

# | Gaps and Barriers in Your Community |

In building the 2030 vision, 60 + community partners identified gaps and barriers they saw in our community. They also discussed what they wished for in our community. We categorized what we heard.

## Thriving Families

- Partners believe in early childhood development and have invested funds and staff time to support child care providers, pre-schools and schools; yet a shared agenda was not easily identified.
- Partners are doing similar work, yet separate, to prevent adolescent risk factors around vaping, marijuana, alcohol, depression, violence, suicidal thoughts/suicide, social media/isolation.
- Partners believe in healthy youth and adult relationships, yet a shared agenda was not easily identified.
- A system to track gaps and barriers in the community is needed.
- Youth are struggling in our community coping with family dynamics, peer pressure, risky behaviors, building protective factors. Parents need to be a part of the solution.
- When partners doing the work were asked to point to shared data, occasionally they were unable to define or communicate accomplishments. Planning and Measurement (Board of Directors Group)
- Not all partners are at a table to discuss similar work. Rural communities are under-represented.

## Resources Are Accessible

- Resources are not easily understood or accessible.
- Residents look for resources when in crisis and most often ask a friend or trusted adult.

## Valuing People

- Lived experience of parents was not heard, except in some schools.
- Residents with lived experience are being served by services, data informs agency programs; however, lived experience rarely informs community decisions.
- A shared agenda around a community inclusion and embracing diversity was not mentioned yet with more time, partners are willing to discuss further.
- Celebrations, best practices and evidence-based practices are known, yet many in the community have not heard about them or the partners success in this work.
- Youth and adults have similar views but conversations do not exist in our community where they talk together.
- Schools and marginalized populations are over surveyed.
- Partners excel at case management with limited resources.
- Conversations around the above mentioned 'key findings' are mentioned in conversations at coalition and collaborative meetings, yet not placed in the center for conversations.

## Access To Basic Services

- Barriers to accessing services include age, language, immigration status, cost, location, technology, or residents shop for services not always finding a fit for their need.
- Residents have unmet needs for food, housing, transportation, connections, mental and physical health.
- Community wide stigma is recognized by partners in areas of access, language, education, age, race, unmet needs, mental health, disability, abuse/neglect or economic status.

