

## Quality of Life Questions

The following information is generally collected through a community survey, which can be conducted by telephone, in person or by mail. This information may also be collected through focus groups, informal discussions, or other community gatherings. Record the responses to the 12 questions below.

If gathering the information through a survey, consider eliciting responses through a Likert scale (i.e., 1 – 5 with 1 being low and 5 being high.) If gathering the information in person (i.e., via focus groups, informal discussions, or other mechanisms), use open-ended questions. Engage the community in an in-depth discussion (through focus groups, community dialogues or town hall meetings) about the 12 questions. Explore the following issues for each question: 1. What is the preferred future? 2. What is the current reality? 3. What are the gaps, leverage points or strategic opportunities?

Total Number of Community Residents Surveyed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Quality of Life Questions	Likert Scale Responses (1 to 5, with 5 being most positive)
1. Are you satisfied with the quality of life in our community? (Consider your sense of safety, well-being, participation in community life and associations, etc.) [IOM, 1997]	
2. Are you satisfied with the health care system in the community? (Consider access, cost, availability, quality, options in health care, etc.) [IOM, 1997]	
3. Is this community a good place to raise children? (Consider school quality, day care, after school programs, recreation, etc.)	
4. Is this community a good place to grow old? (Consider elder-friendly housing, transportation to medical services, churches, shopping; elder day care, social support for the elderly living alone, meals on wheels, etc.)	
5. Is there economic opportunity in the community? (Consider locally owned and operated businesses, jobs with career growth, job training/higher education opportunities, affordable housing, reasonable commute, etc.)	
6. Is the community a safe place to live? (Consider residents' perceptions of safety in the home, the workplace, schools, playgrounds, parks, and the mall. Do neighbors know and trust one another? Do they look out for one another?)	
7. Are there networks of support for individuals and families (neighbors, support groups, faith community outreach, agencies, and organizations) during times of stress and need?	
8. Do all individuals and groups have the opportunity to contribute to and participate in the community's quality of life?	
9. Do all residents perceive that they — individually and collectively — can make the community a better place to live?	
10. Are community assets broad-based and multi-sectoral?	
11. Are levels of mutual trust and respect increasing among community partners as they participate in collaborative activities to achieve shared community goals?	
12. Is there an active sense of civic responsibility and engagement, and of civic pride in shared accomplishments?	