

# THE SURVEY

A variety of sources were used to develop the needs/gaps survey such as community resource provider meetings, leader interviews, and other organizations' community assessments.

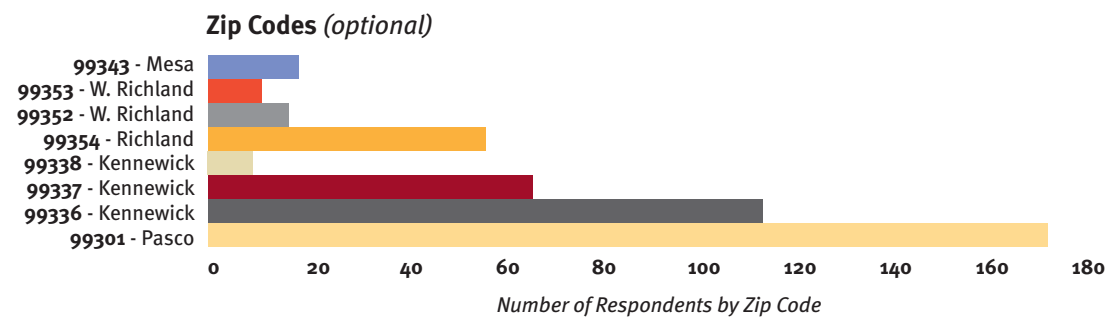
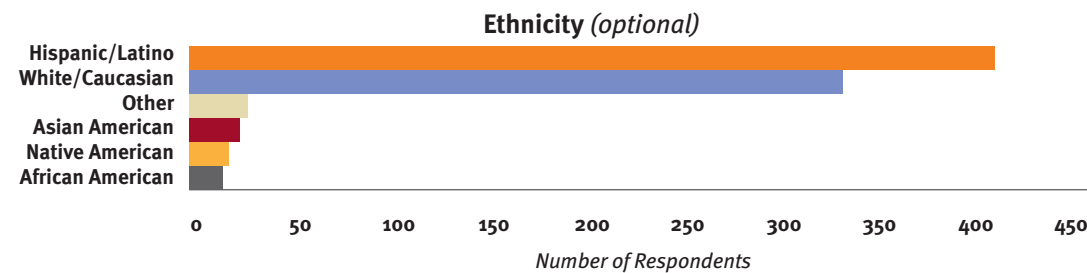
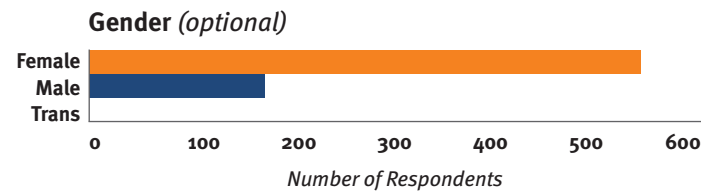
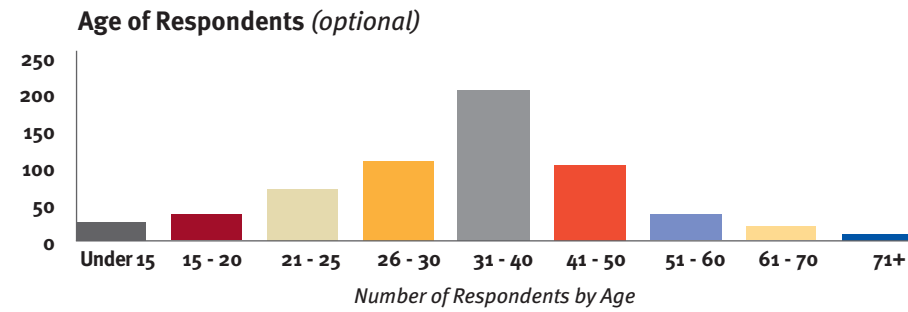
Available in both English and Spanish, the survey was intended to provide a broad-scale community needs assessment in the areas of childhood nutrition, early learning, and family self-sufficiency.

The survey was administered to parents and caregivers at school resource fairs and community events, as well as available online through United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties' website.

The parent/caregiver surveys were completed between December 2015 and January 2016. Over 50 organizations and more than 4,000 individuals were reached with information and/or surveys, and 840 surveys were completed.

The survey does not represent any one socio-economic group and should not be deemed as an assessment of those individuals and families considered to be in sub-sufficient conditions.

## SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS



### THANK YOU!

United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties thanks **ConAgra Foods Foundation** for funding this project and providing the opportunity for us to reach out directly to community members for their input. This valuable information will assist UWBCO, HELPer core partners, and other community leaders in helping to strengthen our community.



# The HELPer Project COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

SPRING 2016

## 5 PARTNERS

- ConAgra Foods
- Second Harvest Inland Northwest
- 2-1-1
- Benton Franklin Health District
- United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties

## 1 PURPOSE

Connect community members to local resources that support childhood nutrition, early learning, and family self-sufficiency.

## COMMUNITY CHALLENGES

- We live in a fast-paced society that is not often conducive to nutritious eating habits.
- One in four children in our bi-county area lives with chronic food shortages at home.
- One in eight people in the Mid-Columbia struggle with hunger, including one in four children.
- 31,595 students in our area rely on free and reduced-price school meals.
- The rate of adult obesity in our bi-county area is 31% (statewide rate: 25.2%).
- The rate of adult diabetes in our bi-county area is 10% (statewide rate: 7%).
- The Tri-Cities metropolitan area ranks 9th in the nation for obesity.
- Many who care for infants and young children are unaware of what they could do to help each baby develop and be ready to begin school.
- 40% of children are unprepared for kindergarten on the first day of school.
- Lack of knowledge of local services, available resources, and how to access them is high.

## COMMUNITY EFFORT

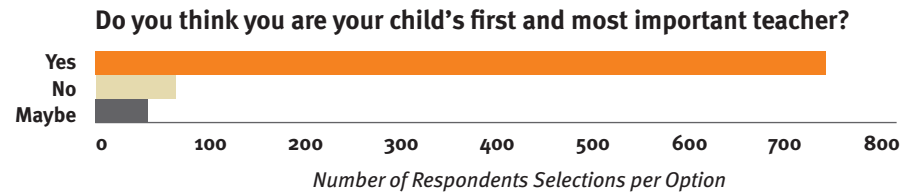
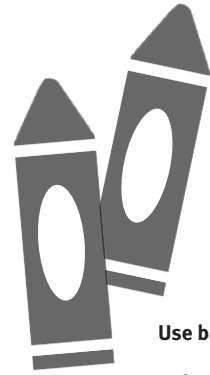
The five core planning group partners connected with 50+ groups and over 4,000 individuals throughout our community interested in collaborating around issues of childhood nutrition and family self-sufficiency, as well as children being ready for school. This combined effort resulted in a community needs assessment which was made possible through the development and implementation of a needs/gaps survey.

United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties (UWBFCO) improves lives in our community through Community Solutions. Our goal is that everyone in Benton and Franklin Counties has a good education; access to health care; lives and works in a safe environment; and is a self-sufficient, active member of our community.

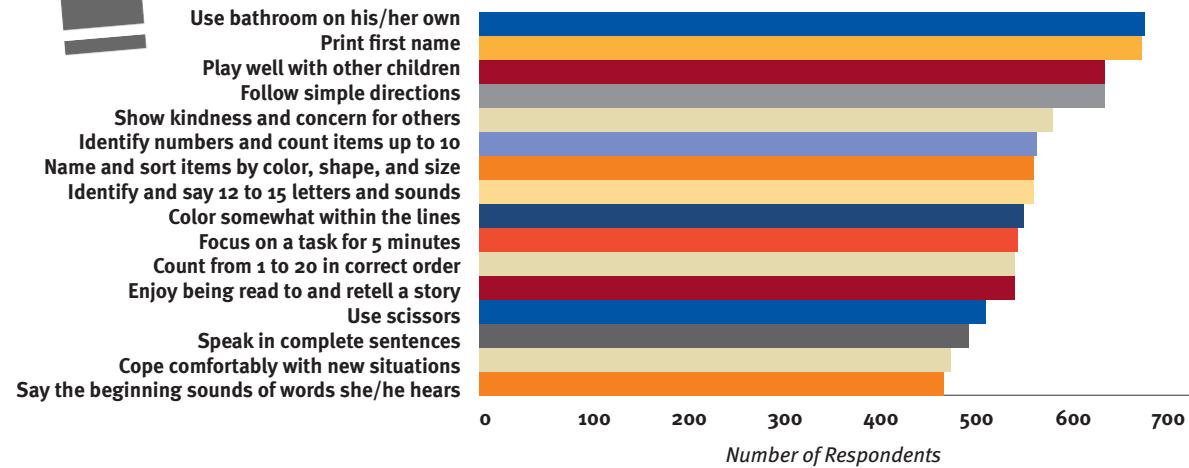


United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties

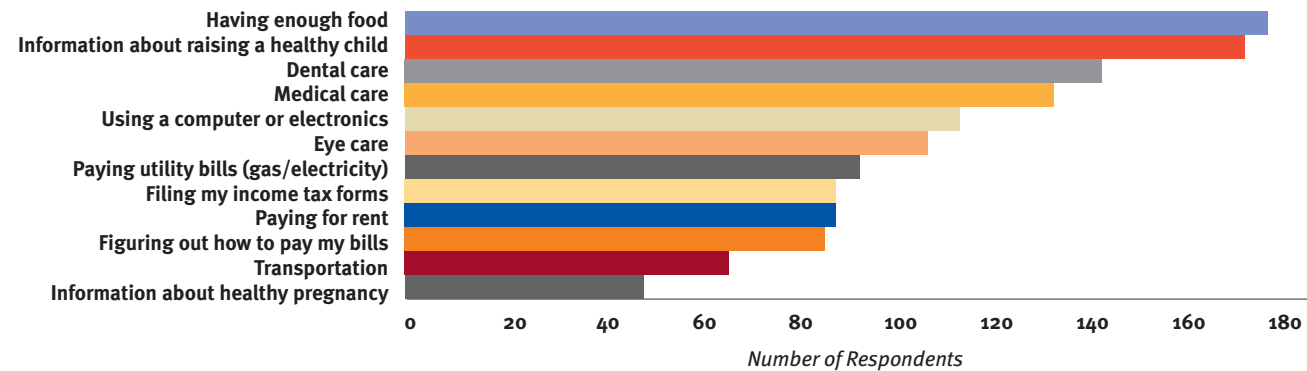
# SURVEY RESULTS



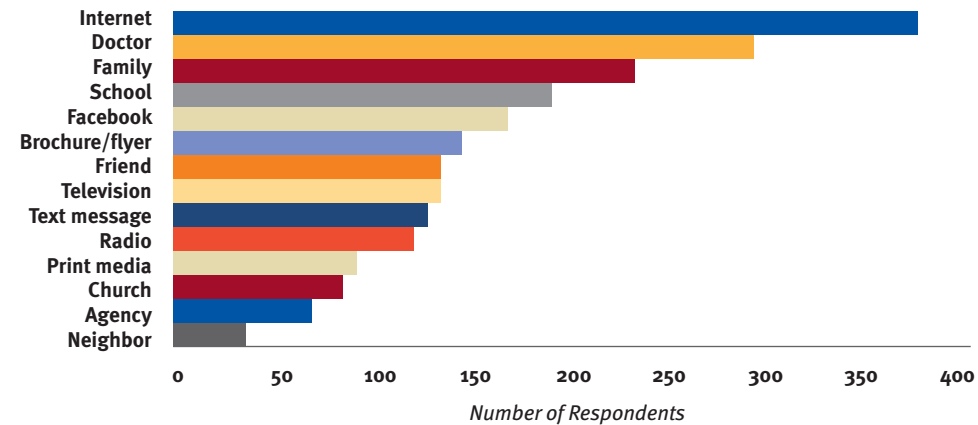
### Which of the following should a child know entering kindergarten?



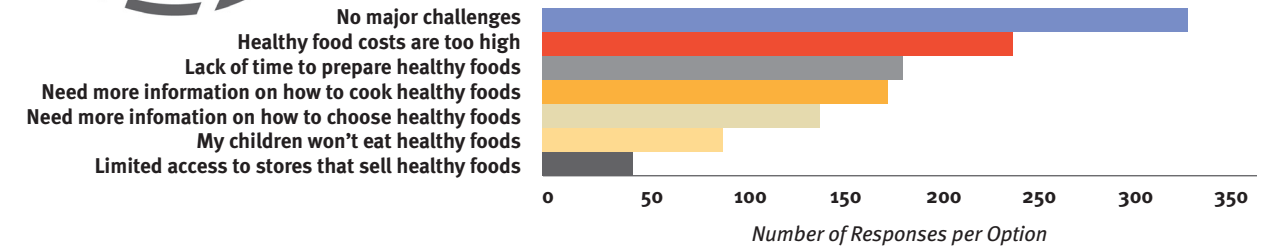
### Select any of the Following You Need Help With



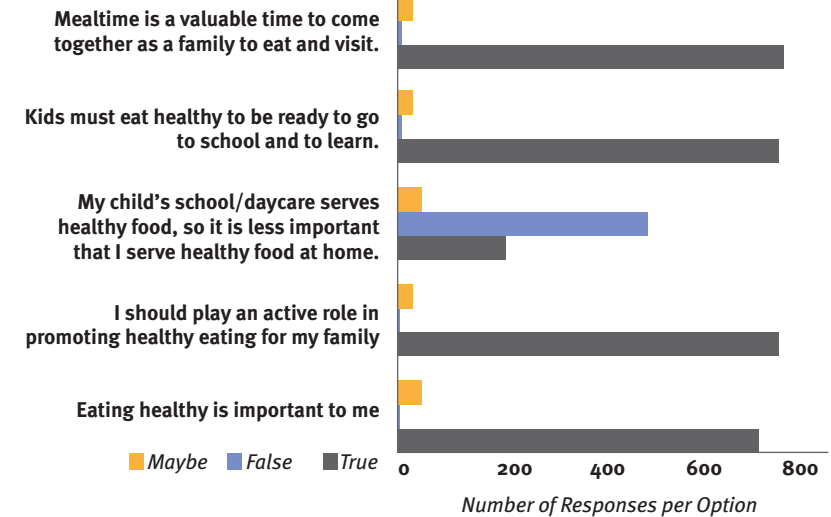
### Preferred Method of Receiving Information



### Do any of the following prevent you and your family from eating healthy?



### Respondents were asked to select one option for each statement



## COMMUNITY WIDE AWARENESS

The following community-wide activities will be implemented in response to survey results:

- Demonstrate what healthy eating looks like.
- Share examples of quick, simple, healthy meals.
- Connect community members to local resources.
- Provide information about school readiness.