CAC FIRST FRIDAYS



Monthly Strategy Updates from our President and CEO

"It is our mission to end poverty by empowering and improving people's lives while building strong communities."



Keith Pitts, President & CEO Community Action Committee of Pike County

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Our Community NEEDS Us

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

We are currently collecting data for the 2023 Community Needs Assessment for Pike County. This assessment is related to the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG), which is the funding that makes it possible for us to be a Community Action Agency.

CSBG funding helps with services and supports related to housing, nutrition, utilities, transportation, employment, education, crisis and emergency services, healthcare, and community asset building initiatives.

We do a needs assessment every three years. It is an opportunity for us to spend focused time listening and learning from individuals and organizations in our community.

We have two surveys that are active at the moment. The first is the individual/household survey that we encourage everyone to take. The second

second is for businesses and organizations. Our goal with these surveys is to gather information about the needs that people experiencing on a regular basis. We will also schedule some focus group/listening sessions for the month of August.

We will use what we learn through the survey and focus group/listening sessions to identify our community's needs.

"There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

Margaret Wheatley

Resource mapping comes next. We look around our community to see what resources exist to help meet the needs we identified, and visually represent them on a map. We will then compare the needs and resources to identify gaps in services.

The result will be a comprehensive document that will tell the story of what is going on in Pike County. We will use this document to inform our strategic planning process and to help guide our efforts for the next several years. The 2023 Community Needs

Q: How can I help with the 2023 Community Needs Assessment?

- A: First of all, I would encourage all staff to take the Individual/Household survey. You don't have to live in Pike County to participate. All information is valuable to this process.
- Q: Will our clients/patients have a chance to take the survey?
- A: Yes. We want to make the survey available to as many of our clients/patients as possible, as well as to the general public. We have published the QR Code and survey link on the CAC website. We will be encouraging participation at a number of in-person events coming up, including the Pike County Fair, Senior Center events, etc. We would ask that you make mention of the survey to your clients/ patients and help them complete it if needed.
- Q: When will the 2023 Community Needs Assessment be published?
- A: Data collection, including the surveys, will continue through the end of August.

 Analysis and writing will take place September through the first part of November. Our goal is to have the needs assessment on the Governing Board agenda in





Until next time...

