MISSION STATEMENT:
Unite low-income residents and community resources to overcome the challenges of poverty.

VISION STATEMENT:
Empowering, encouraging and educating residents to achieve self-sufficiency throughout Gila County.
GILA COUNTY
The “Heart” of Arizona
Regional Profile

Population Estimate 2018: 53,597
Land Area: 4,758 Sq. Mi.
Water Area: 38 Sq. Mi.

Named for the Gila River, Gila County was created in 1881, carved from portions of Maricopa and Pinal Counties. In 1889, a portion of Yavapai County was added that expanded the size of the county. The boundary was then extended eastward to the San Carlos River by public petition in 1889.

In 1874, “silver fever” brought many new miners, settlers and ranchers to the area. Once the silver was depleted, copper mining began in 1878. It was an upsurge that kept the area stable. Copper continues to be a major economic force in the area.

Roosevelt Dam was the first major project to be completed under the Newlands Reclamation Act of 1902. The world’s highest masonry dam, Roosevelt was begun in 1906 and completed in 1911. This also created Roosevelt Lake, which has become a recreation destination for visitors and residents alike.

Gila County’s landscape ranges from Saguaro desert vistas to Ponderosa Pine covered mountains. The elevation ranges from 2,123 feet at Roosevelt Dam to 7,153 feet at Mount Ord. The U.S. Forest Service owns 56 percent of the land; 38 percent belongs to the Apache tribes; 2 percent belongs to the U.S. Bureau of Land Management; 2 percent to individuals and corporations; 1 percent to the State of Arizona; and 1 percent is other public lands.

Today, the major economic industries in Gila County are mining, recreation, ranching and tourism. Gila County is the 11th most populated county of the 15 counties in Arizona. Gila County has been rated #3 for the best counties for retirees in Arizona. It offers unobstructed views and breathtaking sunsets as well as historic western frontier lore with cowboys, outlaws, Native Americans, miners and ranchers.
### GILA COUNTY

#### 18 Most Populated Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RANK</th>
<th>AREA</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Payson</td>
<td>15,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Globe (county seat)</td>
<td>7,760</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>San Carlos</td>
<td>4,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Central Heights-Midland City</td>
<td>2,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Star Valley</td>
<td>2,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pine</td>
<td>1,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>2,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Claypool</td>
<td>1,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Tonto Basin</td>
<td>1,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Peridot</td>
<td>1,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Canyon Day</td>
<td>1,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Six Shooter Canyon</td>
<td>993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Strawberry</td>
<td>976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Wheatfields</td>
<td>852</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Mesa del Caballo</td>
<td>776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Icehouse Canyon</td>
<td>736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Young</td>
<td>676</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Hayden (partially in Pinal County)</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GILA COUNTY  
Survey Results  

Gila County conducted a survey (Appendixes 1 and 2) from 07/01/2018 through 08/31/2018 and included three (3) focus groups. Surveys were available in paper form or on-line at SurveyMonkey.com. The survey was promoted through FaceBook, newspaper, and outreach events. Community partners and Gila County offices were utilized to support survey distribution and responses. A total of 728 surveys were completed.  

Surveys were distributed to clients, staff, Board members, local food banks, non-profit agencies, churches, schools, Head Start, Senior Centers, Veterans group homes, businesses, thrift stores, homeless shelters, libraries, Department of Economic Security, pregnancy centers, child care centers, and Gila County Health Department including Women, Infants and Children (WIC) offices, and many other locations.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Respondents</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Public</td>
<td>22.25%</td>
<td>162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>21.84%</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit</td>
<td>16.35%</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faith-Based</td>
<td>16.07%</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>13.05%</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>10.44%</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>728</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gila County has a varied population and household incomes. The food service workers comprise 13% of the population and the retail employees comprise 12%. Usually these workers earn only minimum wage and work part-time. A large portion of the population (28.5%) have retirement income. Gila County has been rated #3 for the best counties for retirees in Arizona.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS</th>
<th>Answered: 664</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unanswered: 64</td>
<td>Answered: 664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,001 - $20,000</td>
<td>18.37% 122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above $70,000</td>
<td>17.17% 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,001 - $30,000</td>
<td>12.35% 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than $10,000</td>
<td>11.75% 78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$30,001 - $40,000</td>
<td>10.24% 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$40,001 - $50,000</td>
<td>8.73% 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$60,001 - $70,000</td>
<td>8.28% 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,001 - $60,000</td>
<td>6.93% 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Income</td>
<td>6.63% 44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GILA COUNTY
Demographic Profile

Gila County residents enjoy the pleasant conditions and many amenities of small communities. Of the respondents on the Survey, 66.2% state they have lived in Gila County for 8 or more years; 13.5% from 1-3 years; 13.5% from 4-7 years. The majority of Gila County’s population of 53,597 is white (76%), Hispanic (17%) or American Indian (14%), with a nearly equal percentage of males (49.7%) and females (50.3%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RACE</th>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>% OF TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Population</td>
<td>53,597</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>40,734</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic or Latino</td>
<td>9,111</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>7,504</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some Other Race</td>
<td>2,680</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or More Races</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>Below 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or African American</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>Below 1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALE</td>
<td>26,633</td>
<td>49.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEMALE</td>
<td>26,964</td>
<td>50.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GILA COUNTY

Needs of the County

NEEDS of survey respondents

- Dental Health Care: 34.33%
- Food: 30.11%
- Health Insurance: 27.82%
- Home Repairs: 23.42%
- Employment: 20.95%
- Applying for jobs: 20.25%
- Utility Assistance: 20.07%
- Transportation: 19.54%

Needs

Responses
GILA COUNTY

Needs of the County

Needs:

The survey respondents stated the top five needs in their households are dental health care (34%), food (30%), health insurance (28%), home repairs (23%), and employment (21%).

Gila County seeks client input by collecting satisfaction surveys. The majority of the clients state that Gila County needs more funding to provide assistance in their time of need and crisis. Clients have stated that rent funds are nearly non-existent compared to the need and the cost of rent for households to avoid eviction. The client satisfaction surveys always thank Community Action Program case workers for treating them very pleasantly, with dignity, respect and not judgmental.

Dental Health Care: Medicare, State Medicaid and most insurance companies do not offer dental health care for adults. The average cost of a dental exam, x-ray and filling a tooth is over $400. Dental insurance is an expense that most low-income households are unable to afford.

Food: The USDA defines food insecurity as a state in which consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year for an active and healthy life. Charitable programs are unable to fully support those struggling with hunger. The combination of charity and government assistance programs are necessary to help bridge the meal gap. Food insecurity now affects almost one in six Arizonans. 2.6 million Arizonans live below 200% of the Federal poverty line. As the cost of living rises, hunger affects seniors on fixed incomes, adults working at two or more jobs, and children who worry about empty refrigerators instead of homework. Adults aged 60 and older who faced the threat of hunger is 17.8% in Arizona. One in five (25%) of Arizona children do not consistently get the food they need to grow and thrive.
Health Insurance: As of 2017, Gila County had 14% of the population under the age of 64 that were uninsured. The average for the state of Arizona is 12%.

Since the cost of medical care varies from area to area, health insurance rates also vary. This variance is due to the general cost level of the area, differences in medical practices, the degree of specialization of services and the amount of competition in the area. Average premiums nationwide for unsubsidized shoppers for individual coverage averaged $440 per month while premiums for family plans averaged $1,168 per month.

Home Repairs: Gila County’s housing is in very poor condition for the low-income segment of our population. The age of the homes and their inability to afford maintenance and repairs contribute to the poor housing conditions. Many of the homes have roofing issues, inefficient cooling systems, leaking duct systems, poor insulation, water heater issues, water leaks, and high lead in their environment.

Employment: Employers are reducing overhead costs in efforts to keep their businesses profitable. It includes reducing the number of full-time employees and paying near or at minimum wages. Employees are forced to work two or more part-time jobs to maintain their household expenses. The area attracts many fast food restaurants due to the volume of traffic and the number of eligible workers that help to support these types of employers. The unemployment rate for May 2019 is 5.3% in Gila County; compared to 5% in Arizona and 3.6% in the United States.
BARRIERS TO OBTAINING BASIC NEEDS

- **Income**: The Per Capita income for 2016 for Gila County was $21,470 compared to Arizona’s of $26,686. The Federal Poverty Level for one (1) person at 200% was $15,180.

- **Cost of Living**: The income per household is insufficient to pay for housing, utilities, food, transportation and other living expenses. The working poor live from paycheck to paycheck without savings. When faced with a car repair, an increase in rent, or a medical emergency, these individuals and families fall behind in payments and cannot free themselves from crushing debt.

- **Not Eligible or Don’t Qualify for Assistance**: Past felonies, drug convictions, and evictions prevent people from being eligible for low-income housing or other benefits. Many households are income ineligible since they earn too much for the Federal Poverty Levels. They struggle every day to put food on the table and keep a roof over their heads.
The most common racial or ethnic group living below the poverty line in Gila County, AZ is White (6,456 people or 48.8%), followed by American Indian (3,847 people or 28%) and Hispanic or Latino (2,414 people or 16.5%). If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered to be living in poverty. 21.2% of the population for whom poverty status is determined in Gila County (11,352 out of 53,597 people) live below the poverty line, a number that is higher than the national average of 14%. The largest demographic living in poverty is female 45-54, followed by female 55-64 and then female 18-24.

In Globe, about 8.8% of families and 11.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 14.8% of those under age 18 and 8.4% of those age 65 or over.

In Payson, about 6.5% of families and 9.9% of the population were below the poverty line, including 15.1% of those under age 18 and 4.7% of those age 65 or over.

In Hayden, about 20.1% of families and 27.3% of the population were below the poverty line, including 35.2% of those under age 18 and 14.9% of those age 65 or over.

Adult diabetes rate:
- Gila County: 11.4%
- Arizona: 8.0%

Adult obesity:
- Gila County: 27.1%
- Arizona: 22.8%

Low-Income pre-school obesity rate:
- Gila County: 12.9%
- Arizona: 14.2%
### GILA COUNTY

**Poverty (continued)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Gila County</th>
<th>Arizona</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>48.8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>16.5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>26.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Class of Workers in Gila County:
Many of the workers are employed at low paying jobs. The food industry employs 13.1% of the workers and the retail trade employs 12%. Those employees usually earn an average of $11.50 per hour and work 30 hours or less per week. Using those amounts, an employee would earn $1,380 gross per month. After deductions, their take home pay would be approximately only $859. In Gila County, the average one-bedroom apartment rents for $672 per month. That would leave only $187 per month for food, utilities, transportation and other living expenses. The “working poor” struggle every day to barely survive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018 EMPLOYMENT BY SECTOR (IN THOUSANDS)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education, health care &amp; social assistance</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>24.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts, entertainment, food &amp; recreation</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail trade</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>12.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining, forestry, fishing, hunting, &amp; agriculture</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public administration</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional, scientific, &amp; admin services</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, insurance &amp; real estate</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation, warehousing, &amp; utilities</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other services, except public administration</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale trade</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Due to the large rural areas of Gila County, there is very little public transportation. The vast majority of the population rely on private transportation.

In 2017, the most common methods of travel:

1. Drives Alone 78.2%
2. Carpoools 12.8%
3. Works At Home 5.02%

Using averages, employees in Gila County, AZ have a shorter commute time (17.8 minutes) than the normal U.S. worker (25.1 minutes). Additionally, 3.96% of the workforce in Gila County, AZ have "super commutes" in excess of 90 minutes. Globe is located 87 miles from Phoenix, 87 miles from Show Low, and 105 miles from Tucson. Payson is located 80 miles from Globe, 90 miles from Phoenix and 90 miles from Show Low. Workers sometimes must travel to larger cities to find high wages and benefits for employment.
GILA COUNTY
School District
Lunch Program

Students that reside in low-income households are able to receive free or reduced lunches at school. 1 in 5 Arizona children struggle with hunger.

Globe Unified School District
1,716 students
- Free 43.59%
- Reduced 6.59%
- Paid 49.83%

Miami School District
1,009 students
- Free 61.94%
- Reduced 9.71%
- Paid 28.34%

San Carlos School District
1,491 students
- Free 100%
GILA COUNTY
School District
Lunch Program
(continued)

• Payson Unified School District
  2,392 students
  - Free 41.76%
  - Reduced 6.52%
  - Paid 51.71%

• Hayden/Winkelman Unified School District
  302 students
  - Free 65.23%
  - Reduced 21.52%
  - Paid 12.45%

• Head Start Pre-School
  34 students
  - 100% Free Program
GILA COUNTY Community Services

Gila County Community Services includes: (1) Community Action Program [CAP]; (2) Housing Services; (3) Gila Employment & Special Training [GEST]; (4) Arizona@Work. Our service area includes all of Gila County. Funding is provided by Federal, State, local and private sources.

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP)

The Gila County Community Action Program (CAP) has been in existence since 1980. The services are geared towards helping low-income and vulnerable residents to become more self-sufficient. Their goal is to remove the barriers that prevent financial and economic independence. They provide assistance with utilities, rent, emergency, disaster/crisis, utility discount programs, budget counseling, case management, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP—formerly known as Food Stamps), Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), and other life-changing situations.

HOUSING SERVICES

The Housing Department includes four (4) programs: Housing Rehabilitation, Weatherization Assistance, Emergency Repair, and Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers. The mission of the Housing Services Department is to provide safe, decent, and sanitary housing conditions for very low-income families and to manage resources efficiently. The age and condition of the homes in southern Gila County makes it necessary for repair and rehabilitation. Due to the demand, there are waiting lists for housing services.

Gila County is an official Housing Authority administering the low-income housing choice voucher program that enables families, individuals, and the disabled to obtain decent housing. They promote personal, economic and social upward mobility to provide families the opportunity to make the transition from subsidized to nonsubsidized housing.
Gila Employment & Special Training (GEST)

GEST strives to support the mission of promoting safety, well-being, and self-sufficiency by working with individuals with disabilities to achieve increased independence and/or gainful employment through the provision of comprehensive rehabilitative and employment support services in a partnership with all stakeholders. Their value is to provide services with respect, dignity, and compassion to a diverse population that enhances their self-esteem and community involvement.

Arizona@Work

As part of ARIZONA@WORK, the statewide workforce development network, Gila County is the local resource helping job seekers pursue employment opportunities and partnering with employers to find qualified job candidates—all at no cost. Their mission statement is to work to facilitate business retention and growth by partnering with education, service agencies, and the business community to empower individuals with skills that promote self-sufficiency. Gila County provides free GED education and is a Pearson-Vue facility to offer GED testing.
GILA COUNTY

Housing Information

The causes and conditions of poverty can be related to low income and the high cost of housing. The cost of a mortgage is more than 50% of the average income. A household should pay an average of 30% of their income on housing.

2018: Fair Market Rent (FMR) prices in Gila County are high compared to the national average. This FMR area is more expensive than 78% of other FMR areas. Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Gila County is $861 per month. The previous year, rent for a two-bedroom home was $801 per month. This is a 7.49% increase year-over-year. The rent averages are: Studio/Efficiency $643; 1-Bedroom $647; 2-Bedroom $861; 3-Bedroom $1090; and 4-Bedroom $1173.

2019: Fair Market Rent (FMR) prices in Gila County are high compared to the national average. This FMR area is more expensive than 80% of other FMR areas. Fair Market Rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Gila County is $889 per month. The previous year, rent for a two-bedroom home was $861 per month. This is a 3.25% increase year-over-year. The average rents are: Studio/Efficiency $668; 1-Bedroom $672; 2-Bedroom $889; 3-Bedroom $1146; and 4-Bedroom $1202.

Gila County lacks housing that meets the needs of low-income households. Challenges facing housing are (1) affordability [rental housing a working family can afford], (2) accessibility [less than 1% vacancy, long waiting lists for subsidized units, credit checks and other barriers for housing], (3) quality [substandard mobile homes and aging, unmaintained rental units], and (4) the lack of units. The Fair Market Rent (FMR) for a two-bedroom apartment in Gila County is $889 per month. In order to afford this level of rent, without paying more than 30% of income on housing, a household must earn $2,960 monthly or $35,520 annually. Assuming a 40-hour work week, 52 weeks per year, this level of income translates into a housing wage of $17.08 per hour. In Gila County, a minimum wage worker earns an hourly wage of $11.00. In order to afford the FMR for a two-bedroom apartment, a minimum wage earner must work 67 hours per week, 52 weeks per year. Or a household must include two minimum wage earners working an average of 34 hours per weeks year-round in order to make the two-bedroom FMR affordable. Most of the employers do not pay a housing wage. The ability to afford long-lasting housing interferes with any program that helps the working poor and others from achieving financial independence.
Gila County ranks the same as the State average in foreclosures and lower than the national average.
The Gila County Sheriff’s Office reported

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug arrests</td>
<td>278</td>
<td>363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firearms Seized</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gang Members Identified</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine Investigations</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Drug Arrests</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search Warrants</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Value of Drugs Seized</td>
<td>$4 million</td>
<td>$12 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Globe, AZ</th>
<th>Payson, AZ</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Violent Crime</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
<td>18.5%</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Crime</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Crime is ranked on a scale of 1 (low crime) to 100 (high crime). Of the crimes committed in Globe, 53.6% were violent crimes. Violent crime is composed of four offenses: murder and nonnegligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crime includes the offenses of burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The object of the theft-type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims.
GILA COUNTY
Youth Survey

In 2016, an Arizona Youth Survey was conducted to 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students throughout all 15 counties in Arizona. According to the 2016 Arizona Youth Survey:

• Alcohol use in the past 30 days has continued to decline in Arizona; in 2016, 22.2% of youth reported drinking alcohol in the past 30 days, a decline from 24.1% in 2014, and from 28.1% in 2012.

• Marijuana use in the past 30 days was reported at 14.2%, a very slight increase from the 13.6% who reported using marijuana in 2014, but similar to the rate in 2012 of 14.3%.

• Cigarette smoking in the past 30 days among youth has continued to remain at a rate of less than one in ten who smokes regularly, with the 9.2% of youth who reported this in 2016 staying similar to the 9.4% in 2014, down from 12.9% in 2012.

• Prescription pain relievers use in the past 30 days was reported at 6.4% for 2016; this is an increase since the 4.7% reported in 2014, but is similar to the 6.2% reported in 2012.

• Attitudes favorable toward drug use: On average, students had unfavorable views towards drug use.

• The youths that believed it was wrong for someone their age to use alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, or LSD/cocaine/amphetamines/illegal drugs, on a scale of 1 (very wrong) to 4 (not wrong), the mean was 1.55, and less than 5 percent of youth scored a 3 or higher.

• Perceived risk of harm of drug use showed a mean score that was towards the middle of the 1-4 scale at 2.31. This suggests that youth only perceived some moderate to slight risk for people using alcohol, cigarettes, marijuana, or prescription drugs without a doctor telling the youth to take them.

In 2017, the Gila County graduation rate from high school was 84.3%. Compared to Arizona at 78% and the United States average of 84.6%. Those who do not finish high school are much more likely to be unemployed, and when employed, their earnings fall far below those with a high school degree or higher. This gap can add up to a substantial deficit in earnings over a lifetime. Economic consequences follow through to the community at large with lower wages, less spending power, and the likelihood of higher costs for public assistance. A high school diploma, or its equivalent, is the basic prerequisite to college or trade school.
Youth Reasons for Substance Abuse

Youth Substance Abuse

Gila County, AZ

Percent who did not finish the 9th grade | 4.80%
High School graduation rate | 84.30%
Percent with a graduate or professional degree | 7.00%
College graduation rate | 16.10%
Percent with an Associate's degree | 8.80%
GILA COUNTY
FOCUS GROUPS

Gila County conducted focus groups in Globe, Payson and Hayden to obtain an in-depth dialogue of the issues, concerns and barriers of the residents. The group’s composition and discussion were planned to create an environment where participants were free to talk openly and express their opinions. The focus groups were open to the general public. Gila County advertised in the newspapers, and distributed flyers (Appendix 3, 4 and 5) to encourage a random selection of individuals. The attendees were provided with lunch but were not compensated in any other way. The information was compiled and analyzed by an assessment team comprised of Gila County staff, CAP Advisory Board members and a faith-based person.

The participants were advised that their personal information and comments would be confidential. They were given two documents to complete. The Demographic Information (Appendix 6) would provide basic information of the participant. The Release Form (Appendix 7) advised the attendee that the focus group could be recorded and their comments may be quoted without reference to personal information.

The leader of each focus group was given a list of survey questions (Appendixes 8, 9, 10) to facilitate the group discussions. The topics were Employment, Income, Poverty, Transportation, Housing, Education, Healthcare and Nutrition, Criminal Just/law enforcement, and Childcare. The leader would ask provoking questions about strengths, weaknesses, barriers and opportunities on each of the topics. The individuals in the group were encouraged to speak freely and openly about each of the subjects. The interaction of the attendees provided a dialog about the subjects and other situations in their communities.

GLOBE

The focus group in Globe, AZ was held on August 28, 2018 at the Gila County Community Services office. It consisted of eight people during a provided luncheon. All attendees were female ranging in age from 28 to 63 years old with an average age of 46. The racial makeup was four White, one Hispanic and three Native Americans. Six of the attendees work full-time, one works part-time and one was unemployed. The group consisted of four single women, three married and one widowed. Monthly income for the attendees ranged from $800 to $4,500 with an average of $2,501.
Participants Comments:

**Employment:**
- Globe has four big employers; the copper mine, two grocery stores and Walmart.
- Primarily, Globe has retail and food service jobs that pay minimum wage with no health insurance. Old Dominion Copper Mine subcontracts work outside of Globe.
- Many potential employees are unable to pass background checks.
- Employers are able to hire felons through a Federal bonding assistance program.

**Income:**
- I would like to see more family friendly events to attract tourism. The local community should support the local Mom and Pop stores, instead of driving 1-2 hours out of town.
- The pay is not enough to afford housing and living expenses.

**Poverty:**
- We have a lot of very dedicated people in the community trying to help with homelessness issues.
- Drug abuse is a huge problem.
- It is difficult for people to know how to break the cycle of poverty.
- Kids are not able to be involved in things in the community (such as Boy Scouts) because it’s too costly.
- Teach the youth that there is another way of life.

**Transportation:**
- The Globe/Miami area has a bus service.
- Employment Services offer gas vouchers and AHCCCS provides transportation for their clients for medical services.
- The bus service needs to be more accessible with people with disabilities and have more flexible hours.
- Gas vouchers can only be provided with four days advanced notice. Some of the local gas stations do not accept the gas vouchers.
Housing:
• There are many low-income properties.
• It takes too much money to repair the low-income properties.
• There isn’t enough Section 8 housing and the waiting list is two to three years. In the meantime, people have no affordable housing.
• Elderly homeowners are not able to repair their homes due to cost and too expensive to bring the older buildings up to code.
• Globe/Miami and other areas need to utilize empty buildings for child care and to bring in businesses.
• Local business owners need to be involved and invest in the community.

Education:
• The Community College provides great opportunities for education.
• Teachers are only able to do so much.
• The schools have insufficient funding to provide better buildings and educational material for students.
• Make it mandatory that teachers have to stay with the school when they sign an employment contract. Offer the teachers affordable housing to keep them.

Healthcare:
• Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center has a good emergency room.
• There is a lack of doctors or specialty doctors. It can take up to three weeks to see your primary care physician.
• The quality of care is not on the same level as metro areas.
• To attract more doctors to the area, make Globe more appealing for them.

Nutrition:
• Globe has food banks, WIC and SNAP programs.
• The food banks need to be more accessible to working poor.
• It is difficult for low-income residents to get to stores and food banks.
• We should reach out to community gardens and other food distribution organizations to see how they are able to come together.
Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement:
• The Police Department is always hiring and there has been an increase of arrests.
• Releasing individual names in the local newspaper and radio that have been arrested and not convicted. It leaves a stigma, and people end up losing their jobs and housing or are unable to find housing.
• It is difficult to find qualified good law enforcement.
• We would like to see the police department recruit from within the community. The local law enforcement should live within the community.
• We should offer a “scared straight” program for the younger youth.
• The police should focus on the small drug users instead of the large drug dealer.

Childcare:
• The Globe area has the Head Start program and a local Youth Center.
• Childcare cost is too expensive for the working poor.

Analysis:
The focus group stated there are only a few large employers that pay more than minimum wages with benefits. Statistics confirm that mining companies employ only 7.4% of the population. Retail and food comprise 23.1% of employees. A participant stated that “it is difficult for people to know how to break the cycle of poverty”. Per 2000 Census, about 8.8% of families and 11.4% of the population were below the poverty line, including 14.8% of those under age 18 and 8.4% of those age 65 or over.

Gila County has been addressing many of these issues in the Globe area. The One-Stop Resource Room provides access to people to apply for employment, write resumés, learn computer skills, and other services. Globe provides GED classes and testing. Assistance is provided that encourages people to increase their skills to advance their careers and increase their income. The Housing Department assists with home repairs and weatherization. Some issues, such as childcare, are beyond the scope for Gila County.
The focus group in Payson, AZ was held on August 21, 2018 at the Mazatzal Casino. It consisted of 10 people during a provided luncheon. The attendees consisted of eight females and two men. Their ages ranged from 40 to 70 with an average of 62 years old. The racial make up was eight White, one Hispanic, and one declined to answer. The group consisted of four married, three divorced, two single and one widowed. Five of the attendees work full-time, two are retired, two are unemployed and one works part-time. Four of the attendees declined to answer regarding income. Of the remaining six, the monthly income ranged from $1,400 to $5,000 with an average of $2,507 per month.

Participant Comments:

**Employment:**
- There are a lot of minimum wage jobs in Payson.
- There is a lack of employment growth. We don’t have a lot of home offices here, only branch offices. You can become a manager of a branch office, but to go any further up the system, you have to leave Payson.
- It is hard to find a candidate for a position that is qualified that you can pay enough to keep. They may start for a short period of time, get trained, then they find a new job and then they are gone.
- There are a lot of service jobs, that are not well paid, lack any benefits, no sick or vacation time, no health care and an unacceptable living wage.
- Applicants have difficulty passing a drug test or a background check.
- Lack of transportation limits people on where to work and retaining the job.
- People skilled in a trade left the area during the downturn of the economy in 2008. We have very few trade people as the economy is coming back and no one is making the attempt to return to Payson. The plumbers are working seven days a week and asked to do extra jobs. They can’t keep up with the workload because there is only half of them now.
- We have Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology (NAVIT) and Career Technical Education (CTE) classes that are satellite programs that are offered by the Gila County Community College. Students receive high school and college credits in cosmetology, nursing and fire science. Students come out with a license or national certification or accreditation.
GILA COUNTY
FOCUS GROUPS
(Payson continued)

Income:
• Workers struggle with lack of benefits.
• A large number of people have to hold more than one job in the family to get to the living wage number.
• Household income is so low that we have 60% of the children that are eligible for free meals at school.
• We have some major employers that are stable that pay general living wages.
• Payson needs industry jobs and not just service jobs.

Poverty:
• Families get together to try to help individuals that are in trouble. The family dynamics are strong even if it’s in poverty.
• After the recession around 2008, people lost their homes and jobs and the last thing they had left was their cars. They drive to Payson and move in with their grandparents. That is considered homeless under the Federal law with McKinney-Vento and they are automatically eligible for free reduced school meals. We have 20% of our kids that are considered homeless. We have the most generous community that anybody has seen anywhere. Our kids have a pretty good safety net possibilities, but I still see kids after school come through the school looking for food and we should never have a hungry child.
• We have poverty here, especially among the young family environment.
• We have a large homeless population and it’s chronic. We had kids that were in kindergarten in 2008 and now they are in high school. The are still considered homeless because they are doubled up or their residence is not considered fixed regular and adequate. We have a weekend food bag program for the kids. The largest group are high school students.
• Some of the parents didn’t have that much of an education and they are not concerned about the young kids getting an education. They are more concerned about their kids getting a part-time job. They don’t look at education at being a number one priority.
Poverty (continued):
• Some of it can be not just income related but drug related. That can plug the child into poverty. The drug relation is not with the student at all but, with the family environment the student is in.
• There are two programs to help address poverty issues in Payson. Mogollon Health Alliance (MHA) pays for a part-time coordinator at the Payson Center for Success (an alternative high school). Her role is to teach kids some soft skills; goal setting; public speaking; how to shake hands; how to make eye contact; basically just how to function more as an adult and an employable person when they get out of high school. The other thing we are working on is Aspire Arizona Foundation, where we spend ten’s of thousands of dollars paying for college credit for the students at the high school. The student is taught college level classes at the high school and community college. They get credit for high school and college. It has been a successful program so far.

Transportation:
• The lack of transportation is a contributing piece of the poverty issue.
• Payson started a public bus system in December 2018. More people will be employed because of our new bus system.
• We are told by our clients that lack of employment is due to lack of transportation.
• If you are a single woman with children, without transportation, it’s difficult to take children to child care and get to work.

Housing:
• We have places like Time Out (a domestic violence shelter) for very temporary shelter.
• We have low-income apartment complexes but, it’s very hard to get in and they have long waiting lists.
• Affordable housing is an issue in Payson and becoming worse.
• We have a homeless problem but no solutions.
Housing (continued):
• Habitat for Humanity couldn’t find property that was cheap enough to put an affordable house on and be able to put a family in the house. But, during the recession, Habitat picked up 6-7 lots during the down turn. That’s going to turn around again as property values go up. You can’t build an affordable house when more than $30,000 is in the land and we are looking at lots (land only) priced at $100,000. Affordable housing is a huge issue.
• We have Section 8 but not enough and the waiting time is too long.
• Mesa Del has a large piece of property that’s a ball field that nobody uses. I feel that can provide 16 low-income nice garden apartments, but Gila County won’t hear of it.
• I see houses that desperately need rehab in Mesa Del. It’s getting better but it’s on the low end.
• We see a lot of clients that pay a lot of rent that live in mobile homes that are in really bad shape because they have no other place to go.
• There may be housing but not housing that can be used.
• We need more housing that people can afford.
• The Town of Payson has made some major changes in building codes to allow higher buildings, more multi-story buildings and zero lot lines. That is how Habitat for Humanity was able to build condos for low-income people.
• Weatherization programs with the Town of Payson and Gila County, but they have restrictions.
• Veterans Administration has a home remodeling program for Veterans. They especially help with making home more accessible, such as ramps. Our local St. Vincent de Paul also pays for this.

Education:
• The Community College is a great asset. Students can attend and earn credits for college classes before they graduate from High School. Students are able to complete their prerequisites at a reduced tuition rate before transferring to a university. That allows them to live with family and work to save money. The college offers free tuition to seniors.
• All our primary and secondary schools received a “B” letter grade.
• We need more classes that teach work trade programs.
• The cost of higher education and student loans deters many people from attempting college.
• We need a mentor system for high school students.
GILA COUNTY
FOCUS GROUPS
(Payson continued)

Healthcare:
• We are lucky to have a quality hospital in our community.
• We have medical specialist that come into our community one to two times per month.
• We are close to major hospitals in the Phoenix area.
• There is a shortage of doctors in our area. Doctors are retiring and not being replaced.
• The cost of healthcare is too high for most people to afford, even if they have insurance.
• Most medical specialists won’t take your health insurance plan.
• People use the emergency room for primary care. One of the reasons is because it takes several weeks for them to get an appointment with their doctor.
• The medical staff have problems with “Dr. Google” where patients come in expecting they know what is wrong with them.

Nutrition:
• Schools are serving breakfast to students. Kindergartners get breakfast in their classrooms.
• We have a great community garden. They provide produce to local food banks.
• The Payson area has two food banks, churches that serve meals, senior food bank, Market on the Move, and Meal on Wheels. The Farmers Market accepts food stamps and with double your food stamps.
• You aren’t able to chose your food from the food banks.
• Cheaper food is less nutritious. Healthier and organic food costs too much.
• We have too many fast food restaurants.

Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement:
• We have a great police department.
• Legal aid is available at no cost.
• Drug abuse leads to police problems.
• Chemical dependency is behind a lot of the problems.
• The core of the family is being attacked. It causes a breakdown in the family structure. Without the foundation, support and direction of the family, people are making bad choices that leads them into criminal activity.
GILA COUNTY
FOCUS GROUPS
(Payson continued)

Childcare:
• The cost of childcare prevents many workers from obtaining employment.
• Lack of childcare in the area. Childcare is very expensive for a single mother to afford on minimum wages.
• The Payson area needs more childcare centers. We don’t have an infant care facility, or childcare on the weekends or childcare for 24 hour care.
• We have one childcare center, and four home care centers. Julia Randall and the Payson Christian School have childcare or pre-school centers but you have to enroll at the school.
• Gila County ranks number two in the state for teen pregnancy.
• The birth rate is declining in the last three years. We had eight kindergarten classes last year but only seven this year.

Analysis:
Payson’s industry is summer tourism. Many of the employees experience layoffs or a reduction of hours during the winter season. There are very few production companies. A focus group participant stated that “Payson needs industry jobs not just service jobs”. Most of the jobs are in food services, store associates, or motels (25.1%). A participant in the focus group stated “a large number of people have to hold more than one job in the family to get to a living wage number”. A participant stated “we need more housing that people can afford.” Per the 2000 Census, about 6.5% of families and 9.9% of the population were below the poverty line, including 15.1% of those under age 18 and 4.7% of those age 65 or over.

Gila County has been addressing many of these issues in the Payson area. Employment services, through Arizona@Work, has a resource room that provides access for people to apply for employment, write resumés, learn computer skills, and other services. Payson provides GED classes and testing. Assistance is provided that encourages people to increase their skills to advance their careers and increase their income. The Gila County Housing Department assists with home repairs and weatherization. Section 8 assists low-income residents to obtain affordable housing. Some issues, such as childcare and the cost of medical expenses, are beyond the scope of Gila County.
The focus group in Hayden, AZ was held on August 14, 2018 at the Hayden Senior Center. It consisted of 45 people during a provided luncheon. All attendees were senior citizens ranging in ages from 60 to 78. Full demographic information was not obtained from each individual. There were approximately 25 female and 20 male attendees. Income specifics were not obtained.

Participants Comments:

**Transportation:**
- Lack of public transportation.
- Bus schedules don’t coincide with the public’s needs.
- Expensive to maintain vehicles.

**Utilities:**
- The cost of utilities is too expensive.
- Most of the homes in this area need a lot of repairs, maintenance and upkeep that we can’t afford. So, that makes the utility bills higher.
- I have to decide if we have food and medicine or pay for utilities.

**Housing:**
- There are a lot of generational families living together to help reduce costs to barely scrape by.
- We have a lot of grandparents in this area that are raising their grandchildren. I am using my savings and nest egg that I had for retirement to help my family.
- The homeless problem is getting worse. They are stealing. They break into homes and sheds. They live in abandoned buildings and burning them down. The cops take them out of town, but they come back.

**Medical:**
- Medications are too expensive. If I get all my medication that helps to keep me alive, then I can’t afford utilities, food or upkeep on my home.
- We don’t have a local dentist. If we don’t have dentures, we can’t eat the right foods, so we can’t get the nutrition that we need. That affects our health.
- I need to have a supplemental insurance but, I can’t afford to pay the premiums, But, I can’t afford to be without it either. Then, if I have it, there is only one choice for insurance in the area and it doesn’t cover the medical treatment.
Drug Problems:
• The drug problems in the area is very bad. Many of the addicts are 30-50 years old. Many of them are homeless.
• There is a big drug problem at the schools. The police aren’t able to patrol the schools very much. They don’t have a drug-sniffing dog anymore. The police give drug presentations at the school, but, that’s not enough.

Access to food:
• We only have one food bank in Hayden, one in Mammoth and one in Kearny. When I go there, the lines are very long.
• We don’t have choices for grocery stores so we pay more for food.

Police Protection:
• The police are not doing their job.
• They are not patrolling the areas.
• In order to have a big police force, you need money to pay them.
• People are afraid to call the cops because of fear of retaliation because they know the person.

Employment:
• Wages are very low, like minimum wage, even for school employees.
• We have only one restaurant, no bars, no motels, and one small grocery store. The IGA store is nine miles away. They pay only minimum wage and are part-time only. People can’t get jobs as a waitress because there is nowhere for them to work.
• It is very hard to live on part-time work at minimum wage. A lot of people need at least two part-time jobs just to pay the bills.
• Once a kid graduates from school, they have to leave town to get jobs.
Analysis:
The participants experience many hardships due to living in a remote and rural area. Basic living needs such as shopping is always out of town, public transportation isn’t available, local businesses charge more, and very limited access to medical services. The closest access to services is located 38 miles away. Per the 2000 Census, about 27.3% of the population and 20.1% of families were below the poverty line including 35.2% of those under age 18 and 14.9% of those age 65 or over.

Combined Focus Groups Analysis:
The common factors for all three (3) focus groups are:
1. Lack of businesses that employ full-time, pay well, and provide employee benefits.
2. Low wages leads to unaffordable living expenses.
3. Lack of affordable and quality/safe housing.
4. Lack of reliable transportation.
5. Drug usage issues.
7. Lack of available and affordable medical care.

The communities are advertising to entice employers, projects and events to their areas. Since there are few jobs for the skilled labor force, many of the young people that graduate from high school and want advanced careers must seek employment elsewhere. Communities are endeavoring to retain their population.
Cause of Poverty: Low-Income

Community: Many Gila County employers have part-time workers earning minimum wages. The cost of living index in Gila County is 84.8% (less than the U.S. average of 100%) and 19.6% of the residents are living in poverty (2016 data). People receiving benefits (such as Social Security Supplemental Income [SSI] or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP]) have a difficult time paying the average cost of living expenses. Approximately 25% of the Gila County population receive food stamp benefits.

Family: For working adults with children, childcare services are limited, have long waiting lists, or is too costly. Public transportation is available but not convenient during employment hours. People experience frustration when faced with financial hardships on a continuous basis. People turn to negative means to escape the pressure and problems. Some people lack the life skills to cope and to find positive alternatives. Those situations can cause generational reliance on the various systems and resources.

Agency: Gila County provides resources for people to improve their situations and achieve self-sufficiency. A Resource Room is available to apply for employment and learn computer skills. Classes are offered for résumé writing, interviewing skills, General Education Degree (GED), and GED testing. Employment services are accessible on site or within the community.

Condition of Poverty: Substandard living conditions

The residents living in poverty struggle to maintain housing and basic living essentials. They reside in places that are in poor condition and are unable to afford housing maintenance. They rely on food banks, community resources, and public benefits to survive each month. This puts a tremendous strain on public, local, State and Federal resources.
GILA COUNTY
Goals/Developments

Gila County has implemented many programs to provide assistance to all the residents. Businesses, organizations and agencies are dedicated to resolving issues. Partnerships have been formed that produce a significant effect on the vulnerable population. Developing additional partnerships and becoming a part of a larger network of providers allows the provision of priority services.

Examples of collaboration and partnerships:

1. The Payson area was without public transportation. A small group of individuals saw the need and formed a committee of partners (including Gila County). They fervently completed the tedious process and obtained funding to launch a successful transit system.

2. The domestic violence shelter closed in the Globe area, leaving unprotected people without a safe place to shelter. Gila County Community Services sought partners and obtained funding to open a new facility.

3. Families who have suffered a life-altering event, such as a fire in their residence, were homeless and often without basic necessities. Partnering with other entities, GILA House was established to provide temporary housing. Residents, with the aid of case management, are able to save money to afford housing and gain their independence.

4. Gila County has created a Continuum of Care to address homelessness and the almost homeless. Partnering with prominent community leaders and organizations, the group is implementing assistance and resources to prevent and shelter homeless individuals.

Gila County continues to develop innovative ways to fill the needs and remove the barriers that keep residents from achieving and maintaining self-sufficiency. Collaboration and partnering with other entities is essential to provide crucial services to the residents of Gila County.
GILA COUNTY

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APPENDIX 1

GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE
COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2018

Please answer all questions.
OR complete online at Survey Monkey:  https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XHBBB3B

1. What City and County do you live in? City:  County:

2. How long have you lived in Gila County?  
   ☐ Under 1 year  ☐ 1-3 years  ☐ 4-7 years  ☐ 8 years or more

3. Are you associated with? (Choose 1)  
   ☐ Business  ☐ Church  ☐ Non-Profit  ☐ School  ☐ None

4. Do you have:  
   ☐ Phone ☐ Yes ☐ No  ☐ Computer ☐ Yes ☐ No  ☐ Internet access ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Do you or anyone in your family have the following needs? (Choose up to 5)  
   ☐ Applying for Jobs  ☐ Education  ☐ Mortgage Assistance  ☐ Prescription Savings
   ☐ Banking  ☐ Employment  ☐ Pregnancy Education  ☐ Rent
   ☐ Behavioral/mental Healthcare  ☐ Food  ☐ Senior Services  ☐ Subsistence Assistance
   ☐ Budgeting  ☐ Health Ins./Dental Ins.  ☐ Other:  ☐ Transportation
   ☐ Childcare  ☐ Home Repairs  ☐ Other:  ☐ Utility Assistance
   ☐ Child Support  ☐ Housing  ☐ Other:  ☐ Youth Services
   ☐ Clothing  ☐ Income Tax Preparation  ☐ Other:  ☐ Domestic Violence Services
   ☐ Dental Healthcare  ☐ Legal Services  ☐ Medical Health Care

6. Barriers to obtaining basic needs: (Choose up to 3)  
   ☐ Childcare  ☐ Healthy/Disable  ☐ Substance Abuse  ☐ Transportation
   ☐ Cost of Living  ☐ Income  ☐ Transportation  ☐ Other:  ☐ Other:
   ☐ Education  ☐ Legal Issues/Background check  ☐ Other:

7. Health care barriers? (Check all that apply)  
   ☐ No Problems  ☐ Insurance  ☐ Transportation  ☐ Other:  ☐ Other:
   ☐ Cost of Health Care  ☐ Medication/Prescriptions

8. Do you or anyone in your household have any income from? (Check all that apply)  
   ☐ No Income  ☐ Employment  ☐ Social Security [SSI, SSD, SSA]  ☐ VA
   ☐ Cash/Grants  ☐ Odd/Extra Jobs  ☐ TANF/Cash Assistance from D.E.S.  ☐ Unemployment
   ☐ Child Support  ☐ Pension  ☐ Tribal Income  ☐ Veteran's Comp
   ☐ Disability  ☐ Self-employed  ☐ Other:  ☐ Other:

9. Employment barriers? (Choose up to 3)  
   ☐ No Problems  ☐ Lack of Experience/Education  ☐ Pay too Low to Support Family
   ☐ Childcare  ☐ Legal Issues/Background check  ☐ Physical/Mental Disability
   ☐ Lack of Available Jobs  ☐ Part-Time Employment  ☐ Substance Abuse
   ☐ Transportation  ☐ Other:  ☐ Other:

Appendix 1
10. Type of Transportation?
☐ Bicycle
☐ Rides from/wtih Family or Friend
☐ Vehicle
☐ Hitchhiking
☐ Taxi (Uber, etc.)
☐ Walking
☐ Public Transportation
☐ Other: ________________________________

11. Transportation barriers?
☐ No Problems
☐ Cost (bus pass, taxi fare)
☐ Price of Gas
☐ Bus Routes
☐ No Car/Can't Afford one
☐ Suspended/Revoked License
☐ Car Repairs
☐ No Reliable Vehicle
☐ Other: ________________________________
☐ Can't Afford Insurance
☐ Physical/Mental Disability

12. What type of housing do you have?
☐ Homeless
☐ Living with Family/Friends
☐ Rent
☐ Living in A Shelter
☐ Own Home
☐ RV or 5th Wheel
☐ Other: ________________________________

13. Housing barriers? (Choose up to 3)
☐ No Concerns
☐ Health and Safety Issues
☐ Rent Too High
☐ Affordability
☐ Housing Needs/Minor Repairs
☐ Utilities Too High
☐ Can't Afford House Payments
☐ Legal Issues/Background Check
☐ Other: ________________________________
☐ Can't Afford Insurance

14. Check one answer in each category for the person completing this survey:


Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Separated ☐ Divorced ☐ Widowed

Race: ☐ Alaska Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black/African American ☐ White/Caucasian
☐ American Indian ☐ BI-Racial/Multi-Racial ☐ Hispanic/Latino ☐ Other: ________________________________

Gender Identity: ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Other: ________________________________

Total number in your household: ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 or more

Annual Household Income: ☐ No income ☐ $20,000 - $30,000 ☐ $50,000 - $60,000
☐ Less than $10,000 ☐ $30,001 - $40,000 ☐ $60,001 - $70,000
☐ $10,001 - $20,000 ☐ $40,001 - $50,000 ☐ Above $70,000

15. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (Choose 1)
☐ 0-8 Grade
☐ High School Graduate/GED
☐ 2+ years College Degree
☐ 9-12 Non-Graduate
☐ 12 Grade + Some College/No Degree
☐ Graduate of Technical School

16. Comments/Suggestions: __________________________________________

Thank you for your time. Your anonymous information will be used to determine services for Gila County.

PLEASE RETURN BY AUGUST 31, 2018

Email: Goodbye@acmeuniversity.gov  FAX: (928) 468-8056

Please return to: Gila County Community Services, 5115 S. Apache Ave., Suite 200, Globe, AZ 85501
Gila County Community Services, 107 W. Frontier St., Building C, Payson, AZ 85541
Telephone: (520) 425-7021 (520) 474-7192  Toll Free: 800-304-4452, ext. 8630
JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP
AND GET A FREE LUNCH

WE WANT YOUR OPINION OF THE GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY

We need your input! Please help us discuss these subjects:

- Barriers to obtaining basic needs
- Health care
- Employment
- Housing
- Other issues

The Gila County Community Services Department is trying to learn more about the community needs. They want to hear from people across Gila County.

Your opinion and experience counts!

We are looking for people to participate in a 2-hour focus group discussion. Lunch will be provided. [A focus group is a discussion with 7 to 10 people about their views of a topic.]

➢ When: Tuesday, August 28, 2018
   11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (lunch provided)
➢ Where: Gila County Community Services
   5515 S. Apache Avenue, Conference Room 200
   Globe, AZ 85501

To reserve your space: Please call (928) 425-7631

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL.
No one will be identified by name in any reports. Names will not be shared with any other agency.
The session will be audio taped.
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Your opinion and experience counts!

We are looking for people to participate in a 2-hour focus group discussion. Buffet lunch will be provided. [A focus group is a discussion with 7 to 10 people about their views of a topic.]

➢ When: Tuesday, August 21, 2018
   11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (buffet lunch provided)
➢ Where: Cedar Ridge Restaurant Conference Room - Masatall Casino

To reserve your space: Please call (928) 474-7192.

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL.
No one will be identified by name in any reports. Names will not be shared with any other agency.
The session will be audio-taped.
JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP AND GET A FREE LUNCH
WE WANT YOUR OPINION OF THE GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY

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- Barriers to obtaining basic needs
- Health care
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The Gila County Community Services Department is trying to learn more about the community needs. They want to hear from people across Gila County.

Your opinion and experience counts!

We are looking for people to participate in a 2-hour focus group discussion. Lunch will be provided. [A focus group is a discussion with 7 to 10 people about their views of a topic.]

➢ When: Tuesday, August 14, 2018
   11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
➢ Where: Hayden Senior Center
   520 Velasco Ave, Hayden, AZ 85135

ALL INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL.
No one will be identified by name in any reports. Names will not be shared with any other agency.
The session will be audio taped.
DEMographic INFORMATION

Please complete the following information. Answers will remain confidential and will be used only for data on the focus group responses.

Name: ____________________________

Town/City of residence: ____________________________

Age: ______

Sex: ______

Race: ______

Employment:  ___  Employed full-time
                ___  Employed part-time
                ___  Self-Employed
                ___  Unemployed
                ___  Retirement Income
                ___  Disability Income
                ___  Other: ____________________________

Gross income average per month: $________________________

Marital status:  ___  Single
                ___  Married
                ___  Divorced
                ___  Widow
                ___  Separated
                ___  Living with a partner, not married

Appendix 6
GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOCUS GROUP
Date and Place

RELEASE FORM

__ I hereby give permission for this Community Needs Assessment Focus Group (hereafter referred to as “Group”) to be recorded.

__ I understand the recording will be analyzed, summarized, and quoted (without reference to my personal information) without further authorization from me.

__ I understand that I am a willing participant in this Group.

__ I understand that names or other personally identifying information will be kept confidential.

__ I understand that my participation, answers, and responses may be used for gathering data and information.

__ This authorization is valid for the use of the Community Needs Assessment.

Printed Name ___________________________ Signature ___________________________

Date ___________________________ Phone number ___________________________

Appendix 7
APPENDIX 8

GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY
NEEDS ASSESSMENT
FOCUS GROUP
SURVEY QUESTIONS

Employment
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with employment?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with employment over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of employment with Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the employment opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Income
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with income?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with income over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of income with Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the income opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Poverty
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with poverty?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with poverty over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of poverty with Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the poverty opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Transportation
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with poverty?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with poverty over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of poverty with Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the poverty opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?
APPENDIX 9

Housing
1. Strengths: What are Gila County strengths with housing?
2. Weaknesses: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with housing over the next three years?
3. Barriers: What do you believe are the existing barriers of housing in Gila County?
4. Opportunities: What are the housing opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Education
1. Strengths: What are Gila County strengths with education?
2. Weaknesses: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with education over the next three years?
3. Barriers: What do you believe are the existing barriers of education in Gila County?
4. Opportunities: What are the education opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Healthcare
1. Strengths: What are Gila County strengths with healthcare?
2. Weaknesses: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with healthcare over the next three years?
3. Barriers: What do you believe are the existing barriers of healthcare in Gila County?
4. Opportunities: What are the healthcare opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Nutrition
1. Strengths: What are Gila County strengths with nutrition?
2. Weaknesses: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with nutrition over the next three years?
3. Barriers: What do you believe are the existing barriers to nutrition in Gila County?
4. Opportunities: What are the nutrition opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?
APPENDIX 10

Criminal justice/law enforcement
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with criminal justice/law enforcement?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with criminal justice/law enforcement over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of criminal justice/law enforcement in Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the criminal justice/law enforcement opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?

Childcare
1. **Strengths**: What are Gila County strengths with childcare?
2. **Weaknesses**: What are the primary issues/needs/concerns that Gila County should address with childcare over the next three years?
3. **Barriers**: What do you believe are the existing barriers of childcare in Gila County?
4. **Opportunities**: What are the childcare opportunities you believe Gila County should be looking at over the next three years?