

PEOPLE IN CRISIS

INDICATORS	Cape County	City of Cape	City of Jackson	Scott City	Missouri
Total Households	27,031	14,409	4,714	1,817	219,214
Families	66.8%	58.3%	71.3%	73.4%	67.7%
Single Parent Families	7.8%	8.0%	9.6%	10.8%	9.1%
Single Mother Families	6.1%	6.5%	7.6%	6.5%	7.0%
Children in Single Parent Families	21.2%			26.9%*	24.3%
Poverty	Current Poverty Level = \$18,400 for a family of 4 in US.				
Persons	11.1%	15.2%	6.7%	12.8%	11.7%
Families	6.7%	8.5%	5.0%	8.6%	8.6%
Children < 18	11.4%	16.5%	6.7%	22.6%	15.3%
Persons < 50% of Poverty Level	4.5%	6.5%	2.4%	6.2%	5.1%
Persons Between 100-200% of pov	19.0%	19.7%	17.9%	19.2%	18.2%
Self Sufficiency for 2 adults, 1 infant, & 1 pre-schooler (annually)	\$33,131			(county) \$29,241*	
Median Household Income	\$36,458	\$32,452	\$40,412	\$31,958	\$37,934
Households < \$10,000	10.7%	13.5%	8.7%	12.6%	10.1%
Households \$10-14,999	7.4%	8.6%	7.8%	4.6%	7.0%
Households \$15-24,999	15.1%	16.5%	13.2%	19.9%	14.6%
Households \$25-34,999	14.9%	15.1%	12.6%	17.7%	14.3%
Median Gross Rent	\$440	\$436	\$450	\$399	\$484
Unemployed as of Jul 2003	4.0%	4.7%		5.9%	5.8%
US rate = 6.2%					
Households with Public Assistance	2.8%	3.5%	2.4%	4.1%	3.4%
Mean Public Assistance Income	\$2,725	\$2,896	\$3,797	\$1842	\$2,292
HH's with Food Stamps - FY2003	2797			3095*	238,130
Children <18 rec. Food Stamps	21.2%			37.6%*	23.5%
Children < 18 rec. Medicaid/MC+	37.3%			44.8%*	32.8%
Uninsured Population < 19 (1999)					9.3%
Uninsured Population	US 2001 - 14.6% US 2002 - 15.2%, 11.6% for children				
Section 8 Vouchers	800 (all allocated) -- 1439 people on waiting list				
Emergency Shelters for gen pop**	2***	0	1		311
Estimated Homeless		6%	SE Region - 9% of MO's homeless		
Food Banks	7	5	2	1	?
FCFH Unmet Needs for 2002	1028				
FCFH Unmet Needs thus far 2003	730				

* Scott County data - no city data available

** Does not include 3 shelters in Cape city that serve specific populations - Safe House for Women, Lou Masterman and Gibson Center

*** Salvation Army does not have a "shelter", but does provide hotel vouchers for the homeless.

Sources - Census 2000, Kids Count in Missouri 2002, First Call for Help, MO DFS Annual Report FY2003, Hager Mace Housing Needs Assessment for Cape Girardeau, MASW 2001 Census of Homeless Shelter Providers, Self-Sufficiency Standard for Missouri

WORKING POOR IN THE UNITED STATES

INDICATOR	2000	2001
At or Above Poverty Level		
<i>Total in Labor Force</i>	94.1%	93.9%
<i>Did not work during the year</i>	0.6%	0.8%
<i>Usual full-time</i>	81.8%	81.8%
<i>Usual part-time</i>	18.2%	18.2%
<i>Less than a high school diploma</i>	10.8%	11.1%
<i>High school graduate</i>	31.2%	30.7%
<i>College graduate</i>	28.8%	29.9%
Below Poverty Level		
<i>Total in Labor Force</i>	5.9%	6.1%
<i>Did not work during the year</i>	6.1%	8.6%
<i>Usual full-time</i>	60.9%	60.8%
<i>Usual part-time</i>	39.1%	39.2%
<i>Less than a high school diploma</i>	32.6%	32.3%
<i>High school graduate</i>	36.4%	36.8%
<i>College graduate</i>	8.0%	8.8%

Source - <http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpswp2000.htm>

COMPASS SURVEY RESULTS

HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS:

Top 10 concerns of residents in their households:

Rank	Score*	Household Issue
1	518	<i>Having a lot of anxiety, stress or depression</i>
2	435	<i>Not having enough money to pay the doctor, buy prescription medications or get medical insurance</i>
3	419	<i>Finding it difficult to budget</i>
4	362	<i>Not being able to afford recreational activities</i>
5	340	<i>Not being able to afford entertainment activities</i>
6	334	<i>Children or teenagers experiencing behavior or emotional problems</i>
7	314	<i>Not having enough money to buy needed clothing and shoes</i>
8	301	<i>Experiencing noise or other pollution</i>
9	288	<i>Not having enough money for food</i>
10	276	<i>Not being able to find work</i>

*Weighted Score = number of respondents with major concern x 3 + number of respondents with moderate concern x 2 + number of respondents with minor concern x 1.

Household respondents rated their neighborhoods:

People help each other out when they have a problem:

24.3 % Strongly agree	11.7% Somewhat disagree
42.1% Somewhat agree	10.8% Strongly disagree

People trust each other:

23.4% Strongly agree	11.5% Somewhat disagree
43.5% Somewhat agree	10.6% Strongly disagree

People come together to work on common goals:

11.0% Strongly agree	15.3% Somewhat disagree
37.4% Somewhat agree	20.5% Strongly disagree

People consider the same things important:

16.2% Strongly agree	13.3% Somewhat disagree
44.4% Somewhat agree	8.6% strongly disagree

STRENGTHS

- 1. FIRST CALL FOR HELP Information and Referral Service (FCFH) has received more than 10,000 calls in four years of operation. Even if the need was not an emergency, the caller was certainly concerned enough to seek help.**
- 2. Many agencies provide emergency services to eligible community residents - Salvation Army, East Missouri Action Agency, Red Cross, Safe House for Women, hospitals, churches, etc.**
- 3. Willingness of agencies to coordinate services with each other through FCFH for the benefit of the clients in need**
- 4. More and more residents are requesting budget classes.**
- 5. The fact that survey respondents identified that "difficult to budget" as an issue is encouraging.**
- 6. Regional location of services in the city of Cape Girardeau is very helpful to surrounding community, including Cape County and Scott City.**
- 7. Having a "Community Case Manager" through the efforts of the Community Caring Council and Area Wide United Way should enable families to address the core of the problem, not just the immediate need/crisis.**
- 8. Teen Challenge has an 80% success rate for clients returning to their communities.**

CHALLENGES

1. FIRST CALL FOR HELP documented 1028 unmet needs during calendar year 2002 and 730 unmet needs so far for 2003. The 5 highest categories of requests for 2002 were:

Rent, Financial Aid - 33% (348 callers)

Utility, Electric - 29% (299 callers)

Utility, Water - 5% (48 callers)

Medicine - 2.5 % (26 callers)

Homeless - 2.2% (23 callers)

Utility, Gas - 1.8% (19 callers)

Thus far, for 2003, the same categories prevail:

Rent, Financial Aid - 32% (237 callers)

Utility, Electric - 25% (182 callers)

Utility, Water - 6% (45 callers)

Medicine - 3% (22 callers)

Utility, Gas - 2.6 (19 callers)

Homeless - 2.5% (18 callers)

2. Many programs have been eliminated or reduced due to current budget reductions.

3. If poverty continues to increase (a current trend at the national level), the number of people who experience crises will probably continue to increase.

4. Increasing utility rates - natural gas

5. Increasing medical costs combined with an increase in families who are losing their medical insurance will create more unmet needs.

6. Fixed income households are spending more just to maintain their basic needs and have less income to contribute to charities.

7. Increased age of our available and affordable housing leads to increased needs. Housing units subject to fires are often in the affordable range for lower-income families and are seldom rebuilt and re-occupied.

8. *Increased land costs decreases options for new low-income housing.*