# WESTFORD COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

October 25th, 2023

# Today's Session

- Re-Cap

- Adapting a Westford-Specific CHA/CHIP

- GLHA Survey Results

- Prioritization Activity

- Westford Stakeholder Engagement Discussion

- Next Steps

**Today's Goal:**

Identify key priority areas that will be the focus points of a Westford-specific CHA and CHIP.

# Re-Cap: Community Health Assessments (CHA)

A community health assessment (CHA) identifies and describes the...

Health of the community served

**+**

Factors that contribute to health challenges

**+**

Existing community assets & resources that can be mobilized

# Greater Lowell Health Alliance CHNA

The Greater Lowell Health Alliance completed a Community Health Needs Assessment in 2022 which included the following communities:

| | |
|---|---|
| **Billerica** | **Lowell** |
| **Chelmsford** | **Tewksbury** |
| **Dracut** | **Tyngsborough** |
| **Dunstable** | **Westford** |

This **regional** CHNA is serving as a starting point for this Westford-specific Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan.



2022 Greater Lowell Community Health Needs Assessment

TuftsMedicine Lowell General Hospital   in partnership with   GLHA GREATER LOWELL HEALTH ALLIANCE   UMASS LOWELL

# Adapting a Westford-Specific CHA & CHIP

| CHA Lead | Greater Lowell Health Alliance Regional CHNA | | Town of Westford CHA |
|---|---|---|---|
| Community Scope | Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Tewksbury, Tyngsborough, Westford | | Westford |
| Data Collection | Community Surveys<br><br>Public Health Data<br><br>Community Focus Groups<br><br>Key Informant Interviews | A subset of just Westford-specific data from the GLHA → | GLHA Westford Community Survey<br><br>Public Health Data<br><br>Westford Specific Organizations & Partners |
| Outcome | Regional GLHA Community Health Improvement Plan | | Westford Community Health Improvement Plan |

# GLHA Community Survey

Residents were asked to indicate the three most important issues for each of the following categories as part of the Greater Lowell Health Alliance community survey:

**Community Health Issues**

*(ex: substance use, cancer, diabetes, mental health, etc)*

**Community Safety Issues**

*(ex: discrimination, domestic violence, property crime, etc)*

**Community Resources**

*(ex: access to mental health services, affordable housing, etc)*

**We will be reviewing and utilizing the survey responses of Westford residents to determine key priority areas for this Westford-specific CHA/CHIP process.**

# Westford Respondents: Community Health Issues

*"From the list, which three issues are most important to you?"*

- Lung & breathing health

- Muscle & bone health (osteoporosis, injuries/fracture)

- **Heart health (hypertension, heart disease)**

- Autoimmune health (Type 1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis)

- **Mental health (depression, anxiety, PTSD, eating disorders)**

- Pregnancy health (prenatal care, mortality, childbirth)

- Infant & child health (infant mortality, breastfeeding, vaccination, childhood diseases)

- Reproductive/sexual health (pregnancy prevention, PCOS, STIs)

- **Environmental health (insect illness, lead exposure, air quality)**

- Hearing, vision, and mobility impairments

- Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

- Substance use disorder (opioids, cocaine)

- Alcohol use disorder

- **Cancer**

- Type 2 diabetes

- Nutrition

- HIV/AIDS

- **COVID-19**

- Other infectious disease (tuberculosis, Hep C, flu)

# Westford Respondents: Community Safety Issues

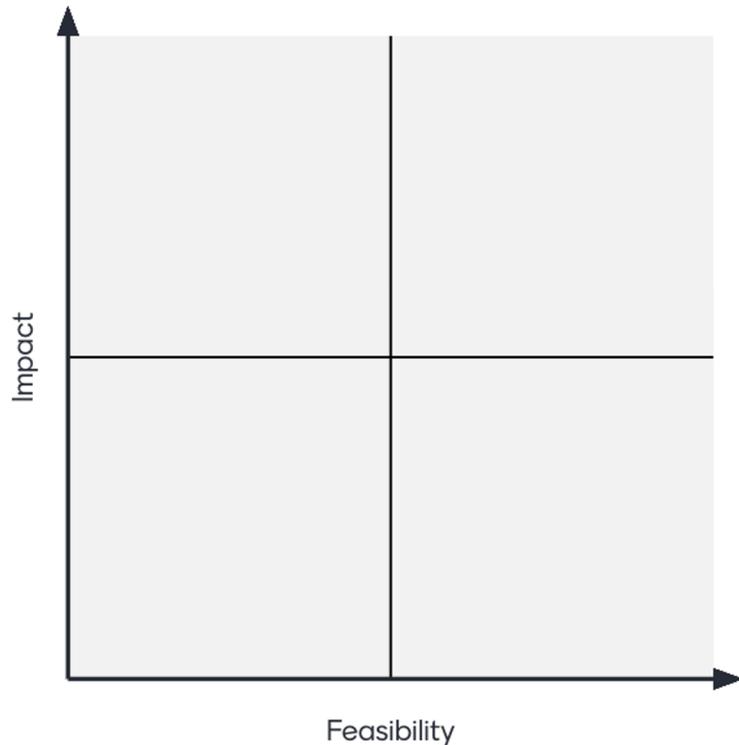*"From the list, which three issues are most important to you?"*

- **Discrimination based on race**
- Discrimination based on sex/gender
- Discrimination based on immigration status
- Discrimination based on class/income

- Discrimination based on sexuality
- Discrimination based on age
- **Domestic violence**
- **Sexual assault/rape**
- Other violent crime (i.e. assault)
- Illegal drug sales

- Gang activity
- Human trafficking (for example, labor trafficking)
- Property crimes (vandalism, theft, etc)
- **Unsafe/illegal gun ownership**
- **Unsafe driving**
- Bullying

# Westford Respondents: Community Resources

*"From the list, which three resources are most important to you?"*

- **Access to healthy food**
- **Access to mental health services**
- Accessibility for people with disabilities
- **Affordable, safe housing**
- Emergency housing
- Dental services

- **Emergency health services**
- Preventative health services (like physicals, screenings, etc.)
- **Public education**
- Affordable childcare
- Reliable high-speed internet access
- Eye care

- Public transportation (like buses)
- Public parks
- Services for adolescents
- Services for older adults
- Services for veterans
- Substance use prevention
- Substance use treatment

# Using Prioritization Grids



→**Impact:** Which areas have the greatest potential for improving the well-being of Westford residents?

→**Feasibility:** Are the resources and expertise needed available to implement strategies for this priority area?

# Mentimeter Tool for Prioritization Activity

➢ **For those on Zoom:** Use the link in the chat to enter a response

➢ **For those in person**: Join on your phone by going to menti.com and entering the code or scanning the QR code

# Discussion

**Within the selected priority areas....**

➜ What gaps exist in current community knowledge?

➜ What specific information would be helpful to know?

➜ What types of questions would we want to ask stakeholders to help provide further insight?

➜ Are there any community data sets already available that could be utilized?

# Future Planning

| | |
|---|---|
| September | Partnership Kick-Off Meeting |
| October | Identifying Community Priorities |
| November | Reviewing Westford-Specific Data |
| January | Adapting a Westford-Specific CHIP |

# Brief Reflection

**1** What went well today?

**2** What could have gone better?

**3** How did everyone feel about using the Mentimeter tools?

**4** Are there any questions that are still unanswered?

*"If you want to go fast, go alone,*

*if you want to far, go together."*

———————

Thank you and we'll see you next month!