

## Social and Economic Context Summary Sheet

Parish/Faith Community Saints Peter and Paul

The following statements describe the most important implications arising from this social and economic information. Each team should develop consensus around three to five statements. The statements should be in complete sentences. The following is a helpful format: *Because (a particular social, economic, or other situation) exists, it is important that our parish/faith community does (something).*

- OUTREACH**
1. Because our parishioners ~~and neighbors~~ <sup>and neighbors</sup> share little connectedness or sense of mutuality in community, it is important that we better utilize our weekly worship and coffee as an opportunity for hospitality, outreach, listening and evangelization *and that we identify other ways to reach out to our neighbors including participation in Neighborhood United's Clean-up Days and Canvasses.*
- SAFETY**
2. Because a sense of safety and security in the neighborhood is needed, it is important that our parish be active advocates for neighborhood quality of life concerns *and that we work in collaboration with neighborhood groups seeking to increase the safety, security, and "drug-free" character of the geographical area.*
- FOOD**
3. Because financial resources are strained for the people of our neighborhood it is important that Saint Peter's Kitchen continue its services *and that the parish <sup>also</sup> participate in other food service efforts (SWEM Food Cupboard) neighborhood promotion of a Supermarket*
- Housing**
4. Because housing for women and children at risk is needed, it is important that our parish support efforts to stabilize or redevelop the apartments, *and since 66% of the homes in our area are renter occupied, we need to work closely and consistently, through Neighborhood United, with all groups who are pursuing housing renewal in our neighborhood.*
- Children**
5. Because of the high levels of poverty in our area, <sup>(62%)</sup> again especially among children, it is very important that the parish continue to contract with Action for a Better Community to provide Head Start and Day Care in the rectory building as a much needed ministry of the parish.

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1. Because our parishioners and neighbors share little connectedness or sense of mutuality in community, it is important that we better utilize our weekly worship and coffee as an opportunity for hospitality, outreach, listening and evangelization.

2. Because a sense of safety and security in the neighborhood is needed, it is important that our parish be active advocates for neighborhood quality of life concerns.

3. Because financial resources are strained for the people of our neighborhood it is important that Saint Peter's Kitchen continue its services.

4. Because housing for women and children at risk is needed, it is important that our parish support efforts to stabilize or redevelop the apartments.

5. Because child care is needed in our neighborhood, the stability/expansion of day care is important.

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Parish/Faith Community Ss. Peter & Paul

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1. Because safe housing for families and others who want a "drug free neighborhood" is almost non-existent at this time in this area, it is important that our Parish become actively involved in the Neighborhood Assoc., which is addressing this issue with the City Government, over the next few years.
2. Because the area has many children and young adults at the poverty level, it is important that the Parish continue to provide food and clothing to the people of the area.
3. Because many children under the age of 12 are in the poverty level, it is important that a program to foster good hygiene and nutrition, be provided for both children and the adult(s) who care for them so that dental and health problems can be lessened.
4. Because many elderly of this area's population do not have a full set of teeth, the Parish should establish a special hot meal program for older citizens who may find it difficult to digest some food types.
5. Because the population is largely Afro-American and often a one parent family, the Parish should provide counseling and opportunities for parent respite in an effort to lessen family violence.

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1. Because 62% of the children 17 and under in our geographic area (79% of those ages 6 to 11) live at or below the poverty level, the parish needs to develop more extensive programming for children and youth.
2. Because 57% of the population of our area is African American and because the vast majority of those attending Mass on Sunday are white, the parish needs to develop an outreach program to the people of the neighborhood who may wish to join us.
3. Because 66% of the homes in our area are renter occupied, the parish needs to work closely and consistently with the neighborhood association, Neighborhood United, as they pursue with the city and county a Housing Renewal Plan.
4. Because 44% of the people in our geographic area live at or below the poverty level and the majority of these are children, it is important that the parish fully support Saint Peter's Kitchen and regard it as an essential parish ministry.
5. Because of the high levels of poverty in our area, again especially among children, it is very important that the parish continue to contract with Action for a Better Community to provide Head Start and Day Care in the rectory building as a much needed ministry of the parish.

Day Care  
Action for a Better Community

1. Our parish community must strive to continue and to support the work and ministry of St. Peter's Kitchen and Priceless Clothing -

- food collections
- clothing collections
- means of communications thro which we understand the services & needs of these parish ministries.

It is important that  
Wak & Dista Barbara &  
her staff to find ways  
in which ~~our~~ parishioners can  
be of the greatest support  
to St. Peter's Kitchen

~~ways in which~~

2. Develop a core group of parishioners who will work with ~~the~~ HOP <sup>and our parish partnership</sup> to help to <sup>parish St. Pauls of Webster</sup> coordinate services for the tenants of St Peter & Paul Housing - for example -

- Story Hours for Children
- Parenting Classes
- ~~Helping the~~
- Arts and Crafts
- Tutoring: children & adults

3. Connect with other churches who are close to us to discover in what ways they are working with and ministering to our neighborhood so that we may work in collaboration - them.

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1. Reach out to the community. Let them know they are loved and do not have to face hopelessness or unmanageability alone.

ex. have a special Mass. invite neighbors

Look at ethnicity on report and entire report

2. The head of the church should greet or talk to a Newcomer. even if we don't think they are interested in the pastor.

3. Who are the newcomers

Who the newcomers ~~have~~ have access to the Priest or lay Person. Invite newcomers to be a part of-

4.

5.