Themes from the 2019 Community Input on Results Statements
Jefferson County Health Alliance

Overview

Between September 20, 2019 and October 31, 2019, the Jefferson County Health Alliance, "Alliance", solicited input from community members to describe what health, wellness and the opportunity to thrive meant to them. The Alliance is using results from this feedback to create a vision for a healthy, thriving Jefferson County. This vision will drive the work of the Alliance as it seeks to improve the lives of all in Jefferson County. The Jefferson County Health Alliance is a group of people and organizations committed to the health and wellbeing of people of Jefferson County.

Methods

The Alliance created hardcopy and on-line surveys in both English and Spanish. The primary purpose of the survey was to solicit open-ended responses from community members on one of the following three questions.

1. If you could wave a magic wand and turn Jefferson County into the healthiest place it could be, what would it look like?
2. What would your community look like if everyone in it had the opportunity to thrive?
3. When you think of a community at its best, what would it look like?

Furthermore, the survey contained questions about the respondents' connection to Jefferson County, Colorado, their age and zip code of their home residence.

Alliance members distributed the survey via emailed survey link and in-person across multiple agencies and events during this period. These outreach venues included the following.

- Brain Run 5K
- Arvada Safety Fair
- Jefferson County Child Care Association
- Lakewood Reserve Senior Living
- Preventive Care and Behavioral Health Resources Coalition
- Jefferson County Substance Use Partnership
- Jefferson County social media
- Friends Don't Let Friends Fall program at Lutheran Hospital
- Babies First Ride at Lutheran Hospital
- Action Center
- Power of Partnership
- Helping Kids Thrive conference
- Wheat Ridge Recreation Center
- Belmar, Golden and Arvada libraries
- Jeffco Public Library staff
- St Anthony Hospital employees

The Civic Canopy (civiccanopy.org) analyzed the data to determine the themes that emerged as key areas the community wanted in place to have a healthy and thriving community. Two coders first reviewed the data and determined emerging themes. Following this, the coders reviewed each comment by respondent and determined one theme for each phrase in the respondent's response. When disagreements occurred, the coders met to reach consensus.

Results

Questions

Between September 20, 2019 and October 31, 2019, 351 people answered one of the three questions posed in the survey. Of these, 35% (n=123) answered the question, "If you could wave a magic wand…"; 31% (n=108) answered the question "What would your community look like if…"; and 34% (n=120) answered the question "When you think of a community at its best, …". Most respondents, 349 (99%), completed the English survey and 2 respondents (1%) completed the Spanish survey.
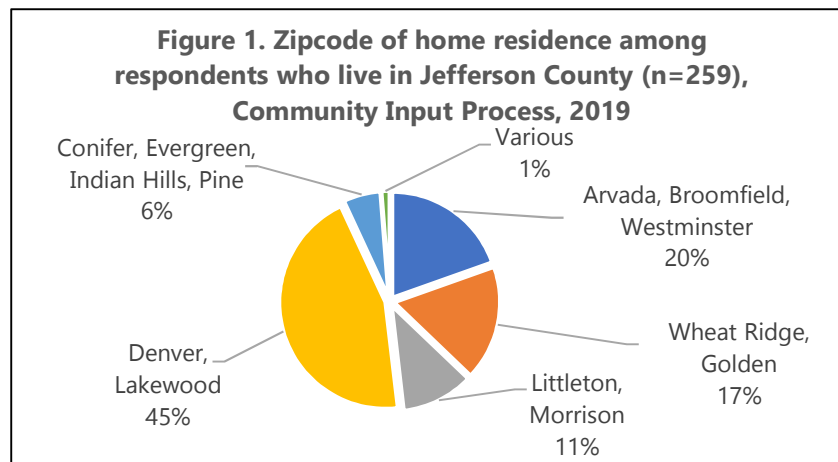
Demographics

Connection to Jefferson County

The survey asked respondents if they lived, worked, played, attended school, used services or had some other connection to Jefferson County. The majority of respondents (97%, n=339) indicated some type of connection with 76% (n=259) of these living in Jefferson County, 61% (n=206) working in the county and 32% (n=108) who go to school or whose children go to school in Jefferson County. See Table 1.

Table 1. Respondents' Connection to Jefferson County (n=351), Community Input Process, 2019			
	Number	Percent	Percent of those who responded
I live in Jefferson County.	259	74%	76%
I work in Jefferson County.	206	59%	61%
I play in Jefferson County.	175	50%	52%
I/my children go to school in Jefferson County.	108	31%	32%
I use services in Jefferson County.	167	48%	49%
I have some other connection to Jefferson County.	31	9%	9%
Unknown connection to Jefferson County	12	3%	

Residency

Approximately, three quarters of respondents indicated they lived in Jefferson County (n=259). Of these, 95% (n=245) provided the zip code of their current residence. Figure 1 illustrates the proportion of respondents who live in Jefferson County by the municipality associated with the zip code of their current residence. Similar to the population of Jefferson County,

Figure 1. Zipcode of home residence among respondents who live in Jefferson County (n=259), Community Input Process, 2019

- Conifer, Evergreen, Indian Hills, Pine 6%
- Various 1%
- Arvada, Broomfield, Westminster 20%
- Wheat Ridge, Golden 17%
- Littleton, Morrison 11%
- Denver, Lakewood 45%

the largest number of respondents indicated they lived in Lakewood and Denver zip codes.

Age

Most respondents (93%, n=325) provided information about their age. Of these, almost half of respondents (47%, n=154) were between the ages of 45 to 64 years. Approximately one third of

respondents (31%, n=110) were between 25 and 44 years of age. Eight percent (n=29) were youth less than 25 years of age and nine percent (n=32) were 65 years of age or older.

Themes
Five themes emerged from the survey. Collectively, people who responded to the survey felt that a healthy and thriving community is one where:
1. Our basic needs such as health, housing, food, employment and transportation are met;
2. We are connected and have strong relationships with others;
3. Everyone has equal opportunity without discrimination;
4. We work together to help each other and provide support and resources; and
5. We feel appreciated, respected, included and not judged;

Examples of phrases that correspond with each of these themes are included in Appendix A.

Conclusion
The themes that emerged from the Jefferson County Health Alliance community input process align with focus group findings identified throughout of the Jefferson County Community Health Needs Assessment (https://insight.livestories.com/s/v2/cha-home-page/b08c9eba-221c-41de-b1fb-3540bcc51a76/). As a result of this input process, as well as additional community feedback on the vision itself, the Alliance members agreed on the following vision, results statements and key values.

- *Vision Statement:* Jefferson County is a thriving and connected community, where health and opportunity are possible for all.
- *2020 Results:*
    - Connection – People and organizations are well connected in a caring, supportive community.
    - Collaboration – People and organizations work together to improve outcomes and change systems.
- *Values:*
    - Respect – Everyone is valued and treated with dignity.
    - Equity – We all have what we need to thrive.
    - Health – A state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being.
    - Opportunity – Everyone can meet their basic needs with no barriers to accessing quality and timely resources.
    - Responsibility – We share a commitment to improve our community and are accountable to each other for the outcomes we seek.

This vision, results statements and values will drive the work of the Jefferson County Health Alliance as members work collaboratively to assure Jefferson County is a thriving and connected community, where health and opportunity are possible for all.

Appendix A: Example Phrases From Each Theme Identified during the Jefferson County Health Alliance Community Input Process, September – October 2019, Jefferson County, Colorado

THEME 1: Basic Human Needs Met/ Cross Sector Social Needs Determinants
- Community that offers support and resources for residents
- At its best - a community where all individuals can easily access services
- Having many resources, being able to get the support one needs in order to succeed in life
- Happy, enjoying the community and what it offers
- Services are easy to access
- Access to resources for assistance, including adequate time to access those resources.
- All infants, children, adults and families would be referred and connected to the right resources to meet their needs.
- People would have all their basic needs met
  - Health/Healthcare
  - Housing
  - Access to food
  - Employment/living wage
  - Outdoor spaces/healthy environment
  - Transportation
  - Mental health/Substance use treatment
  - Education/training/childcare
  - Public safety
  - Other

THEME 2: Care and Connection
- Supportive, proactive in helping each other, thriving economically
- . . . and those who are struggling would be met with compassion, empathy and community.
- One where people know each other and communicate.
- A community at its best would be a kind, compassionate, clean community that cares about its members well being via employment, health and educational opportunities.
- Everyone interacting in a positive way, lots of communication and open to input from everyone
- Neighbors speaking to one another on a first name basis. Helping each other with childcare, transportation, small necessities when needed. Block parties.
- Neighbors helping other neighbors whether with house maintenance, lawn work, childcare, etc. Commitment to each other and the earth. Everyone in the neighborhood coming together to compost, recycle, and reduce our carbon footprint.
- I believe that taking care of our elderly and making sure they are not just eating but well nourished is very important. They are the overlooked.
- Connected to one another.
- Where neighbors help each other.
- Spiritual residents - clean sober caring and honest. Loving and friendly. Affordable and productive.
- People outside with friends and family participating in activities from exercise, outdoor movies, community and local events and farmer's markets.
- People would be supportive of one another despite cultural or life-style differences.
- People working together, knowing each other, and trying to help each other have the best place to strive in.

- Clean, friendly, supportive, inviting and helpful
- People out walking, visiting, block parties, clean streets, clean houses and yards
- People interacting and stronger personal relationships with neighbors
- Everyone would help everyone out.
- support for families
- I would like to see more connections between parents and communities
- Neighbors knowing each other. Safe and walkable neighborhoods.
- And the community supporting foster families by helping and lightening the load.
- Community that is integrated and connected. Offering easily accessible resources to all members. Happy and healthy individuals and families.
- Healthier and happier, more connected
- Tolerance, forgiveness, acceptance, flexibility
- Kindness, connections
- No cliques, no bullying, good community, friends and family
- energy and attitude toward community
- Neighbors knowing one another and because of that being able to depend on one another
- diversified, happy, outgoing, healthy, health for all ages especially seniors
- Everyone being kind
- People would be happy
- Everyone being kind and making people feel good.
- Everyone would get along and feel connected.
- One place to call to connect to community services and report problems.
- People are treated fairly and helping each other out.
- people more accepting and supportive
- People would be closer and actually be a community.
- It would be a happier, friendlier, healthier place with less hate.
- Everyone cares for everyone else in the community. There are mechanisms in place to see that those in need are helped appropriately. There are mechanisms in place to see that all significant elements affecting the community's quality of life are addressed.
- Intentional, mindful, awareness - "NO ONE LEFT BEHIND" compassionate attitude
- More welcoming to people
- People helping people
- People helping push each other in the right direction
- A community helping each other everyone getting along and having enough for everyone.
- It would look less divisive, more willing to accept diverse viewpoints, but find common ground.
- More trust, less suspicion.
- helping each other in difficulty (tragedy)
- One where everyone gives others the benefit of the doubt and can disagree constructively instead of assuming the worst about each other's intentions
- No judging, friendly, healthy people
- Everyone respects everyone. Treated like a human being.
- Everyone contributing ...
- Creating a community where volunteering is welcome and more people are willing to assist others. It can be as simple as helping a senior unload their groceries or doing a canned food drive. Jefferson County used to be more friendly.

THEME 3: Equal Opportunity/ Access
- Community that offers support and resources for residents

- Everyone would have a chance at equal opportunity....no lack of treatment for some
- Families having options in resources available to them.
- Everyone has plenty of resources and scarcity does not exist.
- Access to support and prevention services regardless of locations and demographic
- It would look like no holes in services, no people falling through the cracks
- The community would value all ages in their community and engage in opportunities to improve the health of all ages
- Everyone would have the opportunity to have basic needs met - housing, food, opportunity to make a living wage, availability of health services - and those who are struggling would be met with compassion, empathy and community.
- Opportunity for all social classes, not just the rich (college, after school sports, music lessons etc.)
- Access to healthcare-for poor and those on Medicare, as well as those on private insurance.
- It would mean everyone had the same opportunities for healthcare, education and mental wellness.
- Exponential increase in opportunity
- Everyone would have equal opportunity and access to services.
- A truly desegregated community where race, religion, economic, and gender diversity were intermingled in work and play.
- a welcoming environment for all ppl of color, religion and socioeconomic backgrounds
- Everyone would have access to affordable, accessible housing and health care that doesn't make people choose between their health and their finances.
- AND it would be a community that found ways to support the most vulnerable, particularly elderly or disabled, to be safe, and for family members of those disabled family members to partake in the thriving community.
- Everyone would have access to all needed services
- Getting help for those who are suffering
- Have more money go into the community funds ... so there are no discrimination
- Services located closer together or under one roof

THEME 4: Working together/ Collaboration
- Everyone working together toward a common goal.
- A network of agencies, faith-based entities, businesses and other non-profits making change happen for the good of the community & its people.
- Constant, proactive communication and cooperation between governments, NGOs, private citizens, and businesses.
- Teamwork and collaboration
- active and engaged community members, true two-way communication between government, community partners and residents.
- Funding fear is not the basis of lack of cooperation among government, nonprofits and churches
- Active and engaged community members, true two-way communication between government, community partners and residents.
- People working together, knowing each other, and trying to help each other have the best place to strive in.
- Where people come together
- where people come together for each other in all circumstances
- People working together

- People who come together to share resources, to give time and ideas to improving the services provided by people who live int he community and share in working to improve areas and services that could serve better.
- Different backgrounds coming together to better the community by creating events, making new policies, changes in their community.
- People being productive members of society/everyone contributing
- Unending support. Coming together for events, project working together
- Confidence that problems will be resolved. Follow-through on regulations for safety.
- Everyone working together.
- Active, involved in the community, helping others who need help
- People coming together
- Ayudandonos unos a otros... Helping one another
- Churches and community organizations wrapping around those that need assistance to help ensure they thrive, and government providing for public safety, great roads and amazing parks.
- Everyone working together for the greater good and everyone is treated equally.
- Everyone working together for the greater good and everyone is treated equally.
- We would work together
- Working Together/ Collaboration- change to "Working Together and Collaborating"
- Everyone helping out
- People all working together. get people all working together.
- Every member freely and willingly helps his/her fellow member without expectation, or resentment of any kind. No reason to covet another's belongings as everyone has the same opportunities (or jealousy)
- Standing together, more open to community
- Companies and places working together.
- Unidad... unity

THEME 5: Dignity
- Everyone respects everyone. Treated like a human being.
- No judging, friendly
- People more accepting and supportive
- The providers and community members would be educated, kind and non-judgmental. People would be supportive of one another despite cultural or life-style differences
- Tolerance for diversity
- It would be a positive and very exciting and everyone would have feelings.
- More happy people and smiling faces
- More welcoming to people
- Where we would all get along and learn to live in harmony with each other and our planet
- One where everyone gives others the benefit of the doubt and can disagree constructively instead of assuming the worst about each other's intentions

Other
- Decisions about best practice for Healthcare, and education would not be driven by funding cuts.
- Everyone who wants is working in a position that utilizes their skills and abilities with enough pay to afford at least modest housing. Those who are disabled in any way are receiving all the services they need to be safe, physically and emotionally healthy and given the truth that they are valuable. That everyone would have meaningful relationships based on mutual love and respect

- with opportunities to care for others. That lawbreakers would be given resources and encouragement to turn away from wrong doing. That we would care for our natural resources in such a way that we leave our community cleaner for the next generation than when we found it.
- It would look like no holes in services, no people falling through the cracks, Funding fear is not the basis of lack of cooperation among government, nonprofits and churches. Also, because I believe in freedom of choice: Those who choose not to be served/helped will be acknowledged and checked in on periodically to make sure they are still good with their choice - In other words refusing medication or housing is not justification to ignore them in our community.
- People who are able to take responsibility for their decisions make good ones
- Encourage more work life balance for employees including a full hour lunch break. This allows for people to get out into the community for volunteering and healthier lunch choices. Staff would be able to show examples of healthier living.
- It would be a place where people living, working, and playing in the community would feel safe and they would know how to find the right places to go to for help when needed. Those "right places" would focus on prevention and provide quality and timely assistance in the areas for which they are experts- not provide just another link in a referral chain or mimic services that another organization offers. The community would value all ages in their community and engage in opportunities to improve the health of all ages. Human health would naturally encompass all areas- social, emotional, physical, mental and spiritual health. Environmental health and safety would also be a top priority that the community would have ownership in creating.
- Free market; less regulation; open dialogue
- It attracts people for the place it is and not what they want to turn into...
- I think of parks where children can play, schools where the teachers collaborate with each other. I think of street festivals where families can get together to celebrate the change of seasons. When neighbors have new babies or a family member in need, there is support... food supplied... help with kids offered.   I see sports teams available for children and parents attending to help. I see libraries that are safe and clean which have programs for children.
- It would look like everyone being self sufficient to the extent they are able. Churches and community organizations wrapping around those that need assistance to help ensure they thrive, and government providing for public safety, great roads and amazing parks. Public education that meets the needs of all students and community members that assume the best intentions for all.
- In order for all to thrive, the community foundation enabling the "thrive" concept is required: - access to quality education for pre-school through high school where there is the educational support via teachers, tutors, parents administrators and peers to insure all children leave high school with requisite educational skills to pursue their vocational or secondary education interests. This creates an on-going source of qualified candidates for jobs of levels and types - for adults already in the workforce, re-training to address skill or technical gpas is available to reduce unemployment risk   With a community of knowledge and vocational skilled workers, the community requires a fabric to hold it together: - community engagement events/activities to address community members in need, improvements volunteers can address in parks/open spaces and events to bring the community together and build connections so critical to a healthy community   The last element supporting a thriving community is access to healthcare basics addressing physical and mental health needs for those unable to afford it
- Clean and neat streets and everyone even or especially the homeless to pick up after themselves
- Bureaucratic red tape...ridiculous stipulations and laws... There are jobs everywhere but you can't get one if you are homeless (cant get to the job, no hygiene or clean clothes) or have a record.