Community Readiness Interview Questions

1. **For the following question, please answer keeping in mind your perspective of what community members believe and not what you personally believe.**

**On a scale from 1-10, how much of a concern is (*issue*) to members of *(community),* with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”?** *(Scorer note: Community Climate)*

**Can you tell me why you think it’s at that level?**

*Interviewer: Please ensure that the respondent answers this question in regard to*

*community members not in regard to themselves or what they think it should be.*

COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE OF EFFORTS

I’m going to ask you about current community efforts to address *(issue)*. By efforts, I mean any programs, activities, or services in your community that address *(issue)*.

1. **Are there efforts in** (*community)* **that address** *(issue)***?**

*If* ***Yes****, continue to question 3; if* ***No****, skip to question 16.*

1. **Can you briefly describe each of these?**

*Interviewer: Write down names of efforts so that you can refer to them in #4-5 below.*

1. How long have each of these efforts been going on? *Probe for each program/activity.*
2. Who do each of these efforts serve (e.g., a certain age group, ethnicity, etc.)?
3. **About how many community members are aware of each of the following aspects of the efforts - none, a few, some, many, or most?**

* **Have heard of efforts?**
* **Can name efforts?**
* **Know the purpose of the efforts?**
* **Know who the efforts are for?**
* **Know how the efforts work (e.g. activities or how they’re implemented)?**
* **Know the effectiveness of the efforts?**

1. **Thinking back to your answers, why do you think members of your community have this amount of knowledge?**
2. **Are there misconceptions or incorrect information among community members about the current efforts?** *If yes:* What are these?
3. How do community members learn about the current efforts?
4. Do community members view current efforts as successful?

*Probe:* What do community members like about these programs?

What don’t they like?

1. What are the obstacles to individuals participating in these efforts?
2. What are the strengths of these efforts?
3. What are the weaknesses of these efforts?
4. Are the evaluation results being used to make changes in efforts or to start new ones?
5. What planning for additional efforts to address (*issue*) is going on in (*community)*?

*Only ask #16 if the respondent answered “No” to #2 or was unsure.*

1. **Is anyone in** (*community)***trying to get something started to address** (*issue*)**? Can you tell me about that?**

LEADERSHIP

I’m going to ask you how the leadership in *(community)* perceives *(issue)*. By leadership, we are referring to those who could affect the outcome of this issue and those who have influence in the community and/or who lead the community in helping it achieve its goals.

1. **Using a scale from 1-10, how much of a concern is** (*issue*) **to the leadership of**

(*community)***, with 1 being “not a concern at all” and 10 being “a very great concern”?**

**Can you tell me why you say it’s a ?**

**17a.** **How much of a priority is addressing this** (*issue*) **to leadership?**

**Can you explain why you say this?**

1. **I’m going to read a list of ways that leadership might show its support or lack of support for efforts to address** (*issue*)**.**

**Can you please tell me whether none, a few, some, many or most leaders would or do show support in this way? Also, feel free to explain your responses as we move through the list.**

**How many leaders…**

* **At least passively support efforts without necessarily being active in that support?**
* **Participate in developing, improving or implementing efforts, for example by being a member of a group that is working toward these efforts?**
* **Support allocating resources to fund community efforts?**
* **Play a key role as a leader or driving force in planning, developing or implementing efforts? (prompt: How do they do that?)**
* **Play a key role in ensuring the long-term viability of community efforts, for example by allocating long-term funding?**

1. **Does the leadership support expanded efforts in the community to address** (*issue*)**?**

*If yes:* **How do they show this support? For example, by passively supporting, by**

**being involved in developing the efforts, or by being a driving force or key player in achieving these expanded efforts?**

1. Who are leaders that are supportive of addressing this issue in your community?
2. Are there leaders who might oppose addressing (*issue*)? How do they show their opposition?

COMMUNITY CLIMATE

For the following questions, again please answer keeping in mind your perspective of what community members believe and not what you personally believe.

1. **How much of a priority is addressing this issue to community members?**

**Can you explain your answer?**

1. **I’m going to read a list of ways that community members might show their support or their lack of support for community efforts to address** (*issue*)**.**

**Can you please tell me whether none, a few, some, many or most community members would or do show their support in this way? Also, feel free to explain your responses as we move through the list.**

**How many community members…**

* **At least passively support community efforts without being active in that support?**
* **Participate in developing, improving or implementing efforts, for example by attending group meetings that are working toward these efforts?**
* **Play a key role as a leader or driving force in planning, developing or implementing efforts? (prompt: How do they do that?)**
* **Are willing to pay more (for example, in taxes) to help fund community efforts?**

1. **About how many community members would support expanding efforts in the community to address** (*issue*)**? Would you say none, a few, some, many or most?**

*If more than none, ask:* **How might they show this support? For example, by passively supporting or by being actively involved in developing the efforts?**

1. Are there community members who oppose or might oppose addressing (*issue*)? How do or will they show their opposition?
2. Are there ever any circumstances in which members of (*community)* might think that this issue should be tolerated? Please explain.
3. Describe (*community*).

KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE ISSUE

1. On a scale of 1 to 10 where a 1 is no knowledge and a 10 is detailed knowledge, how much do community members know about (*issue*)?

Why do you say it’s a \_\_\_\_?

1. **Would you say that community members know nothing, a little, some or a lot about each of the following as they pertain to (*issue*)?** (*After each item, have them answer.)*

* (*issue*)**, in general** *(Prompt as needed with “nothing, a little, some or a lot”.)*
* **the signs and symptoms**
* **the causes**
* **the consequences**
* **how much** *(issue)* **occurs locally (or the number of people living with** (*issue*) **in your community)**
* **what can be done to prevent or treat** (*issue*)
* **the effects of** (*issue*) **on family and friends?**

1. **What are the misconceptions among community members about** (*issue*)**, e.g., why it occurs, how much it occurs locally, or what the consequences are?**
2. What type of information is available in (*community)* about (*issue*) (e.g. newspaper articles, brochures, posters)?

*If they list information, ask:* Do community members access and/or use this information?

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

If there are efforts to address the issue locally, begin with question 33. If there are no efforts, go to question 33.

1. **How are current efforts funded? Is this funding likely to continue into the future?**
2. **I’m now going to read you a list of resources that could be used to address** *(issue)* **in your community. For each of these, please indicate whether there is none, a little, some or a lot of that resource available in your community that could be used to address** *(issue)****?***

* **Volunteers?**
* **Financial donations from organizations and/or businesses?**
* **Grant funding?**
* **Experts?**
* **Space?**

1. **Would community members and leadership support using these resources to address** *(issue)***? Please explain.**
2. **On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is no effort and 5 is a great effort, how much effort are community members and/or leadership putting into doing each of the following things to increase the resources going toward addressing** *(issue)* **in your community?**

* **Seeking volunteers for current or future efforts to address** *(issue)* **in the community.**
* **Soliciting donations from businesses or other organizations to fund current or expanded community efforts.**
* **Writing grant proposals to obtain funding to address** *(issue)* **in the community.**
* **Training community members to become experts.**
* **Recruiting experts to the community.**

1. **Are you aware of any proposals or action plans that have been submitted for funding to address** *(issue)* **in** *(community)***?**

***If Yes:* Please explain.**

Additional policy-related questions:

1. What formal or informal policies, practices and laws related to this issue are in place in your community? (*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.)
2. Are there segments of the community for which these policies, practices and laws may not apply, for example, due to socioeconomic status, ethnicity, age?
3. Is there a need to expand these policies, practices and laws? If so, are there plans to expand them? Please explain.
4. How does the community view these policies, practices and laws?

Demographics of respondent (optional)

1. What is your work title?
2. Do you live in *(community)*? YES NO If no: What community?
3. How long have you lived in your community?
4. Do you work in *(community)*? YES NO If no: What community?
5. What is your gender?

Woman

Man

Transgender

Non-binary/genderqueer

Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Prefer not to answer.

1. What is your age in years?

Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Prefer not to answer.

1. How would you describe yourself? (check all that apply)

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian

Black or African American

Latinx/Hispanic, or of Spanish origin

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

White or Caucasian

Prefer to self-describe: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Prefer not to answer