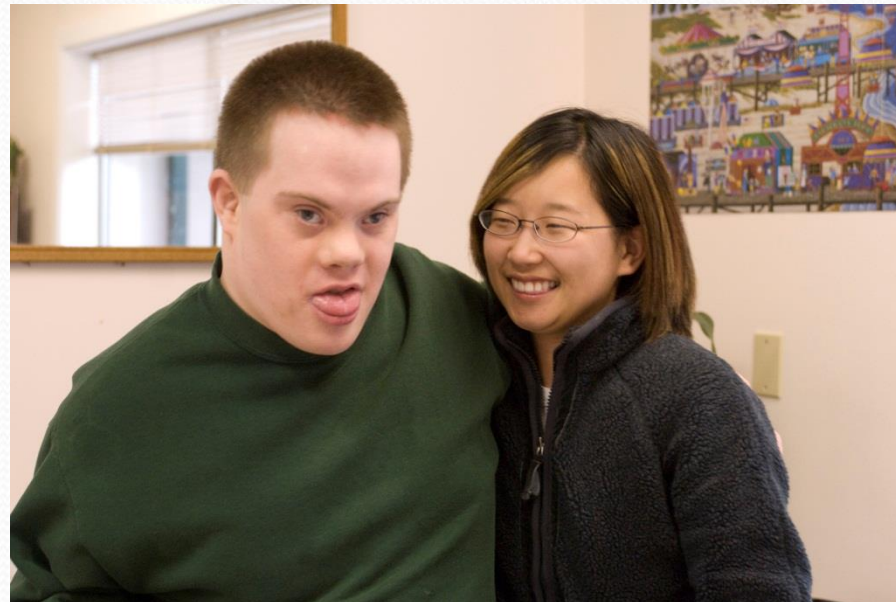


2015-2016 Human Services Needs Update

Overview of Key Trends and Issues

Parks & Community Services Board Meeting
February 9, 2016



What's Working?

- Funds from the Veterans and Human Services Levy renewed in 2011 by 69% of King County voters provided support for August Wilson Place in Bellevue.
- Bellevue Youth Court worked with 56 youth in the KC Juvenile Justice System, 331 youth were trained.
- Eastside affordable housing developers created almost 1,000 units of affordable housing over the past 10 years for families, adults and special needs populations.
- Cultural Conversations created an inviting place in the community where women from many cultures could connect and share ideas, customs and questions.

Overarching Themes

- The need for affordable housing is still the number one issue and comment from a variety of populations and in all our surveys.
- Though the unemployment rate is much lower, many people still report needing more than one job to afford to live in East King County to pay for the basics.
- Substance abuse is on the rise for youth and adults, with mental health issues also a big concern.
- Transportation access issues continues as the top barrier to services and employment.
- The growing diversity in all areas of Bellevue and all of East KC is bringing up the need for responsive services as well as community dialogue about differences.

Special Focus Area: The Diversity Advantage Plan

- Adopted in December, 2014 with its vision statement, “Bellevue welcomes the world. Our diversity is our strength.”
- The Plan relies on a few key terms that are important to define: Diversity, Equity & Cultural Competence.
- Through the public engagement process, recurring themes around of each of the 6 Focus areas; cultural competence, human services, public safety, education, economic development and civic engagement.

Goal #1: Food to Eat and Roof Overhead

- Many in Bellevue continue to struggle to meet basic needs:
 - The percentage of students qualifying for lunch assistance decreased from 21.2% in 2013 to 19.0% in 2014, and 19.45 in 2015.
 - The number of Bellevue residents participating in SNAP was 7,860 in June 2010, increasing 25% to 9,792 in 2012, and 10,090 in 2014 (3% increase).
 - About 16% of renters and 13% of homeowners in Bellevue paid more than 50% of their household income for housing. The median Bellevue rent was \$1,630/month.
 - During the winter of 2014-2015, a total of 449 men, 194 adults, and 106 children stayed at the Eastside Winter Shelters, compared to 210 men, 106 women and 17 children served last winter.

Goal #2: Supportive Relationships within Families, Neighborhoods, and Communities

- All families need social support to raise their children or care for loved ones:
 - Overall, East King County residents reported high levels of social support but certain groups (low income, ELL, with children) are lower.
 - Eastside Pathways and Bellevue School District recognize the importance of social support for parents and kids.
 - Early Learning/Parent Support critical for school readiness; Bellevue has Healthy Start and Parent Child Home Program.
 - Free/Low-Cost Legal Assistance key for remove barriers for immigration status, housing and employment; more needed.
 - 2-1-1 Calls from Bellevue residents for Basic Needs continue to be very high (49%) with financial assistance somewhat lower in 2014.

Goal #3: A Safe Haven from All Forms of Violence and Abuse

- Overall trends in family violence:
 - The number of reported domestic violence offenses statewide increased by almost 25% between 2011 and 2012; in Bellevue domestic violence offenses also increased 22%.
 - Reports of elder/vulnerable adult abuse including exploitation are going up statewide: reports grew 45% between 2010 and 2013 with the largest number in financial exploitation.
 - Reports of child abuse and neglect are up slightly for East King County.
 - Human trafficking: vastly underreported but cases uncovered in East King County/Bellevue.
 - Continuing need for culturally and linguistically appropriate services for growing diverse population.

Goal #4: Health Care to Be as Physically and Mentally Fit as Possible

- Dental care is still an overwhelming need for low-income people.
- Mental health services are increasingly in demand for more complex problems, for adults and youth.
- Substance abuse on the rise, especially heroin, due to stronger prescription drug laws.
- With the passage of the Affordable Care Act more people have health insurance but many report that they are underinsured or still cannot afford the premiums or co-pays.

Goal #5: Education and Job Skills to Lead an Independent Life

- Even with full-time employment, many families struggle to make ends meet.
 - Washington still boasts the country's highest minimum wage, \$9.47 (2015), but this still places many families below the FPL.
 - Finding jobs for people with limited English continues to be a challenge.
 - Childcare for an East King County family can cost up to one-fifth of household income; it is the highest in the county.
 - Transportation is key to finding and maintaining jobs; most frequently mentioned barrier especially for low-income people.

2014 Living Wage Bellevue WA

Family Type	Self Sufficiency Standard Bellevue, WA
Single Adult	\$13.57/hr.
	\$28,667/yr.
Single Adult with a school aged child (6-8 years)	\$23.70/hr.
	\$50,050/yr.
Single Adult with a school- aged child and a toddler (12- 24 months)	\$34.29/hr.
	\$72,428/yr.
Two Adults (both working) with a school-aged child and a toddler	\$18.35/hr./adult
	\$77,513/yr.
Two Adults (one working) with a school-aged child and a toddler	\$36.70/hr.
	\$77,513/yr.

Specific Populations

○ Older Adults

- AARP predicts that most older adults will need some long term care and services at some point in their lives; about 1/3 will have costs that exceed their abilities to pay.
- More older adults are remaining at work longer due to fewer who have defined pensions, higher costs of living.
- Housing costs: over 61% of older adults renters in Bellevue are paying more than 30% of their income for rent.
- Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia are increasing; between 2010-2040 there will be a 181% uptick.

Specific Populations

○ People with Disabilities

- Higher survival rates and improved therapies are increasing lifespans of people with disabilities.
- Number of older adults with developmental disabilities cared for by aging parents continues to increase with a potential upcoming crisis in the need for care.
- 18% of King County Developmental Disabilities Division clients speak a primary language other than English; in East King County, about one third of clients are ELL.
- Providers report more children birth-3 with disabilities, including autism, emotional and sensory regulation issues.
- Key issues for children and adults: state funds are not increasing with the population growth and some funders are no longer funding programs for this population.

Specific Populations

○ Refugees and Immigrants

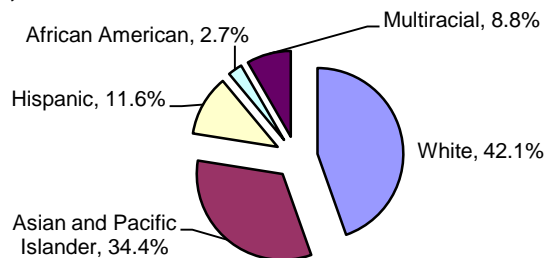
- In 2014, Washington ranked 11th in the U.S., resettling 2,483 refugee arrivals, representing about 3.5% of the total new refugee arrivals to the U.S. in 2014.
- In 2015, there were 87 languages and dialects spoken the BSD. The top languages were Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin) Korean, and Chinese (Cantonese). (2016: 100)
- Nearly 39% of Bellevue residents spoke a language other than English.
- Issues frequently referred to: need for English Language classes-employment focused; culturally appropriate health care; low-cost legal services, navigation of the systems in this culture, including school and governmental.

Specific Populations

○ School Aged Children and Youth

- More students are showing signs of stress, including anxiety, suicide ideation, abusing substances to mitigate.
- The BSD reports a large increase in students eligible to receive services funded by the federal McKinney-Vento Act because they are homeless: October 2015: 136 October 2006: 58
- According to 2013 (ACS) report, the racial and ethnic diversity of the population in Bellevue under age 18 is higher (48.0%) than the diversity of the adult population (38.1%)
- Hispanic/Latinos has doubled over the past 16 years.

**BSD Enrollment by Ethnic Group,
2014-2015**



Specific Populations

○ Veterans

- The number of veterans in King County is steadily declining overall with women veterans increasing somewhat.
- Aging veterans are still the largest proportion in the county with the smallest 18-34 years old.
- Younger vets who are returning report the need for mental health services, including suicide prevention, substance abuse services.
- Even with additional housing vouchers for veterans many are still not able to obtain housing, especially in East King County.
- Employment: veteran unemployment rate is down but many still need help in translating their military experience to civilian life.

Specific Populations

○ Bellevue Adult Misdemeanant Probation

- The City provides services for about 1,000 individuals/year: 40% Driving Under the Influence, 29% Domestic Violence, 16% Theft and 16% Assaults and Disorderly Behavior.
- Many of the adults seen in Bellevue Probation experienced traumatic experiences in early life (Adverse Childhood Experiences) that contributed to substance abuse, depression, and intimate partner violence.
- Bellevue Probation uses best practices to help individuals in meeting court orders, but also helps them identify barriers and ways to change attitudes and behaviors to reduce recidivism.
- Many individuals in Bellevue Probation utilize the human services providers funded by the City such as mental health, substance abuse and basic needs.

Questions or Observations?

