



Community Readiness Assessment Interview Questions

Hello, my name is _____, and I'm currently working on a project that is looking at how your community is dealing with _____. I'm contacting key people and organizations who are likely to be knowledgeable and have opinions about this issue, and who would be willing to participate in a short phone interview (ask if they would be willing to be interviewed, either now or at a later, more convenient time).

The Purpose of our study is to learn how your community is currently dealing with _____ and ultimately how you community can further develop your community's own prevention strategies. We are interviewing people by phone, and each interview usually lasts about a half and hour. The names of the people interviewing will be kept confidential.

[At the time of interview:] I really appreciate you taking the time to do this interview for us and your community. Before I begin, there are some things you should know. I am going to be typing your responses as you give them. If you believe that you have already provided the answer to a particular question, just let me know that, or you may expand on that answer.

Are you ready to begin?

A. COMMUNITY EFFORTS (program, activities, policies, etc.)

B. COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE OF EFFORTS

1. Using a scale fro 1-10, how much of a concern is this issue in your community (with 1 being "not at all" and 10 being "a very great concern")? Please explain. *(NOTE: this figure between one and ten is NOT figured into you scoring of this dimension in any way - it is only to provide a reference point.)*
2. Please describe the efforts that are available in your community to address this issue.
3. How long have these efforts been going on in your community?
4. Using a scale from 1-10, how aware are people in your community of these efforts (with 1 being "no awareness" and 10 being "very aware")? Please explain. *(NOTE: this figure between one and ten is NOT figured into you scoring of this dimension in any way - it is only to provide a reference point.)*
5. What are the strengths of these efforts?
6. What are the weaknesses of these efforts?
7. Who do these programs serve? (Prompt: for example, individuals of a certain age group, ethnicity, etc.)



8. Would there be any segments of the community for which these efforts/services may appear inaccessible? (Prompt: For example, individuals of a certain age group, ethnicity, income level, geographic region, etc.)
9. Is there a need to expand these efforts/services? If not, why not?
10. **Is there any planning for efforts/services going on in your community surrounding this issue? If, yes please explain.**
11. What formal or informal policies, practices and laws related to this issue are in place in your community, and for how long? (Prompt: An example of "formal" would be established policies of schools, police, or courts. An example of "informal" would be similar to the police not responding to calls from a particular part of town, etc.)
12. Are there segments of the community for which these policies, practices and laws may not apply? (Prompt: For example, due to socioeconomic status, ethnicity, age, etc.)
13. Is there a need to expand these policies, practices and laws? If so are there plans to expand them? Please explain.
14. How does the community view these policies, practices and laws?

C. LEADERSHIP

15. Who are the "leaders" specific to this issue in your community?
16. **Using a scale from 1-10, how much of a concern is this issue to the leadership in your community (with 1 being "not at all" and 10 being "of great concern")? Please explain. (NOTE: this figure between one and ten is NOT figured into you scoring of this dimension in any way - it is only to provide a reference point.)**
17. **How are these leaders involved in efforts regarding this issue? Please explain. (For example: Are they involved in a committee, task force, etc? How often do they meet?)**
18. **Would the leadership support additional efforts? Please explain.**

D. COMMUNITY CLIMATE

19. Describe _____ (name of your community).
20. Are there ever any circumstance in which members of your community might think that this issue should be tolerated? Please explain.
21. **How does the community support the efforts to address this issue?**



22. What are the primary obstacles to efforts addressing this issue in your community?
23. Based on the answers that you have provided so far, what do you think is the overall feeling among community members regarding this issue?

E. KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ISSUE

24. How knowledgeable are community members about this issue? Please explain. (Prompt: For example, dynamics, signs, symptoms, statistics, effects on family and friends, etc.)
25. What type of information is available in your community regarding this issue?
26. What local data are available on this issue in your community?
27. How do people obtain this information in your community?

F. RESOURCES FOR PREVENTION EFFORTS (time, money, people, space, etc.)

28. To whom would an individual affected by this issue turn to first for help in your community? Why?
29. On a scale from 1-10, what is the level of expertise and training among those working on this issue (with 1 being "very low" and 10 being "very high")? Please explain. (*NOTE: this figure between one and ten is NOT figured into you scoring of this dimension in any way - it is only to provide a reference point.*)
30. Do efforts that address this issue have a broad base of volunteers?
31. What is the community's and/or local business' attitude about supporting efforts to address this issue, with people volunteering time, making financial donations, and/or providing space?
32. How are current efforts funded? Please explain.
33. Are you aware of any proposals or action plans that have been submitted for funding that address this issue in your community? If yes, please explain.
34. Do you know if there is any evaluation of efforts that are in place to address this issue? If yes, on a scale of 1-10, how sophisticated is the evaluation effort (with 1 being "not at all" and 10 being "very sophisticated")? (*NOTE: this figure between one and ten is NOT figured into you scoring of this dimension in any way - it is only to provide a reference point.*)



35. Are the evaluation results being used to make changes in programs, activities, or policies or to start new ones?

The following questions are optional, but help us to know the types of people we have interviewed. Would you be willing to answer questions such as your profession, ethnicity, age, etc. etc? If "yes":

What is your work title?

What is your gender?

What is your ethnicity?

- A. Anglo
- B. Hispanic
- C. African American
- D. Asian American
- E. Native American
- F. Native Alaskan
- G. Other

What is your age range?

- A. 19-24
- B. 25-34
- C. 35-44
- D. 45-54
- E. 55-64
- F. 65 and above

Do you live in (name of community)?

If not the community we have selected, what community?

How many miles is this from the community we have selected?

Do you work in (name of community)?

If not the community we have selected, what community?

How many miles is this from the community we have selected?

How long have you lived in your community?

May I have a mailing address for you? It may be your place of employment or your residence, whichever is most convenient for you. We have a gift to send to you to show you our appreciation for taking the time to complete this interview.

