

# Summary of Regional Community Need Assessments

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Prepared by United Way of Greater Plymouth County



United Way of  
Greater Plymouth County

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# Purpose & Summary

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In order to generate sufficient resources and then to direct those resources in the most efficient and effective manner to address the most urgent needs of individuals and families in a community, it is vital to have access to an up to date and comprehensive community needs assessment. To that end, our United Way of Greater Plymouth County attempts ideally to conduct a comprehensive community needs assessment on a regular basis. This process is time consuming, labor intensive and consequently, very costly. In addition, due to continued governmental funding and requisite monitoring of how its resources are being expended, many health and human service organizations and coalitions applying for and receiving federal, state and local governmental funds are being required to conduct needs assessments across a wide array of need areas.

Rather than incur unreasonable expense and to reduce unnecessary duplicative efforts by engaging in a formal community needs assessment process, our United Way of Greater Plymouth County has surveyed the broad landscape of our greater Plymouth County geography and collected eight needs assessments conducted within the past five years regarding the health and human service needs of our neighbors. We have summarized and placed the findings of these reports within our general framework of “**Service Needs**” focusing on the areas of **health, education** and **financial stability** and the more global “**Systemic Needs**” in order to serve as guides in making an application for United Way funds. Links to the actual source documents are included and all are urged to review these reports.

In addition, applicants for United Way funding are welcome to continue to use our United Way’s most recent community needs assessment conducted in cooperation with the staff and students of Bridgewater State University four years ago. The findings for this needs assessment are included in the need areas that follow in this summary.

# Common Needs Identified

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Needs are listed below in order of priority based on their prevalence as they appear in multiple need assessments.

## **Service Needs**

### Health

- Substance Use Disorders
- Mental Illness
- Chronic & Severe Medical Issues
- Access to Health Care/Health Insurance
- Elders Health/In Home Care
- Domestic Violence

### Education

- Vocational Training/Job Services
- Youth Development/Youth At Risk Services
- Education Support/Tutoring

### Financial Stability

- Emergency Shelter
- Food Insecurity

## **Systemic Needs**

- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Legal Assistance
- Crime Reduction/Prevention
- Poverty Reduction/Prevention

# Sources & Links

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[Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital Plymouth 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

[Good Samaritan Medical Center 2015 Population Health Improvement Report](#)

[High Point Treatment Center Community Health Needs Assessment FY 2018](#)

[Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission 2016 Comprehensive Statewide Vocational Rehabilitation Consumer Needs Assessment](#)

[NAMI Mass Statewide Convention 2018 Prioritized List of the Needs](#)

[Old Colony Planning Council 2016 Older Person Needs Assessment](#)

[Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

[South Shore Hospital 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment](#)

[United Way of Greater Plymouth County 2014 Community Needs Assessment](#)



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