
Needs Assessment 2020-2021



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Wellbeing Initiative, Inc.

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Wellbeing Initiative, Inc.

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1. Overview of the Needs Assessment and Project Partners Involved

The following information was gathered in a community-based needs assessment conducted in the state of Nebraska during December 2020, January and February 2021. Project partners include stakeholders interested in Peer Delivered Services, Certified Peer Support Specialists, and Peers within our communities.

The MISSION of Wellbeing Initiative, Inc. is to empower individuals living with mental health and substance use challenges to reach their fullest potential.

“Cultivating communities through training, education, and opportunities for success”

2. Methods Used to Gather Information

Methods used to collect data included Google Form surveys. Surveys through Google Forms were distributed to participants via email addresses. There was a total of 149 completed surveys received.

3. Participation

Of the surveys distributed to the state of Nebraska, 149 completed surveys were returned through google forms. The cities/sub cities in Nebraska that participated in the need's assessment were Ashland, Bellevue, Bennington, Grand Island, Gering, Hastings, Kearney, Lincoln, Millard, Nebraska City, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Overton, Papillion, Scottsbluff, Sidney, Valentine, Valparaiso, Clearwater, Gothenburg, and Wahoo. The survey shows that 25.7% of individuals job titles are Peer Support Wellness Specialist, 25.0% of individuals are Peer Support Specialists, 4.9% of individuals are Family Peer Support Specialists, 22.2% of individuals are either an advocate or volunteer, and 9.7% of individuals are either a Recovery Support Specialist or a Consumer Specialist and 12.5% of individuals identify as other types of Peer Support.

Figure 1: Participation in each Region of Nebraska

What region are you located in?

149 responses

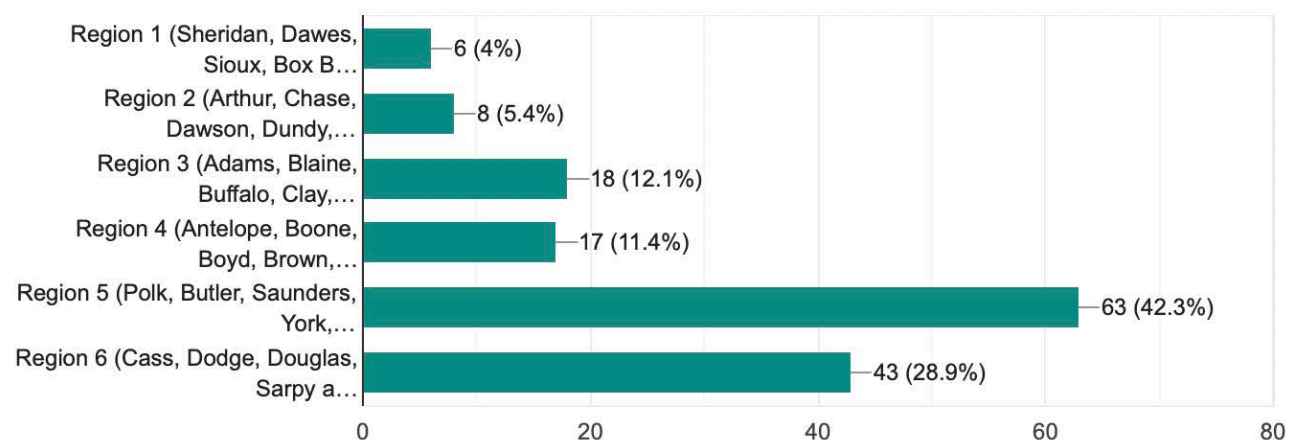


Figure 2: Gender Identity

What is your gender?

149 responses

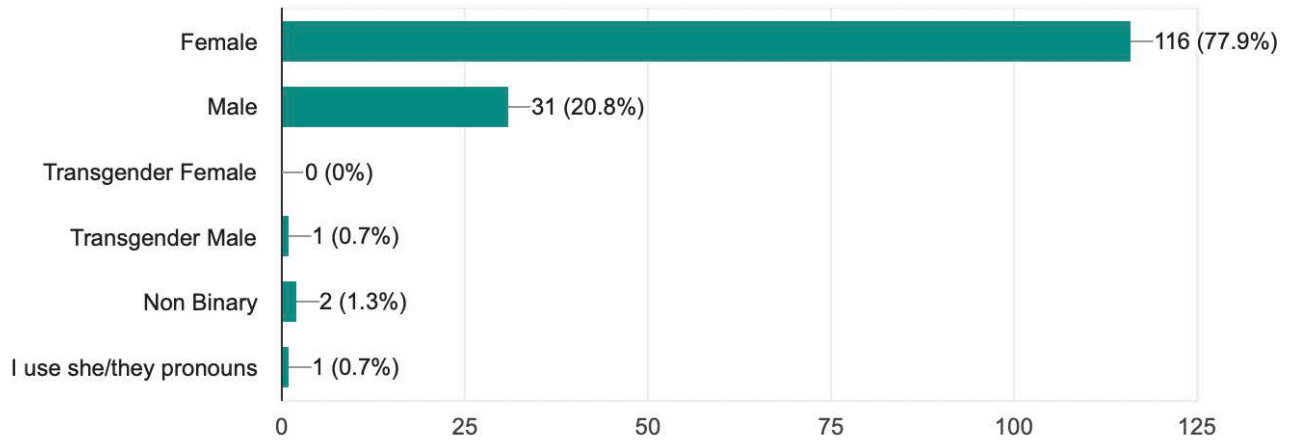
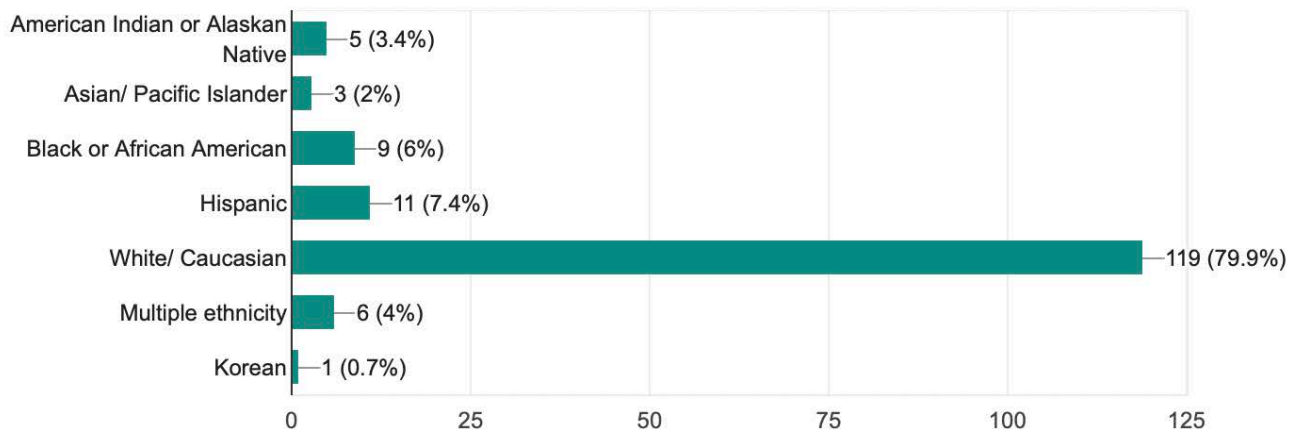


Figure 3: Race/Ethnicity

Which race/ethnicity best describes you?

149 responses



4. Strengths and Limitations of Needs Assessment

Strengths of this assessment include the partnership between the Nebraska Coalition for Peer Delivered Services and peer community in the state of Nebraska. The relationships between 30 counties and all six regions in Nebraska are reflected in the needs assessment. The Nebraska Coalition for Peer Delivered Services and its stakeholders have developed long last relationships regarding the delivery of peer services in Nebraska. Nebraska Coalition of Peer Delivered Services also demonstrates strong relationships within our communities in each region of Nebraska.

Limitations of these activities include the level of participation or contacts in Rural areas in Nebraska, which resulted in lower engagement in the needs assessment among these communities.

5. Key Findings

Through the need's assessment, the following training areas were identified:

- Trauma Informed Peer Support (59.9%)
- Crisis Management (60.6%)
- Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue (58.4%)
- Leadership Development in Peer Support (66.4%)
- Cultural Competence in Peer Support (46.7%)
- Family Education (46.7%)
- Mental Health First Aid (46.0%)
- Peer Support 101 (30.7%)

Other areas of training mentioned:

WRAP, WHAM, SMART Recovery, Suicide Prevention, and Prep for Peer Support Certification, and Conflict Resolution.

Needs within communities:

- Transitional Housing and Wraparound Services
- Support for the elderly (Geriatric Peer Support)
- Education and awareness within peer networks
- Needs for Mental Health First Aid training
- Increased Peer Support Workforce
- Need for Wellness Recovery Centers/Peer Respite Centers
- Cultural Diversity and Inclusion
- Mental Health Awareness for First Responders

6. Recommendations

As a result of this needs assessment, Wellbeing Initiative, Inc. and partners will prioritize specific training needs identified by participants (i.e., “Suicide Prevention”; “Prep for Peer Support Certification”) and needs identified within communities, such as “Cultural Diversity and Inclusion” and “Increased Peer Support Workforce”, among others, across the state of Nebraska.