

Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan for Delaware County, New York

As Prepared By:



As approved by the Delaware Opportunities Head Start Policy Council on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 and the Delaware Opportunities Board of Directors on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Introduction and Overview

This Community Needs Assessment (CNA) presents an overview of the current community conditions for Delaware County, New York (see map below).



Delaware County is a rural county with no cities and no communities in excess of 5,000 inhabitants. It is located adjacent to and to the east of Broome County and the City of Binghamton, and approximately 150 miles northwest of New York City. It is a large county with 1,468 square miles (approximately 22 square miles) being water, much of that in reservoirs serving New York City.

This assessment is to be used to aid in identifying the needs of Delaware County, as well as the needs of the low-income population, and to be used in developing future programs to address these needs.

This report includes information derived from standard local, state, or national sources on:

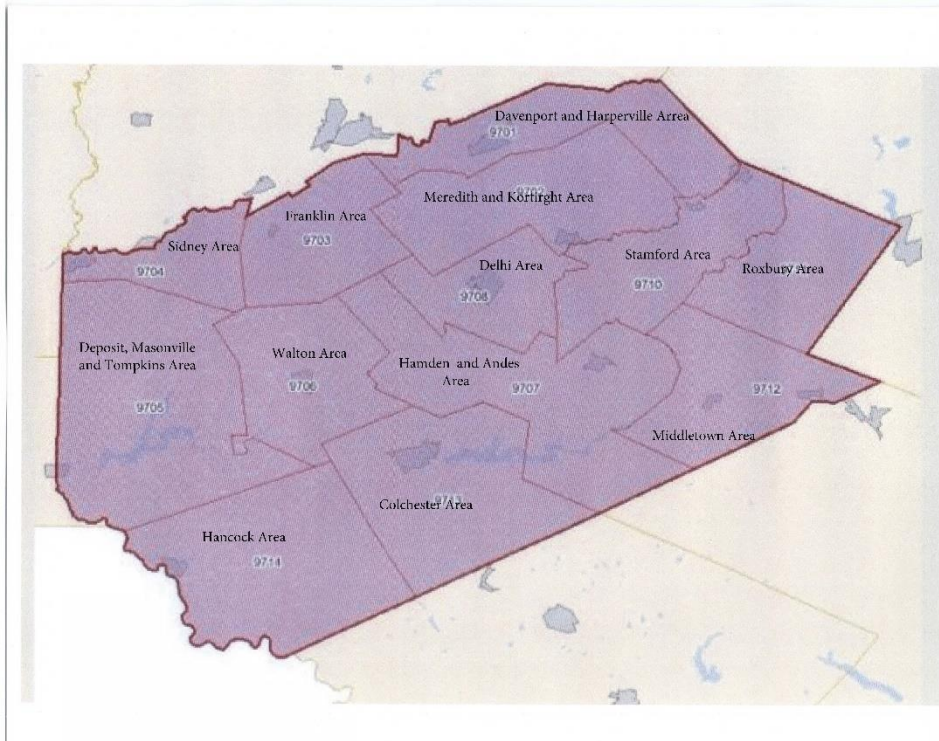
- Population Profile
 - Population Change
 - Age and Gender Demographics
 - Race Demographics
 - Households
 - Families
 - Poverty
 - Poverty Rate
 - Families in Poverty
 - Families in Poverty by Family Type

- Family Poverty Rate by Family Type
- Poverty Rate Change
- Child (0-17) Poverty Rate Change
- Child (0-17) Poverty Rate
- Child (0-4) Poverty Rate Change
- Child (0-4) Poverty Rate
- Child (5-17) Poverty Rate Change
- Child (5-17) Poverty Rate
- Seniors in Poverty
- Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics
- Violent Crime
- Property Crime
- Average Daily Population Counts in County Jails
- Citizenship Status
- Employment
 - Current Unemployment
 - Unemployment Change
 - Thirteen Month Unemployment Rates
 - Five Year Unemployment Rate
 - Unemployment Insurance
 - High School Graduates
 - Top Employers
 - Factory/Plant/Business Closures in last 2 years
 - Number of Economic Development Agencies
 - Motor Vehicle Registrations
 - Wages
 - Living Wage
 - Commuter Travel Patterns
 - Travel Time to Work
- Education
 - School Enrollment
 - High School Dropouts
 - High School Graduates
 - Educational Attainment
 - Veterans - Educational Attainment
 - Adult Literacy
 - Colleges, Universities and Trade Schools
- Housing
 - Housing Units
 - Housing Age
 - Fair Market Rent
 - Housing Affordability
 - Vacancy Rates
 - Homeowners
 - Overcrowded Housing
 - Number of Unsafe, Unsanitary Homes

- Income
 - Income Levels
 - Personal Income
 - Household Income
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
 - Free and Reduced Lunch Program
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly Food Stamp Program)
 - Supplemental Security Income
 - Safety Net and Family Assistance
 - Child Support Collections
- Nutrition
 - Free and Reduced Lunch Program
 - Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)
 - Persons Served by Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries and Shelters
- Health Care
 - Medicare and Medicaid Providers
 - Persons Receiving Medicare
 - Monthly Average Medicaid Expenditures
 - Child Health Plus
 - Uninsured Population
 - Prenatal Care
 - Teen Births
 - HIV/AIDS
 - Deaths
 - Physicians
 - Dentists
 - Nurses
 - Mental Health Professionals
 - Therapists
 - Special Health Professionals

Census Tract boundaries are shown on the map below

County Subdivision Map for Delaware County
Census 2010 Tract Boundaries



PART I: POPULATION PROFILE

Population Profile: Population Change

Population change within Delaware County from 2010-2017 is shown in Table 1. During the seven-year period, total population estimates for the report area declined by 6.2%, decreasing from 47,980 in 2010 to 45,001 persons in July of 2017. While the population in New York State is growing, Delaware County has population that continues to decrease.

Table 1. Population Change 2010-2017

Area	Census 2010 Population	Census 2017 Population	Population Change	% Change
Delaware County	47,980	45,001	-2,979	-6.2%
Statewide	19,378,110	19,849,399	471,289	2.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, National Population Tools and Components of Change: 2010-2017; Population and Housing Unit Estimates, 2017.

Population Profile: Age and Gender Demographics

Population by gender within Delaware County is shown in Table 2. According to 2017 population estimates reported by the U.S. Census Bureau, the female population comprised 49.62% (22,335) of the report area, while the male population represented 50.38% (22,666).

Table 2. Population by Gender, 2017

Area	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 24		25 to 34		35 to 44		45 to 54		55 to 64		Over 64	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Delaware County	884	908	2,971	2,852	2,470	2,103	2,340	2,177	2,122	2,118	2,948	2,934	3,744	3,691	5,187	5,552
Percent of Age Range	49.33	50.67	51.02	48.98	54.01	45.99	51.8	48.2	50.05	49.95	50.12	49.88	50.36	49.64	48.3	51.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for Selected Age Groups by Sex for the United States, Counties, and Puerto Rico Commonwealth and Municipios, April 2, 2010 to July 1, 2017; 2017 Population Estimates.

The percentages by age range are generally consistent with those for the population at large; however, the percentage of females over the age of 64 grows substantially over males, consistent with indicators that women have a longer life span than men.

Table 2a. Population by Gender, 2016, by Census Tract

Census Tract	0 to 4		5 to 17		18 to 24		25 to 34		35 to 44		45 to 54		55 to 64		Over 64	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Davenport	95	116	90	153	173	85	134	156	155	152	279	168	233	201	319	349
Meredith	28	28	50	86	69	43	79	91	49	94	137	121	160	108	185	156
Kortright	49	34	115	73	51	43	52	110	48	75	109	119	107	111	184	204
Franklin	20	25	195	210	101	43	79	75	187	132	155	185	193	150	252	279
Sidney	196	109	552	421	263	157	273	160	352	319	448	355	432	421	552	593
Tompkins	10	26	50	83	41	95	38	34	62	36	46	89	97	78	137	79
Masonville	26	54	140	114	48	89	61	31	112	92	97	119	109	65	108	136
Deposit	44	66	139	113	55	57	101	55	92	106	84	116	169	109	184	206
Walton	123	189	599	481	101	160	367	408	96	271	340	346	360	507	483	553
Hamden	32	15	126	99	32	76	65	44	57	71	64	107	99	131	173	137
Delhi	76	49	230	260	996	891	257	225	189	113	217	235	275	284	288	390
Stamford	52	56	117	134	161	141	136	169	137	90	183	218	245	170	240	322
Roxbury	68	43	158	97	89	57	124	93	108	151	165	121	201	134	269	310
Middletown	6	73	121	289	118	105	226	120	165	73	237	372	382	392	383	556
Colchester	37	42	131	71	54	109	62	116	77	113	153	140	172	167	303	243
Hancock	76	62	265	189	215	133	57	61	169	169	272	234	283	315	289	337

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Age and Sex.

Population Profile: Race Demographics

Population by race and gender within Delaware County is shown in Table 2. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, white population comprised 95.01% of Delaware County's population in 2016, while in New York State it only comprises 64.31% of the population.

Table 3. Population by Race, 2016

Area	White	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Some other race alone	Two or More Races
Delaware County	44,161	896	55	338	0	346	684
Percent of Population	95.01	1.93	.12	.73	0	.74	1.47
Statewide Percent	64.31	15.6	.38	8.12	.04	8.62	2.88

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Race.

Table 3a. Population by Race, 2016 by Census Tract

Census Tract	White	Black or African American	American Indian or Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	Some other race alone	Two or More Races
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Davenport	2,784	1	0	61	0	0	9
Percent	97.51	.04	0	2.14	0	0	.32
Meredith	1,415	3	0	53	0	4	9
Percent	95.35	.2	0	3.57	0	.27	.61
Kortright	1,367	32	0	26	0	12	47
Percent	92.12	2.16	0	1.75	0	.81	3.17
Franklin	2,228	25	4	4	0	0	20
Percent	97.68	1.1	.18	.18	0	0	.88
Sidney	5,341	9	0	0	0	130	123
Percent	95.32	.16	0	0	0	2.32	2.2
Tompkins	969	20	0	2	0	0	10
Percent	96.8	2	0	.2	0	0	1
Masonville	1,354	6	0	10	0	0	33
Percent	96.51	.43	0	.71	0	0	2.35
Deposit	1,599	59	4	0	0	3	31
Percent	94.28	3.48	.24	0	0	.18	1.83
Walton	5,331	7	0	0	0	0	46
Percent	99.02	.13	0	0	0	0	2.71
Hamden	1,271	39	2	0	0	4	12
Percent	95.71	2.94	.15	0	0	.3	.9
Delhi	4,140	512	6	63	0	110	144
Percent	83.22	10.29	.12	1.27	0	2.21	2.89
Stamford	2,483	23	0	42	0	11	12
Percent	2,571	.89	0	1.63	0	.43	.47
Roxbury	2,100	61	0	5	0	0	22
Percent	95.98	2.79	0	.23	0	0	1.01
Middletown	3,461	17	0	17	0	35	88
Percent	95.66	.47	0	.47	0	.97	2.43
Colchester	1,934	15	10	0	0	8	23
Percent	1990	.75	.5	0	0	.4	1.16
Hancock	3,009	52	21	10	0	19	15
Percent	96.26	1.66	.67	.32	0	.61	.48

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Race.

It is clear that Delaware County is predominantly Caucasian and that no significant percentages of minorities live in the county. Diversity is much less in Delaware County than in New York State in general and certainly lacks any significant pockets of minority populations as show in Table 3a above.

Population Profile: Households

The change in number of households within Delaware County from 2012-2016 is shown in Table 4. Total population estimates for the report area decreased by 1,103, or -5.54% in those counties reported in the ACS 2016 estimates. This compares to a statewide increase of 0.49%.

Table 4. Change in Number of Households, 2012-2016

Area	Total Households, 2012	Total Households, 2016	Change in Households	% Change in Households
Delaware County	19,920	18,817	-1,103	-5.54%
Statewide	7,230,860	7,266,187	35,327	0.49%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Households and Families.

Population Profile: Families

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated that there were 11,708 families in Delaware County in 2017. The most detailed information that shows the breakdown of these families is from 2010. In 2010, there was a slightly higher number of families at 12,451. Married couple families comprised 47.6% of the total number, while in the past this was a significantly higher percentage. Families headed by men without wives comprised 5.6% in 2010, while women without husbands accounted for 9.4% of families. A new category has emerged and in 2010, nonfamily households (7,447) accounted for 34.7% of families.

As is shown in Table 5 below, the single-family households, both male and female headed, represent a large percentage of families in Delaware County but are either just below or just above the New York State percentage. These single-family households tend to have more child care needs and greater barriers to achieving self-sufficiency. Nonfamily households, which account for 37.4% of the families in Delaware County is higher than the New York State rate of 36.5%.

Table 5. Number of Families, 2016

Area	Number of Families				
	Total	Married Couple	Female, No Husband	Male, No Wife	Nonfamily Households
Delaware County	11,708	8,826	1,913	969	7,447
Percent	100%	75.38%	16.34%	8.28%	37.4%
Statewide	4,611,982	3,194,081	1,055,130	362,763	2,667,964
Percent	100%	69.26%	22.88%	7.87%	36.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Households and Families.

Table 5a. Number of Families, 2012-2016 by Census Tract

Census Tract	Number of Families			
	Total	Married Couple	Female, No Husband	Male, No Wife
Davenport	763	567	119	77
Meredith	412	336	29	47
Kortright	365	281	42	42
Franklin	688	570	61	57
Sidney	1,500	1,067	289	144
Tompkins	291	216	40	35
Masonville	354	271	53	30
Deposit	453	327	84	42
Walton	1,421	1,037	283	101
Hamden	348	236	110	2
Delhi	772	606	133	33
Stamford	657	475	130	52
Roxbury	613	477	99	37
Middletown	936	663	138	135
Colchester	864	370	119	50
Hancock	697	606	54	37

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Households and Families.

All of the census tracts, except for Colchester (which is at 42.8%), have a higher percentage of married couple families than the State average.

Population Profile: Poverty

2016 poverty estimates show a total of 7,613 persons living below the poverty rate in Delaware County, a rate of 17.5% which is above the New York and Nationwide rates of 14.1% and 12.3% respectively.

Table 6. Poverty, 2016

Area	All Ages		Age 0-17		Age 5-17	
	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate	Number of Persons	Poverty Rate
Delaware County	7,613	17.5	2,226	28.6	1,505	26
Statewide	2,843,952	14.1	853,769	20.8	585,700	19.8
Nationwide	44,268,990	12.3	14,115,713	19.5	9,648,486	18.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2016. Estimates for 2016 were released in 2017.

Population Profile: Poverty Rate (ACS)

Table 7 shows the total population estimates for all persons in poverty in Delaware County utilizing the 5-year averaging methodology employed in the American Community Survey. That methodology provides an average of 17.5 % of all persons in Delaware County lived in a state of poverty during the 2016 calendar year. The poverty rate for all persons living in Delaware County is more than the ACS statewide average of 14.8 %.

Table 7. Poverty Rate (ACS), 2016

Area	Poverty Rate for All Persons		
	Total Population	In Poverty	Poverty Rate
Delaware County	45,001	7,613	17.5
Statewide	19,849,399	2,843,954	14.8
Nationwide	325,719,178	44,268,996	14

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016 Data Release, December 2017. The 2016 American Community Survey 5-year data is a 5-year average of data collected from 2012 through 2016.

Table 7a. Poverty Rate (ACS), 2016 by Census Tracts

Census Tracts	Poverty Rate for All Persons		
	Total Population (for whom poverty status is determined)	In Poverty	% of individuals below poverty level
Davenport	2,893	400	13.8
Meredith	1,428	129	9.0
Kortright	1,337	153	11.4
Franklin	2,180	149	6.8
Sidney	5,635	769	13.6
Tompkins	1,026	162	15.8
Masonville	1,531	105	6.9
Deposit	1,725	271	15.7
Walton	5,336	1,309	24.5

Hamden	1,255	171	13.6
Delhi	3,216	395	12.3
Stamford	2,569	555	21.6
Roxbury	2,331	407	17.5
Middletown	3,594	494	13.7
Colchester	1,997	469	23.5
Hancock	3,113	357	11.5
Statewide	19,164,034	3,005,943	15.7
Nationwide	308,619,550	47,749,043	15.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2015, 5-year estimates. Poverty Status in the past 12 months.

Areas which exceed the Statewide or Nationwide rate are Tompkins, Deposit, Walton, Stamford, Roxbury, and Colchester. With the exception of Deposit, these other high poverty rates areas are substantially higher than the statewide or nationwide average.

Population Profile: Families in Poverty

Table 8 shows the number and percentage of families in poverty in Delaware County. In 2016, it is estimated that there were 1,346 families, or 11.5 percent, living in poverty within the report area, compared to a statewide average of 11.7 percent.

Table 8. Families in Poverty, 2016

Area	Total Families, 2016	Families in Poverty, 2016	% Families in Poverty, 2016
Delaware County	11,708	1,346	11.5
Statewide	4,611,982	539,602	11.7
Nationwide	77,608,829	8,536,971	11

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

Table 8a. Families in Poverty, 2016 by Census Tract

Census Tracts	Total Families, 2016	Families in Poverty, 2016	% Families in Poverty, 2016
Davenport	763	61	8

Meredith	412	15	3.6
Kortright	365	37	10.1
Franklin	688	29	4.2
Sidney	1,500	209	13.7
Tompkins	291	39	13.4
Masonville	354	25	7.3
Deposit	453	45	9.9
Walton	1,421	351	24.7
Hamden	348	44	12.6
Delhi	772	48	6.2
Stamford	657	105	16
Roxbury	613	73	10.1
Middletown	936	96	10.3
Colchester	539	65	12.1
Hancock	697	34	4.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

Population Profile: Families in Poverty by Family Type

Table 9 shows the number of families in poverty by family type in Delaware County. In 2016, it is estimated that there were 1,346 families living in poverty in the county.

Table 9. Families in Poverty by Family Type, 2012-2016

Area	Total Families, 2016	Families in Poverty (%)		
		Overall	Married Couples	Female Householder
Delaware County	11,708	11.5	5.8	34.2
Statewide	4,611,982	11.7	6.1	27.6
Nationwide	77,608,829	11	5.5	29.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

A significant number of the families in poverty in Delaware County were female headed households. Single headed families are more likely to be living in poverty than married couple families.

Table 9a below provides this same information by census tract.

Table 9a. Families in Poverty by Family Type, 2012-2016 by Census Tract

Census Tract	Total Families, 2016	Families in Poverty (%)		
		Overall	Married Couples	Female Householder
Davenport	763	8	6.7	19.3
Meredith	412	3.6	.6	44.8
Kortright	365	10.1	2.1	35.7
Franklin	688	4.2	2.5	13.1
Sidney	1,500	13.7	1.1	48.8
Tompkins	291	13.4	14.8	0
Masonville	354	7.3	1.5	20.8
Deposit	453	9.9	4.6	35.7
Walton	1,421	24.7	4.9	32
Hamden	348	12.6	5.1	27.3
Delhi	772	6.2	1.8	20.3
Stamford	657	16	9.7	39.2
Roxbury	613	10.1	10.5	8.1
Middletown	936	10.3	6.8	30.4
Colchester	539	12.1	2.7	39.5
Hancock	697	4.9	3.0	24.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

Population Profile: Family Poverty Rate by Family Type

Table 10 shows percentage of families in poverty by family type in Delaware County. In 2016, it is estimated that 11.5 percent of all families were living in poverty within Delaware County, compared to 10.42 in 2012. Also, compared to a statewide average of 11.7 percent and the national average of 11 percent. Of the families in poverty, female headed families represented the largest percentage of all families in poverty, compared to married couples and male headed families.

Table 10. Family Poverty Rate by Family Type, 2016

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Area	All Families	Married Couples	Female Householder
Delaware County	11.5	5.8	34.2
Statewide	11.7	6.1	27.6
Nationwide	11	5.5	29.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

Table 10a. Family Poverty Rate by Family Type, 2012-2016 by Census Tract

Census Tracts	All Types	Married Couples	Female Householder
Davenport	8	6.7	19.3
Meredith	3.6	.6	44.8
Kortright	10.1	2.1	35.7
Franklin	4.2	2.5	13.1
Sidney	13.7	1.1	48.8
Tompkins	13.4	14.8	0
Masonville	7.3	1.5	20.8
Deposit	9.9	4.6	35.7
Walton	24.7	4.9	32
Hamden	12.6	5.1	27.3
Delhi	6.2	1.8	20.3
Stamford	16	9.7	39.2
Roxbury	10.1	10.5	8.1
Middletown	10.3	6.8	30.4
Colchester	12.1	2.7	39.5
Hancock	4.9	3.0	24.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Economic Characteristics.

Population Profile: Poverty Rate Change, 2012—2016

Poverty rate change in Delaware County from 2012 to 2016 is shown in Table 11. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate increase is 1.9%, compared to a statewide increase of 1.1%.

Table 11. Change in Poverty Rate, 2012-2016

Area	Persons in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Persons in Poverty, 2016	Poverty Rate, 2016	Change in Poverty Rate, 2012 - 2016
Delaware County	7,041	15.6	7,613	17.5	1.9
Statewide	3,040,207	15.9	2,843,954	14.8	1.1
Nationwide	48,760,123	15.9	44,268,996	14	1.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2016.

Population Profile: Child (0-17) Poverty Rate Change

The poverty rate change for all children in Delaware County from 2012 to 2016 is shown in Table 12. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate for Delaware County increased by 4.5%, compared to a statewide and nationwide decrease of 2.2% and 3.1% respectively.

Table 12. Change in Childhood (0-17) Poverty Rate, 2012-2016

Area	Children in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Children in Poverty, 2016	Poverty Rate, 2016	Change in Poverty Rate, 2012-2016
Delaware County	2,132	24.1	2,226	28.6	4.5
Statewide	968,025	23.0	853,769	20.8	-2.2
Nationwide	16,396,863	22.6	14,115,713	19.5	-3.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2016.

Population Profile: Child (0-17) Poverty Rate

Table 13 shows the total population estimates for children and children in poverty for Delaware County. According to the American Community Survey 5-year averages, an average of 28.4 (up from 21.34 in 2012) percent of children lived in a state of poverty during the 2016 calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in Delaware County greater than the statewide and national averages of 21.9 and 21.1 percent respectively.

Table 13. American Community Survey, Child (0-17) Poverty Rate, 2012-2016

Area	Children, Ages 0 - 17 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% below poverty level
Delaware County	8,017	2,279	28.4
Statewide	4,154,193	910,806	21.9
Nationwide	72,456,096	15,335,783	21.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months.

Table 13a. American Community Survey, Child (0-17) Poverty Rate, 2012-2016 by Census Tracts

Census Tracts	Children, Ages 0 - 17 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% of children below poverty level
Davenport	454	97	21.4
Meredith	152	12	7.9
Kortright	243	65	26.7
Franklin	475	34	7.2
Sidney	1,230	373	30.3
Tompkins	186	31	16.7
Masonville	361	26	7.2
Deposit	325	92	28.3
Walton	1,226	538	43.9
Hamden	238	40	16.8
Delhi	469	47	10
Stamford	405	161	39.8
Roxbury	436	189	43.3
Middletown	508	93	18.3
Colchester	409	205	50.1
Hancock	552	62	11.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2011-2015, 5-year estimates. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Child poverty by these figures is particularly pervasive in Sidney, Walton, Stamford, Roxbury and Colchester, all of which are considerably above the rate for the county which is above the

statewide and national rates.

Population Profile: Child (0-4) Poverty Rate Change

The poverty rate change for children under five years of age in Delaware County from 2011 to 2015 is shown in Table 14. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate Delaware County increased by 4.3%, compared to a statewide increase of 5.2%.

Table 14. Poverty Rate Change for Children Under Five, 2012-2015

Area	Children 0-4 in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Children 0-4 in Poverty, 2015	Poverty Rate, 2015	Change in Poverty Rate, 2012-2015
Delaware County	700	27.9	673	31.2	3.3
Statewide	309,398	26.4	277,982	24.1	-2.3
Nationwide	5,310,326	26.9	4,795,039	24.5	-2.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Although the number of children under the age of 5 is decreasing as shown elsewhere in this analysis, the increasing percentage of those children living in poverty maintains or increases the number needing help.

Population Profile: (0-4) Poverty Rate

Table 15 shows the total population estimates for children and children in poverty in Delaware County. According to the American Community Survey 5-year averages, an average of 31.2 percent of children lived in a state of poverty during the 2015 calendar year. The poverty rate for children living in Delaware County is greater than the statewide average of 24.1 percent.

Table 15. American Community Survey, Child (0-4) Poverty Rate, 2011-2015

Area	Children, Ages 0 - 4 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% living below the poverty level
Delaware County	2,160	673	31.2
Statewide	1,155,815	277,982	24.1

Nationwide	19,605,884	4,795,039	24.5
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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Table 15a. American Community Survey, Child (0-4) Poverty Rate, 2011-2015 by Census Tracts

Census Tracts	Children, Ages 0 - 4 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% living below the poverty level
Davenport	165	12	7.3
Meredith	58	10	17.2
Kortright	89	21	23.6
Franklin	48	6	12.5
Sidney	343	175	51
Tompkins	37	13	35.1
Masonville	125	11	8.8
Deposit	95	28	29.5
Walton	332	155	46.7
Hamden	25	4	16
Delhi	115	12	10.4
Stamford	146	68	46.6
Roxbury	120	59	49.2
Middletown	73	18	24.7
Colchester	106	32	30.2
Hancock	139	24	17.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Population Profile: Child (5-17) Poverty Rate Change

The poverty rate change for children ages five to seventeen in Delaware County from 2011 to 2015 is shown in Table 16. According to the U.S. Census, the poverty rate Delaware County increased by 2.1%, compared to a statewide decrease of 0.2%.

Table 16. Poverty Rate Change for Children Ages Five to Seventeen, 2011-

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

2015

Area	Children 5-17 in Poverty, 2012	Poverty Rate, 2012	Children 5-17 in Poverty, 2015	Poverty Rate, 2015	Change in Poverty Rate, 2011–2015
Delaware County	1,432	22.6	1,515	24.7	2.1
Statewide	658,627	21.7	651,939	21.5	-0.2
Nationwide	11,086,537	21.0	10,965,727	20.7	-0.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Delaware County continues to see an increasing child poverty rate. In the past two needs assessments, Delaware Opportunities has seen an increase in the poverty rate change and it has continued to remain above the state and national rate over these time periods as well.

Population Profile: Child (5-17) Poverty Rate

Table 17 shows the total population estimates for children aged five to seventeen and children aged five to seventeen in poverty for Delaware County. According to the American Community Survey 5-year averages, an average of 24.7 percent of children aged five to seventeen lived in a state of poverty during the 2015 calendar year. This averaging estimate puts the poverty rate for children aged five to seventeen living in Delaware County at a higher rate than the statewide average of 21.5 percent.

Table 17. American Community Survey, Child (5-17) Poverty Rate, 2011-2015

Area	Children, Ages 5 - 17 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% living below the poverty level
Delaware County	6,123	1,515	24.7
Statewide	3,026,313	651,939	21.5
Nationwide	52,934,945	10,965,727	20.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Table 17a. American Community Survey, Child (5-17) Poverty Rate, 2011-2015 by Census Tracts

Census Tracts	Children, Ages 5 - 17 years		
	Total Population	In Poverty	% living below the poverty level
Davenport	289	85	29.4
Meredith	94	2	2.1
Kortright	154	44	28.6
Franklin	427	28	6.6
Sidney	887	198	22.3
Tompkins	149	18	12.1
Masonville	236	15	6.4
Deposit	230	64	27.8
Walton	894	383	42.8
Hamden	213	36	16.9
Delhi	354	35	9.9
Stamford	259	93	35.9
Roxbury	316	130	41.1
Middletown	435	75	17.2
Colchester	303	173	57.1
Hancock	413	38	9.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Population Profile: Seniors in Poverty

Poverty rates for seniors, including data for all counties from the American Community Survey as average values for the 2011 to 2015 period, are shown in Table 18. At 6.3 percent, Delaware had a lower percentage of seniors in poverty than the statewide average. Delaware County has seen an in-migration of people with higher income levels and this in-migration has significantly increased the number of senior citizens and decreasing those living in poverty. For 2015, it is estimated that there were 611 seniors, or 6.3 percent, living in poverty within the report area.

Table 18. Seniors in Poverty, 2011-2015 (ACS)

Area	Seniors, 2011/2015	Seniors in Poverty, 2011/2015	Senior Poverty Rate, 2011/2015
Delaware County	9,647	611	6.3

Statewide	2,724,135	313,143	11.5
Nationwide	43,313,536	4,058,359	9.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Table 18a. Seniors in Poverty, 2011-2015 (ACS) by Census Tract

Census Tract	Seniors, 2011/2015	Seniors in Poverty, 2011/2015	Senior Poverty Rate, 2011/2015
Davenport	633	53	8.4
Meredith	310	18	5.8
Kortright	330	5	1.5
Franklin	453	22	4.9
Sidney	1,259	47	3.7
Tompkins	201	50	24.9
Masonville	256	23	9
Deposit	405	46	11.4
Walton	1,022	39	3.8
Hamden	326	41	12.6
Delhi	659	31	4.7
Stamford	546	57	10.4
Roxbury	550	38	6.9
Middletown	774	25	3.2
Colchester	438	34	7.8
Hancock	625	29	4.6

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2015. Poverty status in the past 12 months.

Population Profile: Veterans, Age and Gender Demographics

Table 19 shows the number of veterans living in Delaware County is 9.3 percent of the adult population which is nearly twice the statewide average of 5.1 percent. Military service offers an economic opportunity in an area where opportunities are limited. Additionally, the values of the community strongly support military service.

Table 19. Age and Gender Demographics of Veterans, 2012-2016

Area	Veterans			Percent of Population over 18 by Gender		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Delaware County	3,537	3,314	223	9.3	17.39	1.17
Statewide	789,553	739,116	50,437	5.1	10.02	.62
Nationwide	19,535,341	17,948,822	1,586,519	8.1	15.17	1.26

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Veteran Status, 2012-2016.

Table 19a. Age and Gender Demographics of Veterans, 2012-2016 by Census Tract

Census Tract	Veterans			Percent of Population over 18 by Gender		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Davenport	220	212	8	9.2	16.42	.72
Meredith	127	127	0	9.8	18.76	0
Kortright	100	100	0	8.3	18.32	0
Franklin	225	176	49	12.3	18.22	5.67
Sidney	401	401	0	9.3	17.27	0
Tompkins	68	62	6	8.2	14.73	1.46
Masonville	94	94	0	8.8	17.5	0
Deposit	150	135	15	11.2	19.68	2.31
Walton	365	347	18	9.1	19.86	.8
Hamden	109	97	12	10.5	19.8	2.19
Delhi	291	245	46	6.7	11.02	2.15
Stamford	220	194	26	9.9	17.6	2.34
Roxbury	175	175	0	9.6	18.31	0
Middletown	202	192	10	6.5	12.71	.62
Colchester	186	178	8	10.9	21.68	.9
Hancock	268	259	9	10.6	20.16	.72

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Veteran Status, 2012-2016.

Population Profile: Violent Crime

Occurrences of violent crime within Delaware County are shown in Table 20. According to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services reporting system, no murders occurred in 2017, but there were 32 rapes, 2 robberies and 25 aggravated assaults that took place within the report area in 2017.

Table 20. Homicide, Negligent Manslaughter, Assault, Robbery, Rape, 2017

Area	Total Violent Crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault
Delaware County	59	0	32	2	25
Statewide	70,565	547	6,383	20,026	43,629

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Uniform Crime/Incident-Based Reporting System, 2017.

The above table is inconsistent with the experience of Delaware Opportunities Inc. The agency is aware of 40-50 sexual assaults each year and 120 victims of domestic violence or stalking. Many of these domestic crimes go unreported, nevertheless, the prevalence of these crimes must be considered.

Population Profile: Property Crime

Occurrences of property crime within Delaware County are shown in Table 21. According to the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services reporting system, a total of 103 burglaries, 346 incidents of larceny, and 12 automotive thefts were recorded in 2017 within Delaware County

Table 21. Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft, 2012

Area	Total Property Crime	Burglary	Larceny	Auto Theft
Delaware County	461	103	346	12
Statewide	290,945	34,727	242,888	13,330

Source: New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, Uniform Crime/Incident-Based Reporting System, 2017.

It is believed that crimes are increasing at an alarming rate in connection with increased heroin use and sales in the county. The average daily population described in the following section is somewhat out of date in that the jail is currently at capacity and the largest percentage of offenders are heroin related crimes.

Population Profile: Average Daily Population Counts in the Delaware County Jail

The average daily number of persons held in the county jail is shown in Table 22 for Delaware County. An average total of 86 persons were held in county jails on 2014. Of these 32.5 percent were female (which is up significantly from the last needs assessment in 2015).

Table 22. Average Daily Population Counts in County Jails

Area	Average Daily Population Count			Facility Capacity	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Percent Capacity
Delaware County	86	67	19	121	121
Statewide	16,227	14,204	2,023	21,869	21,008

Source: Inmate Population Counts and Capacity, NYS by Local Correctional Facilities, 2014, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York, New York Statistical Yearbook.

The current heroin epidemic has increased incarceration to the facility capacity. Jail administrators are currently working with state personnel to permit double bunking to accommodate those being held, many of whom are awaiting court dates for heroin sales and addiction.

Population Profile: Citizenship Status

Table 23 shows the numbers and percent of population by citizenship status for Delaware County. Delaware County has a total of 804 non-citizens, or 1.73 percent of the total population of 44,615 persons, in contrast to the New York average of 10.26 percent of the population and the national average of 6.97 percent non-citizens living in the United States.

Table 23. Citizenship Status

Area	Population Count					By Percent				
	Native	Born in a US Territory	Born Abroad to US Citizens	Naturalized	Non-Citizen	Native	Born in a US Territory	Born Abroad to US Citizens	Naturalized	Non-Citizen
Delaware County	44,615	44,181	434	1,061	804	95.99	95.05	.93	2.28	1.73
Statewide	15,255,210	14,768,163	487,047	2,421,850	2,020,397	77.45	74.97	.24	12.3	10.26
Nationwide	276,363,808	271,639,606	4,724,202	19,979,407	22,214,947	86.75	85.27	1.48	6.27	6.97

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Selected Social Characteristics, 2012-2016.

Table 23a. Citizenship Status by Census Tract

Census Tract	Population Count					By Percent				
	Native	Born in a US Territory	Born Abroad to US Citizens	Naturalized	Non-Citizen	Native	Born in a US Territory	Born Abroad to US Citizens	Naturalized	Non-Citizen
Davenport	2,738	2,738	0	77	40	95.9	95.9	0	2.7	1.4
Meredith	1393	1376	17	21	70	93.87	92.72	1.15	1.42	4.72
Kortright	1412	1402	10	52	20	95.15	94.47	.67	3.5	1.35
Franklin	2,226	2,222	4	39	16	97.59	97.41	.18	1.71	.7
Sidney	5,437	5,408	29	54	112	97.04	96.52	.52	.96	2
Tompkins	978	978	0	23	0	97.7	97.7	0	2.3	0
Masonville	1,339	1,328	11	32	32	95.44	94.65	.78	2.28	2.28
Deposit	1,641	1,617	24	25	30	96.76	95.34	1.42	1.47	1.77
Walton	5,282	5,258	24	26	76	98.11	97.66	.45	.48	1.41
Hamden	1,291	1,287	4	31	6	97.21	96.91	.3	2.33	.45
Delhi	4,772	4,718	54	144	59	95.92	94.83	1.09	2.89	1.19
Stamford	2,448	2,429	19	101	22	95.22	94.48	.74	3.93	.86
Roxbury	2,046	2,040	6	98	44	93.51	93.24	.2	4.48	2.01
Middletown	3,378	3,288	90	128	112	93.37	90.88	2.49	3.54	3.1
Colchester	1,942	1,911	31	36	12	97.59	96.03	1.56	1.81	.6
Hancock	3,017	2,978	39	39	70	96.51	95.27	1.25	1.25	2.24

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, ??, 2012-2016.

The 3.1% population in Middletown and the 4.72 % population in Meredith represent clear and growing population segments that may require services...English as a second language, employment, interpretative services, etc.

Employment

Employment: Current Unemployment

Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for the entire county is provided in Table 24. Overall, the report area experienced an average 5.6% unemployment rate in September 2017, compared to a statewide rate of 4.7%.

Table 24. Employment/Unemployment Information, September 2017

Area	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
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Delaware County	19,104	18,026	1,078	5.6
Statewide	9,724,760	9,265,933	458,827	4.7
Nationwide				4.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Labor Force Data by County, 2017 Annual Averages; Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2016-2017.

Employment: Unemployment Change

Unemployment change within Delaware County during the 1-year period from September 2016 to September 2017 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this one-year period increased from 1,068 persons to 1,078 persons, a rate change of only .4% compared to a statewide rate decrease of -.2%.

Table 25. Change in Unemployment, September 2013 - September 2014

Area	Unemployment, September 2016	Unemployment, September 2017	Unemployment Rate, September 2016	Unemployment Rate, September 2017
Delaware County	1,068	1,078	5.2	5.6
Statewide	476,721	458,827	4.9	4.7
Nationwide			5.0	4.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2016-2017.

Employment: Thirteen Month Unemployment Rates

Unemployment change within Delaware County from September 2016 to September 2017 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this thirteen-month period increased from 5.2 percent to 5.6 percent or .4 percent, while the statewide rate fell by .2 percent.

Table 26. Change in Unemployment Rates, September 2016-2017

Area	Sep 2016	Oct 2016	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	Mar 2017	Apr 2017	May 2017	Jun 2017	Jul 2017	Aug 2017	Sep 2017
Delaware County	5.2	4.9	5.0	5.6	7.1	6.8	6.1	5.5	5.1	5.4	5.3	5.3	5.6
NY State	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
National	5.0	4.9	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2016-2017.

Employment: Five-Year Unemployment Rate

Unemployment change within Delaware County from September 2013 to September 2017 is shown in the chart below. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment for this five-year period fell from 8.1 percent to 6 percent, compared to a statewide decrease from 8.3 percent to 5.6 percent.

Table 27. Five Year Unemployment Rate, September 2013-September 2017

Area	September 2013	September 2014	September 2015	September 2016	September 2017
Delaware County	6.9	6.0	5.0	5.2	5.6
Statewide	7.6	6.0	5.0	4.9	4.7
Nationwide	7.2	5.9	5.0	5.0	4.2

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2016-2017.

Employment: Unemployment Insurance

Table 28 shows the private sector employment, payrolls, and average weekly wages of employees that are covered by Unemployment Insurance for the years 2004, 2009, and 2014.

Table 28. Unemployment Insurance, 2004, 2009, and 2014

Area	Average Employment			Total Payroll (\$millions)			Average Weekly Wage (\$)		
	2004	2009	2014	2004	2009	2014	2004	2009	2014
Delaware County	12,578	11,130	10,577	377	403	442	575.88	695.93	803.39
Statewide	6,856,759	6,892,893	7,481,411	348,280	405,862	502,803	976.8	1,132.33	1,292.44

Source: 2016 New York State Statistical Yearbook, Private Sector Employment, Payrolls, and Average Weekly Wages of Employees Covered by Unemployment Insurance, NYS by County: 2004, 2009, and 2014, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Employment: High School Graduates

Table 29 shows the number of High School Graduates in Delaware County for the 2005/06

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

through 2013/14 academic years.

Table 29. High School Graduates

Area	Persons Graduating High School								
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Delaware	532	481	510	482	508	484	450	424	396
Statewide	161,615	173,150	182,119	185,996	183,578	182,503	180,804	179,608	185,308

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Public High School Graduates, NYS by County: School Years 2006-06 to 2013-14, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Employment: Top Employers

The largest employers in Delaware County (100 or more employees) are shown in the table below:

Table 30. Top Employers

Employer	Type of Business
Amphenol	Industry
Acco	Industry
Mallinkrodt	Industry
Kraft Foods Inc	Industry
Friesland Campina	Industry
Saputo	Industry
Sportsfield Specialties	Industry
Price Chopper	Industry
Delaware Valley Hospital	Health Care
Robinson Terrace	Health Care
O'Connor Hospital	Health Care
Margaretville Memorial Hospital	Health Care
Margaretville Nursing Home	Health Care
Mountainside Residential Care	Health Care
SUNY Delhi	Educational
DCMO BOCES	Educational
Board Cooperative Education Services	Educational

Northern Catskill BOCES	
Delhi Central School District	Educational
Sidney Central School District	Educational
Walton Central School District	Educational
Deposit Central School District	Educational
Hancock Central School District	Educational
Delaware Opportunities	Nonprofit
County of Delaware	Government

Source: Locally Collected.

Employment: Factory/Plant/Business Closures Within Last Three Years

Table 31. Closures Within Last 3 Years

Employer	Type of Business
No major closings were reported	

Source: Locally collected

Employment: Number of Economic Development Agencies

Table 32. Economic Development Agencies

Delaware County Industrial Development Authority	Delaware County Economic Development Office
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Source: Locally collected

Employment: Motor Vehicle Registrations, 2014

Table 33 shows the number of registrations in 2014 by which vehicle type for the report area.

Table 33. Motor Vehicle Registrations, 2014

Area	All Registered Vehicles	Passenger Vehicles	Commercial Vehicles	Motorcycles	Mopeds
Delaware County	32,554	18,410	3,752	2,217	49

Statewide	7,091,656	5,122,569	481,658	367,785	12,643
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Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Moto Vehicle Registrations in Force by Type of Vehicle, NYS by County of Residence: 2014, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Employment: Wages

Average weekly wages for Delaware County during the period January-March 2018, are provided in Table 34.

Table 34. Weekly Wages, First Quarter 2018

Area	Total Employees -all ownerships	Average Weekly Wage (\$)	Federal Employees	Average Federal Government Weekly Wage (\$)	State Employees	Average State Government Weekly Wage (\$)	Local Employee	Average Local Government Weekly Wage (\$)	Private Employees	Average Private Weekly Wage (\$)
Delaware County	14,299	868	123	911	1,038	1082	3,281	719	9,857	895
Statewide	9,318,555	1,597	114,211	1,513	228,269	1,298	1,096,915	1,263	7,879,360	1,654

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages. 2018 First Quarter

Employment: Living Wage

The living wage shown is the hourly rate that an individual must earn to support their family, if they are the sole provider and are working full-time (2080 hours per year). The Minimum Hourly Wage for New York is \$10.40.

Table 35. County Hourly Living Wage, June 2012

Area	1 Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, 2 Children	1 Adult, 3 Children	2 Adults	2 Adults, 1 Child
Delaware County	11.09	25.11	34.17	46.11	8.86	13.52
Statewide	14.42	29.71	38.91	52.32	10.93	15.82
Area	2 Adults, 2 Children	2 Adults, 3 Children	2 Adults (1 wkg)	2 Adults (1 wkg), 1 Child	2 Adults, (1 wkg), 2 Children	2 Adults, (1 wkg), 3 Children
Delaware	18.67	23.47	17.73	20.93	23.97	26.29

County						
Statewide	21.06	26.57	21.86	25.43	28.5	32.12

Source: Living Wage Calculator, ©2018 Dr. Amy K. Glasmeier and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Employment: Commuter Travel Patterns

Of the 19,380 workers in the County, 84.64 percent, or 16,403 workers used private automobiles to travel to work. Of these, 76.76 percent drove to work alone while 7.88 percent carpooled. 1.59 percent of all workers reported that they used some form of public transportation, while 7.47 percent (or 1,448 workers) used some other means including walking, bicycles, and taxicabs to travel to work. (Although 308 people reported using public transportation to get to work, there is no public transportation in the county...therefore, those reporting using public transportation are believed to live and work outside of the county on a regular basis). The availability of a privately-owned vehicle is almost a requirement to obtain and maintain employment.

Table 36. Method of Transportation to Work

Area	Workers 16 and Up	Method of Transportation to Work (Percent)					
		Drive Alone	Carpool	Public Transportation	Walk	Taxi, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or other means	Work at Home
Delaware County	19,380	76.76	7.88	1.59	6.41	1.06	6.3
Statewide	9,147,894	53.01	6.71	28.04	6.32	1.91	4
Nationwide	145,861,221	76.4	9.32	5.13	2.760	1.82	4.57

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Means of Transportation to Work by Age.

The following table provides information regarding transportation to work at the local level.

Table 36a. Method of Transportation to Work by Census Tract

Census Tract	Workers 16 and Up	Method of Transportation to Work (Percent)					
		Drive Alone	Carpool	Public Transportation	Walk	Taxi, Motorcycle, Bicycle, or other means	Work at Home
Davenport	1,420	78.87	9.3	0	4.51	0	7.32

Meredith	698	77.65	9.03	0	2.87	1.58	8.88
Kortright	651	77.73	8.14	3.69	4.45	.92	5.07
Franklin	1,034	77.85	5.42	0	5.03	2.03	9.67
Sidney	2,300	81.04	8.83	0	8.7	0	1.43
Tompkins	446	88.12	6.73	.45	3.14	.9	.67
Masonville	634	78.55	10.73	1.1	3.79	.63	5.21
Deposit	639	77.15	12.99	1.1	3.76	2.19	2.82
Walton	2,084	84.98	1.73	0	5.13	1.15	7.01
Hamden	554	72.74	9.21	4.15	4.87	0	9.03
Delhi	1,948	69.6	8.42	.82	16.43	.51	4.21
Stamford	1,116	75.27	10.75	1.7	6.27	2.51	3.49
Roxbury	876	68.72	8.79	8.56	2.05	2.51	9.36
Middletown	1,363	70.21	8.36	2.79	3.45	.37	14.82
Colchester	896	80.25	3.91	3.46	5.58	1.79	5.02
Hancock	1,372	78.5	5.69	1.09	7.65	2.26	4.81

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Means of Transportation to Work by Age.

Employment: Travel Time to Work

Travel times for workers who travel (do not work at home) to work is shown in Table 37 for the 1 county report area. The majority of people are travelling 10 to 30 minutes to work within Delaware County which is consistent with the majority of workers statewide and nationally. The Census Tract specific information show the same trend, that a majority of individuals are travelling between 10 and 30 minutes to work. The one exception to this was in Deposit where the percentages were more evenly distributed across varying commute times and in Colchester where the majority of individuals had a longer commute.

Table 37. Travel Time to Work, 2012-2016

Area	Workers 16 and Up	Travel Time to Work in minutes (Percent of Workers)			
		Less than 10	10 to 30	30 to 60	More than 60
Delaware County	18,160	25.23	45	22.51	7.28
Statewide	8,781,619	9.86	40.13	32.94	17.08
Nationwide	139,199,329	12.88	50.11	28.33	8.68

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Travel Time to

Table 37a. Travel Time to Work, 2012-2016 by Census Tract

Census Tract	Workers 16 and Up	Travel Time to Work in Minutes (Percent of Workers)			
		Less than 10	10 to 30	30 to 60	More than 60
Davenport	1,316	13.68	51.44	30.4	4.48
Meredith	636	6.13	60.85	30.97	2.04
Kortright	618	13.75	60.52	19.09	6.63
Franklin	934	15.85	54.5	21.84	7.82
Sidney	2,267	33.08	41.24	20.34	5.34
Tompkins	443	9.03	49.66	33.86	7.45
Masonville	601	19.97	39.43	34.28	6.32
Deposit	621	35.59	23.83	33.17	7.41
Walton	1,938	25.59	53.41	15.22	5.78
Hamden	504	20.83	61.11	12.5	5.56
Delhi	1,866	40.68	39.23	13.29	6.81
Stamford	1,077	25.72	41.41	28.23	4.64
Roxbury	794	20.4	46.85	19.02	13.73
Middletown	1,161	30.06	41	16.11	12.83
Colchester	851	24.91	28.32	32.43	14.34
Hancock	1,306	29.56	38.97	22.97	8.5

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Travel Time to Work for Workers 16 Years or Age and Over Who Did Not Work at Home.

Education

Education: School Enrollment

Table 38 shows the total public and non-public school enrollment in Delaware County. Totals were updated to reflect counts in the fall of 2014 for private schools, and in the fall of 2014 for public schools.

Table 38. Public and Non-Public School Enrollment, Fall 2014

Area	Public Schools (2014)	Private Schools (2014)	All Schools
Delaware County	5,665	279	5,944
Statewide	2,551,893	411,654	2,963,547

Source: Based on the Fall Enrollment in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools, NYS by County: 2006-2014 and Fall Enrollment in Nonpublic Elementary and Secondary Schools, NYS by County: 2005-2014 published in the New York State Statistical Yearbook.

Education: High School Dropouts

Table 39 shows the High School Dropout rate as a percentage of school enrollment in Delaware County compared to New York State for the 2007/08 through 2013/14 academic years.

Table 39. High School Dropout Rates

Area	Dropout Rates						
	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Delaware County	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.5	3.2	3
Statewide	2.2	1.5	1.4	2.1	2.1	2.4	1.9

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Public High School Dropout Rate, NYS by County: School Years Ended 2008-14, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Education: High School Graduates

Table 40 shows the number of High School Graduates in Delaware County for the 2005/06 through 2013/14 academic years.

Table 40. High School Graduates

Area	Persons Graduating High School								
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Delaware County	532	481	510	482	508	484	450	424	396
Statewide	161,615	173,150	182,119	185,996	183,578	182,503	180,804	179,608	185,308

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Public High School Graduates, NYS by County: School Years 2006-06 to 2013-14, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Education: Educational Attainment

Table 41 shows the distribution of educational attainment levels in Delaware County. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25, and is an average for the period from 2012 to 2016.

Table 41. Percent Attaining Educational Levels

Area	% No High School Diploma	% High School Only	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors or Higher
Delaware	8.2	38.6	47.6	5.6
Statewide	12.3	25.8	46.7	15.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016, Educational Attainment.

Table 41a provides the same information at the Census Tract Level.

Table 41a. Percent Attaining Educational Levels by Census Tract

Census Tract Area	% No High School Diploma	% High School Only	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors or Higher
Davenport	9.4	8.2	82.4	0
Meredith	41.1	26.8	25.9	6.3
Kortright	11.7	44.7	24.5	19.1
Franklin	11	35.2	53.8	0
Sidney	0	39.7	60.3	0
Tompkins	6.6	37.5	44.9	11
Masonville	24.1	31.4	38	6.6
Deposit	3.6	59.8	23.2	13.4
Walton	0	57.7	19.2	23.1
Hamden	6.7	24	62.7	6.7
Delhi	1.2	30.1	65.6	3
Stamford	6.6	42.4	50	1

Roxbury	27.4	40.4	26.7	5.5
Middletown	15.8	61.7	21.2	1.4
Colchester	0	22.6	77.4	0
Hancock	33.6	43.1	16.4	6.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016, Educational Attainment.

Education: Veterans-Educational Attainment

Table 42 contrasts the distribution of educational attainment levels between veterans and non-veterans in Delaware County. Educational attainment is calculated for persons over 25 and is an average for the period from 2012 to 2016.

Table 42. Percent Attaining Educational Levels, Veterans: Non-Veterans

Area	Veterans				Non-Veterans			
	% No Diploma	% High School Diploma	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors/ Higher	% No Diploma	% High School Diploma	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors/ Higher
Delaware	11.37	42.43	30.83	15.36	12.31	37.64	28.05	22
Statewide	8	33.01	33.21	25.79	14.46	26.04	24.21	35.29

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016, Veteran Status by Educational Attainment for the Civilian Population 25 Years and Over.

Table 42a. Percent Attaining Educational Levels, Veterans: Non-Veterans by Census Tract

Census Tract	Veterans				Non-Veterans			
	% No Diploma	% High School Diploma	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors/ Higher	% No Diploma	% High School Diploma	% Some College or Associates Degree	% Bachelors/ Higher
Davenport	14.55	22.27	50	13.18	16.25	35.93	28.76	19.06
Meredith	2.36	38.58	26.77	32.28	7.04	32.16	30.64	30.16
Kortright	8	48	33	11	14.99	33.93	28.5	22.58
Franklin	4.44	38.67	35.11	21.78	7.95	33.42	28.77	29.86
Sidney	6.98	42.39	38.4	12.22	13.1	38.61	31.65	16.64

Tompkins	25	55.88	19.12	0	11.46	55.57	25.64	7.32
Masonville	3.19	59.57	37.23	0	15.99	44.63	23.99	15.39
Deposit	12	52.67	28	7.33	12.86	39.7	29.92	17.52
Walton	14.52	61.37	16.16	7.95	14.2	46.69	19.72	19.39
Hamden	1.83	41.28	31.19	25.69	6.2	28.3	35.9	29.6
Delhi	8.93	30.58	33.68	26.8	5.68	29.11	33.87	31.35
Stamford	5.5	36.7	29.36	28.44	13.12	36.29	28.37	22.22
Roxbury	20.57	38.86	30.86	9.71	10.73	40.71	24.32	24.25
Middletown	4.46	31.19	40.59	23.76	13.5	32.95	30.14	23.41
Colchester	26.88	43.55	18.28	11.29	10.43	35.93	28.21	25.42
Hancock	10.82	60.07	25.75	3.36	16.48	44.32	26.69	12.51

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016.

Education: Adult Literacy

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) produces estimates for adult literacy based on educational attainment, poverty, and other factors in each county.

Table 43. Persons Lacking Basic Prose Literacy Skills, 2003

Area	Estimated Population over 16	Percent Lacking Literacy Skills
Delaware County	37,942	12
Statewide	15,058,111	22

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, State and County Estimates of Low Literacy, 2003.

Education: Colleges, Universities and Trade Schools

The number of colleges, universities, and trade Schools in Delaware County is shown in Table 44.

Table 44. Colleges, Universities, and Trade Schools

County	Total Institutions, 2018	4-Year or Higher Institutions	2-Year Institutions	Other Institutions

Delaware	1	1	0	0
Statewide	456	250	123	124

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, 2018.

Housing

Housing: Housing Units

The number of housing units within Delaware County in July of each year from 2009-2016 is shown in Table 45. According to the U.S. Census, there were a total of 31,158 housing units in the report area in 2016, an increase of 1,431 or 4.59% since 2009 compared to a 2.95% increase statewide.

Table 45. 2009-2016 Housing Units

Area	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Delaware	29,727	30,890	31,092	31,143	31,126	31,222	31,202	31,158
Statewide	7,950,035	8,050,835	8,081,303	8,102,223	8,113,270	8,153,309	8,171,725	8,191,568

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Population Division, Housing Unit Estimates for Counties: 2009 to 2016.

Housing: Housing Age

Total housing units, median year built and median age in 2016 for Delaware County as compared with New York State are shown in Table 46.

Table 46. Median Housing Unit Age, 2012

County	Total Housing Units	Median Year Built	Median Age (in 2016)
Delaware	31,158	1980-1989	29-38
Statewide	8,191,568	1950-1959	59-68

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates 2012-2016, Selected Housing Characteristics.

Housing: Fair Market Rent

Fair market monthly rent for 0-4 bedrooms for Delaware County is shown in Table 47. The average rent for 2-bedroom units in the report area was \$667.00 in the 2014 fiscal year, compared to a statewide average of \$1,293.

Table 47. Fair Market Rents, 2014

Area	Fair Market Rent (Monthly \$'s) for Bedroom Size				
	0 Bedrooms	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms
Delaware County	525.00	529.00	667.00	836.00	959.00
Statewide	1,000.08	1,077.12	1,293.27	1,665.07	1,866.16

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, *Out of Reach 2014 Report*. This report is based on Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Final Fair Market Rent Documentation System. Report published 2014.

Housing: Housing Affordability

The National Low Income Housing Coalition reports each year on the amount of money a household must earn in order to afford a rental unit based on Fair Market Rents in the area and an accepted limit of 30% of income for housing costs.

Table 48. Hourly Wage Needed to Afford a Fair Market Rent, 2014

County	Average Renter Hourly Wage (\$)	Hourly Wage (\$'s) for Bedroom Size				
		0 Bedrooms	1 Bedroom	2 Bedrooms	3 Bedrooms	4 Bedrooms
Delaware	11.74	10.10	10.17	12.83	16.08	18.44
Statewide	21.81	19.23	20.71	24.87	32.02	35.89

Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition, *Out of Reach 2014 Report*.

* Based on 2012 BLS data, adjusted using the ratio of renter to overall household income reported in ACS, and projected to April 1, 2014.

Housing: Vacancy Rates

The U.S. Postal Service provided information quarterly to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development on addresses identified as vacant in the previous quarter. Residential and business vacancy rates for Delaware County in the third quarter of 2013 are reported in Table 49. In the third quarter of 2013, a total of 1,153 residential addresses were identified as vacant in

Delaware County, a vacancy rate of 5.4, and 156 business addresses were also reported as vacant, a rate of 12.

Table 49. USPS Address Vacancies, Third Quarter, 2018

Area	Residential Addresses	Vacant Residential Addresses	Residential Vacancy Rate	Business Addresses	Vacant Business Addresses	Business Vacancy Rate
Delaware County	21,522	1,153	5.4	1,262	156	12.4
Statewide	8,109,527	186,401	2.3	758,605	66,783	8.8

Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Aggregated USPS Administrative Data on Address Vacancies, Third Quarter, 2013.

Housing: Homeowners

The U.S. Census Bureau estimated there were 14,876 owner occupied homes in Delaware County in 2012, and 13,787 owner occupied homes in the county in 2016.

Table 50. Owner Occupied Homes, 2012-2016

Area	Homes, 2012	Homes, 2016
Delaware County	14,876	13,787
Statewide	3,940,688	3,894,613

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Housing Characteristics.

Housing: Overcrowded Housing

Occupied housing units, overcrowded housing units, and percent overcrowded for 2000 and 2012 are provided for Delaware County compared with Statewide data in Table 51.

Table 51. Overcrowded Housing Units

Area	Occupied Housing Units,	Overcrowded Housing	Percent Overcrowded, 2012	Occupied Housing Units,	Overcrowded Housing	Percent Overcrowded, 2016

	2012	Units, 2012		2016	Units, 2016	
Delaware County	19,920	577	2.9	18,817	677	3.6
Statewide	7,230,896	343,120	4.75	7,266,187	368,693	5.07

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2017, Selected Housing Characteristics.

Housing: Number of Unsafe, Unsanitary Homes

The number and percentage of occupied housing units without plumbing are shown in Delaware County compared with statewide data in Table 52. U.S. Census data shows 181 housing units in the County were without plumbing in 2012 and ACS five-year estimates show 55 housing units in the county were without plumbing in 2016.

Table 52. Housing Units Without Plumbing, 2012-2016

County	Occupied Housing Units, 2012	Housing Units without Plumbing, 2012	Percent without Plumbing, 2012	Occupied Housing Units, 2008- 2016	Housing Units without Plumbing, 2016	Percent without Plumbing, 2016
Delaware	31,143	181	.91	18,817	55	.3
Statewide	8,102,223	46,253	.64	7,266,187	28,471	.8

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2012-2016, Selected Housing Characteristics.

Income

Income: Income Levels

Two common measures of income are Median Household Income and Per Capita Income, based on U.S. Census Bureau estimates. Both measures are shown for Delaware County in Table 53. The average Per Capita income for the County is \$22,695.

Table 53. Income Levels by County, 2012-2016

Area	Median Household Income, 2016	Per Capita Income, 2016
Delaware County	46,055	24,753
Statewide	60,741	34,212

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016, Income in the Past 12 Months and Income/Population Per Capita Income in the Past 12 Months.

Table 53a. Income Levels by County, 2012 by Census Tract

Census Tract Area	Median Household Income, 2012	Per Capita Income, 2012
Davenport	43,244	25,784
Meredith	56,477	32,287
Kortright	56,184	28,595
Franklin	60,205	27,283
Sidney	36,507	22,512
Tompkins	57,083	22,504
Masonville	55,156	27,009
Deposit	46,464	22,414
Walton	35,000	21,298
Hamden	53,182	26,365
Delhi	49,333	23,124
Stamford	46,346	24,268
Roxbury	43,068	23,959
Middletown	41,342	28,001
Colchester	45,500	26,143
Hancock	46,989	23,172

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimate, 2012-2016, Income in the Past 12 Months and Income/Population Per Capita Income in the Past 12 Months.

Income: Personal Income

Table 54 shows personal income by the major categories of earnings, property income, and transfer payments in millions of dollars for the report area in 2013. Persons in Delaware County received 24.94 percent of their income from transfer payments, compared to the state-wide average of 17.32 percent.

Table 54. 2013 Personal Income by Type

Area	Total	Income by Category (in	Percent Income by Category
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	Income (in millions)	millions)					
		Earnings	Property Income	Transfer Payments	Earnings	Property Income	Transfer Payments
Delaware County	1,737.40	934.9	369.3	433.3	53.81	21.26	24.94
Statewide	1,070,235.8	677,939.5	206,942.5	185,353.8	63.34	19.34	17.32

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Personal Income by Type and County of Residence, NY: 2013: Rockefeller Institute, University of Albany, State University of New York.

Income: Household Income

Median annual household income is shown and compared with New York State income in Table 55.

Table 55. 2016 Median Annual Household Income

Area	Median Household Income (\$)
Delaware County	45,381
Statewide	62,700

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE), 2016 Poverty and Median Household Income Estimates-Counties, States, and National.

Income: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

The number of persons receiving TANF in Delaware County in August 2018, is shown in Table 56. The New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance reported that 300 persons were receiving TANF benefits at a cost of \$95,106, or \$317 per recipient.

Table 56. Persons Receiving TANF, August 2018

Area	Persons Receiving TANF, August 2018		Expenditures, August 2018		
	Total Cases	Recipients	Total (\$)	\$ Per Case	\$ Per Person
Delaware County	194	300	95,106	490.24	317.02
Statewide	273,744	516,158	182,158,676	665.43	353.91

Source: New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, August 2018.

Income: Free and Reduced Lunch Program

Table 57 shows the number of students eligible for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program during 2015-2016. 48.43% of the students in Delaware County public schools were eligible for free or reduced lunches, compared to a similar statewide rate of 48.53%.

Table 57. Students Participating in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program, 2014

Area	Total Student Enrollment (2015-2016)	Students Eligible	Percent of Students Eligible
Delaware County	6,136	2,972	48.43
Statewide	2,693,471	1,307,070	48.53

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, *School Enrollment, 2015-2016*.

Table 57a. Students Participating in the Free and Reduced Lunch Program, 2015-2016 By School District

School District	Total Student Enrollment (2015-2016)	Students Eligible	Percent of Students Eligible
Andes	105	61	58.1
Charlotte Valley	381	207	54.33
Delaware Academy	719	246	34.21
Downsville	268	165	61.57
Deposit	539	341	63.27
Franklin	271	126	46.49
Hancock	369	229	62.06
Margaretville	367	220	59.95
Roxbury	320	181	56.56
Sidney	1,089	462	42.42
South Kortright	400	n/a	n/a
Stamford	329	161	48.94
Walton	979	573	58.53

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, *School Enrollment, 2015-2016*.

Table 57b. Students Participating in Free Lunch Program by School District

School District	Total Student Enrollment (2015-2016)	Students Eligible for Free Lunch	Percent of Students Eligible
Andes	105	47	44.76
Charlotte Valley	381	190	49.87
Delaware Academy	719	215	29.9
Downsville	268	122	45.52
Deposit	539	291	53.99
Franklin	271	96	35.42
Hancock	369	176	47.7
Margaretville	367	193	52.59
Roxbury	320	161	50.31
Sidney	1,089	381	34.99
South Kortright	400	n/a	n/a
Stamford	329	119	36.17
Walton	979	502	51.28

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, School Enrollment, 2015-2016.

Income: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The number of households and persons receiving SNAP benefits and the total SNAP dollars issued in Delaware County in August of 2018 are shown in Table 58. According to the New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Delaware County had the average benefit per household during September of 2018 at \$204 per household.

Table 58. Households and Persons Receiving SNAP Benefits, August 2018

Area	Households Receiving Benefits			Persons Receiving Benefits			Benefits Issued (\$)			Benefits Per Household
	Total	Temp	Non - Temp	Total	Temp	Non - Temp	Total	Temp	Non - Temp	
Delaware County	2,637	749	1,888	4,742	870	3,872	537,779	124,972	412,807	203.94
Statewide	1,547,379	641,150	906,229	2,751,082	942,612	1,808,470	378,145,055	146,189,280	231,955,775	244.38

Source: New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, August 2018.

Income: Supplemental Security Income

The number of Supplemental Security Income recipients and expenditures by the state and federal governments in Delaware County are shown in Table 59. The report area average payment of \$572 to each recipient is less than the state average of \$607 per recipient.

Table 59. Supplemental Security Income, August 2018

Area	August Recipients	August Expenditures (\$)			Expenditure per Recipient
		Total	Federal	State	
Delaware County	1,303	745,855	646,245	99,610	572.41
Statewide	684,385	415,780,850	365,629,581	50,151,269	607.52

Source: New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, August 2018.

Income: Safety Net Family Assistance

The number of persons receiving Safety Net Assistance in August 2018, within Delaware County is shown in Table 60. The New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance reported that 79 persons were receiving Safety Net Assistance benefits at a cost of \$37,154, or \$447 per recipient. 10.84 percent of the recipients were children.

Table 60. Safety Net and Family Assistance Cases, August 2018

Area	Safety Net and Family Assistance Cases, August 2018			Expenditures, August 2018		
	Total	Children	Adults	Total	Per Case	Per Person
Delaware County	79	9	74	37,154	470.3	447.64
Statewide	187,644	104,901	211,303	124,431,869	663.13	393.52

Source: New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, August 2018.

Income: Child Support Collections

Child support collections for Delaware County area are shown in Table 61. During August 2018, child support collections totaled \$329,077. Collections were down approximately 7% for both the county and the state.

Table 61. Child Support Collections, August 2018

Area	Child Support Collections, August 2018
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	Total	Current Assistance	Former Assistance	Never Assisted
Delaware County	377,618.45	15,589.47	256,589.97	105,439.01
Statewide	166,981,908.87	5,897,419.08	89,509,252.13	71,575,237.66

Source: New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, August 2018.

Nutrition

Nutrition: Free and Reduced Lunch Program

Table 57 above shows the number of students eligible for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program during 2015-2016.

Nutrition: Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)

The number of meals provided through Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) Supported Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries and Shelters is shown in Table 62. The statewide average number of meals served per day was 212 meals per site.

Table 62. Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries and Shelters, July 2010-June 2011

Area	HPNAP Sites	Sites per 10,000	Average Meals Served per Site per Day	Meals per Person per Year
Delaware County	15	3.1	54	12
Statewide	2,522	1.3	212	6

Source: New York Department of Health, Services Provided by HPNAP Supported Groups.

Nutrition: Persons Served by Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries and Shelters

The number of persons being served at Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP) Supported Soup Kitchens, Food Pantries and Shelters is shown in Table 63. On average, the statewide number of people served per day was 82,507.

Table 63. Persons Served through the Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP), July 2010-June 2011

Area	Total Persons Presenting Themselves (Duplicated)				Adjusted to an Average Daily Basis			
	All	Children	Adults (18-65)	Elderly (>65)	All	Children	Adults (18-65)	Elderly (>65)
Delaware County	24,894	8,543	14,845	1,506	68	23	41	4
Statewide	30,115,199	8,581,937	17,540,369	3,992,893	82,507	23,512	48,056	10,939

Source: New York Department of Health, Services Provided by HPNAP Supported Groups.

Note: The number of persons served is based on counting individuals as they enter a facility. A person may be counted multiple times in one day; the daily averages may count an individual more than once. The totals columns count individuals more than once.

Nutrition: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

The number of households and persons receiving SNAP benefits and the total SNAP dollars issued per county are shown in Table 58.

Health Care

Health Care: Medicare and Medicaid Providers

The total number of institutional Medicare and Medicaid providers, including hospitals, nursing facilities, federally qualified health centers, rural health clinics and community mental health centers for Delaware County is shown in Table 64. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, there were 7 active Medicare and Medicaid institutional service providers in the report area in the third quarter of 2013.

Table 64. Institutional Medicare and Medicaid Providers, 2013

Area	Total Institutional Providers	Hospitals	Nursing Facilities	Federally Qualified Health Centers	Rural Health Clinics	Community Mental Health Centers
Delaware County	7	4	2	0	0	0
Statewide	2,359	249	634	222	10	3

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Provider of Services File, Third Quarter, 2013.

Health Care: Persons Receiving Medicare

The total number of persons receiving Medicare is shown. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services reported that a total of 11,235 persons were receiving Medicare benefits in 2012. In 2018, only 7,627 are receiving Medicare benefits.

Table 65. Medicare Enrollment, September 2018

Area	Persons Over 65 Receiving Medicare
Delaware County	7,627
Statewide	2,099,743

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Medicare County Enrollment Report, 2012.

Health Care: Monthly Average Medicaid Expenditures

The average monthly Medicaid expenditures during the first quarter of 2014 is shown in Table 66 for Delaware County.

Table 66. Monthly Average Medicaid Expenditures, First Quarter 2014

Area	Monthly Average Number of Persons Receiving Medicaid, 1 st Quarter 2014								Total
	Children	Adults	Safety Net Children	Safety Net Adults	Elderly	Disabled	Family Health Plus	Other	
Delaware County	2,046,710	3,478,487	37,940	261,190	3,457,004	2,452,509	710,599	25,489	12,471,928
Statewide	1,124,305,761	2,111,715,671	95,790,651	176,675,187	1,712,317,917	1,157,169,399	350,996,413	485,806,610	7,214,777,609

Source: New York Department of Health, Information for a Healthy New York, Medicaid Expenditures by Category of Eligibility by Social Services District, January 2014-March 2014.

Health Care: Child Health Plus

Table 67 shows the total enrollment for the New York Child Health Plus program for October 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018. According to the New York Department of Health, there were 682 persons enrolled in the Child Health Plus Program during October 2018. Between October 2014 and October 2018, enrollment increased in the report area by 36 persons, or 5.28%.

Table 67. Child Health Plus

Area	Total Enrollment				
	Oct 2014	Oct 2015	Oct 2016	Oct 2017	Oct 2018
Delaware County	646	531	577	675	682
Statewide	292,225	277,127	310,557	351,401	380,276

Source: New York Department of Health, Information for a Healthy New York, Child Health Plus Enrollment by Insurer.

Health Care: Uninsured Population

The uninsured population is calculated by estimating the number of persons eligible for insurance (generally those under 65) minus the estimated number of insured persons. In 2011, the percentage of persons uninsured was 12.7 in Delaware County. In 2016, according to census estimates, that fell to 6.5%.

Table 68. Uninsured Persons, 2011

Area	Insurance Population (2011 Estimate)	Number Insured	Number Uninsured	Percent Uninsured
Delaware	48,079	31,871	4,633	12.70
Statewide	19,302,448	14,237,024	2,155,975	13.20
Nationwide	306,603,774	217,966,406	45,725,534	14.91

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates, 2011.

It was anticipated, in the previous needs assessment, that the number of uninsured would decline as the Affordable Health Care Act is implemented. A 6.2% decrease occurred between 2011 and 2016.

Health Care: Prenatal Care

In 2012, a total of 7 Delaware County women did not receive prenatal care. This figure indicates that 1.6 percent of pregnant women did not receive prenatal care during pregnancy.

Table 69. Trimester When Prenatal Care Began, 2012

Area	First	Second	Third	No	Unknown	Not	Total
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	Trimester	Trimester	Trimester	Prenatal Care		Reported	Births
Delaware	333	80	14	7	1	2	437
Statewide	171,805	47,953	11,439	1,514	2,151	4,362	239,224

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Resident Live Births by Month Prenatal Care Began, NYS by County: 2012, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Health Care: Teen Births

Births to teens totaled 34, or 8 percent of all live births, in Delaware County in 2012.

Table 70. Births to Females Age 10 to 19, 2012

Area	Age Under 15	Age 15 to 17	Age 18 to 19	Total Live Births	Births to Teens
Delaware County	0	5	29	437	34
Statewide	179	3,500	9,054	239,224	12,733

Source: New York Department of Health, Vital Statistics of New York State 2012.

Health Care: HIV/AIDS

In 2013, there were 57 reported cases of HIV/AIDS in the report area. HIV/AIDS cases are reported as total cases and non-prison cases. Based on this, an estimated 10.5 percent of reported cases were in the prison population.

Table 71. Living HIV and AIDS Cases, 2013

Area	HIV/AIDS Cases (Including Prisoners)			HIV/AIDS Cases (Excluding Prisoners)		
	Total HIV/AIDS	HIV Only	AIDS Only	Total HIV/AIDS	HIV Only	AIDS Only
Delaware County	57	17	40	51	15	36
Statewide	28,176	11,758	16,418	22,415	9,471	12,944

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Living HIV and AIDS Cases, NYS by County (Excluding NYC): 2013, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Health Care: Deaths

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

In 2012, death rates were 11.6 deaths per 1,000 persons in Delaware County, much higher than the New York State rate of 7.6 per 1,000 persons.

Table 72. Deaths and Death Rates

Area	2010		2011		2012	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
Delaware County	529	11	515	10.7	556	11.6
Statewide	144,913	7.5	147,105	7.6	147,390	7.6

Source: New York State Statistical Yearbook, Resident Deaths and Rates, NYS by County: 2009-2012, Rockefeller Institute, University at Albany, State University of New York.

Health Care: Physicians

Table 73 shows the number of Physicians, Physician Assistants and Specialist Assistants for Delaware County.

Table 73. Physicians and Assistants, 2018

Area	Physicians, MD	Physician Assistants	Specialist Assistants
Delaware County	28	20	0
Statewide	75,392	13,098	90

Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

Health Care: Dentists

Table 74 shows the number of Dentists, Dental Hygienists and Certified Dental Assistants for Delaware County.

Table 74. Dental Professionals, 2018

Area	Dentists	Certified Dental Assistant	Dental Hygienists
Delaware County	12	9	19
Statewide	14,964	1,423	10,246

Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

Health Care: Nurses

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

Table 75 shows the number of nurses (RN and LPN) and nurse practitioners for Delaware County.

Table 75. Nurses, 2018

Area	Nurse, RN	Nurse, LPN	Nurse Practitioners
Delaware County	467	296	47
Statewide	240,440	63,239	21,417

Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

Health Care: Mental Health Professionals

Table 76 shows the number of mental health professionals for the 1 county report area.

Table 76. Mental Health Professionals, 2018

Area	Psychoanalysts	Mental Health Counselors	Creative Arts Therapists	Marriage and Family Therapists
Delaware County	6	6	1	1
Statewide	626	6,591	1,457	1,003

Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

Health Care: Therapists

Table 77 shows the number of physical, occupational and massage therapists for Delaware County.

Table 77. Therapists, 2018

Area	Physical Therapist	Physical Therapist Assistants	Occupational Therapist	Occupational Therapist Assistants	Massage Therapists
Delaware County	25	9	10	5	31

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

Statewide	18,721	5,389	11,966	3,893	13,554
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Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

Health Care: Special Health Professionals

Table 78 shows the number of Optometrists, Audiologists, Speech Pathologists, Respiratory Therapists, and Respiratory Technicians for the report area.

Table 78. Special Health Professionals, 2018

Area	Optometrists	Audiologists	Speech Pathologists	Respiratory Therapists	Respiratory Technicians
Delaware County	3	0	16	8	1
Statewide	2,834	1,333	17,288	5,625	768

Source: New York Office of the Professions, New York State Licensed Professions, 2018.

PART II: SURVEY RESULTS

Delaware Opportunities collects satisfaction surveys throughout the year for all funded programs within the agency. Thousands of surveys are collected throughout the year with questions ranging from program-specific questions to more general questions. The variety of questions make it difficult to compare responses across the board for something like a needs assessment that looks at a larger picture versus just at program specific goal-setting and strategic planning. The surveys are collected, compiled and analyzed throughout the year by both program staff and administration. Each program also presents survey results to the Board of Directors once throughout the year. While a more streamlined process is needed and is already in the works, in the past year there were only three common questions asked across all programs:

1. Were you treated with respect?
2. Were you treated professionally?
3. Did the services meet your needs?

Individuals receiving services who completed these satisfaction surveys overwhelmingly answered yes to all of these questions. In regard to question 1, 765 individuals indicated that they were treated with respect. In regard to question 2, 203 individuals indicated that they were treated professionally. In regard to question 3, 660 individuals indicated that the services met their needs. Some of the anecdotal comments received included things such as, but not limited to: dissatisfaction with contractor, wanted additional work completed, less paperwork, unsure if receiving the benefit, etc.

Programs such as Parent Education, Family Development and Healthy Families also ask individual about individual and family goal-setting. When asked about whether or not an individual was able to set and achieve goals they almost always indicated yes. When asked if they were provided with training and assistance and consistent appointments with staff, again they almost always answered yes.

In addition to satisfaction surveys collected throughout the year, Delaware Opportunities Inc. also put out a survey for community members, providers and community partners, and also staff, volunteers and board members.

For planning purposes, needs fall into three groups: agency, community, and/or family. Respondents tended to focus on family or community, while the staff, service providers and the Board of Directors also focused on agency and somewhat more on community than program participants. Ideas from service providers included increased pooling of resources, increased collaboration, and regional effort to conduct needs assessment.

There are two accepted survey methodologies and this needs assessment utilizes both. The above represents a “brainstorming” approach where respondents are encouraged to consider an issue and present their best answer to a question. The second methodology provides respondents with possible answers and asks for the respondent to rank or order a response. The results from the second methodology is presented in the following pictures.

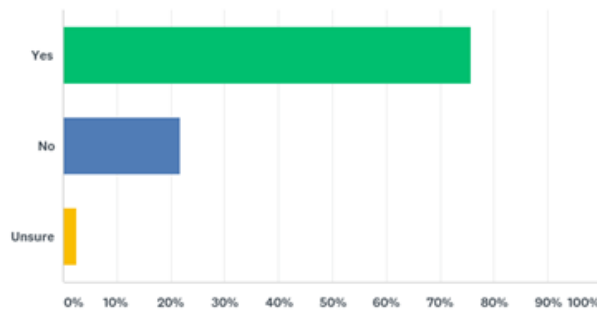
Key pieces of data from community members:

Important demographics of survey respondents include, but is not limited to:

- Median household size-3
- Average income: \$31,272
- 91.3% of respondents were female
- English is the primary language of all respondents, only one had Hispanic, Spanish or Latino origin
- 112 identified as white/Caucasian; 1 as Asian; 1 as American Indian/Alaskan Native; and 1 as European
- Respondents had an average age if 40.4
- Less than 30% of respondents had an Associate’s degree or higher

Figure1: Question asked: Are you receiving services, or have you received services from Delaware Opportunities in the past year? Of the 115 respondents, 24 Delaware County towns were represented. The two towns with the highest number of respondents was Sidney (15) and Delhi (12).

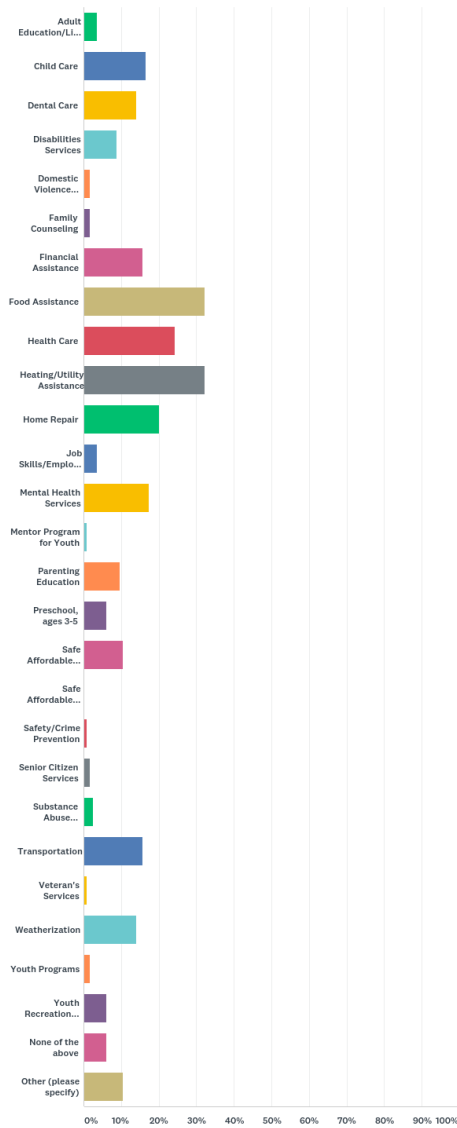
Q1 Are you receiving services or have you received services from Delaware Opportunities programs in the past year?



**Figure 1*

Figure 2: Question asked: What have been your household’s top 3 needs in the last 12 months? Respondents could choose up to 3 that applied. Those needs with the most significant response from respondents were; food assistance, health care, and heating/utility assistance. These three were followed closely by; child care, financial assistance, dental care, home repair, health care, mental health services, transportation, and weatherization.

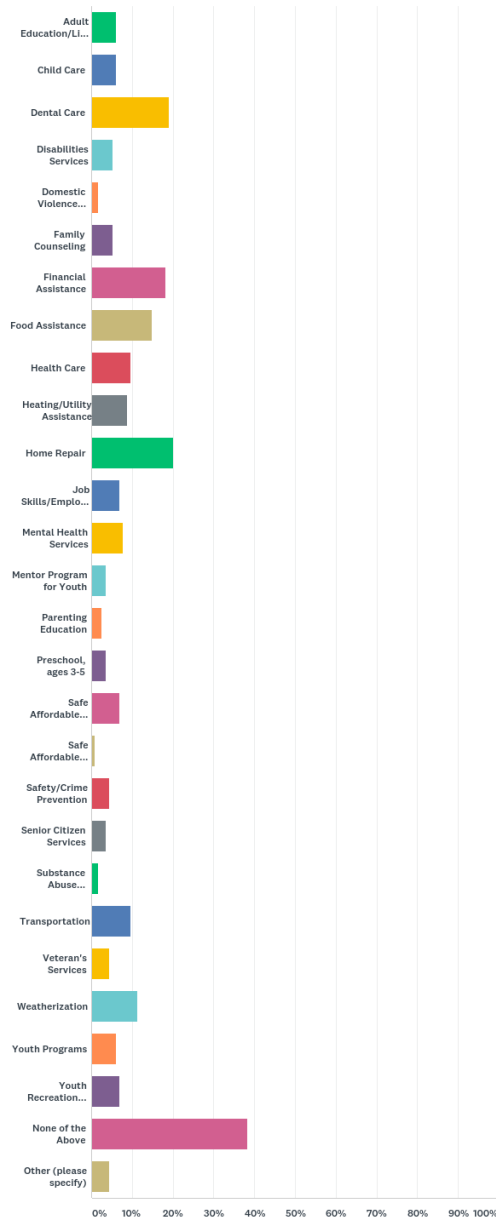
Q11 What have been your household's top 3 needs within the past 12 months? Check 3 that apply:



*Figure 2

Figure 3: Another question asks participants to check all services they, or someone in their household needed but did not receive within the past 12 months. A few services that stood out were; dental care, financial assistance, food assistance, home repair. The service with the greatest number of participants noting it was “none of the above”, indicating that almost 40% of respondents felt that there were not outstanding services that they hadn’t received.

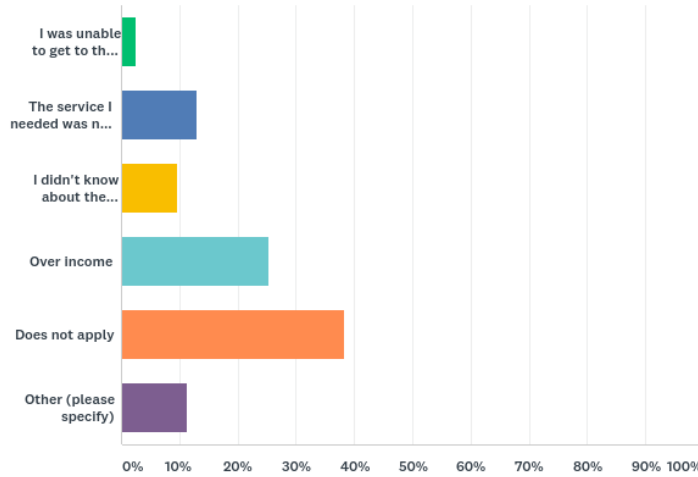
Q12 Check ALL services you or someone in your household needed but DID NOT receive within the past 12 months. Check all that apply:



**Figure 3*

Figure 4: Another question asks, if you needed services, but did not receive them, what as the reason? Almost 40% of participants indicated that it “does not apply”. 25% of participants reported being over income.

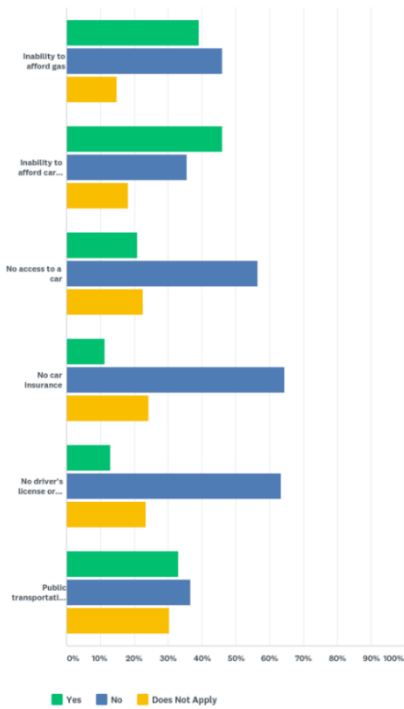
Q13 If you needed services, but did not receive them, what was the reason?



**Figure 4*

Figure 5: Another question asks, in the past 12 months, has anyone in your household experienced any of the following challenges with transportation? Some of the most major challenges identified were inability to afford gas and inability to afford a car.

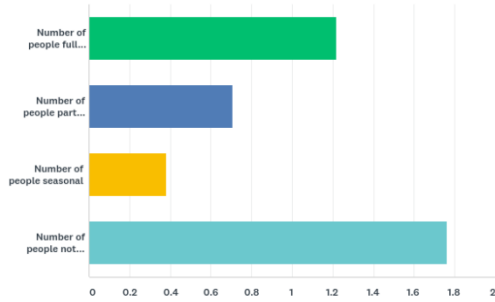
Q18 In the past 12 months, has anyone in your household experienced any of the following challenges with transportation?



**Figure 5*

Figure 6: Another survey question asked, how people in your household are employed? Of the 115 respondents, the majority responded that no one in their household is employed.

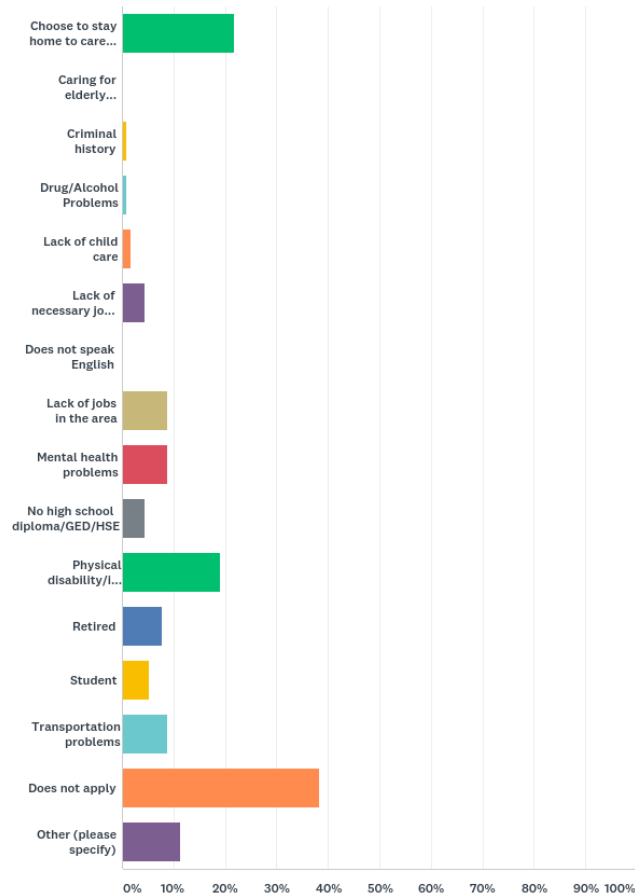
Q19 How many people in your household are employed?



**Figure 6*

Figure 7: Another question in the survey asks, for the adults (18 and older) in your household who are NOT working for pay, please indicate why they do not work? It asks respondents to check all that apply. The reasons receiving the most responses were; choose to stay home to care for children or physical disability. “Does not apply” received almost 40% of the responses.

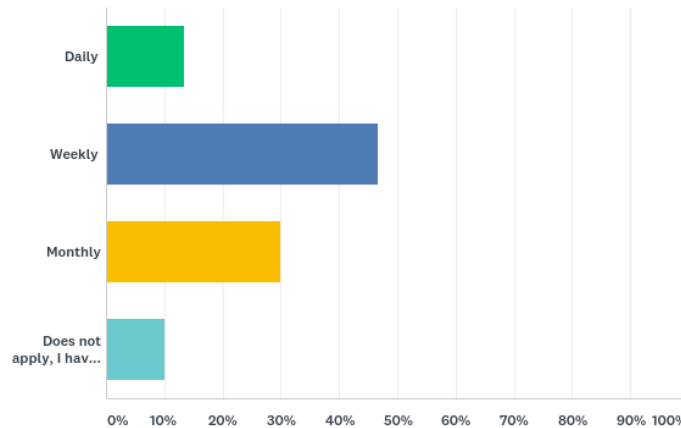
Q20 For the adults (18 and older) in your household who are NOT working for pay, please indicate why they do not work. Check all that apply:



**Figure 7*

Figure 8: Question-if yes, how often have you or has anyone in your household skipped or cut the size of a meal because there was not enough food? 46.67% of survey respondents reported weekly while 30% said monthly and 13.33% said daily. It should be noted that many respondents did choose to skip this question.

Q36 If yes, how often have you or has anyone in your household skipped or cut the size of a meal because there was not enough food?



**Figure 8*

When asked about food assistance services used, many respondents reported using a food pantry, DO’s food distribution, school breakfasts and lunches, SNAP, and WIC. When asked if anyone in the household had to choose between buying food or paying an important household bill, 1/3 of survey respondents (33.03%) said “yes”.

Community partners as well as staff, volunteers and board members were also surveyed. 78 people participated between these two surveys. Some of the questions these individuals were asked were quite different from the general community member survey. One such question asked respondents to list three positive aspects of living in Delaware County. Responses included things such as, but not limited to: its scenic beauty, family, small town community, close knit, smaller schools, family friendly, kind and caring community, and quiet. When asked similarly about the top three negative aspects some of the responses included: medical care, rise in drug use, poverty, job opportunities, lack of resources, transportation, and lack of diversity.

When asked about the top 3 most pressing needs, 53.85% of respondents indicated transportation and 38.46% indicated child care. It was no surprise, when asked about services that cannot meet the demand in the county, that transportation and child care were once again at the top of the list. They were accompanied by mental health and substance abuse services. A follow-up question asks these respondents to indicate what they believed to be the (up to) 3 most challenging issues that would face low-income individuals within the next 3 years. These challenges identified included but were not limited to: child care (35.38%), health care (21.54%), job skills (23.08%), mental health services (26.15%), safe and affordable housing (20%), substance abuse services (30.77%), and transportation (50.77%).

PART III: COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ASSURANCES

Delaware Opportunities Inc. is a multi-faceted agency (i.e. some programs are designed to serve only the low income, while others have no income tests). The Community Assessment; however, has been prepared to cover the ten assurances mandated by the Community Services Block Grant program, which address in broad terms the needs and concerns of the county's low-income population. The CSBG assurances have been organized, for the purpose of clarity, into the following ten areas, each of which is addressed separately in this document.

Organization of This Document

1. Self-sufficiency: to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency
2. Employment: to secure and retain meaningful employment
3. Attain an adequate education
4. Make better use of available income
5. Obtain and maintain adequate housing
6. Obtain emergency assistance
7. Achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community
8. Youth development
9. Coordination and effective use of other programs
10. Counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition

1. Self-sufficiency: to remove obstacles and solve problems that block the achievement of self-sufficiency

a. Local resources. The following area resources are available:

1. Delaware County Department of Social Services
2. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County
3. Delaware County Office for the Aging
4. Office of Employment and Training
5. Delaware County Economic Development Department

These agencies have been encouraged to develop family development programs.

b. Agency resources. Delaware Opportunities maintains two Family Development Specialists, both of whom have received the Family Development Credential. These staff work intensively with approximately ten families each to implement a family development program, assisting all family members with moving toward self-sufficiency. Head Start, Parent Education, Job Coaches, and Housing staff are also certified family development workers. Hence the following programs of the agency are devoted to self-sufficiency efforts:

1. Family Development
2. Rental Assistance and Family Self-Sufficiency
3. Job Coaching
4. Employment and Training
5. Employment Coordinator
6. Head Start
7. Parent Education
8. Agency Advocate

c. Strategies. It is clear that people emerging from dependency need continued levels of support, through programs such as Family Development. Ongoing assistance may range from general emotional support, to emergency assistance to overcome obstacles which threaten to thwart the families' efforts to achieve self-sufficiency. Accordingly, the agency should:

1. Encourage outside agencies such as Cooperative Extension, Office for the Aging, Department of Social Services, Office of Employment and Training and others to have staff training in the family development program and eventually gain the Family Development Credential.
2. Engage in "Pathways" in connection with the Department of Social Services to provide a mechanism for setting of goals, reviewing progress, and working together to make small and large gains toward self-sufficiency.
3. Support family development efforts within the agency.
4. Encourage the Department of Social Services to increase child care benefits toward the limit of 200% of poverty.
5. Encourage the Department of Social Services to use Emergency Assistance to Families and other forms of assistance to assist families in meeting immediate crises which would otherwise impact the family's movement toward self-sufficiency.

It is clear that many of those in need of public assistance (i.e. very low income, lack of regular employment) are not enrolled in the family development program. This is evident from anecdotal information furnished by applicants for other programs offered by Delaware Opportunities as well as the Welfare to Work studies. This segment of the population will be the most difficult to address. They will have the most significant and intractable problems and the fewest resources to access.

2. Secure and maintain meaningful employment

a. Local resources. The following agencies and programs offer employment and training related services:

1. Delaware County Chamber of Commerce
2. Delaware County Department of Social Services-Employment Unit
3. New York State Job Service (Department of Labor)-WIB One Stop
4. Delaware County Office of Employment and Training
5. Delaware County ARC
6. Delaware County Industrial Development Agency
7. Work in Progress (WIP)
8. DCMO BOCES
9. SUNY Delhi
10. Youth Employment (Delaware County OET)
11. Delaware County Department of Economic Development

A small percentage of job openings are listed in the local newspapers. Employment counseling for students is offered through SUNY Delhi, Delaware County OET, and the Department of Social Services.

b. Agency resources. Delaware Opportunities Inc. is itself a major employer in the county, with over 200 current employees. Delaware Opportunities also operates a work experience program for people on public assistance. The work crews generated through this program provide meaningful work experience for public assistance recipients while assisting not-for-profit agencies and municipalities.

The following Delaware Opportunities programs are designed to help low-income persons secure and retain meaningful employment:

1. Agency Advocate's case management services
2. Family Development
3. Day Care Development programs
4. Subsidized day care for employed low-income parents
5. Work experience (job crews)
6. Transitional day care for parents between public assistance and self-sufficiency
7. Employment for day care and respite care providers
8. Family support through Project Head Start
9. Section 8 Family Self-Sufficiency program
10. Work in Progress (WIP)
11. Transportation to interviews, or employment
12. Subsidized loans for vehicle purchase
13. Grants to individuals for vehicle sales tax and/or registration

c. Strategies. In addition to the programs listed above, Delaware Opportunities should:

1. Encourage economic development activities in the county that will create and/or promote livable wage jobs.

2. Collaborate with the Department of Social Services and the Office of Employment and Training to establish a Work in Progress program for adolescents, serving on the steering committee and establishing necessary funding for the implementation of the program.
3. Seek continuation and expansion of day care start-up funding to permit lower income families to gain employment as day care providers.
4. Investigate the development of a temporary employment agency that could provide on-the-job training and potential linkages between employers and low-income people who want to work, but have been unable to secure employment through traditional channels.
5. Collaborate with local employers and partner agencies to investigate the development of an Employee Resource Network to support individuals who are employed to remain employed.
6. Work toward establishment of a program that would bring together retired persons with young, inexperienced workers in a mentoring relationship.
7. Advocate for tax advantages for the working poor.
8. Explore demonstration funding for micro enterprise self-employment initiatives.
9. Increase the number of jobs work crews to provide service to unserved portions of Delaware County.
10. Explore the possibility of creating Individual Development Accounts (IDA's) for persons who are transitioning off welfare and are employed.
11. Seek additional Main Street funding.
12. Pursue additional agri-business, particularly to increase production of crops and to take advantage of the Greek Yogurt boom in a contiguous county and to take advantage of open spaces.

3. Attain an adequate education

The changes in the economy and the competition for employment opportunities necessitate that children receive an adequate education. Recent research indicates that school completion and academic success increase children's ability to escape poverty, form strong families, and raise successful children of their own. The poverty rate for high school dropouts is ten times that of a college graduate. Furthermore, college graduates earn twice the annual income of adults with only a high school diploma and have three times the income of high school dropouts.

Although the educational achievements of poor children are not necessarily limited by their poverty, poor children often have to overcome obstacles in their educational paths that are not faced by children from middle-class or more affluent families. Children in low-income families, for example, tend to have fewer role models to inspire academic success, and

compared with other children, they are raised in homes with fewer books and are read to less. Furthermore, the poor nutrition associated with poverty also affects school performance and leads to more frequent illness and school absence. Head Start is a program designed to address these types of barriers through a comprehensive service delivery model.

a. Local resources. In addition to the county's local school systems, the BOCES system (which provides adult literacy training and GED preparation) and SUNY Delhi, the following educational institutions are available to area residents (distances shown are from the center of Delaware County).

1. SUNY Oneonta (21 miles)
2. Hartwick College (21 miles)
3. SUNY Binghamton (72 miles)
4. SUNY Morrisville-Norwich Campus (48 miles)
5. Broome Community College (72 miles)
6. SUNY Cobleskill (45 miles)

Additional resources that support local education and literacy, specifically, include:

1. Local libraries
2. Delaware Otsego United Way
3. Catholic Charities' Literacy Volunteers Program

b. Agency resources. The following programs of Delaware Opportunities Inc. provide educational benefit to the residents of Delaware County:

1. Parent Education program (education and support to families involved in the social services system)
2. Family Development program
3. Project Head Start (multi-faceted education and support as the preschool level for low-income families)
4. Healthy Families (an early childhood development program)
5. Big Buddy program

c. Strategies. In addition to those activities already underway, Delaware Opportunities should:

1. Take into consideration the possibly low reading skills of many Delaware Opportunities' customers when conducting outreach and educational activities.
2. In collaboration with Delaware Otsego United Way, secure funding for and establish a Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

3. Seek funding to expand the Parent Education and Big Buddy programs.
4. Investigate the advisability of establishing mentoring programs for youth that would include educational, recreational and nutritional components, and would involve volunteers from the Big Buddy program.
5. Investigate the possibility of establishing a work/study program for at-risk youth in the county to both encourage them to finish high school and simultaneously learn marketable skills.
6. Develop and implement the Head Start strategic plan.
7. Expand Healthy Families.
8. Promote and/or develop after school programs including mentoring and educational components.

4. Make better use of available income

Presently, approximately one of every six Delaware County residents lives in a household with an income below the Federal poverty level, and almost 28% of all children younger than five live in such households. Low income is a label that applies to households in which individuals have poorly paid jobs or are unemployed. Senior citizens who live on fixed incomes, disabled persons, families living in substandard housing, and single parent households are all examples of those that are likely to be living with a low income.

Health disparities between poor people and those with higher incomes are almost universal for all dimensions of health. A national study found that people with low incomes have death rates that are twice the rates for people with incomes above the poverty level.

Certain categories of residents display especially great need. The elderly are one such population that is at particular risk for under-utilization of available services. The population of Delaware County is aging. The 2010 Census shows a substantial increase in the number of persons over the age of 60. Approximately 8% of those live below the poverty guidelines. Children, under the age of five are at greatest risk of living in poverty, and while this population has been shrinking, the percentage of children living in poverty has been growing.

At the national level, low income has been positively correlated with lack of adequate prenatal care, low birth weight, higher incidence of teenage pregnancies, poor nutrition, substandard housing, child abuse, lower immunization levels, poor dental health and substance abuse among other things. All these ills are addressed by various services throughout the county; however, many are seriously inadequate and underfunded. Most of the agencies offering services to Delaware County residents must contend with decreased funding, or static funding that results in a net decrease in service.

Those with limited resources need to make the best use of those resources and to secure such other resources as may be available to assist the household to attain a better quality of life and improve opportunities to move toward self-sufficiency.

a. Local resources. The Department of Social Services is the primary local resource for various services benefitting low-income persons. Social Services administers TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, Child Protective Services, Foster Care, and several other programs. The local Cooperative Extension office provides education and outreach on such topics as money management, energy efficiency, food budgeting and a host of other topics related to the household economy. New York State Energy Research and Development Authority provides funds for energy audits and information about making the home more energy efficient and various other programs under “Empower New York”. Several projects in the county, such as Project SHARE, help the elderly with home maintenance and repairs. Delaware Opportunities also distributes resources available through the Salvation Army when other forms of assistance have been exhausted or denied. This is not an exhaustive list, but it is representative of the resources available to county residents.

b. Agency resources. Many of Delaware Opportunities’ programs benefit low-income families by helping them make better use of their income. These programs and services include:

1. Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC): nutritional supplements, nutrition and breastfeeding information; assistance in accessing medical care.
2. Weatherization Program: home insulation and heating repairs for low-income families.
3. Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP): financial assistance in paying supplemental fuel costs in winter.
4. Agency Advocate services: provides coordination and support to enable low income families to access services through Delaware Opportunities and other agencies in the county; case management services; emergency assistance (when funds are available).
5. Mass food distribution: free food, when available, to low-income residents.
6. Senior Dining: nutritious hot meals for the elderly for low cost; these meals can also be paid for with Food Stamps. Senior Dining program also makes available other information of interest to seniors about the rights and services to which they are entitled.
7. Car Seat Safety Program: provides instruction regarding the proper and safe installation of child car seats.
8. Day Care Subsidies: subsidizes the cost of child care for low-income families.
9. Home Ownership Counseling Program: provides budget and home ownership counseling, support and advocacy, as well as assistance in utilizing Section 8 Rental Assistance payments towards homeownership.

10. Rental Assistance: subsidizes rent to limit monthly rent and utility burden to 30% of the household income.

c. Strategies. In addition to the assistance already available, Delaware Opportunities should:

1. Target the elderly for further outreach and education efforts through the Agency Advocate, which would allow those who are eligible to participate in existing programs.
2. Advocate for adequate health care for all low-income people, especially children. Seek additional funding for facilitated enrollers to provide assistance to families in applying for Child and Family Health Plus health insurance.
3. Seek more HEAP and Weatherization funds, and funds from others such as the Department of Social Services and NYSERDA for previously weatherized households and for those living between 60% and 80% of median income.
4. Publicize the programs available through Delaware Opportunities, which may subsidize the wages of low-income people.
5. Publicize the Family Self-Sufficiency Program which is now available through the Delaware Opportunities Housing Office.
6. Incorporate outreach activities, whenever possible, as part of new and ongoing programming.
7. Work with the Department of Social Services to assure that day care subsidies are available to as many persons as possible, at the lowest parent fee contribution rate permitted, and advocate for increased allocations from the federal and state governments to assure that resources are available to meet these needs.
8. Contact all persons leaving public assistance to assure that they are aware of continued eligibility for SNAP and Medicaid.
9. Conduct an ongoing survey of persons leaving public assistance to provide an up-to-date database of needs these persons are facing to develop programs to meet these needs.

5. Obtain and maintain adequate housing

Many rural low- and middle-income families who cannot afford to purchase or rent a single-family dwelling move into mobile homes; often the only remaining affordable single-family housing. However, mobile home ownership compared with standard home ownership has several differences. The useful life of a mobile home is 30 years while the life expectancy of a conventional home is 80 years. Second, the value of a mobile home typically depreciates over its life or appreciates less than a conventional home. Third, the energy costs per square foot is much higher for mobile homes than for site-built homes. Finally, older mobile homes (those constructed before 1976) were not required to comply with Federal construction and safety standards, which means that they may have serious design and construction quality problems.

A national housing survey conducted by the American Association of Retired Persons found that the number of households with persons 75 years or older has increased by 11%. Approximately 79% of those surveyed owned their homes, compared to 63% of younger households. However, 21% of the persons surveyed lived in rental housing and of this number 52% were aged 75 and older. Forty-four percent of the older households were single persons living alone; 78% of these were headed by women. The survey indicated that the elderly has a lower incidence of quality problems — except for incomplete plumbing. However, the quality problems among older households tended to be more frequent for those living in rural areas. Eight percent of those living in rural areas report moderate or severe housing inadequacies, as compared to 6% in urban and 5.4% in metropolitan areas. Although the median monthly housing costs as a percent of income is lower for older rather than younger households, according to the survey 15% of older homeowners and 65% of older renters still spent an excessive amount of their incomes on housing costs. The survey found that this problem was especially severe for older single-person and minority households.

The housing density for the county averages 19 units per square mile. The figure varies from seven housing units per square mile in the town of Tompkins to 997 units per square mile in the Village of Walton.

a. Local resources. The following agencies provide housing-related services to county residents:

1. Delaware County Department of Social Services
2. The Deposit Foundation: emergency services
3. Southern Tier East Regional Planning and Development Board (data collection and analysis, Appalachian Regional Commission housing-related grant opportunities)
4. Delaware County Planning Board (land use management activities)
5. Habitat for Humanity
6. M-ARK Project
7. Western Catskill Community Revitalization, Inc. (housing development and rehabilitation)
8. Project SHARE
9. NYSEG (assistance with fuel emergencies)
10. Sherwood Landing Apartments
11. Sidney Senior Village
12. Delhi Senior Housing
13. Delhi Manor
14. Meadowview
15. Mountainview
16. Grand Gorge Senior Housing
17. Read Memorial Housing
18. Walton Manor
19. Stamford Senior Housing

20. Arkville Housing (family and elderly project, sponsored by M-ARK)
21. Financial institutions (reverse mortgages, financial assistance toward home ownership)

b. Agency resources. The following programs of Delaware Opportunities Inc. assist low-income people with housing-related problems:

1. Section 8 programs in the following areas of the county with vouchers dedicated to: Town of Davenport; Village of Delhi (includes Towns of Delhi, Meredith, Andes, and Franklin); Village of Deposit; Village of Hancock (includes Town of Hancock); Town of Kortright; Town of Middletown (includes Villages of Margaretville and Fleischmanns and Towns of Roxbury and Bovina); Village of Sidney; Town of Stamford (includes Villages of Hobart and Stamford); and the Village of Walton (includes Towns of Walton, Hamden and Tompkins, and the Village of Hancock).
2. A county-wide program subcontracted from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal.
3. Housing Counseling Program: includes help in achieving home ownership, preventing foreclosure, locating funds for housing repairs, and referrals to other resources and agencies.
4. Weatherization Program (heating and insulation assistance).
5. Technical assistance to localities wishing to apply for CDBG and other housing-related grant funds.
6. Family Self-Sufficiency program (county-wide).
7. Gannett Revolving Loan (loans at low interest to assist with closing costs).
8. Rental Assistance for Homeownership (all communities with rental assistance programs and the county-wide initiative).
9. Housing Rehabilitation Program for the Town of Colchester.
10. Housing Rehabilitation Program for the Town of Sidney.

c. Strategies. In addition to those activities currently underway, the agency should:

1. Seek further funding for Section 8 tenant vouchers for all unserved and under-served communities in the county.
2. Seek funding, as appropriate, from the federal HOME program (as current HOME programs come to an end).
3. Seek the annual continuation of the county-wide housing rehabilitation program.
4. Work with developers and local officials to encourage the development of low-income housing and elderly housing in the county.

5. Seek expansion of home ownership of low-income residents through the Housing Counseling program.
6. Develop strategies for increasing home ownership among low-income people.
7. Apply for RESTORE, emergency homes repair program for elderly homeowners.
8. Maintain a home ownership assistance program for first-time buyers.
9. Develop affordable, decent, safe and sanitary housing.
10. Recapitalize the revolving loan fund to assist with first-time homeownership.
11. Work with local communities for submittal of Community Development Block Grant applications for housing rehabilitation.

6. Obtain emergency assistance

People with limited financial resources face crises on a regular basis. These crisis situations not only provide imminent peril, they also result in people being temporarily (or longer) detracted or defeated in efforts to move toward self-sufficiency or for people who have escaped poverty to return to living in poverty. Emergency situations include the sudden lack of resources (car no longer works, work hours are decreased, or a household wage earner loses his or her job), inadequate food, lost SNAP benefit electronic transfer card, fire, theft, storm damage, lack of family stability, no heat, eviction from housing, unstable mental health, alcohol or drug addiction, and more.

a. Local resources. The following gives an overview of the services available to county residents who are in an emergency:

1. Alcoholics Anonymous and Al-Anon
2. Delaware County Alcoholism Clinic
3. Delaware Valley Hospital Alcoholism Unit
4. Delaware County Council on Alcoholism
5. American Cancer Society
6. American Red Cross
7. American Lung Association of Mid-New York
8. Andes Grange (emergency medical aids)
9. Binghamton Psychiatric Center
10. Delaware County Department of Social Services: Protective and Preventive Units for children and adults
11. Delaware County Emergency Squads: Andes, Bovina, Delhi, Deposit, Downsview, East Branch, Franklin, Grand Gorge, Hancock, Hobart, Kortright, Margaretville, Masonville, Meridale, Roxbury, Sidney, Sidney Center, Stamford, Treadwell, Trout Creek, Walton
12. Delaware County Office of Civil Defense and Emergency Management

13. Delaware County Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Alcoholism Clinic
14. Delaware County Probation Department
15. Delaware County Public Health Services
16. Lend-a-Hand Fund (Binghamton Press)
17. Ostomy Club, Delaware County Chapter
18. Delaware Valley Stroke Support Group
19. Family Planning of South Central New York
20. New York State Police; Sidney, Oneonta, Margaretville
21. Delaware County Sheriff (Delhi)
22. Local Police Departments or Constables: Colchester, Delhi, Deposit, Hancock (part-time), Sidney, Walton, Margaretville, Roxbury
23. New York City Department of Environmental Protection (back-up services to other police departments)
24. Project SHARE
25. The Salvation Army (Syracuse locally through Delaware Opportunities)
26. Treadwell Community Improvement Club (emergency medical aids loaner closet)
27. Delaware County Office for the Aging
28. Catholic Charities of Delaware, Otsego and Schoharie Counties
29. Emergency Aid to Adults from Delaware County Department of Social Services

b. Agency resources. The following programs of Delaware Opportunities provide emergency aid to low-income residents of the county:

1. Emergency food bank network
2. Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)
3. Safe Against Violence (SAV) (services to victims of domestic violence, rape and crime)
4. Clothing and household goods distribution
5. Emergency Food and Shelter
6. Solutions to End Homelessness Program (rapid rehousing for the homeless)

c. Strategies. Delaware Opportunities Inc. can maintain and strengthen emergency services to county residents through the following:

1. Continue to operate the Safe Against violence program, which includes a 24-hour emergency hotline, escort services, safe house and safe homes network. Seek to reduce the incidence of domestic violence and assault in the county through educational outreach efforts. Additional resources are essential to the continuation of

- these important services. Services should include both residential and non-residential victims of domestic violence.
2. Strengthen the emergency food bank network through the Nutrition Advocate conducting outreach and case management activities at food pantries. Encourage use of alternate food resources in the county (i.e. SNAP) to reduce number of food related emergencies. Conduct education and outreach to encourage wise use of food dollars. Contact all persons whose public assistance cases have closed to assure that if they remain eligible for SNAP, they are continually enrolled or assisted in enrollment.
 3. Continue to assist Preventive Services Project efforts through the Parent Education program serving 60-70 families each month.
 4. Seek additional Emergency Food and Shelter funds for emergency services. Coordinate with other service providers to assure that such funds are only used after all other resources have been exhausted or denied.
 5. Continue to provide information, referrals, counseling and advocacy for low income persons experiencing emergencies through CSBG staff.
 6. Establish a runaway and homeless youth hotline, a temporary shelter network of host homes and other support services for runaway and homeless youth in the county.
 7. Inform service providers throughout the county about the emergency assistance available through Delaware Opportunities, the Department of Social Services and others.
 8. Increase the pool of volunteers willing to staff the crisis hotline, which presently serves crime victims, rape victims and victims of domestic violence.
 9. Increase availability of food at food pantries to expand frequency of use.
 10. Operate four to six foster homes, owned by the Department of Social Services, staffed by Delaware Opportunities, for those foster children most difficult to serve.
 11. Operate Independent Living Skills Program for foster care children and others recommended by the Department to assist youth transition to independent living.
 12. Continue to work closely with the county emergency management plan to include a role for human service organizations.
 13. Seek emergency funding response from the United Way of Delaware and Otsego Counties.
 14. Seek funding to rehabilitate a property for use by the Department of Social Services as a homeless shelter or seek funds to develop a new homeless shelter, operated by Delaware Opportunities.

7. Achieve greater participation in the affairs of the community

Community Action has always advocated for the participation of lower income persons in the affairs of the community. Such participation assures that programs are geared to meet their needs, that planning takes into consideration their aspirations, hopes, accomplishments, and strengths and that programs are developed based on this planning. Such participation also empowers lower income persons and integrates them to the overall community.

a. Service area analysis. A number of programs in Delaware County presently require participation of customers in the delivery of services. Others are available to assist in organizing customer groups and encouraging participation by these customers in the process.

b. Local resources. The following local resources are available to assist with this effort:

1. Delaware County Youth Board (requires participation of youth as board members)
2. Delaware County Public Health Nursing Service (although this agency does not have an advisory committee, it does collect consumer information in its planning efforts)
3. Delaware County Mental Health Clinic (the clinic has an advisory committee which includes consumers for planning purposes)
4. Delaware County Office for the Aging (the agency prepares a yearly implementation plan with the assistance of the Advisory Council and the Delaware County Senior Council, the former includes program participants, among others, while the latter consists entirely of consumers)
5. Broome Developmental Disabilities Services Office (OMRDD), has embraced person centered planning, and includes consumers in reviews of all existing programs and in considering new programming
6. Parent Teacher Groups or Associations (School districts invite parents to participate in activities concerning the quality and type of programming available to children)

c. Agency resources. Delaware Opportunities offers the following programs to obtain greater participation of the low-income in the community:

1. Head Start Policy Council (made up of community representatives and program parent participants elected by parents from the Head Start centers).
2. Head Start parent groups (these groups provide delegates with issues and concerns to be addressed by the Head Start Policy Council, as well as to conduct programming and make suggestions regarding the day-to-day operations of the Head Start centers).

3. Board of Directors (the Delaware Opportunities Board of Directors must have one third of its membership representing the low-income, democratically elected).
4. Planning (Delaware Opportunities conducts a customer satisfaction survey and a needs assessment questionnaire in its planning efforts).

d. Strategies. Delaware Opportunities can assure greater participation of consumers in the affairs of the community by:

1. Continuing the above listed agency resources and make participation in affairs as convenient as possible, including providing transportation or assisting in arranging for child care (excepting voting).
2. Registering voters through programs which permit this activity (WIC requires this function) but prohibiting voter registration in programs which specifically forbid it (Community Services Block Grant).
3. Encouraging low-income persons to vote as they choose (promoting one or more candidate or party is specifically prohibited).
4. Encouraging low-income persons to request fair hearings, where available, and to write to officials and representatives to express views.
5. Encouraging the participation of youth in the Delaware County Youth Board.
6. Encouraging consumers to attend local government public hearings and provide their input.

8. Youth development

a. Local resources. The following resources are available in the community to assist with youth development.

1. 12 primary school districts
2. DCMO and ONC BOCES
3. Delaware County Office of Employment and Training (Youth Employment Services)
4. Delaware County Youth Bureau
5. Delaware County Probation Department
6. Delaware County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
7. Delaware County Mental Health Clinic
8. Delaware County Department of Social Services Foster Care Program
9. Delaware County Youth Court
10. Delaware County Sheriff

11. Delaware County District Attorney
12. Delaware County Family Court Judge
13. Local Police and constable agencies/personnel
14. After School Day Care Providers
15. Day Care Providers
16. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County (4-H, summer camp and other programs)
17. Church groups
18. Boy Scouts
19. Girl Scouts
20. Hancock Foundation

b. Agency resources. The following agency resources are available to assist with youth development:

1. Big Buddy Program
2. Head Start
3. Healthy Families
4. Day Care Development and Assistance
5. Respite Care
6. Day Care Registrar and Inspector
7. Parent Education
8. Family Residence and Independent Living Skills
9. Family Development
10. Job Coaches
11. WIC
12. Transportation
13. Safe Against Violence
14. Sexual Assault Services

c. Strategies. Given the conditions and resources available, Delaware Opportunities should:

1. Continue all existing services.
2. Pursue additional funding to enhance employment for adolescents, particularly those enrolled in the Independent Living Skills program.
3. Advocate for a Work in Progress program for adolescents to be operated in conjunction with the Summer Youth Employment Program by the Delaware County Office for Employment and Training.
4. Support the continuation of the Delaware County Youth Court.
5. Serve on the Delaware County Youth Bureau Board.
6. Provide day care providers with appropriate information and materials to assist with youth development.

7. Assure the inclusion of youth with disabilities in community activities.
8. Develop additional mentoring and after school activities.
9. Develop additional programming for at-risk youth working closely with Department of Social Services and local school districts.
10. Develop a runaway and homeless youth program.
11. Expand services available under the Healthy Families program.

9. Coordination and effective use of other programs

The Community Services Block Grant requires that Community Action Agencies make more effective use of, and coordinate with other programs, of the purposes of CSBG efforts.

Coordination of services has been a prevalent pattern in Delaware County over the past decade or more. Agencies who previously operated services independently and often saw others as competitors are joining together in collaborative efforts to best address needs. This is evident in the PINS Diversion Project of the Delaware County Department of Social Services, School Districts, Mental Health Clinic and others; in the Healthy Families collaborative effort involving, Public Health, WIC, and others; in Work in Progress (WIP), involving the Department of Social Services, Office of Employment and Training, Chambers of Commerce, Private Businesses, SUNY-Delhi, and BOCES; in efforts to establish a Teen WIP program targeted to the maturity level and needs of adolescents related to employment; in efforts to establish public transportation and/or expand access to services through transportation delivery services, and to many others.

- a. Service area analysis.** Delaware County is a large and diverse county. Services are generally available in the county seat, Delhi, although this is a drive of more than 40 miles, one way, for some county residents. Delhi is not, however, the site of all services, including shopping. With no urban center, and with no community larger than 5,000 persons, and with geography and terrain making travel within Delaware County difficult, services other than those offered by county government are accessed in locations other than Delhi, or for that matter, within Delaware County. Residents of Deposit, for example, are much closer to Binghamton (26 miles) than they are to Delhi (52 miles). Residents of Margaretville are about the same distance from Kingston (approximately 35 miles) than they are to Delhi (approximately 25 miles). Accordingly, human services programs which are county based must establish a different orientation for consumers of services. Outreach centers and transportation are central to any service delivery option. In larger areas, service providers extend far beyond those offered by local government, and the providers of service are diverse. In rural Delaware County, most all human services are provided through the county or through Delaware Opportunities. Exceptions are the education system, including local schools, SUNY-Delhi, and BOCES; Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County; M-ARK; Western Catskills Revitalization Committee; and various local community groups. Employment opportunities are also few and far

between. Travel by privately owned vehicle to and from work is a pre-requisite to gaining and maintaining employment and is often the first step in residents moving toward self-sufficiency. Given the limited resources available, coordination of all resources is important to achieve results.

b. Area resources. Area resources available for coordination of service delivery include:

1. Delaware County Chamber of Commerce
2. Local Chambers of Commerce: Delhi, Walton, Stamford, Hancock, Sidney, Margaretville, Deposit
3. Delaware County Office of Employment and Training
4. Delaware, Chenango, Madison, Otsego Board of Cooperative Educations Services (DCMO BOCES)
5. Otsego, Northern Catskills BOCES (ONC BOCES)
6. School Districts (Delhi, Deposit, Downsville, Andes, Margaretville, Roxbury, Stamford, Walton, Sidney, Franklin, Charlotte Valley, and Hancock)
7. Delaware County Department of Social Services
8. Delaware County Probation Department
9. Delaware County Public Health Service
10. Rural Health Alliance
11. Mothers and Babies of the Southern Tier
12. Southern Tier AIDS Program
13. Legal Aid Society of North-Central New York
14. Catholic Charities of Delaware and Otsego Counties
15. United Way of Delaware and Otsego Counties
16. Delaware County Mental Health Clinic
17. Delaware County District Attorney
18. Delaware County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
19. Literacy Volunteers of Otsego and Delaware Counties
20. Churches
21. Delaware County Youth Bureau
22. M-ARK
23. Western Catskills Revitalization Committee
24. Local Governments
25. Delaware County Office for the Aging
26. Delaware County Sheriff
27. Local Police Departments
28. Local Justices
29. Delaware County Family Court

c. Agency resources. All of the agency programs and resources are available and appropriate for coordination of services. The transportation contract with the Department of Social Services, Medicaid Transportation, transportation provided

by a variety of programs including domestic violence, family development, CSBG, and outreach staffing, and program presence by WIC, HEAP, SNAP outreach, location of service delivery centers by Head Start, Family Residences, and Senior Dining, in-home care provided by the Healthy Families, Parent Education, and Respite programs are all efforts to bring the services to the residents or to bring the residents to programs. Programs that are direct collaborations are as follows:

1. Safe Against Violence
2. Solutions to End Homelessness Program
3. Family Residences
4. Emergency Food and Shelter
5. Car Seat Safety Program
6. Work in Progress
7. Wheels for Work (alternately called Transportation Initiative Program)
8. Healthy Families
9. And all the rest of the agency programming

d. Strategies. Given the available resources, Delaware Opportunities should:

1. Participate in youth services coordination activities sponsored by DCMO BOCES.
2. Maintain a presence on the Delaware County Youth Bureau Board with the appointment of a staff member.
3. Seek to establish collaborations with school districts for pre-k programming.
4. Continue the collaborative effort around the Work in Progress program.
5. Seek to establish a collaborative effort for a Teen Work in Progress program.
6. Collaborate with Family Planning of SCNY for the delivery of services to pregnant and parenting teens.
7. Integrate Department of Social Services and Youth Bureau Planning with the planning of Delaware Opportunities
8. Seek to expand integrated planning to include the Delaware County Mental Health Clinic, Office for the Aging, Probation Department, and others.
9. Identify collaborative opportunities and assure the involvement of Delaware Opportunities in service programs involving the core mission of the agency.

10. Counteract conditions of hunger and poor nutrition

a. Local resources. The following agencies and organizations help the residents of Delaware County with food and nutrition-related issues:

1. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County (education and outreach)
2. Delaware County Public Health Nursing Service
3. Delaware County Department of Social Services-Food Stamp Program
4. Child and Adult Care Feeding Program (CACFP) free and reduced-price program in all county schools.

b. Agency resources. Delaware Opportunities operates the following programs which assist low-income residents of the county with hunger and nutrition-related issues:

1. WIC (Women, Infants and Children)
2. WIC Farmers Market Coupons
3. Project Head Start (nutritious meals for children, nutrition education for Head Start families)
4. Senior Dining program (both congregate and home delivered meals)
5. Emergency Food Bank Network
6. Mass Food Distributions (as food is available from the Regional Food Bank)
7. Family Day Care Providers (USDA-sponsored CACFP meals)
8. SNAP Outreach and Prescreening program
9. Parent Education program (education for client families)
10. Emergency food purchases through HPNAP (Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program)

c. Strategies. The nutritional status of low-income residents of Delaware County could be improved in the following ways:

1. Ensure that all programmatic components of Delaware Opportunities inform clients about the Food Stamp program.
2. Promote and expand use of the USDA-sponsored child care and adult feeding programs to service providers.
3. Seek funding to support outreach and education efforts that will promote breastfeeding of infants, particularly among low-income women.
4. Advocate for Food Stamp outreach sites around the county which would allow isolated persons to more easily apply for Food Stamp assistance.
5. Continue the Agency Advocate position including nutrition advocacy functions.

6. Expand Food Bank resources to feed those denied food stamp assistance.
7. Maintain a food stamp outreach program.

Delaware Opportunities Inc.

Community Assessment

2019-2021

For the Head Start Program



Introduction

Delaware Opportunities Inc. is a Community Action Agency, and as such is required to periodically conduct a community assessment to determine the condition of the residents of Delaware County, to identify strengths and resources, to strategize for the development of additional resources, and ultimately to lead to achieving the mission of the agency which is to help people achieve self-sufficiency and a better quality of life.

During the planning process, Delaware Opportunities reviews how existing programs are addressing needs and what changes, if any, are required in these existing programs to best meet the needs of those served by the program.

All of this applies to families and children participating in Head Start; however, it is necessary and appropriate to establish how the Head Start program should be operated to maximize the effectiveness of the program.

The process utilizes a broad approach to identify conditions, strengths, and needs. It begins with the analysis of statistical and demographic data. The best comprehensive source of such data is the U.S. Bureau of the Census, as well as data collected by other government agencies. KIDS Count, prepared by the Annie Casey Foundation, provides an annual update to statistical and demographic data. Other sources include the New York State Department of Education, the New York State Department of Health, New York State Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), New York State Department of Labor, New York State Division of Criminal Justice, and others. The demographic and statistical information also takes into consideration local observations of conditions and actions taken by service agencies and others. Finally, the process involves obtaining information from program participants. This information is then all pulled together to establish the Community Assessment and from the assessment programs, such as Head Start, develop strategic plans.

The Community Assessment attempts to address the following issues regarding Head Start and Early Head Start:

1. Appropriate size (number of children and families) for the program.
2. Location of centers or service areas and number of children to be served
3. Program options (Family Day Care, Home Based, Center Based)
4. Services to various ethnic background families consistent with their representation in the community
5. Staff ethnic characteristics consistency with families served
6. Services for handicapped children
7. Provision of or referral to services needed by families and children in the program.

Size of the Program

The 2010 Census establishes the number of children 0-4 years of age living in poverty at 719 an increase of 23% since 2000. The American Communities Survey for a five-year period estimates the number of children living in poverty 0-4 years of age by 2015 is 673 children. Assuming the ACS five-year average figure is relatively evenly distributed by single age cohorts, dividing this number by 5 to establish the likely number of children living in poverty provides a figure of 135 for four-year olds and multiplying this figure by 2 provides an estimate of 269 children 3 and 4-year-old children living in poverty in 2015. School enrollment figures were used to identify the number of children in first grade and kindergarten children and school lunch information to identify the probable number of Head Start eligible children by Head Start service area.

Head Start income eligibility guidelines are presently set at 130% of poverty. While this information is not available from the census, an estimate may be achieved by reviewing number of children participating in the free lunch program. The most recent information is available for March of 2015 which indicates that 48.2% of the total school enrollment were eligible for free lunches. There were an estimated 2,339 0-4 year olds according to the ACS five year average. Utilizing the same methodology as presented above, 48.2% multiplied by the estimated 0-4 population results in an estimate of 1,127 for all of those children. Dividing this figure by 5 provides the likely number of 4 year olds and multiplying this figure by 2 provides a likely universe of 451 children, and this number may be understated since some parents may be unwilling to participate in the program. This figure is further underestimated because the number of children living in poverty is substantially greater for those 0-4 than it is for children 5-17. Preliminary school district enrollment figures from March of 2015 provide a figure of 262 Kindergarten children as “economically disadvantaged”. Using this as a base for 4 year olds, multiplying by 2 indicates a possible 524 children eligible for Head Start services. It is safe to assume that at least 451 and 4 year old children are eligible for the Head Start Program.

School District	K Enrollment 10/2018	Probable Number of Head Start Eligible Children	Head Start Center Serving School District	Eligible Children by Head Start Center
Andes	24	14-23	Delhi	See Delhi District Below
Downsville	18	10-17	Walton	See Walton District Below
Charlotte Valley	36	20-35	Davenport	26
Delhi	76	43-73	Delhi	45

School District	K Enrollment 10/2018	Probable Number of Head Start Eligible Children	Head Start Center Serving School District	Eligible Children by Head Start Center
Deposit	46	22-44	Deposit	45
Franklin	11	6-11	Franklin	13 (Can serve Sidney and/or Delhi Children)
Hancock	21	12-20	Fishes Eddy	27
South Kortright	35	20-34	Grand Gorge	40
Margaretville	23	13-22	Arkville	50
Roxbury	24	14-23	Arkville	See Margaretville School District Above
Sidney	78	44-75	Sidney	78
Stamford	21	12-20	Grand Gorge	See South Kortright School District Above
Walton	66	37-63	Walton	90

Pre-School Programs Operating in Delaware County Other Than the Head Start Program

Pre-K programs in Delaware County have expanded considerably over the past decade. In considering the impact of these programs on the operation of the Head Start Program, Delaware Opportunities has utilized the figures from the 2014-2015 school year as obtained through

Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

telephone interviews with school employees. An effort was then made to determine how many of these might be eligible for Head Start services, applying the most recently available percentage of free lunches. In the table below, we have identified the Head Start Service Area estimated eligible population, the estimated number of Head Start eligible families participating in the Pre-K programs, and the present enrollment at the Head Start centers.

School District	Head Start Center Service Area	# Eligible for Head Start Services	# Enrolled in Pre-K	# of Estimated Eligible Head Start Children in Pre-K	# Enrolled in Head Start 10/18
Andes/Delhi	Delhi	57-96	0	0	19
Charlotte Valley	Davenport	20-35	27	6-10	15
Deposit	Deposit	22-44	19	10-17	18 CB* 9 HB*
Walton/Downsville	Walton	47-81	51	11-19	34CB* 6HB*
Franklin	Franklin	6-11	12	3-6	11
Hancock	Fishs Eddy	12-20	6	5-8	16
Margaretville/Roxbury	Margaretville	27-45	8	7-11	23
South Kortright/Stamford/Part Roxbury	Grand Gorge	31-44	50	13-22	18
Sidney	Sidney	44-75	26	11-17	35

*CB is center based children, HB is home based children

Additional Day Care Centers and Other Day Care Providers Operating in Delaware County

In 2014, there were 160 preschool children in family and group family day care homes. There were 348 children in day care centers (224 in Head Start, 25 in SUNY Delhi Child Care Center, 41 in “Sissy’s Little Lambs”, and 48 in Cullman Day Care Center – these latter two enroll children from other counties as well). There were 37 family day care homes, and 6 group family homes.

Locations of Centers or Service Areas

From the data above it appears that the current location of centers is appropriate and the current enrollment testifies to this fact with the exception of Franklin (which will have to extend its enrollment area to the Sidney School District area which is contiguous with the Franklin School District), and Hancock which will have to expand its service area to include some of the Deposit School District Area and thus probably force the Deposit Center to expand its service area into the Walton School District area. Other areas may be pressed to reach full enrollment.

Additionally, centers are enrolling more 3-year olds (as 4 year olds are going into Pre-K. This results in limiting class sizes to a maximum of 17. The current funded enrollment is based on classrooms assigned an enrollment figure of 18. The following service locations and licensing information for children by centers is subject to the request for a reduction in slots:

1. Sidney (Village and Town, Town of Masonville, parts of Town of Walton, Town of Tompkins, Town of Deposit): Two classrooms, 36 children
2. Franklin (Village and Town, Northwestern Town of Meredith, eastern portion of Town of Sidney): One Classroom 18 children
3. Walton (Village and Town, western Town of Hamden, Town of Tompkins (part), Town of Colchester (central to northern). Two classrooms, 36 children (this center is owned by Head Start)
4. Deposit (Village and Town, parts of Town of Hancock, parts of the Town of Walton and/or Colchester). One classroom, 18 children (this center is owned by Head Start)
5. Hancock (Village and Town parts of the Town of Deposit or Walton). One classroom, 18 children
6. Arkville (Village of Margaretville and Town of Middletown, southern Roxbury, southern or eastern Andes). Two classrooms, 34 children (this center is owned by Head Start)
7. Grand Gorge (Town of Kortright, Town of Stamford, northern Roxbury, Town of Harpersfield). One Classroom, 18 children
8. Davenport (Town of Davenport, parts of Town of Kortright and Meredith). One Classroom 18 children.
9. Delhi (Village and Town, parts of Towns of Meredith, Hamden, Andes, and Kortright). One Classroom, 18 children

The above service areas assure that all geographic areas of the county have reasonable access to a Head Start Center and services. The location of existing centers evolved over time partially in

response to service areas and partially in response to the availability of a suitable building from which to operate a Head Start program.

The number of children who may be in the classroom at any given time, based on NYS Licensing Regulations and Head Start Standards along with best practices, is 18 unless the classroom is designated as a 3 year old classroom. The numbers shown above total 189 in our center based program (and there are currently 12 vacancies in Arkville, 3 vacancies in Franklin, and 2 in our Walton Part-Day classrooms given the competition for children from the Pre-K program the rest of the vacancies are due to some of our classrooms are 3 year old classrooms where we can only enroll 17); however, the program is designed to serve 224 children in our center base option and does so with additional children served through the Home Based Program.

The home-based model is much more flexible than the center-based program (limited only to 18 for a classroom). The utilization of the flexible home-based model to serve the full funded enrollment has proven an effective and cost-efficient method of meeting needs. The home-based model can also be shifted from center to center without large start up or facility costs. It therefore has the flexibility to serve minor fluctuations in the geographic location of eligible head start children.

Program Options (Family Day Care, Home Based, Center Based)

Of the various options for service delivery authorized by the federal government we have found that the center-based option most closely meets the needs of the families served. We have operated a large, and successful, home based program to service our rural area and particularly to service an area where a Head Start center has not been established. Since 1990, parents involved in the home-based program have requested to transition to center-based programming. This is because more and more Head Start parents are entering the workforce. It is often difficult to arrange for a home-based visit (after a day of work, parents often are more concerned with preparing dinner, tackling household chores, etc. than with a home-based visit). Furthermore, working parents require child care, preferably high-quality child-development child care which can be offered through a Head Start center-based program. Delaware Opportunities has therefore converted as much of the home-based option to center based as possible. As noted above, there remain 24 home-based slots because of the lack of center space and the inefficiencies of trying to establish center space for only a few children in several different locations. We presently have 9 children enrolled in Deposit Home Base and 6 in our Walton Home Base.

Hours of Operation/Days of Service

Over the years, the Delaware Opportunities Head Start program developed a basic “center operations model” consisting of a school day for children of 8:30 am to 1:30 pm and operating at least 160 days per year. Centers which also hosted a home-based program provided the center-based programming for 144 days per year, leaving 16 days for use by the home based program which is used 2 days per month for a group experience there. The days and hours of service were primarily driven by a concern to meet the child development needs of the children, while Delaware Opportunities Inc. Community Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan 2019-2021

also allowing adequate time to work with families. While this remains the basic concept for the program, increasing number of working parents have suggested several changes to better meet the needs of families. Parents almost unanimously requested that the home-based option be transitioned to a center based option. This was partially accomplished with the development of a second classroom serving the Walton area.

Annual surveys of parents have shown that some parents would like to see the hours of operation extended to 3:30 pm. Some parents have indicated an interest in year-round programming. However, parents remain divided on these issues. The majority of parents have indicated that programming beyond 1:30 creates too long a day for preschool children, but there is a rather significant minority looking for additional hours of service. There is less division of opinion regarding full year programming. Nearly all of the parents indicated that they want preschool children to have the summers off. It is anticipated that opinions regarding an extended day and/or full year may change, and yearly surveys will be needed to identify changes in this regard.

Racial/Ethnic Composition and Recruitment Strategies

According to the 2010 Census that 93.2% of the population was white and non-Hispanic, 1.4% were black, 1.1% were other (American Indian, Asian, other), 1.1% were two or more and 3.3% were Hispanic. This represents an increasing percentage of Hispanics in Delaware County.

This data suggests that approximately 16 (6.8%) children throughout the Head Start program should be minority children (other than white only). During 2017-2018 a total of 210 children were white, 4 were black, and 13 were Hispanic, 4 were bi-racial, and 1 Native American or a total of 90% white, 0.2% black, 6% Hispanic, 2% were bi-racial and .004% Native American. With the exception of the white, non-Hispanic population, the remaining numbers are so small as to make it difficult to make assumptions with any degree of reliability.

One of the staff members is Hispanic. Efforts continue to be made to recruit minority staff. All advertisements include equal opportunity/affirmative action language and preference is given to hiring minorities in those situations where other qualifications are equal.

All of the children speak English to some extent. The Hispanic children speak English as a second language. The Hispanic parents often do not speak English. A translator is available to assure communication with these parents; however, a bilingual staff member should be a consideration in future staff recruitments.

Services for Handicapped Children

Head Start requires that ten percent of the enrollment consist of children with handicapping conditions. In Delaware County this translates to a minimum of 22 children. During the 2017-2018 school year, the program served 48 handicapped children (approximately 21%) with the following disabilities: 38 speech, 8 health impairment, and 2 autism.

"There were 146 children who were actively enrolled and received services this year in Early Intervention and Child Find. There are no Early Intervention evaluator agencies physically located in Delaware County. There is a shortage of available evaluation services for Delaware County residents. Some evaluators will travel closer to Delaware County to allow parents to access their services. The closest evaluator is Springbrook, Inc., Oneonta, NY. Springbrook provides evaluation services to more than one county." (Delaware County Public Health Annual Report 2016). With the 146 figure and Head Start enrolling 3 to 4 year olds we calculate that one-third of those children actively enrolled in EI would be enrolled in the Head Start Program. In the 2017-18 Program year we had 46 children receiving services.

Services required by this population included: occupational therapy: 22 children, physical therapy 5 children, speech therapy 38 children. For children with the developmental disabilities described above, the only appropriate setting for care is Carousel, a program operated by the ARC of Delaware County. Delaware Opportunities works closely with the ARC to identify children who can benefit from the least restrictive environment and be served through the Head Start Program. We also had 7 children enrolled in integrated preschool classrooms. Those children were enrolled in our Home Based Program where they were receiving services from Head Start and attending Carousel Children's Services Program.

Coordination with the Public Health Service and the ARC of Delaware County has been carefully carried out to assure that children with disabilities, eligible for Head Start, and who can best be served in the least restrictive environment are referred to and served by the program. These coordination efforts should be maintained and strengthened as possible to meet the needs of the disabled children in the county with the most appropriate program.

Services to Families

The program targets 90% of Head Start families living at or below the federal poverty rate at the time of entry to the program (this percentage can include those up to 130% of poverty but with a priority for those at or below 100% of poverty). These families are likely to face problems common to lower income families including:

- Affordable, decent, safe, and sanitary rental housing (refer to Delaware Opportunities Section 8 Rental Assistance programs, refer to low income housing projects where available).
- Housing rehabilitation to bring owner occupied homes to standard condition (refer to Delaware Opportunities HOME or CDBG housing rehabilitation programs).
- Domestic violence (refer to Delaware Opportunities Safe Against Violence).
- Lack of employment (refer to Work in Progress, OET, Department of Labor, and/or Delaware Opportunities employment program).
- Poor Nutrition (refer to Delaware Opportunities Nutrition Outreach staff to screen for SNAP eligibility, refer to Delaware Opportunities WIC program).
- Hunger Emergencies (refer to Delaware Opportunities food bank network).

- Facing Eviction (refer to Delaware Opportunities Agency Advocate for one month's back rent to avoid eviction).
- Homelessness (refer to the Delaware Opportunities Solutions To End Homelessness Program).
- Need for additional child care (refer to Delaware Opportunities day care staff for day care subsidies, referral to child care providers, assistance with selection of quality child-development day-care providers).
- Families at risk of child abuse or neglect (refer to DSS for assistance through the Delaware Opportunities Parent Education Program).
- Lack of a private vehicle as a barrier to employment (refer to Delaware Opportunities Employment Program for assistance in obtaining transportation and a subsidized loan for the purchase of a vehicle).
- Lack of health insurance (refer to Medicaid and/or facilitated enrollers).
- Alcohol or chemical dependency (refer to Delaware County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Clinic).
- Mental health problems (refer to Delaware County Mental Health Clinic).
- Lack of adequate money (refer to Delaware County Department of Social Services for TANF, refer to other programs to meet basic needs).
- Fuel costs (refer to Weatherization and HEAP).
- Lack of adequate clothing (refer to Delaware Opportunities used clothing).
- Lack of transportation for medical trips (refer to Delaware Opportunities Medicaid transportation).

In addition to this list of problems families are likely to face, the families enrolled in the program in 2017-2018 identified the following goals:

- Education (includes GED, taking college courses, or parent education), reported by 37% of all families.
- Housing (includes getting a bigger apartment, home ownership, rental assistance, move from area) reported by 15% of all families.
- Employment (includes finding a job and increase in income) reported by 7% of all families.
- Health Related (includes getting insurance, getting dental care, stop smoking, weight loss) reported by 11% of all families.
- Home Improvement (includes weatherization, rehabilitation, expansion) reported by 3% of all families.
- Transportation (includes buying a new car, getting a driver's license) reported by 3% of all families.
- Improved quality of life (refer to Agency Advocate, family development staff) 23%.

Note: 7% did not complete the forms and 6% had no goals (foster parents)

Strategic Plan

Based on the above, the following goals have been established

LONG TERM GOALS

1. To provide Head Start services to all 3 and 4 year old eligible children.
2. To expand Head Start services to provide full day and full year programming.
3. To transition the existing home-based program option to a center-based option.
4. To assure that salary and fringe benefit levels are consistent with comparable positions in the public and private sectors, including being comparable to those offered through the public school system in Delaware County.
5. To establish an Early Head Start Program to serve approximately 100 eligible 0-3 year olds and their families.
6. To assure adequate training and credentialing for all staff by maintaining The Child Development Associates and Family Development credentials and tuition assistance.
7. To continue to improve and maintain facilities and supplies to assure the maximum child development benefit for all participants by accessing quality improvement funds and all other available funding opportunities. Thereby ensuring that facilities and materials are in good working order and up to code/regulations.

SHORT TERM GOALS

1. To increase our funded enrollment by informing the communities our centers are located about Head Start. The following strategies may be used: advertising, radio interviews, open house, flyers, road signs, public service announcements, encouraging parents to participate in recruiting with ERSEA staff to offer testimonials and their personal experience in the program.
2. To address program improvements suggested through the annual self-assessment and recommendations resulting from reviews by the Head Start Regional Office.
3. To improve health care benefits for employees and salary increases, to the extent possible, with cost of living and quality improvement funding opportunities.
4. To assure that the entire public is aware of the Head Start program, the services provided to children and families, and the high quality and success of the program.
5. To have families contribute more volunteering through encouragement and support provided by staff and other volunteers. To focus on parent groups as resource for communication of this.
6. To increase family engagement by creating more interesting and engaging workshops for families by presenting fun and interactive workshops that families could easily implement in their home. These workshops will assist parents in recognizing what and how school readiness crosses all areas of their life with their children.

**Approved by Policy Council on February 13, 2018.*

***Delaware Opportunities
Strategic Plan
For
2019-2021***



OUR VISION

We believe in helping people. We believe we can help people change their lives for the better. We believe we can work with others to make our communities better places to live.

OUR MISSION

Delaware Opportunities is a not for profit Community Action Agency committed to helping everyone become self-sufficient and/or attain a better quality of life. The agency shall be directed toward assisting all those with needs to maintain a sense of community values, and community activism, self and family development, and a general improvement in the standard of living for all.

OUR VALUES

Strength and Interests of People: *We believe that all people desire access to resources that will allow them to meet their basic needs. We believe people want access to opportunities that will empower them to reach their full potential. We believe each and every person possesses an array of strengths and that opportunities always exist to build upon those strengths.*

Listening and Learning: *The people we serve are our most knowledgeable resource. We will only be effective if we successfully engage and listen to them as we work with them to address the issues that impact their lives.*

Relationships: *Strong working relationships are critical to our success and these relationships must be built on a foundation of honesty compassion and respect.*

Dignity: *We are sensitive to the beliefs, needs, and capabilities of our culturally diverse customers and staff.*

Collaboration: *We recognize that developing partnerships and building collaborations are essential to building effective solutions and high quality programs.*

Flexibility: *We believe that real change can best be achieved when we challenge ourselves and the systems in which we work, to be creative and flexible.*

Accountability: *We understand that resources are scarce and the needs in our communities are great. We therefore believe we have an obligation to be good stewards and to utilize our resources strategically and thoughtfully.*

In order to achieve the mission of the agency, we have carefully reviewed outside data from all available resources. This has helped us understand the current conditions of the community including the causes and consequences of poverty. We have surveyed those we serve to learn how well we are meeting their needs and what we can do better in the future. We have surveyed our staff and other service providers to gain their perspectives on what most needs to be done. We have surveyed decision makers and leaders to discover how our services can best be delivered within the political and social environment of our communities. And we have inventoried our resources and the resources of the community and based upon the data collection, surveying, and identification of resources, we have put forth strategies to lead us to the accomplishment of our mission and vision.

Based on the above, the formal strategic plan was developed utilizing the “SWOT” process, which is to identify strengths and opportunities (strengths being the most positive, opportunities being positive but not yet realized); compared with weakness and threats (threats being the most serious negative factor). The process is designed to build on strengths, take advantage of opportunities, all while addressing weaknesses and overcoming threats.

<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <p>Partnerships with Drug Treatment/Prevention Programs</p> <p>Affordable Housing Corporation Grant Opportunities</p> <p>Partnership with HCR Statewide Rental Assistance, US Housing and Urban Development, HOME, Access to Home for Medicaid, Restore and CDBG programs</p> <p>OPWDD waiver programs to replace MSC Underspending in Day Care Subsidies</p> <p>Outside Construction for Weatherization Expansion of Weatherization into Sullivan County</p> <p>Re-energized relationship with the Department of Social Services</p> <p>New program opportunities and collaboration with DSS</p> <p>Utilization of social media and technology to recruit, raise awareness, and educate</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <p>A skilled and dedicated workforce</p> <p>A wide array of services</p> <p>A track record of achieving goals and outcomes</p> <p>Strong management and leadership</p> <p>Flexibility</p> <p>Cost effective service delivery</p> <p>Strong partnerships</p> <p>Dependable volunteers</p> <p>Trained/Skilled Grantsmanship</p> <p>Continuity of funding for most programs</p> <p>Revitalized staff development programs</p> <p>Upgraded technology infrastructure</p> <p>Increased use of organizational technology</p> <p>Trauma-informed employees (across all levels of the organization)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <p>Federal/State/Local Budget Cuts</p> <p>Increasing cost of benefits</p> <p>Increasing cost of programming/lack of funding increases</p> <p>Increased competition for programming</p> <p>Increasing environmental controls</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Weaknesses</p> <p>Dependent on grants and contracts (some of which have been flat-funded or decreased)</p> <p>Dispersed population makes service delivery less effective</p> <p>Community awareness is low</p> <p>Community lacks employment opportunities</p>

Decreasing economic opportunities Decreasing need for Foster Care Elimination of Medicaid Services Coordination Declining eligible populations (except the elderly) Aging out of some senior staff Medicaid Transportation Financial Losses Unidentified internal needs	Community lacks employees who are able or willing to fill many of the open positions Lack of transportation to reach work/services
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Goal 1: Low income people become more self sufficient

Activities:

- Provide job coaching and support for individuals to find and maintain work.
- Sponsor a child care feeding program for family day care providers to increase their income.
- Provide work experience to ready people for work.
- Provide referrals to day care providers so that people can be assured that their children are being appropriately cared for while the parents work.
- Provide rental subsidies.
- Provide meals to Head Start children (breakfast and lunch).
- Screen potential SNAP applicants to determine probable eligibility and assist eligible households to obtain SNAP benefits.
- Provide outreach to those under the age of 60 not eligible for SNAP or public assistance, but income eligible for HEAP.
- Provide weatherization services to lower the energy cost burden on lower income households.

Expected Outcomes:

- 165 individuals will find employment in the three-year period of this plan.
- Of those finding employment at least 48 will maintain employment.
- 20 day care providers, each year, will obtain an increase in employment income through CACFP.
- 250 individuals will gain work experience.
- 150 individuals a year will find appropriate day care to help them find and/or maintain work.
- Approximately 650 households each year will obtain or maintain safe and affordable housing to reduce barriers to employment.
- 224 children each year will be provided with adequate nutrition at Head Start centers.
- 580 households a year will obtain emergency HEAP benefits.
- 720 households will receive food stamps as a result of food stamp outreach activities over the three-year period covered by this plan.
- 150 households will be weatherized.

Goal 2: The conditions in which low income people live are improved

Activities:

- Provide day care subsidies to working parents; inspect and register day care providers to assure the availability of quality care.
- Provide child car safety seats to low income parents with young children to transport their children safely.
- Provide transportation to services for low income people without access to vehicles.

Expected Outcomes:

- Day care subsidies will be provided to 289 low income households to make child care affordable over the three-year period.
- 282 day care slots each year will offer high quality child care.
- 150 families will be provided with child safety seats and receive instruction on the proper use to improve public health and safety.
- 120 low income persons will be transported to access services over the three-year period.

Goal 3: Low income people own a stake in their community

Activities:

- Provide staff support to assist low income people to participate in decision making and policy setting.
- Involve Head Start parents in the governance of the Head Start program.
- Involve low income people or their representatives as members of the Delaware Opportunities Board of Directors.

Expected Outcomes:

- 15 low income people will be involved in governing the operation of the Head Start program each year.
- 36 low income people will be involved in Parent Groups at the Head Start centers each year.
- 5 low income people or their representatives will be members of the Board of Directors of Delaware Opportunities each year.

Goal 4: Partnerships among supporters and providers of services to low-income people are achieved

Activities:

- Develop or maintain partnerships with organizations from non-profit, faith based,

local government, state government, federal government, school districts, SUNY Delhi, and statewide associations and collaborations.

Expected Outcomes:

- Head Start centers will be located in a BOCES facility, a municipal building, a town owned property, a school district and three churches. These partners provide space for the program and in-kind as part of the local match for the program.
- Senior Dining centers will be located in 3 churches and 3 local government facilities. Space will be provided free of charge by the partners. The program will reimburse for utility usage.
- Food pantries have entered partnerships with Delaware Opportunities providing some food and support, while the local food pantries generate additional donated food. Food pantry partnerships are with 14 groups to locate facilities throughout the geographic area of Delaware County.
- Local government partnerships exist with 25 village or towns to permit the operation of the rental assistance program.
- Agreements with local hospitals to provide referrals and information to allow the operation of the Healthy Families Program and an agreement exists with one hospital to provide services to victims of domestic violence.
- 12 school districts have signed Memorandums of Agreement regarding the transition of children from Head Start to the public school system.
- SUNY Delhi provides assistance relative to the operation of an employment and training program.
- The agency belongs to the Weatherization Directors Association, the Rural Housing Coalition, NYSCAA, Rural Advocates, and the Weatherization Policy Advisory Committee.
- At the national level, the agency belongs to the Community Action Partnership, Child Care Aware of America, and the National Community Action Foundation.
- Partnerships exist with the Delaware County Department of Social Services allowing the operation of the foster care, Independent Living Skills, Parent Education, day care services, and more.
- Existing partnerships will be maintained and strengthened where possible and new partnerships will be formed wherever possible.

Goal 5: Agencies increase their capacity to achieve results

Activities:

- Adoption of the Strategic Plan for the period of 2019 through 2021.
- Evaluation of this Strategic Plan which will occur quarterly as the Program Progress Report required for the Community Services Block Grant.
- The agency will also seek additional funding to maintain and expand services.
- Expand use of Facebook, and other social media tools, and seek other ways to promote services, programs and the agency.

- Provide training for all staff to improve service delivery skills and understanding of issues.
- Provide training for Board of Directors to assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Expected Outcomes:

- Provision of a flexible, dynamic strategic plan for the next three-year period to provide guidance for program development and operations.
- Ongoing evaluation of the plan for revisions, modifications, response to new information.
- Availability of additional resources.
- Increased visibility of Delaware Opportunities and its services in the community.
- Staff credentials, training documentation, increased service capacity.
- Increase Board capacity to govern and effectively direct the organization.

Goal 6: Low income people, especially vulnerable populations, achieve their potential by strengthening family and other supportive environments

Activities:

- Provide congregate meals and home delivered meals for senior citizens.
- Provide respite, community and day habilitation for the developmentally disabled.
- Provide emergency food.
- Assist households with emergency utility assistance.
- Provide furnace repairs for low income households without heat.
- Assist households with all types of emergency needs.
- Provide emergency protection from violence for victims of crime, domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- Provide Healthy Families services to households with infants and young children.
- Operate the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program to assure infant and child health as a result of improved nutrition.
- Operate a Head Start program providing preschool activities to develop school readiness skills for children.
- Operate an agency operated foster home program with independent living skills training for children aging out of foster care.
- Operate a mentoring program for youth, based on Big Brothers/Big Sisters.
- Operate the Parent Education program to assist parents who have indicated or suspected cases of child abuse and neglect, to improve parenting skills.
- Operate a Solutions To End Homelessness Program (STEHP) to provide short and long term assist to the homeless and near homeless.
- Operate a Family Development program building on strengths of families and family members to achieve goals moving toward self-sufficiency.
- Provide transportation for Medicaid eligible people to obtain health care.
- Provide rental assistance for elderly and/or disabled people so they maintain safe and affordable housing.

- Provide used clothing and household goods.
- Providing housing rehabilitation, purchase assistance and foreclosure counseling.

Expected Outcomes:

- Approximately 400 senior citizens each year will maintain independent living as a result of adequate nutrition and socialization through the Senior Dining Program.
- Approximately 350 senior citizens each year will maintain independent living as a result of receiving home delivered meals through the Senior Dining Program.
- Approximately 100 developmentally disabled individuals each year will receive care to maintain independent living.
- Advocacy and assistance will be provided for 180 people each year.
- Emergency food (a 5-day supply for each family member) will be provided to approximately 650 households each month through the food pantry network.
- Furnace repairs or replacements will be provided to approximately 18 households each year.
- Approximately 120 victims of domestic violence will be provided with emergency protection and supportive services each year.
- Approximately 40 victims of sexual assault will be provided with emergency protection and services.
- The Healthy Families Program will serve approximately 60 families each year assuring that infants and young children obtain appropriate medical, dental, and nutrition services.
- Approximately 1,010 individuals each year will participate in the WIC program, resulting in improved child health and development as a result of improved nutrition.
- The Head Start program will serve 224 children each year to assist with child development and school readiness.
- Approximately 18 youth per year will have improved social/emotional development as a result of stays in foster homes.
- 50 youth each year will increase academic, athletic, or social skills for school success, participating in the Big Buddy Program.
- 60-80 parents, each year will learn and exhibit improved parenting skills as measured by no repeat reports of child abuse or neglect while participating in the program.
- 21 families will be enrolled in the Family Development Program each year and families will move at least one step on the family development matrix toward self-sufficiency.
- 350 people each year will be transported to and from medical appointments.
- 300 elderly and/or disabled households will obtain safe and affordable housing as a result of receiving rental assistance. Another 300-350 low income individuals will receive rental assistance as well.
- 5,000 bags of clothing or household items will be donated to the program each year and these items will be distributed to low income persons.

It is anticipated that additional outcomes will be achieved during this three-year period. As opportunities exist to expand programs and to redirect programming to meet needs that emerge, the Board of Directors will direct efforts to initiate new programming and expect new outcomes.