



Pulse Check Appendix 1

Survey Instrument

RethinkHealth.org/pulsecheck

May 2022

Appendix 1: Survey Instrument

Survey Instrument for the 2021 Pulse Check on Shared Stewardship for Thriving Together Across America

“Any person or organization can be a steward, as long as they are willing to work with others to create conditions that all people and places need to thrive.”

Thank you for contributing to this survey about how organizations are expanding well-being in communities across America. We value the work that you do and are interested in hearing your views about your own organization as well as other organizations in your community. There are no right or wrong answers. You can skip any question and still continue. Your responses will remain confidential as will your name and that of your organization. All responses will be combined to show nationwide patterns.

Definitions

In this survey we will use the words “community” and “well-being” and “equity” in the following ways:

Community: When you see the word community please think about [Fill Location Name], even if your organization typically focuses on a larger or smaller area.

Well-being: denotes how people think, feel, and function across their lives as a whole. This includes mental and physical health, safety, financial security, justice, connection, and purpose.

Equity or Equitable: having fair and just opportunities for every person to participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.

OPPORTUNITIES

We start by asking a few questions about the opportunities for people in your community.

1. Please indicate how much you agree with the following statement.
All people in my community **have equal opportunities to live their best possible lives.**
 - a. Strongly agree
 - b. Somewhat agree
 - c. Neither agree nor disagree
 - d. Somewhat disagree
 - e. Strongly disagree
2. Right now, what proportion of the people in your community are:
 - a. Thriving: [X percent]
 - b. Struggling: [X percent]
 - c. Suffering: [X percent]
3. The crises affecting life across America in 2020 and beyond (including Covid-19, racial injustice, and economic recession) are an opportunity to make positive changes.
 - a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Somewhat disagree
 - c. Neither agree nor disagree
 - d. Somewhat agree
 - e. Strongly agree

[IF any level of agreement (somewhat agree or strongly agree), ask...]

3.1 What kind of positive change do you hope will arise from these crises?

- a. Getting back to normal, returning to business as usual
- b. Improving projects and programs to fulfill unmet needs
- c. Making major changes in America’s system of economic, social, or racial priorities
- d. Other _____(specify)

4. Now think about the future. In the next five years, do you think opportunities for people to thrive in your community will become

- a. More equitable
- b. Less equitable
- c. Stay the same

PRIORITIES

The next questions are about the priorities of **your organization and your community**.

5. To what extent is **your organization** involved in the following areas?

By “involved in”, we mean the extent to which it is a priority for your organization.

	High involvement	Medium involvement	Low/no involvement
Acute care or testing for illness or injury (mental or physical)			
Routine health care (mental, physical)			
Substance abuse treatment (alcohol, drugs)			
Prevention of addiction (alcohol, drugs)			
Homeless services			
Safe, affordable housing			
Emergency food assistance			
Healthy food (access, availability, affordability)			
Exercise, physical fitness, recreation			
Clean-up after natural disaster or pollution			
Clean, green environment; contact with nature			
Unemployment assistance			
Job opportunities, economic development			

	High involvement	Medium involvement	Low/no involvement
Better pay, living wages, family wealth			
Education including early childhood, K-12, youth development			
Career and adult education			
Reliable transportation			
Crime response (e.g., law enforcement, courts, incarceration)			
Safety at home, work, school, neighborhood			
Arts and culture			
Communications, information access			
Sense of belonging, social support, faith, spirituality			
Racial and social justice; human rights			
Civic life (leadership, organizing, building power or civic muscle, voting, volunteering, public work)			
Other _____			

6. There are many ways to enhance equitable well-being. **In your opinion**, which of the following do you think should be the **highest priorities right now** in your community (in terms of everyone’s time, money, and effort)? (Check all that apply)

	Should be a Top Priority
Acute care or testing for illness or injury (mental or physical)	
Routine health care (mental, physical)	
Substance abuse treatment (alcohol, drugs)	
Prevention of addiction (alcohol, drugs)	
Homeless services	
Safe, affordable housing	
Emergency food assistance	

	Should be a Top Priority
Healthy food (access, availability, affordability)	
Exercise, physical fitness, recreation	
Clean-up after natural disaster or pollution	
Clean, green environment; contact with nature	
Unemployment assistance	
Job opportunities, economic development	
Better pay, living wages, family wealth	
Education including early childhood, K-12, youth development	
Career and adult education	
Reliable transportation	
Crime response (e.g., law enforcement, courts, incarceration)	
Safety at home, work, school, neighborhood	
Arts and culture	
Communications, information access	
Sense of belonging, social support, faith, spirituality	
Racial and social justice; human rights	
Civic life (leadership, organizing, building power or civic muscle, voting, volunteering, public work)	
Other _____	

VIEWS ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION

Next we'll ask a few questions about how your organization does its work.

7. To what extent does **your organization** consider **systems change in your community** to be a goal?
- It is not something we talk about
 - It does not play an important role
 - It is one of our goals, but not the most important one
 - Is our most important goal

8. Thinking about **your organization's** internal norms and processes, how much do you agree with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neither Agree nor disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
a. My organization works with members of our community as full partners to achieve common goals.						
b. My organization has structured mechanisms to routinely share data on clients, services, and/or programs with other organizations in our community.						
c. My organization embraces new ideas and experiments with new approaches.						
d. My organization has an explicit strategy to increase equity, diversity, and inclusion within our organization.						
e. My organization has an explicit strategy to improve equity in our community						
f. My organization sets priorities based on a long-term view (e.g., beyond 10 years).						
g. My organization prioritizes actions that address many problems at once (i.e., root causes of complex issues).						
h. My organization invests resources to expand well-being in our community, even if it means sharing our funding with others.						

9. What barriers most stand in the way of **your organization** making an even stronger contribution to equitable well-being in your community? Check all that apply.
- Not enough funding for our services, programs, or policies
 - Too much inefficiency, waste, and delay
 - Lack of civic engagement to make changes
 - Uncertainty or disagreement about what works
 - Unwillingness to disrupt the current system
 - Short-term results matter more than long-term gains
 - Others (specify)
10. OPTIONAL: Please say more about how your organization experiences these barriers. What stands out to you as the most important obstacles that get in the way of **your organization** making an even stronger contribution to equitable well-being in your community? [Open response]
11. What would most help **your organization** to more effectively expand equitable well-being in your community? Check all that apply.
- Stronger leaders inside or outside your organization
 - New or better relationships with other organizations
 - More resources for our services, programs, policies
 - Smarter ways to spend existing resources
 - Placing greater value on sustaining longer-term progress
 - Embracing a new narrative for thriving people and places
 - Others (specify)
12. OPTIONAL: Please say more about how your organization experiences these factors that help them expand equitable well-being. What stands out to you as the most important ways to boost **your organization's** efforts to expand equitable well-being in your community? [Open response]

VIEWS ABOUT HOW ORGANIZATIONS WORK TOGETHER

In the next section, we will ask two questions about your views about how your organization and other organizations in your community work together.

15. To what extent does **your organization** lead or participate in the following activities with other organizations?

	No participation	Limited participation	Active participation or leadership	Don't know
a. Assess and plan for community-wide well-being, not just for the people we directly serve				
b. Strengthen collaboration across organizations to promote community well-being (e.g., host meetings, craft agendas, facilitate dialogue, share information)				
c. Support policies to expand community well-being				
d. Monitor and evaluate collaborative efforts to expand community well-being				
e. Manage programs or resources with other organizations to support community well-being				
f. Share in-kind resources (e.g., staff, space, knowledge) with other organizations				
g. Work closely with individuals in our community to expand everyone's well-being				

16. For this question, please think about **other organizations** in your community that work on aspects of well-being (such as education, food access, faith, social justice, environmental protection, business organizations, housing, healthcare, public health, and transportation). Based on your experiences, among those organizations, how many do you think participate in the following activities with other organizations:

	None (0%)	Some (Less than 40%)	About half (40-60%)	Most (61-80%)	Almost all or All (greater than 80%)
a. Assess and plan for community-wide well-being, not just for the people we directly serve?					
b. Strengthen collaboration across organizations to promote community well-being (e.g., host meetings, craft agendas, facilitate dialogue, share information)?					
c. Support policies to expand community well-being?					
d. Monitor and evaluate collaborative efforts to expand community well-being?					
e. Manage programs or resources with other organizations to support community well-being?					
f. Share in-kind resources (e.g., staff, space, knowledge) with other organizations?					
g. Work closely with individuals in the community to expand everyone's well-being?					

COMPARISONS

The following questions ask about your perspective regarding strategies or tradeoffs that **you may need to decide upon when working at your organization**.

17. Which of these two statements best represents your view about working with other organizations in your community? Choose one.
- a. The cost of working together across organizations often outweighs the benefits.
- OR
- b. Organizations often achieve more impact working together than working separately.
18. Which of the following investment strategies do you think would have the **greatest impact** on enabling all people in your community to thrive? Choose one.
- a. Invest more resources among those who have the most to gain
 - b. Invest more resources among those who need just a little more help
 - c. Invest resources evenly and equally among all groups
19. Which of these two statements best represents your view about the resources (e.g., time, money, effort, knowledge, and other assets) that your community needs to expand well-being? Choose one.
- a. Most problems can be improved with more resources
- OR
- b. Most problems can be improved by being more creative with existing resources

ABOUT YOU

You are almost done. These final questions gather some background information about you and your organization. Your responses will remain confidential and your name will never be used.

20. What is the name of your organization? [Open ended]
21. What is your job title? [Open ended]
22. How long have you been in this position (in months)?
_____ years _____ months
23. What is the primary focus of your organization's efforts? (Select one)
- a. Health Care
 - b. Public Health
 - c. Housing
 - d. Education
 - e. Food
 - f. Transportation
 - g. Economic prosperity, business and business interests
 - h. Environment
 - i. Multisector Partnerships
 - j. Racial and social justice; Human rights
 - k. Faith or spirituality
 - l. Other: _____ (please specify)

24. What geographic level best describes the target area for your organization's efforts?
- Neighborhood
 - Multi-neighborhood
 - City
 - Multi-city
 - County
 - Multi-county
 - State
 - Multi-state
 - Hospital service area
 - Hospital referral region
 - Other: _____ (please specify)
25. Which of the following populations does your organization reach? (Select all that apply)
- Children (0-21 years old)
 - Elderly (65 years and older)
 - Families
 - Racial and ethnic minorities
 - Low-income populations (e.g., homeless, unemployed)
 - Non-English speaking populations
 - Immigrant populations
 - Everyone; no sub-group priorities
 - Other group or constituency, please specify
26. Generally speaking, do you lean more toward the Democrats or the Republicans
- Democrats
 - Republicans
 - Undecided
 - Prefer not to say
27. Are you: (Check one)
- Male
 - Female
 - Transgender
 - Genderqueer, neither exclusively male nor female
 - Prefer not to answer
28. How would you describe your ethnicity?
- Latino, Latina, or Hispanic
 - Not Latino, Latina, or Hispanic
29. How would you describe your race? (Check all that apply)
- American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Asian
 - Black or African American
 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 - White
 - Other (specify): _____

How much do you agree with the following statements?

30. Purpose in life must be larger than both oneself and ones' organization.
- a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Somewhat disagree
 - c. Neither agree nor disagree
 - d. Somewhat agree
 - e. Strongly agree
31. Every person should feel they have power to help shape the world they live in.
- a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Somewhat disagree
 - c. Neither agree nor disagree
 - d. Somewhat agree
 - e. Strongly agree
32. People and organizations should use their wealth to create conditions where all people can thrive.
- a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Somewhat disagree
 - c. Neither agree nor disagree
 - d. Somewhat agree
 - e. Strongly agree
33. Is there anything else you would like us to know about what it takes to expand equitable well-being in your community?
[Open response]
34. Would you be willing to be contacted in the future for additional discussion about topics covered by this survey?
- a. Yes (if yes, please enter your email) _____
 - b. No