2024 Marion County CDBG and HOME Annual Survey Results

Each year the CDBG / HOME program is required to receive input from the public on how CDBG and HOME funds could be used to benefit low to moderate income households and individuals throughout Marion County. One method used by Marion County Community Services is to annually survey community partners to receive this input.

On the following pages are the results of the 2024 CDBG and HOME Annual Survey. A total of 55 responses were received, an increase from the previous year with 37 responses. Most were from public and private agencies throughout Marion County and a small number from neighboring counties.

2024-2025 CDBG / HOME Annual Survey Questions

1. Eligible activity priority, where should the money be spent? (Rank the list by priority)
   a. Programs to support affordable home ownership.
   b. Programs to provide affordable rental housing.
   c. Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development.
   d. Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing.
   e. Programs to support services to individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.
   f. Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.
2. Which of the following are lacking in your community? (Select all that apply)
   a. Programs to support affordable home ownership.
   b. Programs to provide affordable rental housing.
   c. Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development.
   d. Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing.
   e. Programs to support services to individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.
   f. Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.
3. Which of these programs does your agency provide? (Select all that apply)
   a. Programs to support affordable home ownership.
   b. Programs to provide affordable rental housing.
   c. Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development.
   d. Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing.
   e. Programs to support services to individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.
   f. Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.
4. Rank the following factors creating challenges in your community in order of priority (Rank the list in priority order)
   a. Affordable home ownership
   b. Availability of affordable rentals
   c. Accessing community support services i.e., youth programs, senior services, services to individuals with disabilities, services to individuals with mental illness, etc.

    d. Vocational training and support programs to improve opportunities for low-to moderate-income individuals to access employment.
5. From your agency's perspective what are the leading causes of homelessness? (select if it is: Not a Cause, Minor Cause, Somewhat a Cause, Major Cause, Primary Cause)
    a. Extended loss of income or financial crisis i.e., large unexpected medical expenses, unplanned major repairs, loss of employment, etc.
    b. Domestic violence / human trafficking
    c. Youth who are no longer able to live with their parents / guardians
    d. Mental illness
    e. Substance abuse and addiction
6. Please provide any other input that your agency feels would be helpful to provide to this program.
7. Agency name
8. Your name
9. Your email address
10. Phone number

# Q1 Eligible Activity Priority, Where Should the Money Be Spent? [Rank the list in priority order]

Answered: 55   Skipped: 0
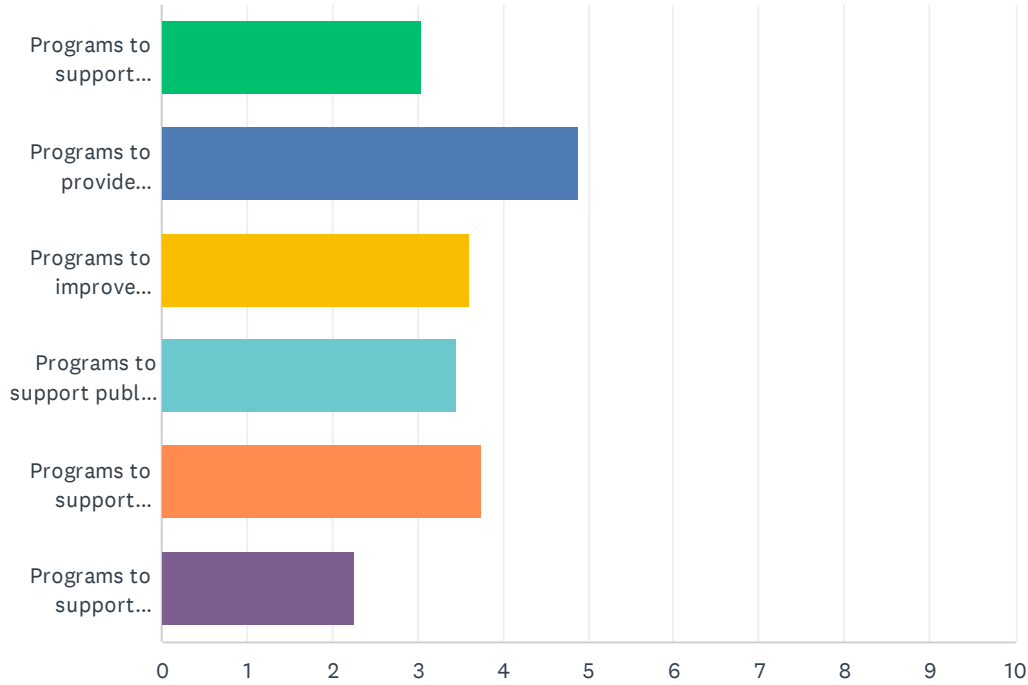
	1	2	3	4	5	6	TOTAL	SCORE
Programs to support affordable home ownership	12.73% 7	14.55% 8	12.73% 7	12.73% 7	18.18% 10	29.09% 16	55	3.04
Programs to provide affordable rental housing	45.45% 25	20.00% 11	18.18% 10	12.73% 7	1.82% 1	1.82% 1	55	4.89
Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development	12.73% 7	20.00% 11	25.45% 14	9.09% 5	21.82% 12	10.91% 6	55	3.60
Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing	9.09% 5	18.18% 10	23.64% 13	20.00% 11	16.36% 9	12.73% 7	55	3.45
Programs to support services to individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.	18.18% 10	20.00% 11	12.73% 7	23.64% 13	18.18% 10	7.27% 4	55	3.75
Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals	1.82% 1	7.27% 4	7.27% 4	21.82% 12	23.64% 13	38.18% 21	55	2.27

Q2 Which of the Following Are Lacking in Your Community? [Select all that apply]
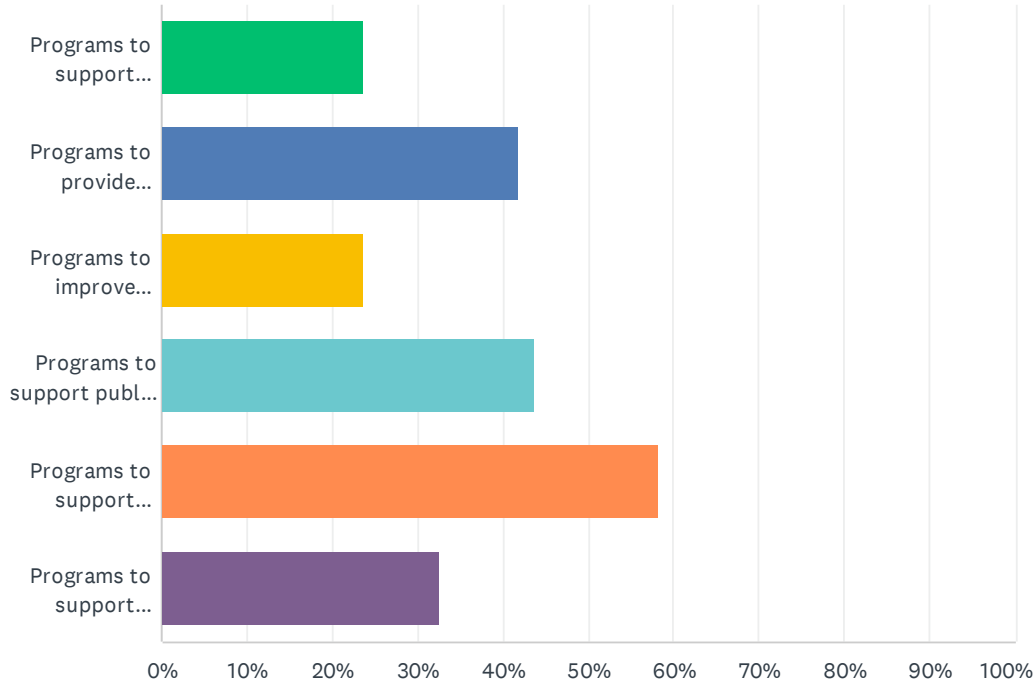
Answered: 55   Skipped: 0
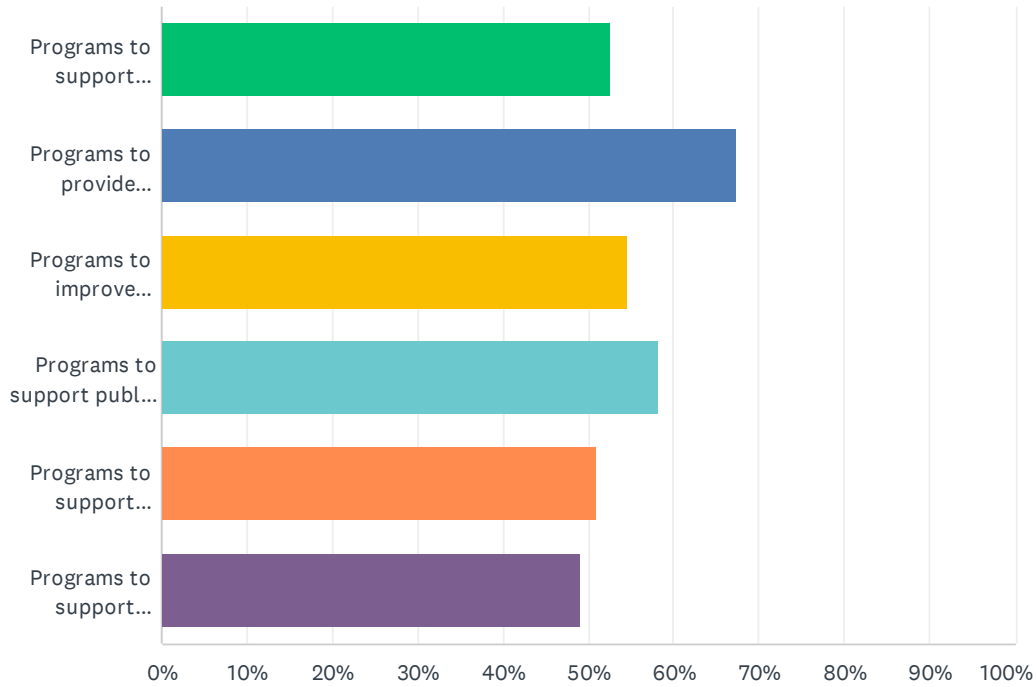
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Programs to support affordable home ownership	52.73%	29
Programs to provide affordable rental housing	67.27%	37
Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development	54.55%	30
Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing	58.18%	32
Programs to support services for individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.	50.91%	28
Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals	49.09%	27
Total Respondents: 55		

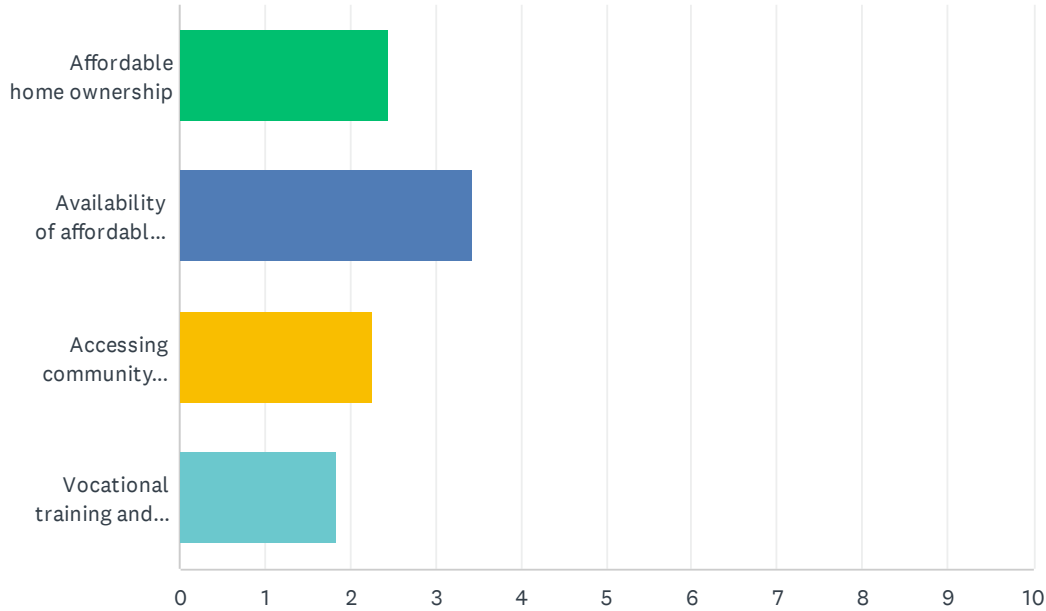# Q3 Which of these Programs Does Your Agency Provide? [Select all that apply]

Answered: 55   Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Programs to support affordable home ownership	23.64%	13
Programs to provide affordable rental housing	41.82%	23
Programs to improve infrastructure to support affordable housing development	23.64%	13
Programs to support public services addressing homelessness and affordable housing	43.64%	24
Programs to support services for individuals in crisis i.e., domestic violence, financial crisis, mental health, etc.	58.18%	32
Programs to support improvements that increase employment opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals	32.73%	18
Total Respondents: 55		

Q4 Rank the Following Factors Creating Challenges in Your Community in Order of Priority [Rank the list in priority order]
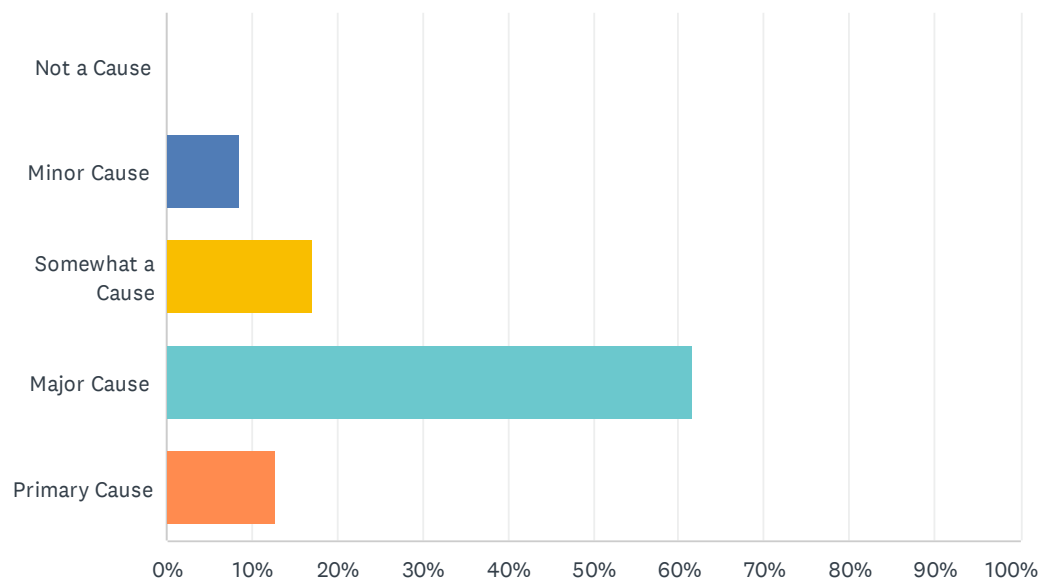
Answered: 55   Skipped: 0

	1	2	3	4	TOTAL	SCORE
Affordable home ownership	27.27% 15	27.27% 15	9.09% 5	36.36% 20	55	2.45
Availability of affordable rentals	60.00% 33	27.27% 15	9.09% 5	3.64% 2	55	3.44
Accessing community support services i.e., youth programs, senior services, services to individuals with disabilities, services to individuals with mental illness, etc.	10.91% 6	27.27% 15	40.00% 22	21.82% 12	55	2.27
Vocational training and support programs to improve opportunities for low- to moderate-income individuals to access employment	1.82% 1	18.18% 10	41.82% 23	38.18% 21	55	1.84

Q5 Extended loss of income or financial crisis i.e., large unexpected medical expenses, unplanned major repairs, loss of employment, etc.
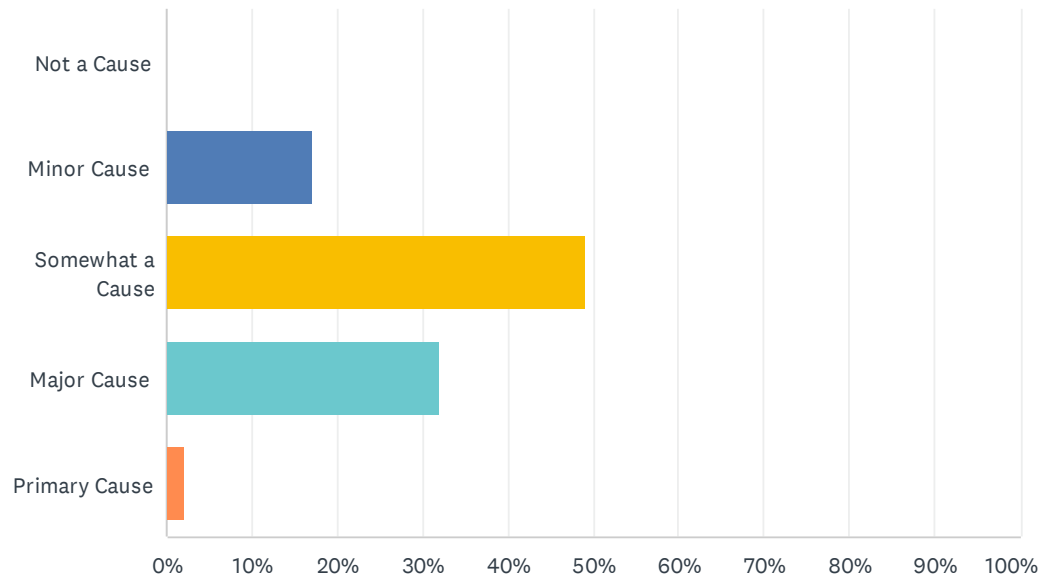
Answered: 47   Skipped: 8

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a Cause	0.00%	0
Minor Cause	8.51%	4
Somewhat a Cause	17.02%	8
Major Cause	61.70%	29
Primary Cause	12.77%	6
TOTAL		47

Q6 Domestic Violence / Human Trafficking

Answered: 47   Skipped: 8

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a Cause	0.00%	0
Minor Cause	17.02%	8
Somewhat a Cause	48.94%	23
Major Cause	31.91%	15
Primary Cause	2.13%	1
TOTAL		47

Q7 Youth who are no longer able to live with their parents / guardians

Answered: 47   Skipped: 8
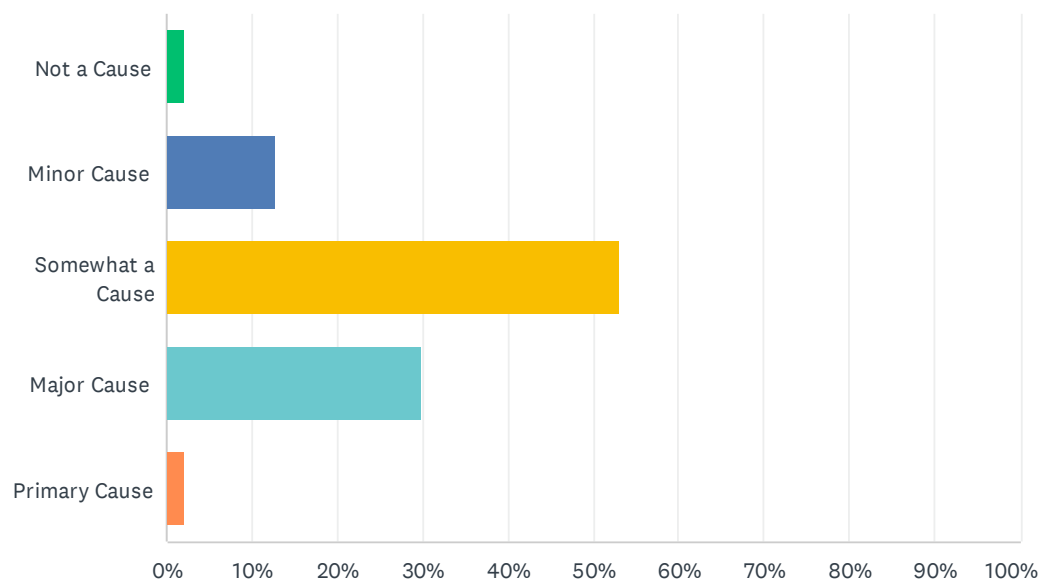
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a Cause	2.13%	1
Minor Cause	12.77%	6
Somewhat a Cause	53.19%	25
Major Cause	29.79%	14
Primary Cause	2.13%	1
TOTAL		47

Q8 Mental Illness

Answered: 47   Skipped: 8
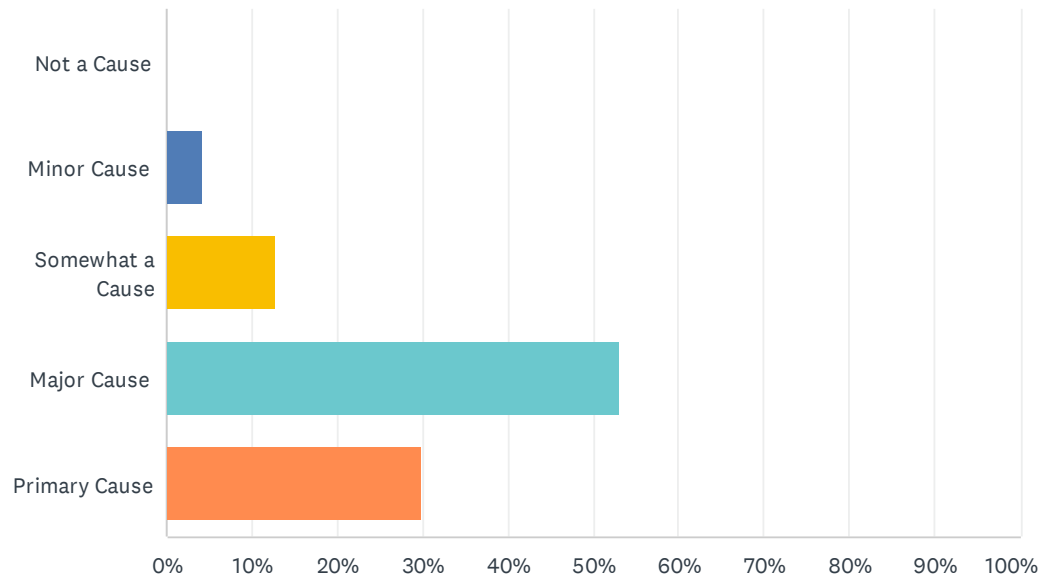
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a Cause	0.00%	0
Minor Cause	4.26%	2
Somewhat a Cause	12.77%	6
Major Cause	53.19%	25
Primary Cause	29.79%	14
TOTAL		47

Q9 Substance abuse and addiction

Answered: 47   Skipped: 8
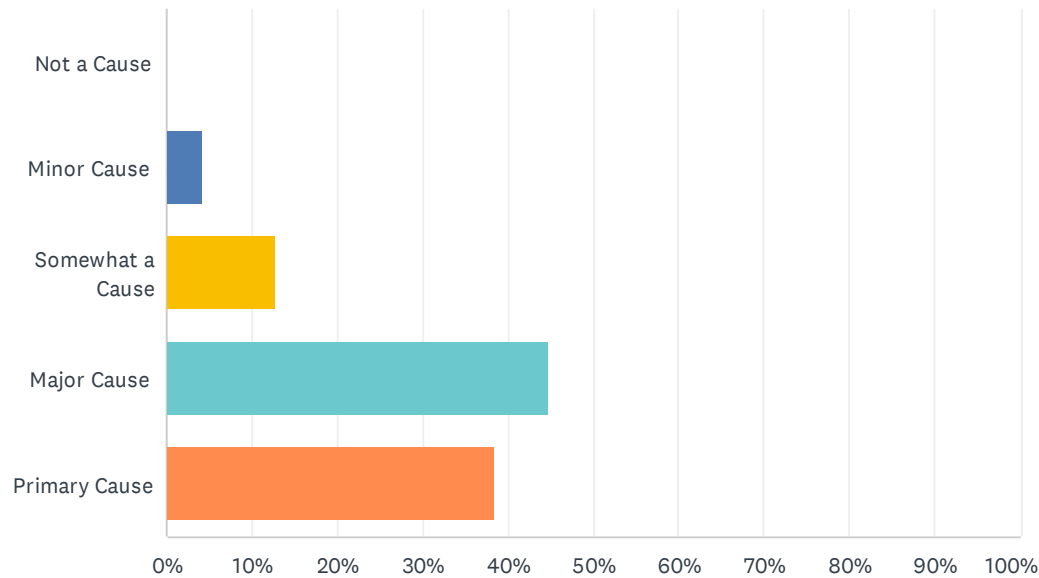
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not a Cause	0.00%	0
Minor Cause	4.26%	2
Somewhat a Cause	12.77%	6
Major Cause	44.68%	21
Primary Cause	38.30%	18
TOTAL		47

Please provide any other input that your agency feels would be helpful to provide to this program.

Our program witnesses first-hand the impact of domestic violence on the ability for families to access housing and employment opportunities, which led to these rankings.

To remedy houselessness once it has been caused takes a long time and sometimes leads to mental health, substance use, and other problems. Providing sustainable access to shelter and basic needs in the event of a crisis causing homelessness should be a first step in the process of rehabilitation.

Additional financial resources for those with damaged histories, evictions, bad credit etc. funds specifically allocated to pay off previous landlord(s) or past due utility debts. The lack of finances are a main reason that individuals are not able to get approvals or a "Second Chance" causing them to lose out on utilizing a housing voucher that they worked so hard to qualify for.

Understanding what all the resources are and where they are available at.

Rent is simply too expensive. And rentals require 1st and last month rent, deposits, utility deposits and other fees. People can't come up with move in money.

More employment opportunities are needed in the canyon. Also, technology classes for seniors especially. Hording information would also be useful in the canyon.

Homeless services need to be dynamic enough to to respond to different needs and issues.

All areas need attention, but I think we should add more focus on the aging population with substance use disorder

Lack of housing at all levels drives homelessness and is the primary cause of homelessness.

Although I applaud the County's commitment to homeownership opportunities with the limited CDBG funds available, my professional opinion is that these resources would be better used for the development and preservation of affordable rental housing opportunities.

We are currently advocating for funding to support existing projects with supportive services. Eviction prevention funding is also a dire need.

Many of these questions ask the respondent to assume they know the answers, when they may not. An "I don't know" or "none of the above" response category on this and the previous page would be helpful. As for causes - lack of community support services generally - lack of adequate public transportation, public restrooms, affordable housing opportunities, infrastructure to broadly support communities in affordable housing (sidewalks, access to goods and services, water and power, etc.).

I wouldn't put Domestic Violence / Human Trafficking as the same type of cause.

Mental health and substance abuse/addiction may not always be the root cause of homelessness, but they become worse over time during lengthy episodes of homelessness. We need programs that can intervene before people become homeless (or very early in the homelessness episode) to minimize the impact and trauma of long-term homelessness.

Early investment and/or leverage investment from local jurisdictions into affordable housing development projects in critical for developers to secure state/federal funds - this could be land acquisition, pre-development funds, or just an early capital investment into the whole project. Would love to see HOME (and/or CDBG) continue to help with fire rebuilding, and with the project in Silverton that is currently out for RFP.

Marion County needs to be more active in funding the highest volume/greatest impact providers in the homeless services communities. The priorities seem to be low-volume, high barrier, non-housing first, non-harm reduction, transitional programs that create program requires for service. These may be politically expedient but they are relatively low impact when it comes to making a difference.

The plan for the incoming CDBG-DR dollars from the 2020 wildfires should be included in our annual action plan for this year because the State is hoping to dole them out during this planning cycle. We do not want to be caught unprepared for if/when they do arrive.

I especially appreciate anything you can do to maintain and enhance a continuum of safe, affordable housing for families including home ownership.

A large portion of homeless in rural Oregon are older generations whose fixed income is being outpaced by inflation and cost of living.

This community is lacking in supportive services for the senior population of 55 and older

Agencies Providing Survey Response

- Boys & Girls Club of Salem, Marion & Polk Counties
- CASA of Marion County
- Chemeketa Community College (2)
- Crossroads Communities
- DevNW
- Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley
- HIV Alliance
- Hope Pregnancy Center
- Housing Authority of Yamhill County
- Iron Tribe Network
- Jefferson, City of
- Keizer, City of (2)
- Marion County Community Services (5)
- Marion County Economic Development
- Marion County Health and Human Services
- Marion County Housing Authority (2)
- Marion County Sheriff's Office / LEAD
- Mid-Willamette Community Action Agency
- Mill City, City of
- Mountain West Center for Community Excellence
- Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
- Oregon Pacific Area Health Education Center (OPAHEC)
- Recovery Outreach Community Services
- Salem Family YMCA
- Salem for Refugees
- Salem Housing Authority (2)
- Salem, City of
- Santiam Hospital
- Santiam Outreach Community / Arches
- Shangri La
- Silverton Area Community Aid
- St. Francis Family Housing
- St. Paul, City of
- Stayton, City of
- VetCare
- Willamette Vital Health
- Woodburn, City of