



DBonnet Associates

evaluation for enlightened decision making

2007 Community Needs Assessment for Howard County, Indiana

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*Prepared for the
4community Partners
Howard County, Indiana*

- United Way of Howard County
- City of Kokomo
- Community Foundation of Howard County
- Howard County Health Department
- Howard Regional Hospital
- Ivy Tech Community College
- St. Joseph Hospital and Health Center

Deborah G. Bonnet

Robert E. Hoke

Community Culture and Priorities

Culture. The community leader survey results shown in the chart below illustrate well what we heard time and again about the people of Howard County. People in need are treated with respect and generosity. The community is welcoming and inclusive. To a lesser degree, key institutions adapt well to changing circumstances. The community has seen as much failure as success at uniting around a common vision and collaborating across organizational boundaries. Acceptance of innovations comes hard.

Priorities. Further reflecting the community's compassion are the priority groups and issues recommended for special attention: These are the top choices of respondents to the Survey of Community Leaders:

<i>Demographic Groups</i>	<i>Personal and Family Challenges</i>
50% Low income families with infants & small children	37% Substance abuse
34% Low income seniors (ages 65+)	30% Mental illness or emotional issues
31% Low income adolescents (ages 13-17)	32% Parenting issues
30% All seniors (ages 65+)	32% Family violence
28% Low income children (ages 6-12)	
24% All families with infants & small children (ages 0-5)	

