

3. Community Forum

Over 80 Anderson County residents attended a community forum on August 9, 1996, at the Museum of Appalachia in Norris to discuss issues of concern in their community. They were requested to provide a vision of a healthier Anderson County along with the "Assets and Obstacles" to creating that vision. Issues of concern were identified and placed on a "mind map". Priorities were then made by the group in various domains. Table 19 lists the domains and the top two issues in each area.

Table 19

Community	Health	Government	Education	Law Enforcement	Geriatric
1) Focus on Child 2) Reinventing the Family	1) Universal Health Insurance 2) Teen Pregnancy Prevention	1) Jobs/Economic Development 2) Safe Housing 2) Recycling 2) Less reliance on government	1) Year round school 2) Smaller classrooms	1) Law enforcement 2) Equal treatment of victims	1) Full services for the elderly

Table 20

**Anderson County Community Health Forum
Overall Top Five Issues:**

1. Focus on the Child
2. Universal Health Insurance
3. Reinventing the Family
4. Teen Pregnancy Prevention
5. Full Services for the Elderly

4. United Way Needs Assessment

The United Way of Anderson County in conjunction with other United Way agencies in the region conducted a region-wide needs assessment. The United Way of Anderson County assembled a committee of volunteers to provide leadership necessary to collect the data. Three data collection methods were used for this assessment: A.) A household survey, B.) A key informant survey, C.) The compilation of demographic and secondary data. The household survey was a random phone sample from the four counties conducted by the Directions Data Research Company. A total sample size of 1,040 was used in order to achieve a 95% confidence and a sampling error of 3.5 percentage points. Two hundred and thirteen surveys were recorded in Anderson County.

The key informant portion of the assessment was designed to determine how certain key community people perceived the health and human service issues facing Anderson County. Two hundred and twenty-three surveys were mailed to United Way member agencies, corporate executives, elected officials, United Way board members, government staff members, and service club leaders. Sixty-nine surveys were returned for a completion rate of 31%. The respondents were asked to review a listing of unmet needs and indicate how serious those particular needs were in their community. The top ten response areas were:

Table 21

KEY INFORMANT SURVEY

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. Child Care | 6. Crime Prevention |
| 2. Delinquency Prevention | 7. Youth Violence |
| 3. Child Protection Services | 8. Short Term Shelter |
| 4. Transportation | 9. Parenting Education |
| 5. Teen Pregnancy Services | 10. Outpatient Medical Care---Physical Illness |