



2017 Community Assessment Hall, Howard, Hamilton & Merrick County

Heartland United Way

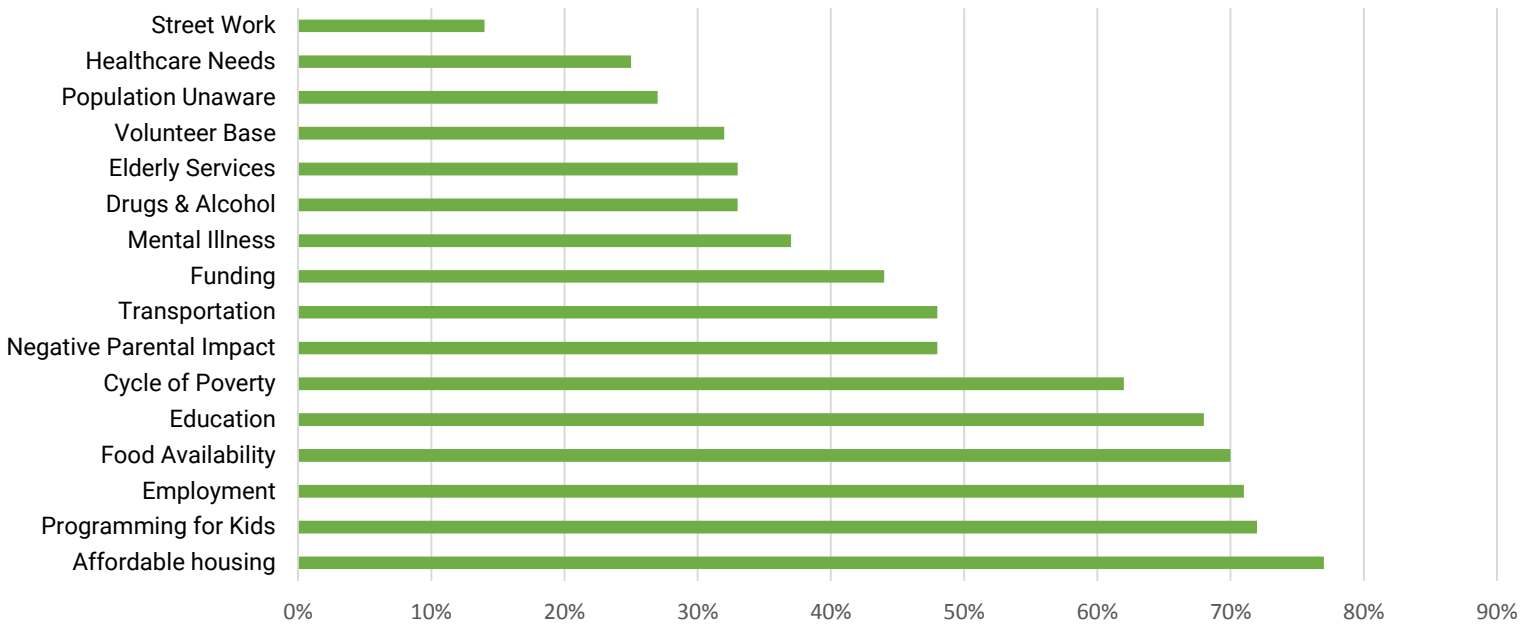
QUICK FACTS¹

- High School Graduation: **90%**
- Bachelors Degree or higher: **20%**
- Median Rent: **\$621**
- People in poverty: **10.4%**
- People without Health Insurance: **11%**
- Median drive to work: **19 minutes**

NEBRASKA QUICK FACTS

- **16.8%** of children live in poverty.²
- **18.5%** of Nebraskans are one emergency away from financial crisis.³
- **2 out of 5** don't know where their next meal will come from.⁴
- **91,000** children are low-income with a high housing cost burden.³
- **16th out of 51*** for homeless youth with an identified disability⁵

Area Concerns



Community Ideas:

- Community Garden
- Community Social Worker
- Rehab old houses
- Summer food program
- Daycare or before/after school program
- Affordable housing for families & the elderly
- Additional Events for towns
- Community English Classes
- Two Generation Learning Center
- School laundry program
- Internship Programs
- Parenting Classes/Adult Education
- More Community Involvement

Holding youth back from being successful:

- Lack of mental health resources
- Single Parents struggle
- Negative Parental Impact
- Limited job shadows/internships
- Don't know basic life skills
- Lack of mentors
- They learn to live off the system
- Broken Families
- No quality daycare openings
- Some aren't able to participate in activities

High School Community Survey	Hall	Howard	Hamilton	Merrick	Average
Biggest challenges I face:					
Self-image/Self-esteem	70%	62%	81%	70%	71%
Alcohol Use	46%	41%	31%	38%	39%
Depression	42%	35%	50%	48%	44%
Smoking/Tobacco use	39%	32%	20%	32%	31%
Diet/Fitness Exercise	31%	24%	29%	23%	27%
Learning/Education issues	31%	17%	25%	41%	29%
Childhood obesity	12%	6%	7%	13%	10%
Eating Disorder	19%	7%	9%	10%	11%
Biggest challenge for teens:					
Bullying	63%	54%	66%	56%	60%
Abusive Relationships	21%	11%	8%	14%	14%
Sexual activity	36%	23%	29%	30%	30%
Teen pregnancy	15%	13%	8%	9%	11%
Gangs	19%	15%	3%	10%	12%
School Violence	37%	28%	43%	32%	35%
Cliques	17%	14%	8%	11%	13%
Biggest challenge involving adults:					
Poor communication between adults and teens	61%	47%	60%	59%	57%
Teen rebellion against adults	31%	30%	25%	33%	30%
Physical abuse	20%	13%	9%	14%	14%
Verbal abuse	33%	24%	28%	31%	29%
Effects on teens in single parent households	22%	11%	22%	24%	20%
Effects on teens of divorce parents	42%	25%	40%	44%	38%
Independence of teens from parents	34%	18%	24%	23%	25%
Challenges with society & laws:					
Texting while driving	72%	63%	78%	81%	74%
Drinking and driving	35%	30%	23%	29%	29%
Alcohol use	40%	30%	35%	29%	34%
Drug use	37%	20%	18%	22%	24%
Seat belt laws	38%	39%	50%	54%	45%
Discrimination	25%	9%	15%	10%	15%
Censorship	15%	8%	12%	12%	12%
Poverty	19%	11%	8%	10%	12%
Challenges with media:					
Online predators	66%	65%	43%	49%	56%
Online availability/exposure to mature material	44%	35%	36%	30%	36%
Influence of TV and movies on youth	25%	16%	25%	25%	23%
Influence of video games on youth	27%	20%	22%	27%	24%
Influence of music with explicit/suggestive lyrics	24%	13%	28%	32%	24%
Cyber bullying	42%	32%	28%	28%	33%
Dreams & Goals for the future:					
Family (Marriage/Children)	80%	69%	74%	84%	77%
Buy a home	83%	71%	76%	82%	78%
Go to college/technical school	74%	64%	81%	78%	74%
Own your own business	24%	25%	20%	26%	24%
Have a career	77%	67%	81%	79%	76%
Run for public office	5%	2%	1%	4%	3%
Join the service	7%	11%	9%	13%	10%
Unsure	9%	9%	7%	9%	9%

*Ranking is out of 51 as the District of Columbia was included.

¹U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). *QuickFacts*.

²U.S. Census Bureau. (2015). *American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates*.

³Voices for Children. (2016). *Kids Count in Nebraska Report*.

⁴U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food Research & Action Center. (2017).

⁵Institute for Children, Poverty & Homelessness. (2017).

Note: Hall County Participants: Centura, Wood River, Grand Island Central Catholic, Northwest.