Community Indicators as the basis for Community Action
コミュニティアクションの基礎としてのコミュニティ指標

Chantal Stevens
Why are community indicators at the heart of so many efforts to improve quality of life, health and wellbeing, to address and redress inequities, revitalize neighborhoods, and work toward sustainability?
What are *community indicators* and why do they matter?

**Definitions**

- *Indicators* use data to show a trend or fact, that indicates the state or level of something within a context (temporal, geographic, goal-based, etc.)
What are community indicators and why do they matter?
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- Community Indicators engage the community to use data in the form of indicators to tell the story of a place (i.e., a city) and support change.
What are *community indicators* and why do they matter?

**Purposes**

- Inform the community and decision-makers
- Engage and connect the different stakeholders within a community
- Support change on some priority areas
What are community indicators and why do they matter?

Community Indicators help build strong communities
Vision for the Community

Goal 1

- Indicator
  - Target
    - Action Step
  - Indicator
    - Target
  - Indicator
    - Partnership

Goal 2

- Indicator
  - Target
- Indicator
  - Target

Initiative
Our city is resilient and sustainable

We care about the environment

- Water quality
  - Target
  - Partnership between city and environmental group
- Air quality
  - Target
- Bird count
  - Indicator
  - Action step: build bird boxes

People are healthy

- Incidence of diabetes
  - Target
- Access to healthy food
  - Target
- Initiative to create community gardens
Who?

- Community members
- Stakeholders
- Subject Matter Experts
- Organizational staff & board
So how do we make this information meaningful?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income and Cost of Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Affordability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental Affordability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Income Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Housing Security</td>
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Children Living Below Poverty Level

This indicator shows the percentage of people under the age of 18 who are living below the federal poverty level.

Why is this important?

Family income has been shown to affect a child's well-being in numerous studies. Compared to their peers, children in poverty are more likely to have physical health problems like low birth weight or lead poisoning, and are also more likely to have behavioral and emotional problems. Children in poverty also tend to exhibit cognitive difficulties, as shown in achievement test scores, and are less likely to complete basic education.

Impact
Change doesn't come without understanding how policies and services have historically neglected low-income communities and communities of color. In order to affect change, San Antonio must take collective responsibility for advancing community results. Change happens when we acknowledge and agree to address root causes of our community's greatest challenges. When accounting for the intersection of race/ethnicity and gender in Bexar County, 2016 1-year estimates show the following for per capita income.

To see the full Economic Competitiveness report, click [here](#).
Join the Conversation

Every day, Oregonians are working together to create healthier places in all parts of our state. Check back often to see what’s new near you. Got an opinion, idea or event to add to the mix? Share it on our Facebook page and join the conversation.

Portland: Indigenous Healing on January 24

Join Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare for a panel discussion on history, trauma, resiliency and how to work with Native Americans in a culturally responsive way. Developing an awareness of the multi-generational effects of colonization is vital to understanding Native experiences. Sharing stories of historical and present-day challenges helps in the healing process. In this seminar, learn about the concept of historical trauma and its importance when working with individuals, families, tribes, communities and larger systems.

GO TO CONVERSATION
Community Indicators produce measures that matter
Indicators are a window into complex issues
Community indicators help you know your community
Indicators create a mechanism for accountability
Community indicators help identify a roadmap for action.
How to identify measures that matter?
Thank you!

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