

Charlotte

Strategic Planning

Basic Needs



INTRODUCTION: Basic needs of residents. A healthy community creates a compassionate social, economic and political environment where people have full opportunities to meet basic needs, including housing, for themselves and their families, to build assets, and to advance themselves

In Charlotte, economic conditions are improving. 2018 data shows that two thirds of the city of Charlotte's population over age 16 is employed; this is comparable to Eaton County and the State of Michigan. While this is a promising indicator, local economic opportunity varies for individuals in the community. For example, the city's median household income of \$50,516 is an improvement from the 2010 median household income of \$43,106, yet it is still below Eaton County and the State of Michigan (approximately \$59,000 and \$53,000, respectively). In fact, 20% of the city's population is living in poverty, compared to about 9% of Eaton County residents and 14% of Michigan residents.

Forty-three percent of the students in Charlotte Public Schools are "economically disadvantaged." This number includes students who have been determined to be eligible for free or reduced-price meals via locally gathered and approved family applications under the National School Lunch program, are in households receiving food (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) or cash (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) assistance, are homeless, are migrant, are in foster care, or, beginning in 2017-18, certain MEDICAID eligible children. For these students, thriving in school can be challenging; for their parents, finding work, stable housing and healthy food may be a daily struggle.