

UNITED WAY COMMUNITY QUESTIONS
RESPONSE FROM THE JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING
MARCH 2024

Questions:

1. What are the community needs, as you see it, in health, education and income stability?
 - a) Health: Ensure availability of basic medical services for all residents via employer health care, Indian Health Services, Marketplace, VA, Medicare and Medicaid. Acknowledge the community changes in demographics and accommodate/condense systems to ensure emphasis on quality medical care for seniors who now comprise almost 28% of Juneau's population.
 - b) Education: Maintain high quality K-12 Education, the UAS and Community Schools system. Acknowledge the community changes in demographics and accommodate/condense systems to ensure emphasis on quality education and livable communities.
 - c) Income stability: Ensure availability of affordable, universal design, age friendly housing, as well as food security and medical care to help bolster income stability.
2. What are the gaps in the system for addressing these needs?

There are many quality services in SE that are not coordinating adequately. There are redundant services and services that do not collaborate in terms of service provision. Create a means for consumers to have a One Stop System.
3. If anything is possible, what would you wish to have happen with the provision of services in Southeast?

There are many quality services in SE that are not coordinating adequately. There are redundant services and services that do not collaborate in terms of service provision. Create a means for consumers to have a One Stop System.
4. Who else do you suggest we interview and what other sources of information should we consider?

The AKDOLWD has a robust demographic picture of the Juneau region. Ask for updated information to ensure that the targeted services are appropriate for the population. Sometimes emphasis is placed on the most vocal or visible members of the community, rather than those representing a higher percentage of the population or those with greater needs. Use data in decision making.
5. Anything else you would like to share?

The Juneau Commission on Aging recommends deployment of the AARP Age Friendly Community Planning process for Juneau to serve seniors and all citizens. We want to make the community we love a place where everyone can age in place in a healthy, happy manner.