



MOUNTAINHEART COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.

2019 Needs Assessment



AUGUST 20, 2019
MOUNTAINHEART COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
PO Box 1509 Oceana, WV 24870

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Introduction

In 1964, the U.S. poverty rate (income-based) included 19 percent of Americans. Rising political forces demanded change. Under a new White House **Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO)**, the concept of the federally-funded, local **Community Action Program (CAP)** -- delivered by a local **Community Action Agency (CAA)**, in a nationwide **Community Action Network** -- would become the primary vehicle for a new, federal "**War on Poverty**"

Establishment

Lyndon B. Johnson's landmark Economic Opportunity Act of 1964—drafted by former Peace Corps founding director Sargent Shriver—established Community Action Programs in Title II. In concept, a Community Action Program was defined as a program "...which provides services, assistance, and other activities of sufficient scope and size to give promise of progress toward elimination of poverty or a cause or causes of poverty through developing employment opportunities, improving human performance, motivation, and productivity, or bettering the conditions under which people live, learn, and work."

A controversial feature of the Act was the requirement for "maximum feasible participation" of the people directly affected (the poor, basically) in the decision-making about how federal funds would be spent on them, in their community. This flew in the face of long-established power structures, where elected city councils, county commissions, state and federal officials ruled over everything—mostly people from the power elite and upper-class communities. The notion that the poor (largely minorities) should have a say in their affairs created some opposition at first, but was in keeping with America's liberal "civil rights" and "reform" movements, and "War on Poverty," in the 1960s and 1970s, and generally accepted, at least at first.

In each community, the local Community Action Program (CAP) was provided by a local non-profit Community Action Agency (CAA), overseen by a board made up—initially—of residents of the target neighborhood or population being served. This gave poor, working class and minority citizens a voice in how they would be served by federal funds aimed at improving their lives. However, this caused some anger and frustration among the nation's power establishment, especially in local governments used to running their communities, and among the power elites (particularly in the business community) used to dominating their local governments.

Summary

March, 2019, MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. began a needs assessment in Wyoming County. The assessment included surveying residents, interviewing community stakeholders, and going out to local businesses.

MountainHeart Agency Profile

MountainHeart's Mission:

Working together with individuals, families, and communities to provide resources for a better life.

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)3 Community Action Agency incorporated in accordance with the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. The Agency began in 1965 with a few services offered in one county. MountainHeart has grown and flourished to provide a large number of services covering nearly half of the state. In February 2010, MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. proudly celebrated the 45th year of continuous service to the community. In February 2019 MountainHeart celebrated 54 years of service.

The organizational vision of MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. is to reduce the incidence and lessen the impact of poverty among West Virginia residents. According to a release from the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy, an estimated 336,301 West Virginians lived in poverty in 2017, for a total poverty rate of 19.1 percent, a 1.2 percentage point increase from 2016. West Virginia's poverty rate in 2017 was 5.7 percentage points higher than the national average. West Virginia's poverty rate has not declined since the end of the Great Recession. West Virginia had the 4th highest poverty rate among the 50 states in 2017

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. served 14,939 individuals and 5,186 families in 2018.

MountainHeart Agency Programs

Birth to Three Regions V, VI, and VII

WV Birth to Three is a statewide system of services and supports for children under age three who have a delay in their development, or may be at risk of having a delay, and their family. The Department of Health and Human Resources, through the Bureau for Public Health and the Office of Maternal, Child and Family Health, WV Birth to Three, as the lead agency for Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), assures that family centered, community based services are available to all eligible children and families. To be eligible for WV Birth to Three services, an infant or toddler under the age of three can either have a delay in one or more areas of their development, or be at risk of possibly having delays in the future.

A child may have delays in one or more of the following areas:

- **Cognitive** - thinking and learning
- **Physical** - moving, seeing and hearing
- **Social/emotional** - feeling, coping, getting along with others
- **Adaptive** - doing things for him/herself
- **Communication** - understanding and communicating with others

A child may have risk factors such as:

- A condition which is typically associated with a developmental delay such as Down Syndrome; or
- A combination of biological and other risk factors. Some of these factors may include family stressors.

CDL

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. truck driving school will provide you with the training and on-road driving experience needed to pass the CDL exam. Additional qualifications or endorsements are needed in certain circumstances.

Requirements

- At least 18 years old
- Valid Driver's License for 2 Years
- Obtain medical certificate
- Pass the drug screening test
- Be at least 21 years old
(If hauling materials from one state to another)

CDL applicants must then pass both a written knowledge exam and a driving test. The three part driving test includes a pre-trip vehicle inspection, a basic control skills test and an on-road driving exam. The driving test must be taken in a vehicle that matches the class of CDL license you are trying to obtain.

Consulting

We'd love to share our knowledge with you! We understand the road to success can be difficult. Many times an outside perspective can help. MountainHeart Consulting is a West Virginia consulting group

specializing in non-profit and small business growth and management. With over 65 years of combined experience we may have the answers you've been looking for.

We offer a diverse range of services including Business Development, Human Resources, Marketing, Public Relations, and Information Technology. With this wide range of services we believe MountainHeart Consulting can help just about any organization here in the Mountain State.

Head Start/ Early Head Start

MountainHeart Community Services operates a **Head Start** and an **Early Head Start Program** in Wyoming County, West Virginia. While both programs focus on the whole child philosophy of child development, the Head Start program serves children ages three to five while the Early Head Start program serves pregnant moms and children from birth to three years of age. All areas of the child's development are important for a child to succeed in school and in life. Parents are considered the first and most important teacher of their child.

Early Childhood Development and Health Services

- **Child Development**

With individualization as the focus of these services, a variety of screening methods are used to determine each child's current level of development. Using the *Creative Curriculum*, activities are planned to enhance the child's development and prepare the preschooler for kindergarten. Over 50% of the teachers in the Head Start program and the Early Head Start program have a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. The remaining have an associate's degree in this field and are enrolled in college courses in pursuit of the bachelor's degree. Parents have input into the curriculum through home visits, volunteering in the classroom and by serving on advisory committees.

- **Health and Safety**

The program contracts each year with local pediatric providers and dentists to assure all children enrolled have received the appropriate immunizations, well baby checks, annual health and dental examinations and prenatal checkups for pregnant moms enrolled in the program. The children and staff brush their teeth after each meal. Sensory (hearing and vision) screenings are also completed on all children enrolled to detect any concerns in these areas. Safety is our top priority. Various procedures are put in place to assure the child's safety at all times. Classrooms, playgrounds and buses are inspected daily for any safety hazards and monitored routinely by the program, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Child Care Licensing Division and the West Virginia State Fire Marshall's office. These inspection reports are posted in each site.

- **Nutrition**

Nutrition Activities are a vital part of the quality services provided by the Head Start and Early Head Start programs. Menus are planned to avoid sugar and starch and to be appealing to children. Meals are cut into portions ensuring that each child is served the required portion of each meal component. A dietician is contracted for reviewing menus and planning activities as well as providing nutrition training for staff and parents. Each child's height and weight is

analyzed to determine if the child is on target for his/her development and individualized nutrition plans are developed when needed.

- **Mental Health**

All children receive a social/emotional screening jointly completed by the teacher and the family. On-site mental health consultations are scheduled throughout the year to provide an opportunity to discuss any issues present in the classroom or in the home and to provide strategies, information and resources for families.

Family and Community Partnerships

Parents are involved in every aspect of the Head Start and Early Head Start program. Parents volunteer in the classroom and participate in monthly parent meetings and/or trainings. Parents also have an active role on the governing body of the program: The Policy Council. Parents of children currently enrolled in the Head Start and Early Head Start program make up at least 51% of the membership of the Policy Council. Family partnership agreements are developed with each family allowing the family to assess their own needs and establish goals for the child and the family. Formal and informal partnership agreements exist with other agencies serving children and families so that the appropriate linkages can be made allowing families to received the highest quality of services possible.

Program Design and Management

An effective ongoing monitoring system has been developed and implemented. Shared governance is a priority of the program with active participation of the members of the Policy Council and Board of Directors. The Management Team works closely with the Region III Head Start and Early Head Start Technical Assistance Team in implementing a structured and effective system of program planning.

Disability Services

Head Start and Early Head Start classrooms are considered a least restrictive environment and a natural setting when serving children with disabilities. Through an agreement with the Local Education Agency, children will receive specialized services as designated in an individualized education plan. All classrooms meet the requirements for individuals with disabilities as set forth in legislation.

Child Care Resource and Referral Regions V and VI

MountainHeart Child Care Resource & Referral Services is a program of MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. and is funded through a grant from DHHR, Bureau for Children and Families, Division of Early Care and Education. The Program was established in 1992.

Region V Child Care Resource and Referral Services and TRAILS Vans are currently provided in the following counties: Barbour, Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Lewis, Mineral, Morgan, Pendleton, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker and Upshur counties.

Region VI Child Care Resource and Referral Services and TRAILS Vans are currently provided in the following counties: Braxton, Fayette, Greenbrier, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers, Webster, & Wyoming.

Financial assistance (subsidies) for child care services are available through this program.

Loan and grant services for new and existing child care services are available through this program.

Our mission is to meet the diverse needs of parents, children, providers and the community through comprehensive, family-friendly services. The services are designed to encourage members of our community to become child care providers, empower families and ensure that quality child care for all children is a continued priority.

We hope that you will join us in our endeavor to make a difference in the lives of others within our communities.

Weatherization

The Weatherization Assistance Program mission is to reduce energy costs for low income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and children by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety.

Weatherization is a partnership between the Weatherization Program and you. As with any partnership, each partner has responsibilities. The Weatherization Program will address your heating and cooling systems, and reduce energy loss from your house by insulating and sealing air leaks. You will be responsible for maintaining the materials installed in your home and following energy saving practices.

VITA/EITC

MountainHeart Community Services, Inc. is the lead agency for two Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Coalitions in West Virginia. The Eastern Panhandle and Southern EITC Coalitions provide training, equipment and supplies to individuals and agencies with the purpose of providing Free Income Tax Assistance to families with low to moderate income.

YOUCare

The YouCARE program is designed to provide information, resources, mentoring, and case management to enrich the lives of individuals by encouraging them to be self-sufficient and leaders of the community. This program is intended for low income persons, ex-offenders, unemployed/underemployed individuals, persons with disabilities, veterans, individuals with substance use disorder and/or mental illness and anyone interested in life improvement.

- **Breaking Down Barriers:** Assessment of current situation and root causes, identification of obstacles preventing success and developing methods of breaking down barriers, assisting with re-entry issues, aiding individuals with overcoming the odds of recidivism and supporting a productive life.
- **Educational Enrichment:** Focuses on providing information regarding educational resources, funding sources, assistance with financial aid and enrollment in educational programs (GED, Vo-Tech or College)
- **Job Readiness:** Teaches participants necessary skills such as resume writing, interviewing skills, professional behavior, job search and job retention.
- **Life Skills:** Financial Education and Budgeting, Accessing Community Resources, Computer Skills, Time Management and other topics may be provided depending on the individual needs of the participant.

Parents as Teacher

Parents as Teachers builds strong communities, thriving families and children that are healthy, safe and ready to learn by matching parents and caregivers with trained professionals who make regular personal home visits during a child's earliest years in life, from prenatal through kindergarten.

PREP

Making proud choices! An evidence-Based, Safer-Sex Approach to Teen Pregnancy and HIV/STD prevention. An 8 module curriculum that provides adolescents with the knowledge, confidence and skills necessary to reduce their risk of sexually transmitted diseases (STD's), HIV and pregnancy by abstaining from sex or using condoms if they choose to have sex.

Construction

The Construction Program is a fee for service program that specializes in home repair projects, new construction, additions, kitchen remodels and outdoor spaces. We take pride in tailoring each project to our client's needs. Contact Patricia (PJ) Estep 304-682-8271 ext.129 to get a free estimate or Benny Mills carpenter at 304-228-4175. Operation hours are Monday-Friday.

Collecting the Data

County Profile

Wyoming County

History and Geography

Wyoming County Courthouse

On March 22, 1850, the County Court met for the first time in Oceana, at the home of John Cooke. The Act which created the county also provided that the permanent place for holding court should be on the lands of William Cooke Sr., on Clear Fork.

The next day, March 23, James H. Ferguson, Patrick K. McComas and Stephen McDonald were appointed to superintend the survey of a public square, and to draw specifications for, receive bids for, and superintend the construction of the public buildings of the County. On July 19, 1850, the County Court awarded contracts for three public buildings totaling \$2,000.

In August, 1851, the court met for the first time in its new home, built by John Lambert. Nearby was the jail, constructed by Mitchell Cooke, and the small brick clerk's office, built by James Cooke. The courthouse itself was a large, low, barn-like structure. It contained a court room, two jury rooms, a sheriff's office, and a small room for the prosecuting attorney. This building served the community until November 7, 1907, when it was destroyed by fire.

Before rebuilding the courthouse, the County Court decided to call for a vote to settle the dispute which had come up as to location of the county seat. Many people in the county were anxious to move the county government to Pineville, which was closer to the center of the county. The people voted in favor of moving to Pineville and the contract was let for the building of a second court house.

Work was started on the new building which was to serve as a temporary courthouse until the county could build a larger courthouse. Completed early in 1908, the new courthouse was a one story frame building. This building was used until 1916 when it was torn down and replaced by the present building. On February 1, 1916, the county employed A. F. Wysong, architect, to furnish plans and specifications for a permanent courthouse. In June D. J. Phipps of Roanoke was awarded the contract for the construction of the present building of native stone, for \$79,000. During the 1930s, the public square was terraced, landscaped, and beautified. A large part of that expense was paid by the Works Progress Administration projects during the great depression.

2017 Census for Wyoming County

Subject	Wyoming County, West Virginia			
	Estimate	Margin of Error	Percent	Percent Margin of Error
SEX AND AGE				
Total population	22,130	*****	22,130	(X)
Male	10,894	+/-36	49.2%	+/-0.2
Female	11,236	+/-36	50.8%	+/-0.2

Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	97.0	+/-0.6	(X)	(X)
Under 5 years	1,199	+/-70	5.4%	+/-0.3
5 to 9 years	1,390	+/-202	6.3%	+/-0.9
10 to 14 years	1,219	+/-211	5.5%	+/-1.0
15 to 19 years	1,312	+/-48	5.9%	+/-0.2
20 to 24 years	1,151	+/-31	5.2%	+/-0.1
25 to 34 years	2,269	+/-35	10.3%	+/-0.2
35 to 44 years	2,918	+/-54	13.2%	+/-0.2
45 to 54 years	2,884	+/-41	13.0%	+/-0.2
55 to 59 years	1,616	+/-188	7.3%	+/-0.8
60 to 64 years	2,029	+/-193	9.2%	+/-0.9
65 to 74 years	2,555	+/-70	11.5%	+/-0.3
75 to 84 years	1,190	+/-129	5.4%	+/-0.6
85 years and over	398	+/-133	1.8%	+/-0.6
Median age (years)	43.8	+/-0.5	(X)	(X)
Under 18 years	4,677	*****	21.1%	*****
16 years and over	18,092	+/-80	81.8%	+/-0.4
18 years and over	17,453	*****	78.9%	*****
21 years and over	16,805	+/-109	75.9%	+/-0.5
62 years and over	5,238	+/-197	23.7%	+/-0.9
65 years and over	4,143	+/-53	18.7%	+/-0.2
18 years and over	17,453	*****	17,453	(X)
Male	8,505	+/-33	48.7%	+/-0.2
Female	8,948	+/-34	51.3%	+/-0.2
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	95.0	+/-0.7	(X)	(X)
65 years and over	4,143	+/-53	4,143	(X)
Male	1,882	+/-5	45.4%	+/-0.6
Female	2,261	+/-53	54.6%	+/-0.6
Sex ratio (males per 100 females)	83.2	+/-2.0	(X)	(X)
RACE				
Total population	22,130	*****	22,130	(X)
One race	21,867	+/-94	98.8%	+/-0.4
Two or more races	263	+/-94	1.2%	+/-0.4
One race	21,867	+/-94	98.8%	+/-0.4
White	21,567	+/-20	97.5%	+/-0.1
Black or African American	191	+/-86	0.9%	+/-0.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	4	+/-6	0.0%	+/-0.1
Cherokee tribal grouping	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Chippewa tribal grouping	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Navajo tribal grouping	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Sioux tribal grouping	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Asian	68	+/-66	0.3%	+/-0.3
Asian Indian	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Chinese	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1

Filipino	33	+/-45	0.1%	+/-0.2
Japanese	35	+/-51	0.2%	+/-0.2
Korean	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Vietnamese	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Other Asian	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Native Hawaiian	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Guamanian or Chamorro	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Samoaan	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Other Pacific Islander	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Some other race	37	+/-42	0.2%	+/-0.2
Two or more races	263	+/-94	1.2%	+/-0.4
White and Black or African American	187	+/-65	0.8%	+/-0.3
White and American Indian and Alaska Native	53	+/-58	0.2%	+/-0.3
White and Asian	23	+/-37	0.1%	+/-0.2
Black or African American and American Indian and Alaska Native	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Race alone or in combination with one or more other races				
Total population	22,130	*****	22,130	(X)
White	21,830	+/-90	98.6%	+/-0.4
Black or African American	378	+/-94	1.7%	+/-0.4
American Indian and Alaska Native	57	+/-58	0.3%	+/-0.3
Asian	91	+/-73	0.4%	+/-0.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Some other race	37	+/-42	0.2%	+/-0.2
HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE				
Total population	22,130	*****	22,130	(X)
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	56	+/-52	0.3%	+/-0.2
Mexican	7	+/-13	0.0%	+/-0.1
Puerto Rican	28	+/-40	0.1%	+/-0.2
Cuban	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Other Hispanic or Latino	21	+/-34	0.1%	+/-0.2
Not Hispanic or Latino	22,074	+/-52	99.7%	+/-0.2
White alone	21,548	+/-21	97.4%	+/-0.1
Black or African American alone	191	+/-86	0.9%	+/-0.4
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	4	+/-6	0.0%	+/-0.1
Asian alone	68	+/-66	0.3%	+/-0.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Some other race alone	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Two or more races	263	+/-94	1.2%	+/-0.4
Two races including Some other race	0	+/-21	0.0%	+/-0.1
Two races excluding Some other race, and Three or more races	263	+/-94	1.2%	+/-0.4

Total housing units	10,908	+/-48	(X)	(X)
CITIZEN, VOTING AGE POPULATION				
Citizen, 18 and over population	17,420	+/-44	17,420	(X)
Male	8,472	+/-43	48.6%	+/-0.2
Female	8,948	+/-34	51.4%	+/-0.2

Economics in Wyoming County

Income

[†] Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

\$20,474 Per capita income

- **about 80 percent** of the amount in West Virginia: \$24,774
- **about two-thirds** of the amount in United States: \$31,177

\$37,644 Median household income

- **about 80 percent** of the amount in West Virginia: \$44,061
- **about two-thirds** of the amount in United States: \$57,652

Poverty

[†] Margin of error is at least 10 percent of the total value. Take care with this statistic.

22.2% ±3.1% (4,866 ±686) Persons below poverty line

- **about 25 percent higher** than the rate in West Virginia: 17.8% 317,089 (±0.3% / ±5,550)
- **about 1.5 times** the rate in United States: 14.6% 45,650,345 (±0.1% / ±281,297)

Non-poverty: 70%

- **about 90 percent** of the rate in West Virginia: 75%
- **about 90 percent** of the rate in United States: 80%

Children (Under 18)

Poverty **30%**[†]

- Poverty
- Non-poverty

Non-poverty: 92%

- **about the same as** the rate in West Virginia: 91%
- **about the same as** the rate in United States: 91%

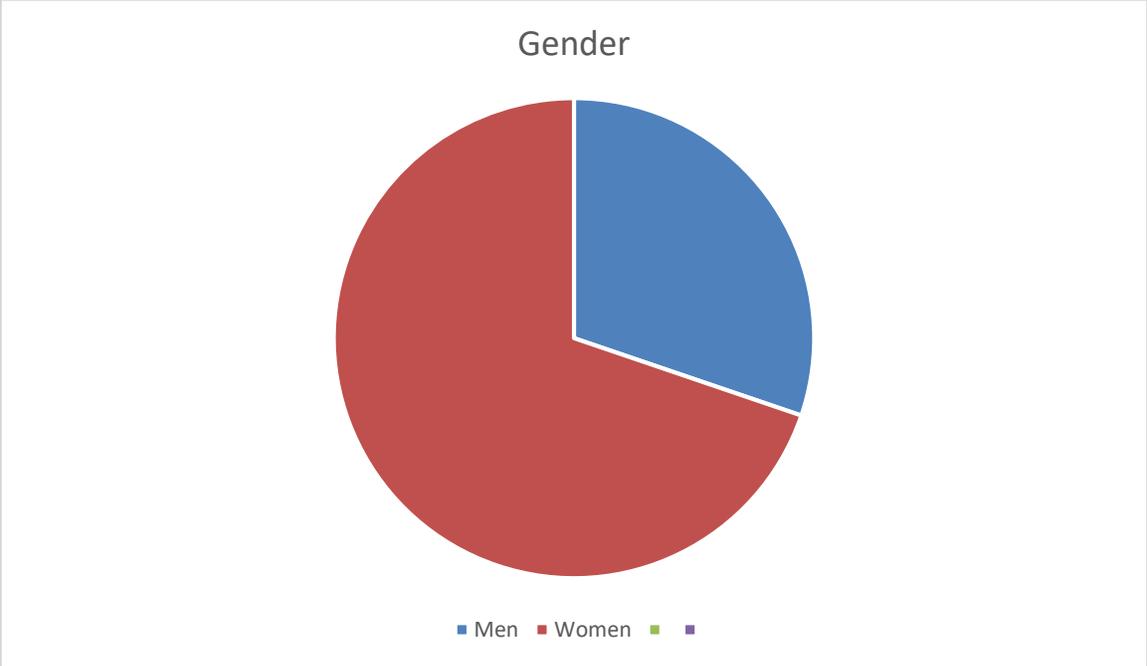
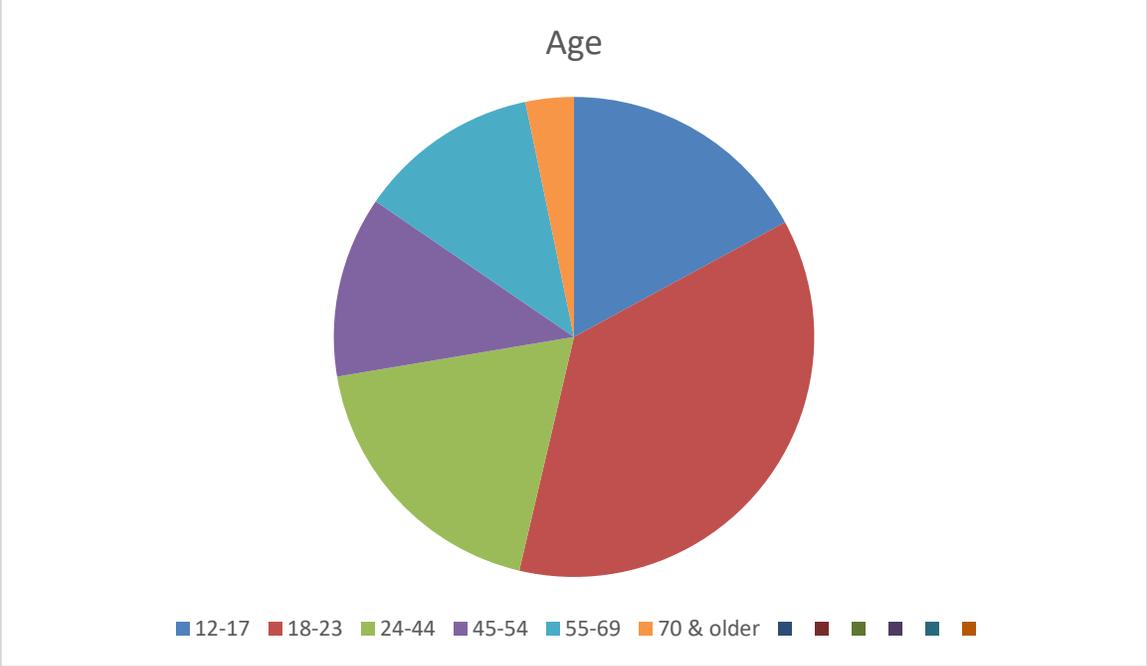
Seniors (65 and over)

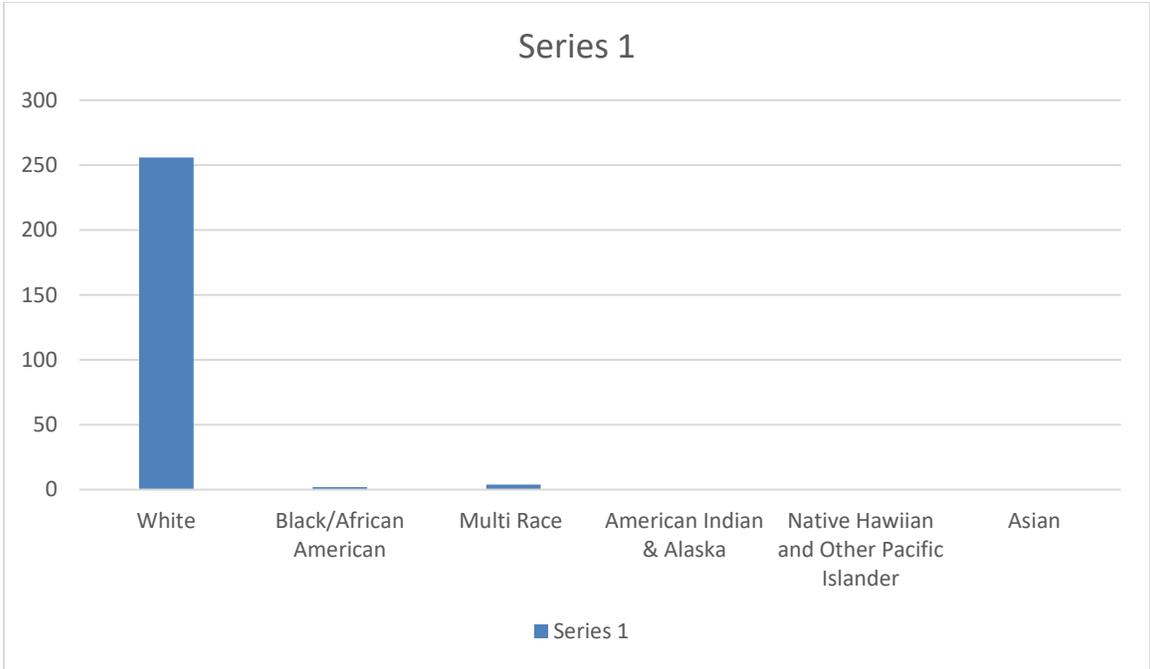
Poverty **8%**[†]

- Poverty
- Non-poverty

Data Analysis Process

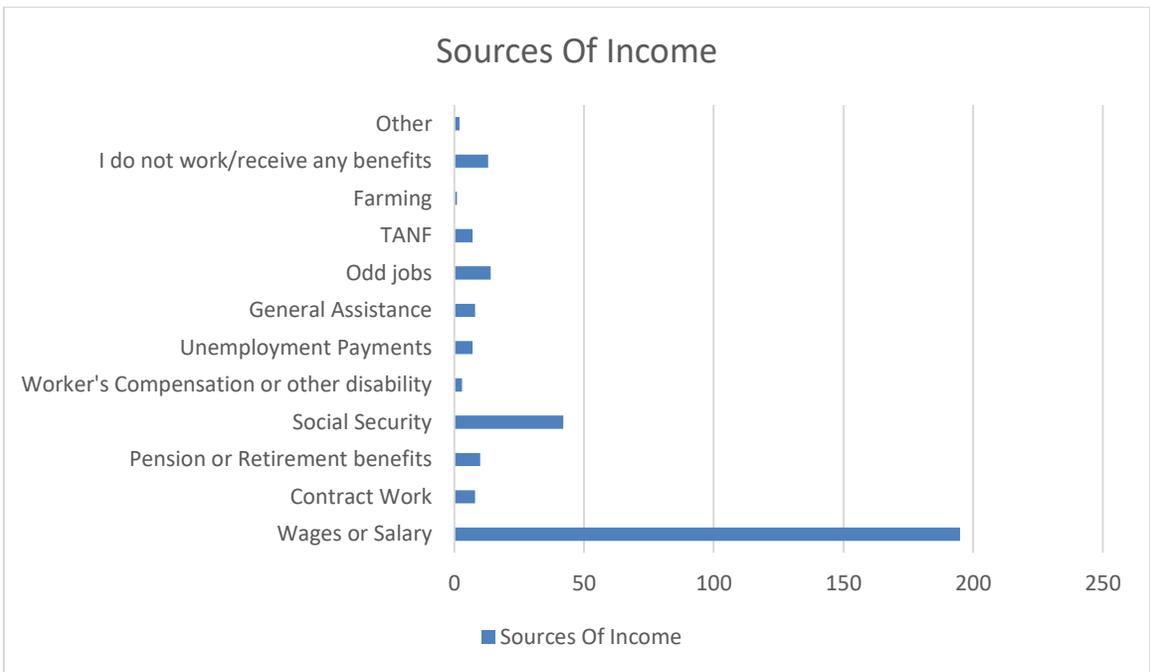
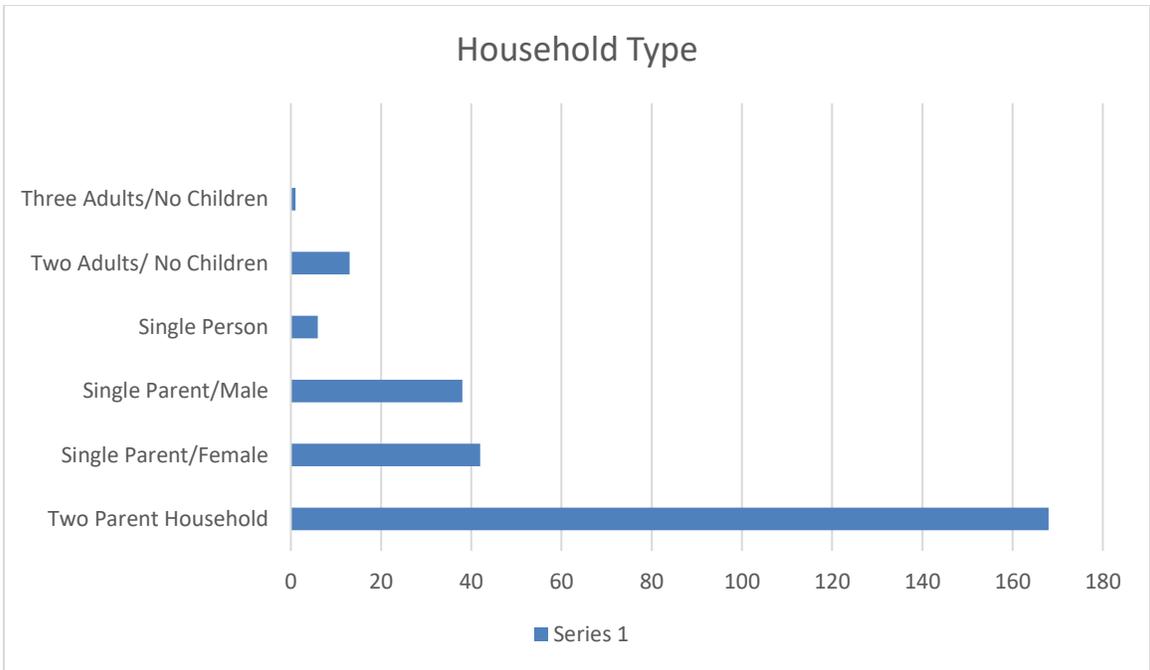
1. Demographics

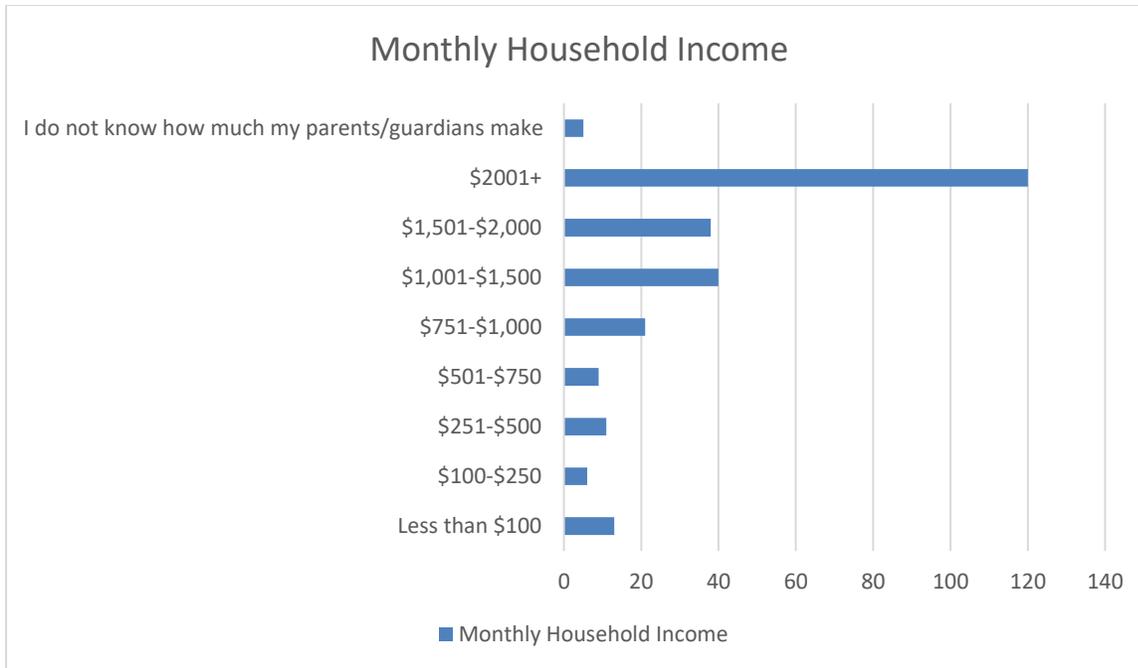




Number in Household:

1	(4)
2	(20)
3	(61)
4	(86)
5	(70)
6	(18)
7 or more	(10)





HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD. (Choose ONE)

<u>9</u> Elementary School	<u>6</u> Middle/Junior High School
<u>111</u> High School/GED	<u>33</u> Some College
<u>39</u> Trade School	<u>25</u> Associates Degree
<u>30</u> Bachelors Degree	<u>22</u> Graduate/Professional

WHAT COUNTY DO YOU LIVE IN?

Wyoming 252

In 2017 – 154 families completed the needs assessment in 2019 – 252. MountainHeart’s assessment committee targeted all five sectors (faith, private, public, educational and community). Each committee member was assigned a sector. MountainHeart went door to door in the targeted community as well as sent assessments home with students from Kindergarten – Twelfth grade.

2. Is Employment an issue for you and/or your family? 60 YES 211 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

<u>11</u> Lack of education to obtain a job	<u>10</u> Lack of training to obtain a job
<u>35</u> Lack of employment opportunities	<u>36</u> Lack of good-paying jobs with benefits
<u>13</u> Lack of reliable transportation	<u>22</u> Lack of child care (work-related)
<u>2</u> Lack of resume/job application/interview skills	<u>17</u> Cost of child care (work-related)
<u>7</u> Unknown	

Based on our last community assessment employment issue has raised from 32 to 60. The number one reason was lack of employment opportunities as well as lack of good-paying jobs with benefits. The number one industry in Wyoming County is coal and due to recent closures of coal mines the unemployment rate went from 8.1% in 2017 to 8.9% in 2019.

3. Is Education an issue for you and/or your family? 24 YES 245 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <u>4</u> Lack of vocational training | <u>4</u> Poor communication with teachers, principals, counselors |
| <u>10</u> Lack of GED/Adult Education Classes | <u>8</u> Unknown |
| <u>7</u> Availability and/or location of classes | (Pay for education and Money) |
| <u>0</u> Threats of violence in schools | |
| <u>0</u> Lack of dropout prevention for youth | |
| <u>3</u> Lack of computer access at home | |
| <u>6</u> Lack of transportation (school-related) | |
| <u>5</u> Lack of child care (school-related) | |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment.

4. Is Housing an issue for you and/or your family? 19 YES 252 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <u>8</u> Affordability of rent/house payments | <u>6</u> Credit issues |
| <u>6</u> Lack of affordable/suitable housing | <u>5</u> Lack of down payment on a house |
| <u>4</u> Housing size doesn't meet family needs | <u>0</u> Lack of knowledge about buying a home |
| <u>7</u> Affordability of needed housing repairs, i.e. roof, foundation, insulation, storm windows, etc. | <u>0</u> Lack of temporary emergency housing |
| <u>7</u> Affordability of additional housing costs, i.e. utilities, insurance, deposits | <u>4</u> Lack of funds to ensure energy efficiency of my home |
| | <u>1</u> Unknown |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment. Wyoming County has multi generations living in one household.

5. Is Health an issue for you and/or your family? 30 YES 237 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>6</u> Lack of medical insurance | <u>2</u> Lack of healthcare services for handicapped individuals |
| <u>4</u> Lack of healthcare providers in the area | <u>2</u> Lack of adequate in-home care services for seniors |
| <u>4</u> Lack of healthcare providers who accept my medical insurance | <u>0</u> Lack of prenatal care services |
| <u>2</u> Lack of free or low-cost medical services | <u>2</u> Lack of substance abuse services |
| <u>6</u> Affordability of prescription drugs | <u>2</u> Lack of mental health services |
| <u>14</u> Lack of dental services | <u>3</u> Unknown |
| <u>15</u> Lack of vision services | |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment. The majority of the targeted community had Medicaid. Medicaid does not cover dental or vision services.

6. Is Nutrition an issue for you and/or your family? 13 YES 255 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <u>1</u> Food resources not available, i.e. Senior Citizens meals, meals on wheels, food pantries, etc. | <u>6</u> Not eligible for food stamps |
| <u>8</u> Not enough income to cover food cost | <u>0</u> Lack of knowledge on available nutrition resources, i.e. WIC, food stamps, food programs |
| <u>0</u> Lack of transportation, i.e. to grocery store, food pantry or other food resources | <u>0</u> Not eligible for free or reduced school meals |
| <u>1</u> Lack of knowledge on healthy food choices | <u>3</u> Unknown |
| <u>5</u> Lack of time to prepare meals | |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment. Wyoming County has multi-generations living in one household, grandchildren living with grandparents who grows gardens and cans for the winter. MountainHeart partners with local churches and distributes nonperishable food to our Head Start students on Friday's, so that the students have enough food to feed them for the weekend. MountainHeart has also planted a garden at a local school to provide fresh produce for families.

7. Is Use of Income an issue for you and/or your family? 14 YES 250 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>1</u> Lack of knowledge about possible resources, i.e. food stamps, medical coverage, etc. | <u>5</u> Lack of knowledge about money management, i.e. credit card debt, budgeting, checking accounts, etc. |
| <u>3</u> Lack of knowledge on how to save/invest Money | <u>4</u> Lack of interest in making appropriate use of income |
| <u>4</u> Lack of knowledge about addressing credit Issues | <u>1</u> Lack of knowledge on how to get/enforce child support |
| <u>2</u> Lack of knowledge about tax credits | <u>2</u> Unknown |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment. Wyoming County has multi-generations living in one household.

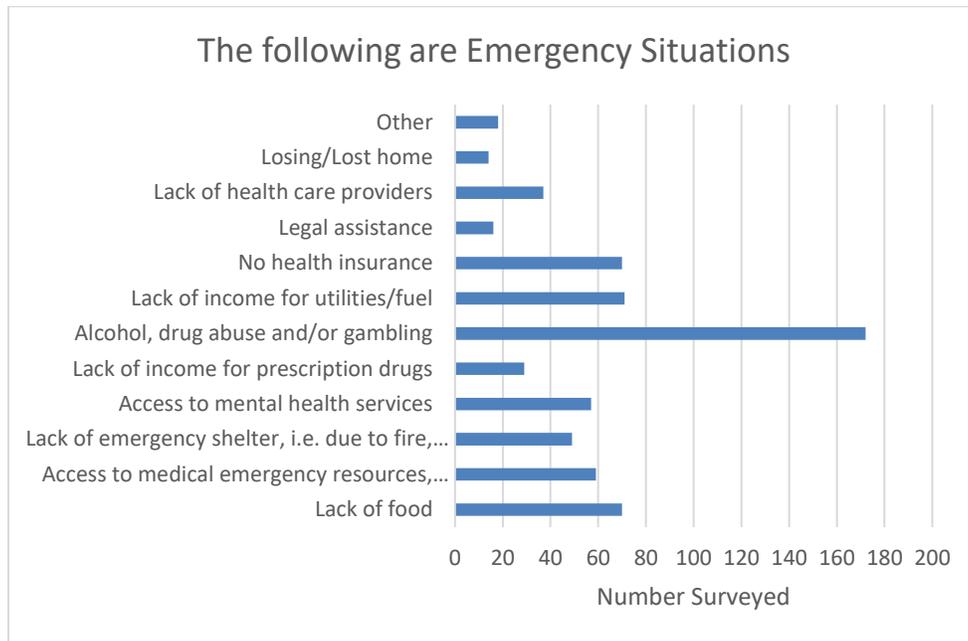
8. Is Transportation an issue for you and/or your family? 31 YES 237 NO

If yes, choose the THREE most important reasons why:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <u>4</u> Lack of knowledge about available services | license |
| <u>1</u> Lack of knowledge about buying a vehicle | <u>11</u> Does not like to rely on others for transportation |
| <u>11</u> Lack of credit to buy a vehicle | <u>10</u> Lack of public transportation |
| <u>11</u> Cost of owning and operating a vehicle | <u>9</u> Do not own a vehicle/No access to a vehicle |
| <u>15</u> Lack of valid driver's license | <u>4</u> Unknown |
| <u>2</u> Lack of help learning to drive/getting a | |

Results primarily the same as previous assessment. Wyoming County has multi-generations living in one household.

9. The following are Emergency Situations that seem to be particular problems in this area. Choose the THREE most important problems:



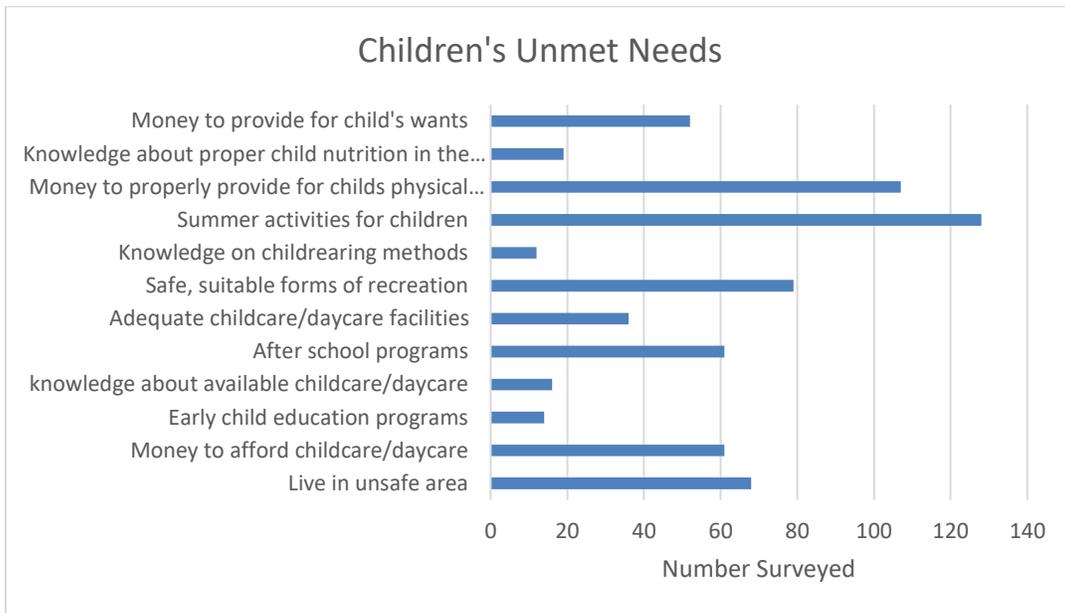
63% surveyed for Wyoming County selected alcohol, drug abuse and/or gambling, same as previous assessment.

Using 16 years' worth of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, a report called "Overdose" has identified Wyoming County as the No. 1 County in the nation for prescription drug overdose deaths.

The data, examined by DrugAbuse.com, shows that from 1999 to 2014, Wyoming County had a prescription drug overdose death rate of 54.6 per 100,000 people.

https://www.register-herald.com/news/report-shows-wyoming-county-worst-in-country-for-prescription-drug/article_123649b7-d708-5896-8cd6-040aae835ebd.html

10. Choose the three most important unmet children’s needs in your community.



On previous assessment the money to afford childcare was the listed as the most important unmet children’s need result, in 2019, 50% that were surveyed selected summer activities is the number one answer. While Wyoming County has city pools and public parks, the cost to get to the park and entrance to the pool is a barrier.

Interpret Results

The needs assessment results show that the customers surveyed are two family households with four in the family, they are white, have a high school diploma or GED and are working with an income of \$2,000 plus.

The following are the six needs listed in order of votes.

1. Emergency Situations a. Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and/or Gambling	4. Transportation
2. Unmet Children’s Needs a. Summer Activities for Children	5. Health
3. Employment	6. Education

2017’s results were

1. Health	4. Education
2. Transportation	5. Use of Income
3. Housing	6. Nutrition

On previous assessment drug use was an issue but for 2019 assessment, it has become a bigger issue for the community, grandparents are raising grandchildren and great grandchildren due to this epidemic. Employment was not in the top 6, but for 2019 it is the number three need. The number one reason was lack of employment opportunities as well as lack of good-paying jobs with benefits. The number one industry in Wyoming County is coal and due to recent closures of coal mines the unemployment rate went from 8.1% in 2017 to 8.9% in 2019.

Take Action

- 1. Drugs – MountainHeart has a program called YOUCare that educates formerly incarcerated, unemployed or underemployed as well as drug addiction. MountainHeart partners with Sound Minds, a women’s group home that houses nonviolent former addicts.**
- 2. Summer Activities for children – MountainHeart now serves year round Head Start and Early Head Start classes, MountainHeart also has a Traveling, Resource and Information Library (TRAILS) that sets up at child care providers and allows the children to check out toys, games, etc.**
- 3. Employment – MountainHeart provides trainings to self-employed child care providers, so that the provider can bill the WV DHHR for subsidized child care.**
- 4. Transportation – Currently MountainHeart does not have anything in place to accommodate this area of need.**
- 5. Health – MountainHeart partners with the Department of Health and Human Resources to assist customers who do not have health insurance. Applications for health insurances are in child care packets as well as Home visitors assist families with applying for insurance.**
- 6. Education – MountainHeart’s YOUCare Program assists customers with obtaining their GED as well as 80 hour mining card.**