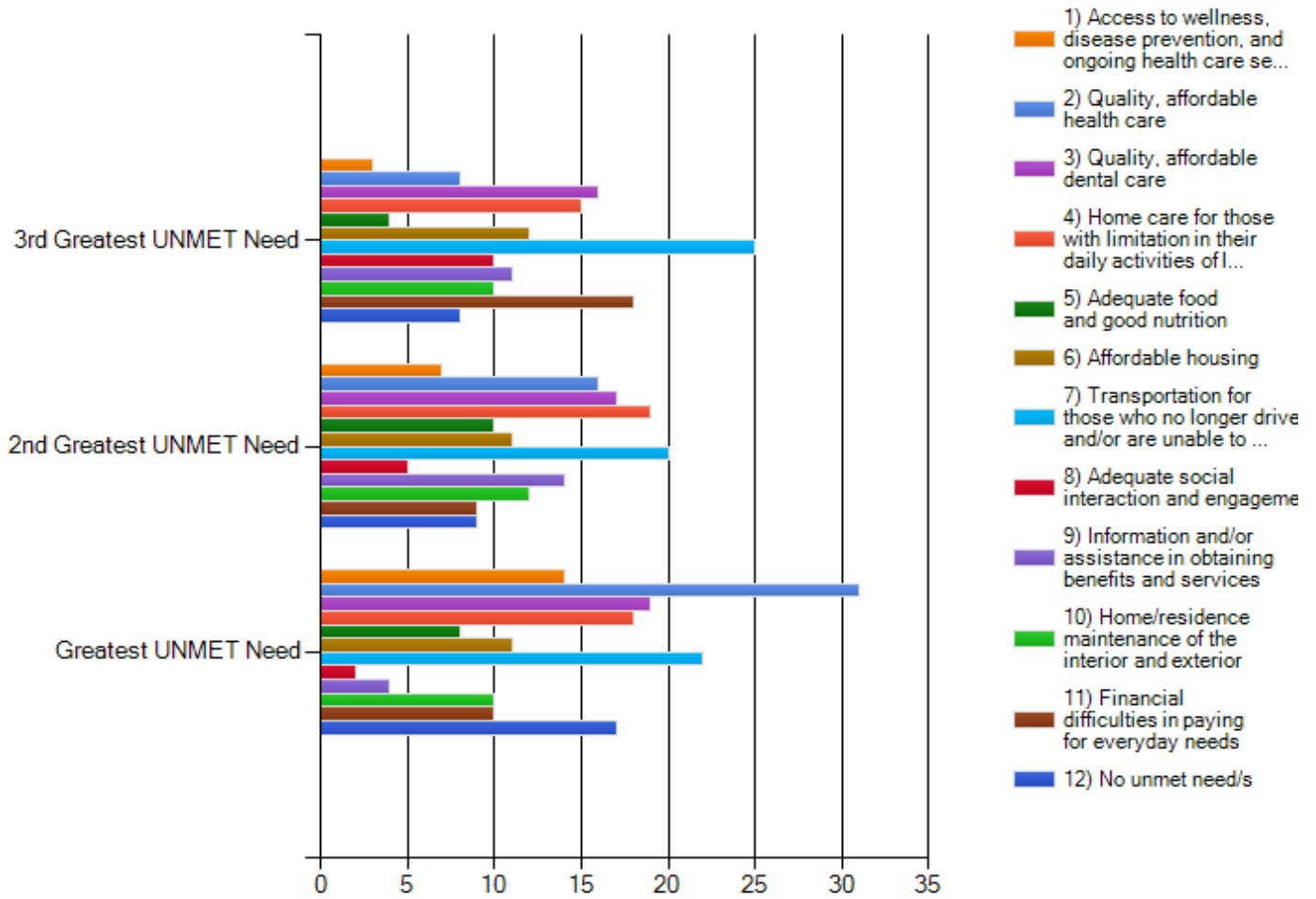
The specifications for “other” included, ¹ Masonicare employee, ² care giving agency that services Wallingford, Cheshire, Hamden, Southington, Wolcott, North Haven, New Haven, Meriden, Berlin, and Middletown, ³ a volunteer, ⁴ and no specification.

The second demographic question that was asked was the city and state the respondent resided in. All respondents were from Connecticut and results show as followed (173 responses):

- 86 respondents from Wallingford
- 59 respondents from Meriden
- 5 respondents from Hamden
- 3 respondents from West Haven
- 2 respondents from Northford
- 2 respondents from West Haven
- 2 respondents from Southington
- 2 respondents from Middletown
- 2 respondents from Berlin
- 1 respondent from Madison
- 1 respondent from Cheshire
- 1 respondent from Manchester
- 2 respondent was from Plainville
- 1 respondent was from Plantsville
- 1 respondents was from Durham
- 1 respondent was from Bethany
- 1 respondent was from Groton
- 1 respondent was from New Haven

Top Three Unmet Needs

In your opinion, what are the greatest, second greatest, and third greatest UNMET needs of residents age 60 and over in your community? Please pick one answer per column.





Community Health Questionnaire

Masonicare is collecting information through this short questionnaire in order to better understand the communities that we serve. Please read each question carefully and respond honestly. At the end of the survey on the back of this page you will have a chance to give us any additional feedback. Please take the time to write your thoughts about Masonicare and the needs of your community.

1. Please check the categories that describe you best:

- Caregiver for person age 60 & older
- Family member of person age 60 & older
- Community member age 60 & older
- Community member age 18 to 59
- Community youth age 13 to 17
- Employee of agency that serves individuals age 60 & older
- Other (please specify) _____

2. Please tell us what city, state and zip code you live in?

City/Town & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

3. In your opinion, what is the most important, 2nd most important and 3rd most important UNMET needs of residents age 60 and over in your community? Please ONLY pick one answer per column, so that there are only three needs selected.

List of Common Needs	Most Important	2 nd Most Important	3 rd Most Important
1. Access to wellness, disease prevention, and ongoing healthcare services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Difficulty understanding Medicare/Medicare Part D & 2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Difficulty understanding age-related illnesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Homecare for those with limitation in their daily activities of living	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Adequate social interaction and engagement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Information and/or assistance in obtaining benefits or services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Interior and exterior home maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Financial difficulties in paying for everyday needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. No unmet needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(over)

