

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BOONE COUNTY

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

2019





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In June 2019, the Community Foundation of Boone County (CFBC) launched a community-wide needs assessment of Boone County, Indiana. The needs assessment was funded through a grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. (LEI) focusing on community leadership planning & development work. LEI awarded these grants to help community foundations better understand the opportunities and challenges in their home communities and determine which areas of need the foundations can take a leadership role in filling.

There are four phases of the grant. The first phase was to identify the current needs in Boone County. CFBC conducted the needs assessment, gathered and compiled the results, and continues to share the results. This report is the end of phase one. The second phase consists of CFBC identifying an area of need and an innovative idea to take a leadership role in filling that need. Phase three is when CFBC will apply for additional grant funding from LEI in March 2020 to implement the innovative idea. Phase four is to implement the grant and continue to work with community partners to address identified areas of need.

CFBC gathered the following information from June-November 2019 through direct survey responses, focus groups, community events, and community partnerships. CFBC worked to gather a representative sample of respondents from each community, to ensure an accurate depiction of the county. A total of 1,250 people provided feedback for the assessment.

Respondents were surveyed in several areas to gather a well-rounded synopsis of the needs in Boone County, including how satisfied respondents are with areas like community services and offerings, level of connectedness to community and county, and philanthropic activity. This report includes quantitative results from the survey, qualitative research from other existing surveys and sources, topics discussed in focus groups, and feedback from smaller meetings.

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BOONE COUNTY

The Community Foundation of Boone County (CFBC) exists to unite people, organizations, and philanthropy, to create a thriving community for all. CFBC was founded in 1991 with the help of a few passionate and caring Boone County residents, \$15,000, and a series



of statewide matching grants from the Lilly Endowment initiative, called Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT). Today, CFBC holds \$24.4 million in assets and has granted over \$25 million from its various funds to nonprofit organizations and programs working to solve critical challenges in Boone County.

CFBC works with individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to create permanent charitable funds that help meet present and future needs. The foundation invests and administers these funds. CFBC knows that connecting people with local causes is key to helping others.

Community foundations are important partners in building community, strengthening community, and bringing together people and organizations that want to make a difference. They are tax-exempt public charities that help guide philanthropy and are committed to improving the quality of life in the areas they serve.

We are Boone County.
Connecting donors and nonprofits from Advance to Zionsville.
We are writing the story of our community - together.



INTRODUCTION

CFBC worked with Transform Consulting Group (TCG) to build, implement, and complete the needs assessment.

CFBC and TCG would like to thank the following community partners who helped promote participation in the needs assessment and gather feedback from all corners of Boone County:

All Around Boone Guide
Boone County Chamber
Boone County Churches
Boone County Community Leaders
Boone County Economic Development Corporation
Boone County High School Counselors
Boone County Nonprofits
Community Foundation of Boone County Board of Directors
Community Foundation of Boone County Fund Advisors
Community Foundation of Boone County Staff
Jamestown Journal
Kiwanis Youth Leadership Academy
Lebanon Community School Corporation
Lebanon Reporter
Love Inc. of Boone County
The ARC
The Caring Center
The Current
Western Boone Community School Corporation
Witham Health Services
Women of Impact Philanthropic Giving Circle
Zionsville Community School Corporation
Zionsville Monthly
Zionsville Optimist Club
zWorks



Dear Boone County Community,

From the bottom of our hearts, our team at the Community Foundation of Boone County thanks you for your partnerships. Because of you, we are able to continue making a major impact in Boone County!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jodi".

JODI GIETL

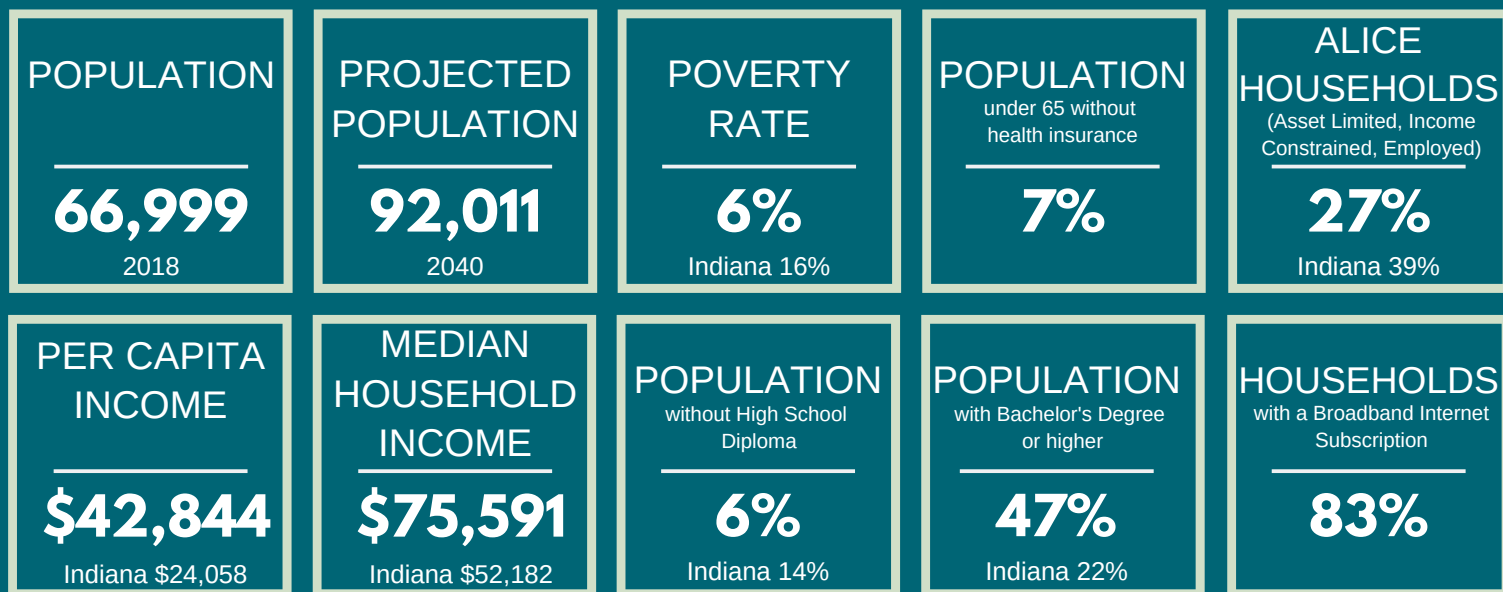
*President & CEO,
Community Foundation of Boone County*

COUNTY PROFILE

The following information was gathered through various sources, as listed in the Appendix section of this report.

GENERAL POPULATION

The Boone County population is projected to increase by over 25,000 between 2018 and 2040. While the Boone County poverty rate (6%) is below the Indiana average poverty rate (16%), Boone County still has 7% of residents under the age of 65 without health insurance.



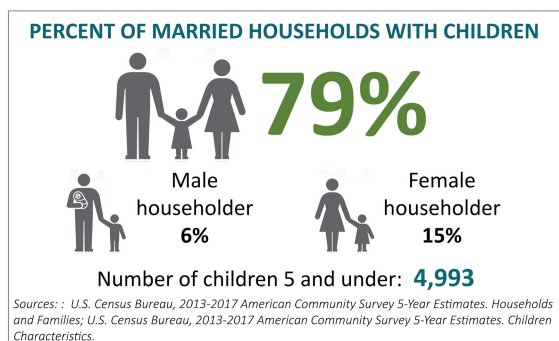
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey.

U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division, Boone County Labor Analysis 2019.

STATS Indiana, Indiana Business Research Center, IU Kelley School of Business, Boone County Labor Analysis 2019

HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN

Heads of households with children in Boone County vary by community. 79% of households with children are 2-parent households, and the total number of children 5 and under within Boone County is 4,993. Zionsville has the highest % of married households with children (71%), while Jamestown has the lowest (42%). Consequently, Jamestown has the highest number of children living in a household with a female guardian only (43%). Thorntown has the highest number of children living in a household with a male guardian only (26%), significantly higher than the other communities.



HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION OF FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN BY LOCATION

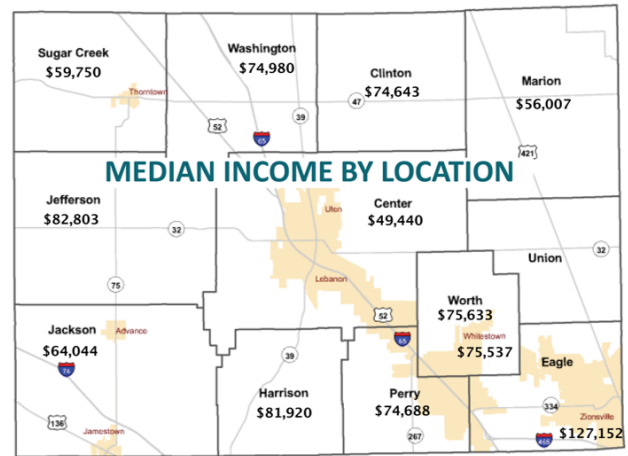
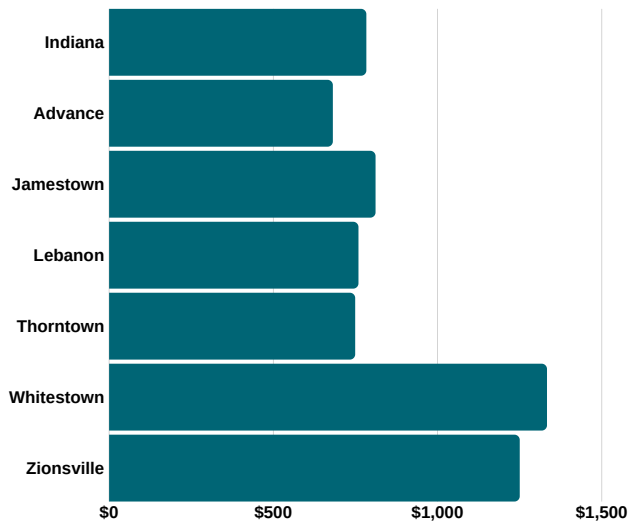
	Married	Male only householder	Female only householder
Advance	71%	16%	13%
Jamestown	42%	15%	43%
Lebanon	54%	19%	27%
Thorntown	58%	26%	17%
Whitestown	85%	1%	13%
Zionsville	90%	1%	10%

COUNTY PROFILE

RENT & INCOME BY LOCATION

Whitestown has the highest monthly rent at \$1,332 and Advance has the lowest at \$680, which is below the Indiana average of \$782. Zionsville area has the highest median income (\$127,152) and the Lebanon area (Center) has the lowest (\$49,440). Although Lebanon has the lowest median income, it has the fourth highest rent.

MEDIAN RENT BY LOCATION



Source: : U.S. Census Bureau, 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. Median Income in the Past 12 Months

CHILDREN

While still heartbreaking, the statistics related to Boone County children were better than the Indiana level statistics. The Boone County % of children experiencing food insecurity (13%) and receiving free or reduced lunch (18%) were lower than the Indiana %, while the % of Boone County students passing ISTEP+ sections were higher than the overall Indiana student %.



Students receiving free or reduced lunch (Indiana 48%)

Source: 2019 Indiana Kids Count Data Book. Indiana Youth Institute.



Food insecure children (Indiana 18%)



Students experiencing homelessness



Students in grades 3-8 passing English/Language Arts ISTEP+ (Indiana 64%)



Students in grades 3-8 passing Math ISTEP+ (Indiana 58%)

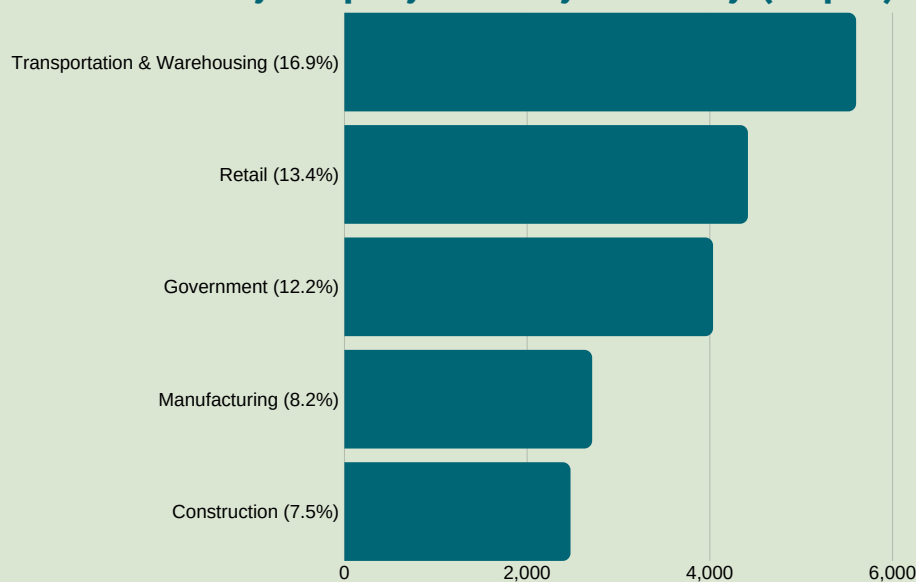
COUNTY PROFILE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

According to Boone County Labor Analysis 2019, the transportation and warehousing industry is the top employed industry in Boone County, followed by retail and then government.

The total workforce for Boone County is 32,983, with 6,923 people both living and working in Boone County. When looking at where Boone County residents work, Indianapolis is top, followed by Lebanon, Carmel, Zionsville, and Whitestown. When looking at where Boone County workers live, Indianapolis is top, followed by Lebanon, Zionsville, Carmel, and Frankfort.

Boone County Employment by Industry (Top 5)



Source: Economic Modeling Specialists International 2019.2, Boone County Labor Analysis 2019.

6,923

**PEOPLE LIVE AND WORK IN
BOONE COUNTY**

22,238

**PEOPLE LIVE IN BOONE
COUNTY BUT WORK OUTSIDE
OF BOONE COUNTY**

16,593

**PEOPLE LIVE OUTSIDE OF
BOONE COUNTY BUT WORK
IN BOONE COUNTY**

OTHER COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

The following information was gathered through various sources, as listed in the Appendix section of this report.

BOONE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CHIP)

The Boone County Health Department along with other stakeholders came together to create CHIP, a two-year plan (2018-2020) to improve health outcomes based on findings from the community health assessment. While Boone County generally ranks high in overall health rankings in Indiana, there are still areas for improvement. Here are the seven areas identified in CHIP to improve:

1. Obesity and Physical Activity
2. Nutrition and Food Security
3. Mental Health
4. Tobacco and Nicotine Use
5. Substance Use
6. Jail Recidivism
7. Chronic Conditions

According to county health rankings, Boone County has a higher rate of excessive drinking, drug use, and prescription drug misuse than the state average. From 2012-2014, Boone County also had a higher suicide rate than the state. As a result, CHIP includes objectives for the priority areas of mental health and substance use that are aimed at decreasing these rates to at or below that of the state by 2020.

BOONE COUNTY 2-1-1 STATISTICS

Data provided by United Way on Boone County residents' usage of Connect 2 Help 2-1-1 service shows the primary areas of need are typically utility assistance and housing. Throughout the year, other areas of need vary in ranking. Food/meals, income support/assistance, support groups, case management, and holiday help have rounded out the top areas of need throughout the year.

From July 2018 to June 2019, 2-1-1 received 585 calls from Boone County residents in need. Over 60% of those calls were from adults ages 18-54 with 36% from seniors and 3% from youth under age 18. 73% of calls came from individuals with an annual income of less than \$15,000, 16% of calls had an income between \$15,000-\$24,999, 8% had an income between \$25,000-\$34,999, and the remaining had an income of \$35,000+.

OTHER COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

2018 COMMUNITY HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Every three years, Witham Health Services commissions a community health needs assessment of Boone County residents. One community issue discovered in the 2018 report that was not one of the CHIP priority areas mentioned above is access to health care services. While it was not seen as a significant need, it was identified as a priority to Witham. Compared to 2015 data, access to health services has generally worsened for Boone County residents.

The community health needs assessment also found that 13% of Boone County residents have low health literacy. Low health literacy is determined by the percent of respondents who struggle to understand written or spoken health information, who need help reading health information, or are "not at all confident" in filling out health forms. While Boone County is far below the national percent of adults with low health literacy (23%), still more than 1 in 10 adults struggle with understanding health information and/or completing health forms.





COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

1,250 people contributed input to this needs assessment for Boone County, equivalent to 1.68% of the Boone County population. Over 1,000 of those were responses to the community survey from June through early October 2019. CFBC and TCG worked to ensure the needed % from each community, based on the community population, was obtained for an accurate depiction. Responses were representative of geographic distribution, age, and educational attainment within Boone County. CFBC distributed the survey throughout the county online and made it available in print. The link to the survey was shared through emails, social media, newsletters, local media, and community partners. Print surveys were distributed at community events and mailed to specific audiences. CFBC worked diligently to solicit diverse feedback and reach all areas of the county.

More females (76%) than males (22%) completed the survey. About a third of respondents said they live in Boone County because they grew up here,

59% of respondents

did not grow up in Boone County. The primary reason they chose for moving to or staying in Boone County was the draw of family or friends that live here.

they wanted better schools for their children, or they came for the nice homes and neighborhoods. Nearly a quarter of respondents said they moved to Boone County for work.

With the respondents to the community survey, whether you grew up in Boone County appears to negatively correlate with educational attainment where the higher your educational attainment, the less likely you grew up in Boone County.

Respondents living in Advance were most likely to have grown up in Boone County (76% grew up there) while respondents from Whitestown and Zionsville were least likely at 13% and 21%.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

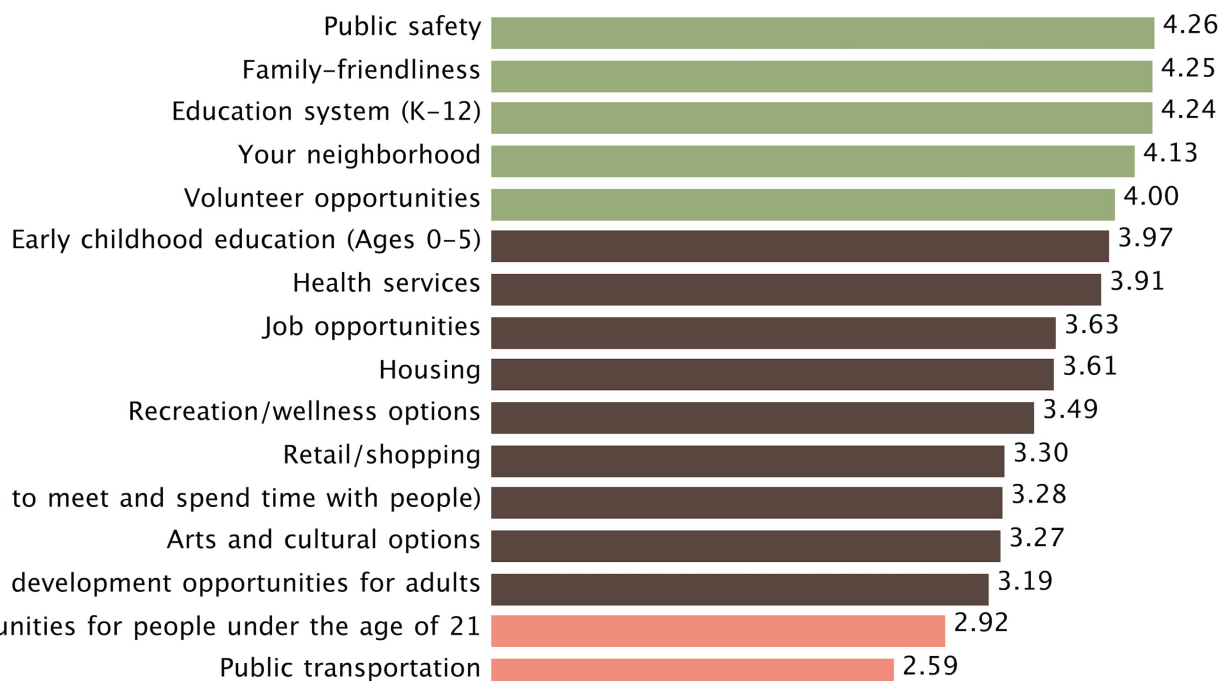
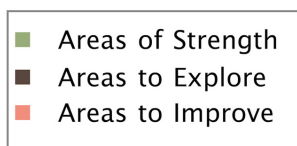
AREAS OF HIGH SATISFACTION

Survey respondents ranked public safety, family friendliness, and education system (K-12) as the top three areas they are most satisfied with.

Respondents were asked to rank on a 5 point scale the level of happiness with several areas. The only items that fell below 3 or "neutral" on the 5 point scale of happiness were opportunities for people under the age of 21 and public transportation.

HOW HAPPY ARE YOU WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN BOONE COUNTY?

(Weighted Average: Higher average indicates greater happiness)

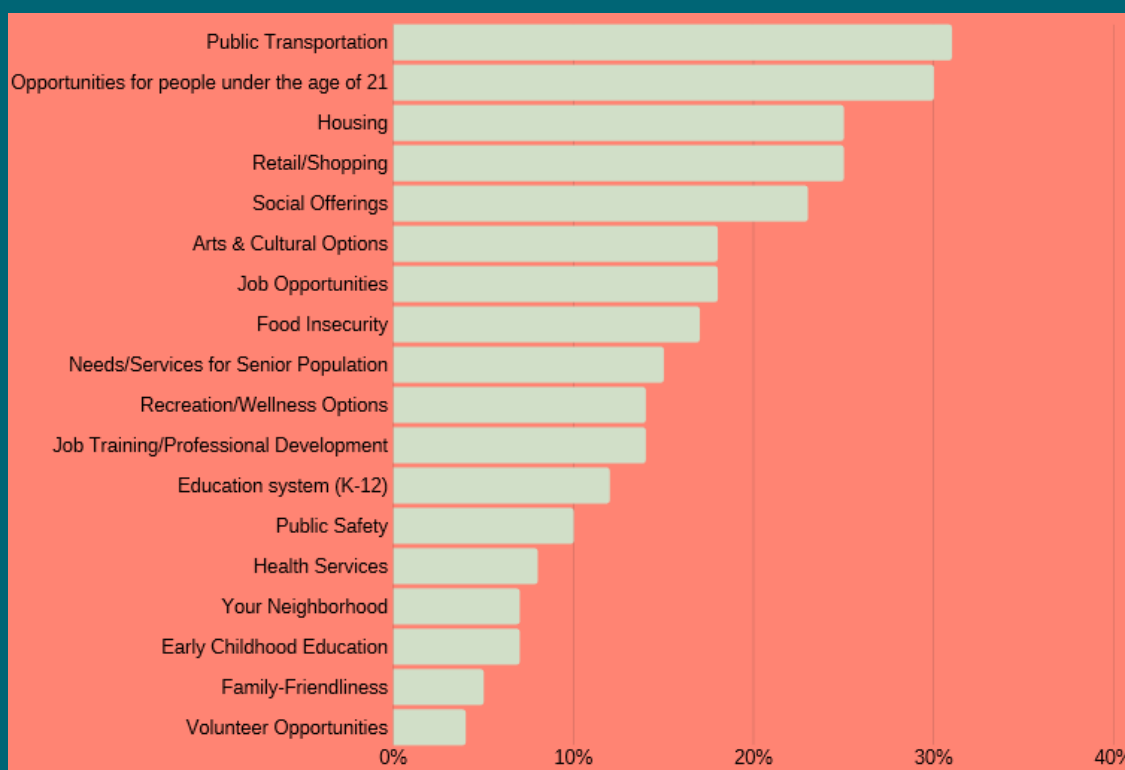


COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

AREAS OF DISSATISFACTION

When asked to identify the top three issues facing Boone County, survey respondents selected public transportation, opportunities for people under the age of 21, and housing. The next three needs are all related: retail/shopping, social offerings, and arts & cultural options. Focus groups attendees discussed several times the correlation between some of the identified areas of need, and the importance of taking that into consideration when disseminating this information and working to fill the needs.

ISSUES FACING RESPONDENTS' COMMUNITIES



Other issues repetitively mentioned by respondents include drugs, mental health, and lack of affordable housing. The most often mentioned solutions to make the community better were more sidewalks, additional housing, and more affordable housing. The request for housing came in many forms. Some would like to see transitional housing for those recently released from jail or dealing with drug addiction. Others would like to see affordable housing for younger people (19-25) and seniors. More affordable housing was requested for low to moderate income individuals ranging from \$100,000 to \$250,000.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

TOP 3 ISSUES | SORTED BY COMMUNITY

The top 3 Boone County needs (opportunities for people under 21, public transportation, and housing) are not the top 3 needs for each community, when sorted by community responses. It is also important to note the correlated needs, such as in Jamestown and Thorntown, where both food insecurity and retail/shopping are in the top 3 needs.

ADVANCE

- Opportunities for people under 21
- Neighborhood
- Retail/shopping

JAMESTOWN

- Retail/shopping
- Food insecurity
- Job opportunities & opportunities for people under 21 (tie)

LEBANON

- Opportunities for people under 21
- Retail/shopping
- Housing

THORNTOWN

- Food insecurity
- Retail/shopping
- Public transportation

WHITESTOWN

- Public transportation
- Arts & culture
- Social offerings

ZIONSVILLE

- Public transportation
- Opportunities for people under 21
- Housing

TOP 3 ISSUES | SORTED BY AGE

All but one age group (under 18) identified opportunities for people under the age of 21 as a top 3 need. The other common top 3 needs by age are public transportation and housing. It was mentioned several times in focus groups that the under 18 age group could be substituting arts & culture with opportunities for people under 21 as one of their top needs.

UNDER 18

- Retail/shopping
- Public transportation
- Arts & culture

18-24

- Opportunities for people under 21
- Housing
- Job opportunities, public transportation, social offerings (tie)

25-34

- Social offerings
- Public transportation
- Opportunities for people under 21

35-44

- Opportunities for people under 21
- Housing
- Public transportation & social offerings (tie)

45-54

- Public transportation
- Opportunities for people under 21
- Housing

55-64

- Public transportation
- Housing
- Opportunities for people under 21

65 OR ABOVE

- Public transportation
- Needs/services for senior population
- Retail/shopping

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS FROM RESPONDENTS

When provided the opportunity to answer open-ended questions on what the respondents would do to make their community better, the below responses were repetitively given for each community.

Advance

Respondents would like to see more investment in a town they feel is run down, such as an overhaul of downtown, better programs, fixing roads, and fixing homes. They also need public transportation to get to services.

Jamestown

Respondents would like more investment in infrastructure (sidewalks and roads) and to attract more businesses including grocery stores.

Lebanon

Respondents would like better sidewalks, more housing options including affordable housing, better paying jobs, more retail, and more activities for youth.

Thorntown

Respondents would like better sidewalks, a grocery store, more activities, and more restaurants.

Whitestown

Respondents would like more investment in infrastructure including sidewalks, walking trails, and bike lanes.

Zionsville

Respondents would like more sidewalks and to be better connected with other Boone County communities through trails and public transportation.



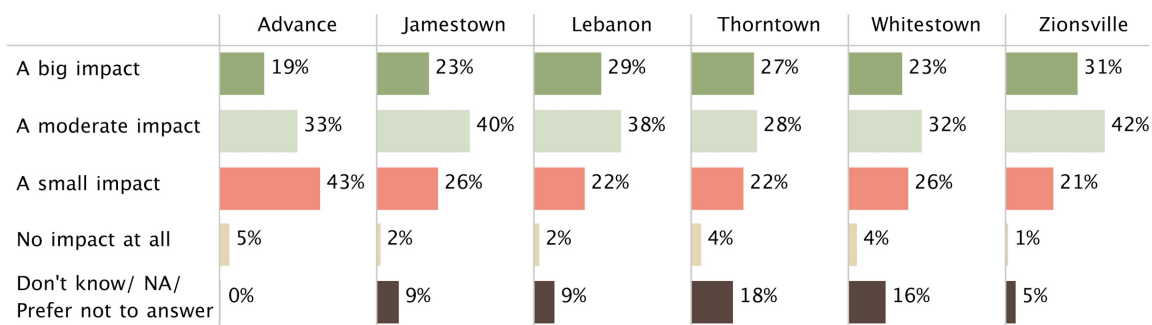
COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY

The majority of respondents (70%) say they are very philanthropic, with 86% donating to an organization and 73% volunteering in the last 12 months. When they donate money or volunteer, the majority (70%) say that it is for an organization in Boone County. An additional 13-19% of respondents say they volunteer with or donate to organizations in Boone County some but not all of the time.

When asked how much impact respondents can have in making Boone County a better place to live, the majority of respondents felt they can have at least a small impact. Having a moderate impact was the most popular response for all communities except for Advance. Advance had the highest % of respondents report they have only a small impact in Boone County. Zionsville had the highest % of respondents report they have a moderate impact. All communities ranked having a big impact relatively the same. At a combined 22%, Thorntown had the most respondents answer as not being able to make an impact at all or don't know/prefer not to answer. Whitestown was close behind with a combined 20%.

BY CITY, HOW MUCH IMPACT DO YOU THINK SOMEONE LIKE YOU CAN HAVE IN MAKING BOONE COUNTY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE?

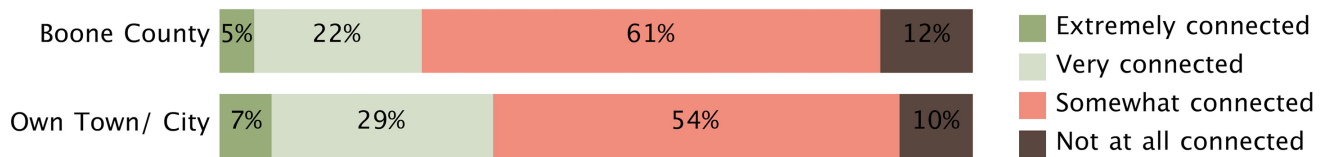


COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

CONNECTEDNESS

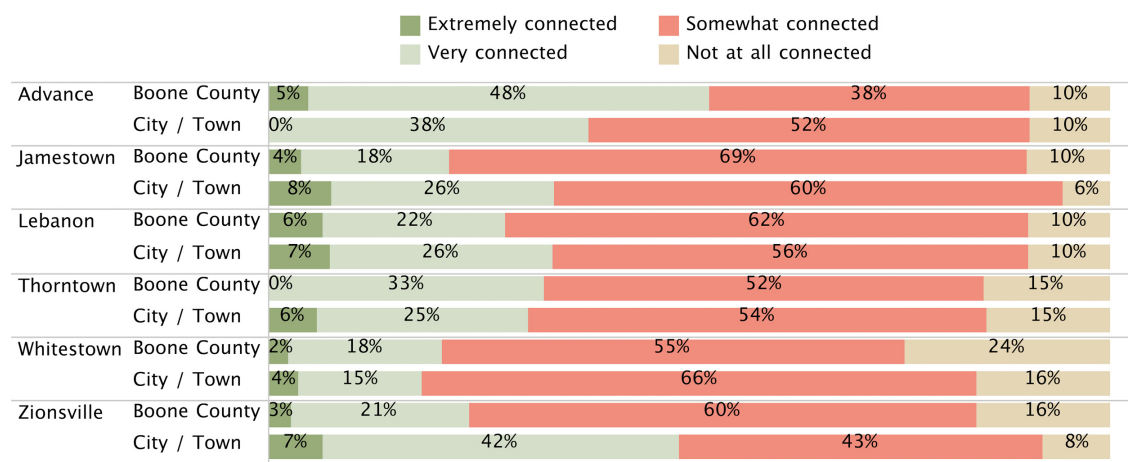
The majority of respondents feel at least somewhat connected to both Boone County and their home community. Over a third (36%) say they are very or extremely connected to their town/city and just over a quarter (27%) would say the same for Boone County.

HOW CONNECTED DO PARTICIPANTS FEEL TO THEIR COUNTY AND CITY?



When broken down by community, Whitestown had the highest number (24%) of people who do not at all feel connected to Boone County. Jamestown (94%) and Zionsville (92%) have the highest number of respondents who feel connected to their local community/city/town. Respondents with a bachelor's degree or higher appear to feel more connected to their town/city than those with less than a bachelor's degree, but educational attainment doesn't appear to correlate when respondents are asked how connected they feel to the county.

BY CITY, HOW CONNECTED DO RESPONDENTS FEEL TO THEIR COUNTY AND CITY?



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

FROM SPECIFIC STAKEHOLDERS

Additional surveys were created to gain a diverse perspective on the needs of Boone County through the lens of someone's work or point in life. CFBC deployed ten different surveys and collected individual responses from community safety officers, farmers, fund advisors, government officials, health care providers, nonprofits, scholarship applicants, scholarship recipients, and school administrators. These responses are in addition to the targeted focus groups. Select feedback is shared below.

Community Safety Officers

Respondents commented on the importance of offering more after-school facilities and better programming for Boone County children, "so they don't get sucked into a life of crime and drug use due to not having a supportive family". Public transportation was also a common theme: "people without a license or without a car have one option: senior services, and while that option is great, it is still limited". "Good transportation services that can provide for some of the people in need who are really trying for their families." Helping those impacted by drug addiction and offer more recovery services was also mentioned.

Farmers

Farmers echoed the sentiments of the community when it came to infrastructure. They find gravel roads, old bridges, and increased traffic to be concerns both for the community and for agriculture in Boone County.

Government Officials

Government officials say they are most often approached about housing, needs and services for the senior population, and public safety. Housing was ranked one of the top needs in the community survey; however, only 3-4 of the 11 government officials who completed the survey mentioned the other top two needs (opportunities for people under the age of 21 and public transportation). While public safety is one of the top issues that government officials are often approached about, it is one of the top areas the community is satisfied with.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Challenges identified by government officials include workforce and new business opportunities. "It is becoming harder and harder to find qualified employees. Additionally, having adequate funding to meet the infrastructure needs of our county, the increase of construction costs, and the funding not being increased enough to cover the cost of these increases- those are challenges we face." Respondents suggested an improved trail network, roads, and bridges will support our county's economic development efforts. "Room for expansion, the safety of the area, and the hospitable residents give this area unlimited potential for growth."

School Administrators

When asked about the strengths of Boone County school corporations, school administrators mentioned community awareness, community support, and a rural student-to-teacher ratio. Multiple respondents also mentioned the committed staff working hard for all students.

Challenges for students have changed in the last 5-10 years due to social media, the use of smart phones, and time spent in front of a screen. Administrators also expressed concerns about opportunities for people under the age of 21 and job opportunities. Administrators are seeing students dealing with working or busy parents, and parents that are addicted to drugs.

In the community, school administrators mentioned similar issues as covered in the above survey results, as well as dealing with mental health issues and others creating a cycle of dependency.

Continuing to emphasize and duplicate programs such as We All Matter in Advance is a recommendation. "Family dynamics are changing and our youth need more time with quality role models." Career opportunities and awareness of career options were also mentioned. The need to have more businesses willing to work with students within the structure of the school day, such as internships, is a suggestion, as well as offering more career and occupation exposure and awareness.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Scholarship Participants

Individuals who previously applied for and/or received a CFBC scholarship were surveyed to gain the perspectives of young adults who generally grew up in Boone County. Survey respondents felt that their high school experience was at least somewhat rigorous or challenging, and three quarters (75%) felt that high school adequately prepared them for college.

Less than half of survey respondents (40%) said their high school informed them of career opportunities available in Boone County. Of the respondents who are still in college, only 23% feel they could find a job in Boone County after graduation. 45% of respondents expect to be living in Boone County five years from now.

The top three issues to this group were opportunities for people under the age of 21, job opportunities, and social offerings. It is important to note that respondents who could see themselves returning to Boone County believe the county is a great place and a place they would like to raise their own families in the future. "Boone County is where I grew up and I loved my childhood and how I was raised. The community had a big part of that and I want the same for my family someday." Multiple respondents commented on the environment of Boone County and how it is safe, quiet, and pleasant.

Respondents suggested to add more fun and pleasant spaces for families and friends to meet. "Help our children so they can be more engaged in their community to one day want to put in the same kind of effort you (CFBC) are putting in right now." Respondents also suggested the creation of career development opportunities, such as volunteer work or internship programs.



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

FROM FOCUS GROUPS

In September and October 2019, CFBC staff facilitated nine focus groups with a variety of county residents and stakeholders. Over 70 people attended these meetings to provide their feedback on the needs of Boone County. Conducting focus groups allows for more qualitative data to be collected which often provides more context and more depth to the quantitative data shared in the surveys.

Nonprofit Clients

Boone County residents who utilize services from multiple nonprofit organizations were surveyed. Through partnerships, CFBC was able to connect directly with clients taking part in a free cooking class and the other two groups utilized services for everyday aspects of life. These groups were asked about their personal needs and the needs of the community.

They expressed a need for transportation so they can get out and take part in classes or get to work. They are aware that transportation is available through Boone County Senior Services, but they must reserve a ride two weeks in advance which can be more notice than they can provide. Also discussed was the safety in their communities. Participants are worried about drivers speeding, not enough street lights, and they are worried for the safety of pedestrians.

Participants would also like to see more programming for teenagers and young adults to keep them busy, out of trouble, and away from drugs. They would like to see more programming for themselves and more transportation options to get to the activities. Overall, they would like to see the community come together to address the needs. Multiple comments were made about more support for the nonprofits to get work done.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Youth

A group of 30 high school sophomores who are part of a youth leadership program from all over Boone County provided their perspectives on needs in the county. Like other participants in surveys and focus groups, they mentioned a lack of retail/shopping and sidewalks. However, the youth also mentioned being concerned with the mental health of young people and the lack of resources available to relieve stress while at school. The youth would like to see a strong focus on life skills courses, by either replacing current courses or being incorporated into current courses. They want to learn skills such as how to manage finances, taxes, and time, which they say are useful to them in everyday life.

Youth focus group participants generally enjoy Boone County, but only half see themselves living in Boone County as an adult. Some want to experience new things while others are worried there are no career options for them in the county.

Community Leaders

CFBC convened a group of community leaders and many of the issues they brought up are the issues shared by previous groups. Where they differed is how they see the communities improving. Community leaders would like to see more support of nonprofits, more public resources to find nonprofits, and more collaboration so that services and organizations are not so isolated. They see many of the issues facing the community, such as mental health, requiring the collaborations of multiple organizations to make an impact.

Participants mentioned wanting to see resources located in every quadrant of the county so they're easily accessible, and they'd like to have a "dream center" or a multi-purpose facility where wrap-around services are available. A coalition or collaborative approach is recommended to help each other see what services are available and to stop operating in silos.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Nonprofits and Churches

When talking to nonprofits and churches, the number of issues affecting the community was larger than the number shared by other groups. Given their direct service work in the community, they see a variety of issues every day, and they are advocating for all of those needs. The needs discussed by these focus groups included issues around food insecurity, affordable housing, emergency housing, lack of public transportation, stress and mental health, other health issues, lack of services for teens, growing senior population, transitional housing, trade school, nonprofit networking and collaborations, and a lack of life skills.

To make communities better, participants agree that they need to coordinate services to ensure there is not duplication of efforts. One participant described it as a need to partner, not compete. Nonprofits, as well as the community overall, need to be aware of all resources that are available. The green book, put together by the Boone County Health Department, is one resource, but an interactive or online hub for knowledge is needed. Many participants discussed a "growing need" and desire to stay ahead of issues. To do so, the organizations need to expand programming or locations, additional funding, and to collaborate. Professional development for nonprofit leaders was also mentioned and agreed upon by attendees. Operating on a nonprofit budget typically does not allow for educational opportunities. CFBC's capacity building work was mentioned and how grateful nonprofits are for this initiative, which awards grants to help build sustainability for nonprofit organizations.

CFBC Fund Advisors

CFBC fund advisors spoke about a variety of issues facing the community, affecting different towns and different age groups. Issues such as mental health/stress, educational attainment, literacy, life skills, and services for families, were all discussed. Being able to improve those services with mentoring or peer support for youth, adults, and families was discussed in detail.

Fund advisors talked about multiple programs and organizations that are currently addressing needs in the community. They see a need for those organizations to be better connected. Just as the nonprofit and church groups discussed, fund advisors would also like to see a stronger relationship established between services providers. Fund advisors also recognize that these programs need additional resources to work on capacity building, to improve their organizational strengths and leadership.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED

The needs assessment raised and highlighted many issues. While CFBC will work to take a leadership role in filling a specific area of need, it is vital that all areas of needs are brought to attention in this process. Through collaborations and partnerships, CFBC hopes to see people work together to fill the needs and will continue to encourage the work of others.

Community Resources

While many organizations were named as resources for addressing community issues, participants would like to see more support for local nonprofits so they can do more, help more people, and make a greater impact in Boone County.

Respondents consistently noted the need for capacity building among nonprofits so they can be strengthened. Nearly all audiences, including nonprofits and churches, would like to see collaboration among programs and a resource guide where everyone can see who can help with which needs.

Drugs and Mental Health

These two issues were brought up by survey respondents in addition to the answer choices provided. All communities in Boone County see a need to better address substance use and mental health.

Housing

This looks different by community. Advance wants to improve the houses they feel like they can't afford to keep. Others want more housing options, while some need more affordable options. What is considered to be affordable varies by community. In the general survey, respondents mentioned the need for housing for vulnerable populations, such as drug addicts or the recently incarcerated.

Infrastructure

The majority of respondents mentioned wanting sidewalks. Additionally, respondents want better roads and public transportation. The reason why they want infrastructure improvements varied, from wanting it to connect to other communities to wanting to get to a grocery store or post office. While residents may not feel particularly connected to or disconnected from their community or Boone County, many respondents state that they would like to be physically connected through trails and public transportation.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED

Opportunities for People Under the Age of 21

Survey respondents mentioned a lack of programming, activities, and facilities that would cater to this age group. Often the motivation behind the suggestion was to keep teenagers busy, off the streets, and away from drugs.

Retail/Shopping and Social Offerings

Many communities expressed a need for more retail businesses and social offerings. People are aware and thankful for the work being done to develop Boone County. The Boone County Economic Development Corporation was mentioned several times as a wonderful asset to our county. This area of need can be interpreted differently based on the community. For example, some areas desire for more grocery stores, while other areas are looking for more social spaces to gather with friends and family.

NEXT STEPS

CFBC hosted a Listening Tour in November 2019 to share this data with the community. CFBC has a coordinated planning committee whose objective is to brainstorm ideas based on the identified needs. The CFBC Board of Directors will review the proposed list of brainstormed ideas and identify which initiative the foundation will implement. CFBC will continue to work with community partners to raise overall awareness of the needs of Boone County residents and build collaboration and connectivity throughout the county to make the greatest impact in Boone County.

APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY

Transform Consulting Group (TCG) conducted a mixed methods approach of qualitative and quantitative data collection focused on sufficient representation from all towns and cities within Boone County. CFBC distributed printed surveys at events and made online versions available through various channels. To further engage with communities, CFBC staff conducted focus groups with a variety of stakeholders. Data was collected from June to early October 2019.

A general survey was created for community feedback and ten additional surveys were created that tailored the questions to specific audiences. A total of 1,180 surveys were started and 1,044 were completed either online, in person, or submitted by mail. CFBC and TCG staff attended multiple community events in various cities in Boone County to survey residents, including the United Way Community Backpack Attack, We All Matter- Advance Community Safety Day, Jamestown Fish Fry, Zionsville High School football game, and Serve Saturday. The surveys were marketed and shared via local media, email, newsletters, social media, direct mail, and word of mouth by more than 15 community partners.

Nine focus groups were conducted by CFBC staff with a total of 70 attendees, including fund advisors, nonprofits, churches, adults with disabilities, community leaders, clients of nonprofits, youth leaders, CFBC Board of Directors, CFBC committees, and the Boone County Chamber staff and members. In total, 1,250 people contributed their input to this needs assessment for Boone County.

In addition to community data collected, TCG reviewed various countywide and local needs assessments on health and human services, as well as available public data for analysis and completion of this report.

APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHICS

Of Community Survey Respondents

Where do you live in Boone County?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Advance	1.92%	21
Jamestown	5.13%	56
Lebanon	43.54%	475
Thorntown	6.32%	69
Whitestown	8.34%	91
Zionsville	21.08%	230
I do not live in Boone County.	9.53%	104
Other (please specify)	4.12%	45

Do you work in Boone County?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	51.33%	560
No	20.99%	229
I am not employed.	7.42%	81
I am retired.	8.71%	95
I am a homemaker/caregiver.	5.04%	55
I work remotely (are able to work wherever you choose).	2.84%	31
Other (please specify)	3.67%	40

Did you grow up in Boone County?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	39.56%	430
No	58.60%	637
Other (please specify)	1.84%	20

Age

Answer Choices	Responses	
Under 18	5.27%	51
18-24	3.83%	37
25-34	17.17%	166
35-44	24.10%	233
45-54	18.82%	182
55-64	18.92%	183
65 or above	10.44%	101
Prefer not to answer	1.45%	14

APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHICS

Gender

Answer Choices	Responses	
Male	21.55%	208
Female	76.17%	735
Prefer not to answer	1.97%	19
Other (please specify)	0.31%	3

Race/Ethnicity (Select all that apply.)

Answer Choices	Responses	
White / Caucasian	96.40%	936
Spanish / Hispanic / Latino	0.72%	7
Black / African American	1.03%	10
Asian	0.82%	8
Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
Native American	0.21%	2
Multiple Races	0.21%	2
Prefer not to answer	2.16%	21
Other (please specify)	0.10%	1

Marital Status

Answer Choices	Responses	
Single	16.86%	164
Married	67.11%	653
Living with Partner	3.91%	38
Separated	0.51%	5
Divorced	8.12%	79
Widowed	2.16%	21
Prefer not to answer	1.34%	13

Do you have children under age 18?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	46.48%	449
No	47.41%	458
Prefer not to answer	6.11%	59

What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Less than high school degree	6.28%	61
High school diploma or GED (or other equivalent)	14.21%	138
Some college (1-4 years, no degree)	15.55%	151
Associates degree (including occupational or academic degrees)	10.50%	102
Bachelor's degree (BA, BS, AB, etc.)	27.19%	264
Master's degree (MA, MS, MENG, MSW, MBA, MFA, etc.)	19.57%	190
Professional school degree (MD, DDC, JD, etc.)	3.19%	31
Doctorate degree (PhD, EdD, etc.)	1.85%	18
Prefer not to answer	1.65%	16

APPENDIX C: REFERENCES

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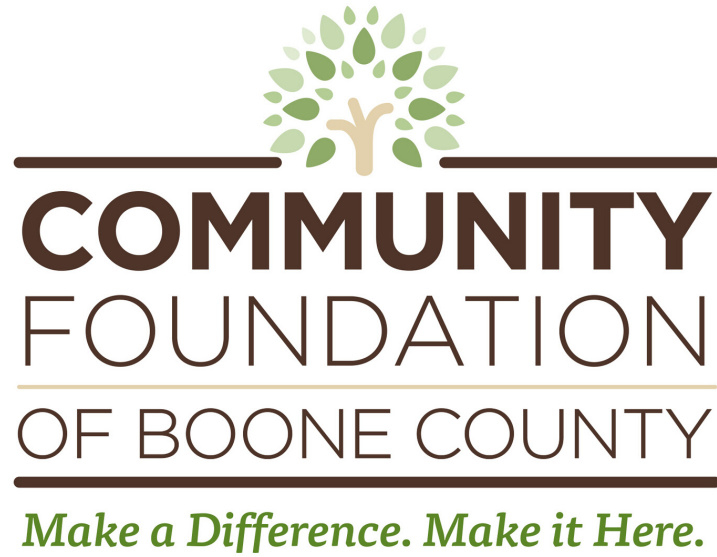
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Thank you for your passion to help Boone County. To partner with CFBC and/or other organizations to address needs in Boone County, please contact us.

Looking for something you do not see in this report?
Contact us and we will do what we can to assist!

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