

LIVABLE KENOSHA

Community Survey Report
March 2025



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Overview

In the spring of 2024, the Kenosha Achievement Center, Inc. (KAC), in partnership with the Village of Pleasant Prairie RecPlex, was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. This grant supports the Livable Communities Initiative (LCI), a statewide effort to enhance quality of life by making communities more accessible, sustainable, and inclusive.

The LCI addresses key challenges such as housing, transportation, and economic growth with the following goals:

- Enhancing connectivity and engagement within communities
- Improving infrastructure to better support older adults and individuals with disabilities
- Promoting independence and long-term community involvement

As part of this grant, KAC had the opportunity to develop and implement programs aimed at improving the health and well-being of older adults and individuals with disabilities by reducing social isolation and loneliness.

Our application focused on two key initiatives: addressing housing challenges specific to the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities in Kenosha and launching an accessible biking program - modeled after Cycling Without Age - to foster social connection. These efforts were guided by a newly formed coalition dedicated to advancing these goals.

This report highlights our findings and progress related to housing initiatives.

Livable Kenosha

Both KAC and RecPlex provide programs for adults with disabilities. Both programs had long recognized the challenges individuals in their programs faced when seeking suitable housing. Families frequently shared stories of frustration, with some even relocating their loved ones out of Kenosha due to long waitlists for specialized housing. Many families expressed deep concerns about the lack of options, with some admitting they had no long-term plan for their disabled adult child - simply hoping they would outlive them.

At the same time, a broader movement was emerging across Kenosha County to assess and address housing needs, primarily focusing on housing stock and affordability. As housing became a growing community priority, it became clear that this was the right moment to amplify the voices of older adults and individuals with disabilities. In response, Livable Kenosha was formed.

To drive this initiative forward, a coalition was essential. The founding team included Chris Weyker, CEO of the Kenosha Achievement Center, Inc.; Erin Winch, Manager of Therapeutic Recreation at Pleasant Prairie RecPlex; and Laverne Jaros, a parent and former Director of the Kenosha Aging and Disability Resource Center. This small but dedicated group began meeting in early summer 2024 with

their first goal being to build a well-rounded coalition. A full list of coalition members can be found in **Appendix A**.

Recognizing the need for a passionate leader to champion the work, the coalition hired Ellen Kupfer in September 2024. Her role was to gather existing resources, collect data, and design and implement a community housing survey. All work related to the housing portion of the grant was set to be completed by the end of February 2025.

Background

Developed by AARP (American Association of Retired Persons), the Livable Communities Initiative is a nationwide program designed to create communities that are safe, accessible, and inclusive. The program emphasizes affordable and appropriate housing, reliable transportation options, and supportive community services - ensuring that people of all ages and abilities can thrive. Its core goals are to promote personal independence, support aging in place, and encourage active participation in community life.

A livable community includes a variety of housing options that adapt to the evolving needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities while fostering neighborhood connection. Key features also include accessible transportation, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, and opportunities for social engagement.

AARP research shows that the vast majority of adults aged 50 and older prefer to remain in their homes and communities for as long as possible. Familiar surroundings, proximity to loved ones, and active social involvement all contribute to reduced isolation and improved mental well-being. Simply put, livable communities feel like home.

AARP provides extensive resources to help communities implement these principles and Livable Kenosha has modeled its efforts on this proven national framework.

Kenosha Housing Initiative

A truly livable community considers the diverse needs, abilities, and economic circumstances of its residents. In Kenosha, many groups face unmet housing challenges:

- Homeowners looking to downsize have limited options
- Younger disabled veterans with families seek accessible, independent housing
- Older widows and widowers need midsize housing that balances space and affordability
- Families with aging parents require attached or freestanding units that allow for close yet independent living
- Parents of disabled adult children want supportive housing options that keep their loved ones in the community
- Working adults with disabilities need housing that accommodates both their accessibility and employment needs

- Low-income older adults need stable housing options to avoid frequent relocations or homelessness.

In recent years, several Kenosha agencies have conducted surveys to assess the demand for workforce and affordable housing. As businesses consider relocating to the area, a key concern is whether their employees will find suitable housing. While these surveys effectively highlight the broad need for housing, they also underscore a larger issue: the breakdown of the traditional housing lifecycle.

Historically, people transition from apartments to starter homes, then to larger homes, before eventually downsizing into smaller homes, assisted living, and nursing care. However, this cycle has stalled due to a lack of available housing at each stage, making it difficult for residents to upsize or downsize as their needs change. People today are also looking into other than traditional options - options that allow them to be as independent as possible and have the ability to interact with family and community. Addressing this gap is essential to creating a sustainable, livable Kenosha for all.

Survey Implementation

To better understand housing needs and preferences in Kenosha County, the Coalition adapted an AARP survey to collect input from a broad range of residents. The goal was to gather perspectives across ages, income levels, and municipalities to identify gaps in housing options for elders and people with disabilities and potential solutions. The survey assessed current housing conditions and future housing plans for individuals and their loved ones over the next 5, 10, and 15 years.

To ensure widespread participation, the survey was made available both electronically and in paper format at multiple locations, including the KAC, libraries, KAFASI, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), and the Veterans Administration. A QR code linking to the survey was distributed via posters, websites, and social media, with versions available in both English and Spanish. Coalition members leveraged their networks to expand outreach throughout the county.

The survey was open from December 5, 2024, to January 28, 2025 and dissemination efforts included:

- **Media & Public Outreach:** Press releases were sent to WLIP, WGTD, Kenosha News, and Labor Times. The City of Kenosha and Kenosha County Administration promoted the survey and posted it on their social media channels. Hispanic community outreach was facilitated through Francisco Loyola and the Village of Pleasant Prairie sent a village-wide email.
- **Community Organizations & Labor Networks:** Groups such as the AFL-CIO Central Labor Council, Kenosha Education Association, Kenosha Education Association Retired, and Local 72 Retired shared the survey with their members. The Westosha Senior Center encouraged members to complete it on-site.
- **Direct Engagement & Veterans Outreach:** KAFASI provided surveys to clients and ADRC distributed information through its network. The Kenosha County Veterans Administration displayed posters in their offices, posted on social media, and shared the survey with veterans at Hero's Café.
- **Livable Kenosha Partners:** KAC distributed the survey to over 100 staff members, all program participants, and individuals utilizing LINK or Care-A-Van transportation. The RecPlex

Therapeutic Recreation program also shared and collected surveys from individuals and families.

- **Listening Sessions:** In-person sessions were held at Northside and Southwest libraries, Salem Lakes Community Library, and Pleasant Prairie RecPlex, allowing for discussion and survey completion.
- **Expert Input:** Representatives from over 25 community agencies working in housing and related services were interviewed for their insights. Surveys were also made available for these organizations to distribute to their staff and clients.

The Coalition set a goal of collecting 275 completed surveys alongside interviews with developers and service providers for additional input. A full copy of the survey is available in **Appendix B**.

Kenosha Demographics

Kenosha County includes the City of Kenosha and 11 villages/townships: Brighton, Paris, Randall, Somers, Bristol, Genoa City, Paddock Lake, Pleasant Prairie, Salem Lakes, and Twin Lakes. According to the Wisconsin Department of Administration, the county's most recent population estimate is 170,693.

Population Trends

- Kenosha County's overall population is projected to decrease between 2020 and 2050.
- The 65+ population will rise from 15% to 25%.
- A natural population decline is expected as births continue to trend downward.
- Incoming migration of younger workers, influenced by business and industrial growth, may offset the aging trend.

Age & Veteran Population

According to the American Community Survey, in 2023 16.9% of the population of Kenosha County is 65 years of age or older compared to 19.2% of the state population. The most recent Kenosha County Aging plan states that 21.5% of Kenosha County residents are 60 years of age or older. Veterans make up 4.8% of the population.

The population demographics for Kenosha County are as follows:

	65-74 Years	75-84 Years	85+ Years
Percentage of Population	10.7%	4.9%	1.3%

Race & Ethnicity

Kenosha is a diverse community with a population that reflects a range of racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds. In addition to its longstanding Black, Hispanic, and Asian communities, the city is also home to a growing number of foreign-born residents with 7.4% of Kenosha County residents identifying as foreign-born.

The race & ethnicity demographics for Kenosha County are as follows:

Race & Ethnicity	Percentage of Population
White (any ethnicity)	86.3%
White (non-Hispanic/Latino)	72.8%
African American	8.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.8%
Asian	2.0%
Pacific Islander/Hawaiian	0.1%
Multiracial	3.1%
Hispanic/Latino (any race)	15.4%

Disability Prevalence in Wisconsin

A significant portion of the population experiences disabilities ranging from physical and sensory impairments to cognitive and mental health conditions.

The disability demographics for Kenosha County are as follows:

Disability Type	Hearing	Vision	Cognitive	Ambulatory	Self-Care	Independent Living
Percentage of Population	3.7%	1.6%	4.8%	6.1%	2.6%	5.1%

Household Income Distribution

Household income distribution plays a critical role in shaping housing affordability and availability in Kenosha. Income levels impact residents’ ability to rent or purchase homes, access financial assistance, and secure stable housing. While some households have the financial means to explore a range of housing options, many others, especially low- and middle-income families, struggle with rising costs, limited affordable housing stock, and barriers to homeownership.

The household income distribution for 65 years of age and older households are as follows:

Income Range	Percentage of 65+ Households	Income Range	Percentage of 65+ Households
Less than \$10,000	3%	\$45,000 - \$49,999	5%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	6%	\$50,000 - \$59,999	10%
\$15,000 - \$19,999	5%	\$60,000 - \$74,999	9%
\$20,000 - \$24,999	5%	\$75,000 - \$99,999	14%
\$25,000 - \$29,999	6%	\$100,000 - \$124,999	8%
\$30,000 - \$34,999	4%	\$125,000 - \$149,999	5%
\$35,000 - \$39,999	4%	\$150,000 - \$199,999	6%
\$40,000 - \$44,999	3%	\$200,000 or more	5%

Social Security & Poverty Rates

Social Security benefits play a crucial role in supporting older adults and individuals with disabilities in Kenosha, often serving as a primary source of income for those no longer in the workforce. However, for many recipients, these benefits alone may not be sufficient to cover housing and basic living expenses, particularly as costs continue to rise. Additionally, poverty rates provide important insight into the financial challenges faced by certain populations, influencing their housing stability and access to resources.

It is important to note that the data presented below reflects Social Security income and poverty levels but does not account for any supplemental income individuals may receive, such as pensions, retirement savings, or other financial support.

The social security demographic for Kenosha County are as follows:

Category	Kenosha County
Avg. Social Security Benefit (2025)	\$1,976/month
Avg. SSI-D (Disability) Payment	\$1,340.21/month
Social Security (No Working Credit)	\$958/month
65+ Population in Poverty	11%

These demographic insights highlight the economic diversity and financial challenges faced by older adults in Kenosha County, particularly regarding housing affordability and stability.

Housing Need

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2023 American Community Survey, the vacancy rate for single-family homes in Kenosha is just 2%, significantly below the healthy range of 5-8% typically seen in residential markets. This indicates that demand for housing is exceeding the available supply particularly for single-family homes. In contrast, the vacancy rate for rental properties is slightly better at 5.1%, but still only barely in the adequate zone. This is primarily due to a recent shift in construction trends in Kenosha, where the focus has been on large apartment-style developments rather than single-family homes.

Multiple local studies, including those cited in the Kenosha Community Health Department's 2023-2026 Community Health Improvement Plan (Thrive), highlight the shortage of available housing with affordable housing being the second-highest community priority (44%), only after access to affordable healthcare (45%). The Health Improvement Plan can be found in **Appendix C**. Local planning and zoning officials recognize the issue, stating that meeting housing demand would have required building 1,000 units annually over the past decade. However, this target was never reached in any year, further intensifying the county's housing shortage.

Current Housing Markets

The housing market in Kenosha County has seen considerable activity in recent years. According to information collected by the City of Kenosha Planning & Zoning office and the Census Bureau, the average home value in the county is \$265,500, with the median sale price at \$234,667 and the median list price at \$253,281. The majority of homes are valued between \$200,000-\$300,000 (29.1%) and \$300,000-\$500,000 (28.7%). Most homes are owner-occupied (66.5%) with an average of 2.5 occupants. For single family homes in kenosha, two bedroom homes make up 30.5% of inventory and three bedrooms account for 38.1%.

Age of Housing Stock

According to 2016-2020 ACS data, the majority of housing units in the City of Kenosha were built between 1940 and 1979, totaling 17,718 units (45.92%). This older housing stock increases the likelihood of lead-based paint issues, especially in the 25,000+ units built prior to 1980.

The distribution of housing built by period in Kenosha County is:

Year Built	Number of Units	Percentage
Pre-1940	7,961	20.63%
1940-1979	17,718	45.92%
1980-1999	7,370	19.10%
2000 and later	5,532	14.34%

Rental Market

In 2024, the median rental price in the city of Kenosha is \$1,595, with the average cost of a 1- bedroom apartment around \$1,100. Luxury apartments, often priced over \$2,000, are also becoming common.

The distribution of rental prices in 2024 in Kenosha County is as follows:

Rent Range	Percentage of Occupied Units
Less than \$500	5.3%
\$500 to \$999	27.9%
\$1,000 to \$1,499	37.6%
\$1,500 to \$1,999	20.9%
\$2,000 to \$2,499	6.6%
\$2,500 to \$2,999	1.4%
\$3,000 or more	0.3%

Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income (GRAPI)

Housing affordability is a critical factor in assessing economic stability and quality of life for renters in Kenosha. Gross Rent as a Percentage of Household Income (GRAPI) is a key measure used to determine the financial burden of housing costs. A significant percentage of renters pay 35% or more of their income on rent, indicating a high housing cost burden for many residents.

The distribution of of GRAPI payments relative to household income in Kenosha County is as follows:

GRAPI Range	Percentage of Renters
Less than 15%	13.0%
15% to 19.9%	16.2%
20% to 24.9%	11.2%
25% to 29.9%	12.6%
30% to 34.9%	9.8%
35% or more	37.2%

Subsidized and Affordable Housing

The ADRC Community Resources booklet lists 10 subsidized housing complexes in Kenosha - only one of which is located west of I-94 - with eligibility for seniors 65 years of age and older and adults 55 years of age and older who are disabled. These units are income-restricted, with rent typically set at 30% of adjusted income, including Social Security, SSI, and pensions. There are approximately 570 subsidized apartments and 41 townhomes in Kenosha. There are 14 affordable housing (Section 42) complexes in Kenosha - with four being located west of I-94 - that make up approximately 947 affordable apartments. Additionally, there are 6 affordable complexes and 4 subsidized complexes available for individuals without age restrictions.

The breakdown of housing is as follows:

Type	Units	Eligibility
Subsidized Housing	570 apartments, 41 townhomes	Seniors (65+), Adults (55+) with disabilities
Affordable Housing (Section 42)	947 units (18 for disabled)	Seniors (62+), Adults (55+) with disabilities

Assisted Living Options

Kenosha offers a variety of assisted living options for individuals who require care but not 24-hour nursing access. These options include:

- Adult Family Homes (AFH): Provide room and board for up to 4 residents, offering up to 7 hours of nursing care per week. There are 14 AFH providers in Kenosha with a few located west of I-94.
- Community-Based Residential Facilities (CBRF): Larger facilities, typically for 5+ residents, that offer room and board, supportive services, and 24/7 staffing. There are 22 CBRF providers in Kenosha including one specifically for veterans.
- Residential Care Apartment Complexes (RCAC): Offer independent apartments with some supportive services. There are 7 RCAC facilities in Kenosha but none are located west of I-94.
- Scattered Site Supported Living Arrangements: Housing individuals in apartments or homes dispersed throughout a community, rather than in a single, congregate facility, while providing supportive services to help them maintain stable housing and independence. KHDS has over 90 of these styles of apartments.

This information highlights the current housing conditions in Kenosha, with challenges such as the rising cost of rentals, a shortage of affordable housing, and an aging housing stock that could require additional resources to meet the needs of a growing and aging population.

In-Process Housing Plans

Kenosha County has four communities that must have a housing plan due to their population size: City of Kenosha, Somers, Salem/Salem Lakes, and Pleasant Prairie. While most of the housing plans in the area are currently under revision, the City of Kenosha recently completed its housing plan for the period 2025-2029.

Several housing projects are actively underway or in the planning stages across these communities:

- **Downtown Kenosha**

A significant development is underway in downtown Kenosha where approximately 1,000 luxury apartment units are planned intended to serve all age groups. These units are part of the city's effort to enhance urban living while addressing the increasing demand for housing.

- **City of Kenosha**

- Uptown Lofts: A workforce housing project that provides 72 units.
- 90-Unit Complex: This development includes a 4-story building with 48 units designated for senior living and 42 units with no age restrictions.
- Home Kenosha Program: This program aims to use city-owned lots to build and help finance the construction of affordable single-family homes. The city is also exploring ways to financially assist residents in adapting and improving their existing homes to meet current needs.
- Innovation Neighborhood: A large-scale redevelopment project aimed at transforming the former Chrysler site into a vibrant mixed-use community. The plan includes diverse housing options, from affordable units to market-rate homes, along with commercial spaces, green areas, and community resources. This initiative seeks to promote economic growth, attract new residents, and create a more connected and inclusive neighborhood within Kenosha.

- **Somers**

Two housing developments in Somers are in progress: Savannah and Maples. These projects include more than 300 units with a focus on single-story, ADA-compliant units, and below-market-rate housing. Some units will be specifically designed for seniors and individuals with disabilities making them more inclusive and accessible to a wider range of residents.

- **Pleasant Prairie**

Pleasant Prairie is planning a 750-unit development offering a variety of housing types. However, as of the time of this report, none of these units have been designated specifically for seniors or individuals with disabilities.

- **Salem Lakes**

While Salem Lakes does not have any active housing developments at this time, local officials are actively pursuing developers for projects targeting the “missing middle housing”. This category typically refers to housing options that are more affordable than market-rate options but not subsidized.

These in process and planned developments highlight efforts throughout Kenosha County to meet the housing needs of its growing and diverse population, including the increasing demand for accessible and affordable housing options for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Survey Results Overview

A total of 401 surveys were returned, far surpassing the original goal of 275 responses. Responses provided valuable insights into the housing needs and plans of Kenosha County residents, particularly those over the age of 65. The survey findings revealed that 62% of respondents were over the age of 65, 28.3% identified as a person with a disability, and 22% stated they were caregivers.

Key Demographics

- **Age Breakdown:**
 - City: The largest age group was 65-74 years at 30.5%, followed by 75+ years at 28.1%.
 - County: In the county, the largest group was 75+ years at 39.6%, followed by 65-74 years at 32.2%.
 - These demographics align with the targeted population for the survey.
- **Caregiving:**
 - 23% of city respondents and 18% of county respondents reported being caregivers.
 - Caregiving: Among caregivers in both the city and county, the majority were caring for an adult child with a disability. The next largest category in the city was caregivers of a spouse or significant other, whereas in the county, caregivers of a spouse or significant other and caregivers of parents were tied for second largest group.

Housing Plans and Intentions

- **5-Year Housing Plans:**

The majority of respondents indicated that they had a housing plan for the next 5 years for themselves and/or the person they care for.
- **10-15 Year Housing Plans:**

The number of respondents without a housing plan increased over time. The percentage of people with no plan at the 10-15 year mark was notably higher, while the number with a plan dropped significantly.

Future Housing Preferences

- **Desire to Stay in Current Residence:**

Most respondents (both in the city and county) expressed a strong desire to stay in their current residence. The data suggests that this preference may stem from either a desire to remain in their homes or a lack of viable housing options.
- **Relocation Preferences:**

Respondents were very unlikely to move to a different residence within their community, move to a different community, or relocate closer to family while maintaining their independence. Notably, the largest group indicated they were very unlikely to move in with family, both in the city and county.

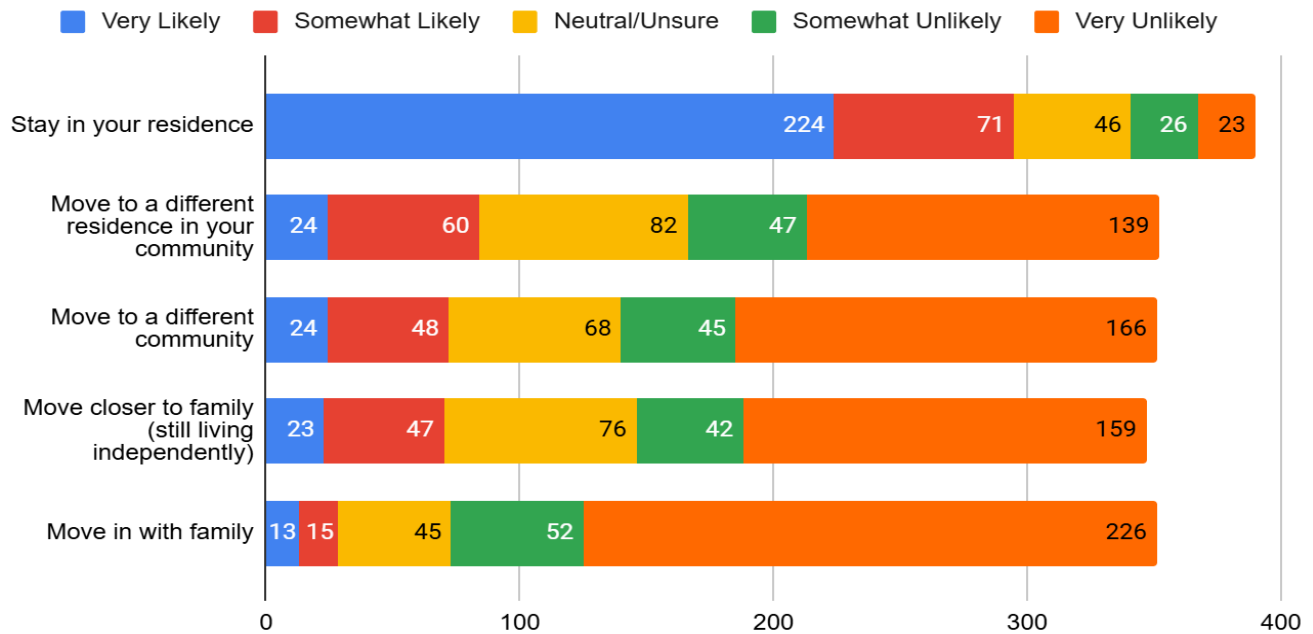


Fig. 1 Thinking about the next 5-10 years, how likely are you to...

Barriers to Plan

The responses to the survey highlighted several key barriers that individuals face in their pursuit of suitable housing.

Desire for Smaller, Accessible Homes

Older individuals who wish to downsize or relocate noted the importance of smaller, single-story homes with attached garages, ADA or universal design features to accommodate health and mobility concerns as they or their partners age. Many also expressed interest in apartment or condo complexes with elevators, sheltered parking, ADA or universal design, and 55+ communities or high-end apartments for quieter environments. However, there is a significant lack of available options that meet these needs.

Challenges of Staying in Current Homes

For those wanting to remain in their homes, concerns were raised about maintenance costs, including the expense of maintaining the home, property taxes, and the affordability of services for upkeep when they are no longer able to do it themselves. Another major concern was the availability of affordable in-home care for activities of daily living. Additionally, the long wait lists for income-based housing and the quick turnover of condos or apartments in senior living communities added to the difficulty of finding appropriate housing. Moving costs - including upfront fees, the cost of moving belongings, and disposing of unneeded items - were also significant financial barriers.

Impact of Caregiving on Housing Decisions

Caregivers faced additional challenges in housing decisions. Many delayed their own move unless they were certain their loved one would be moving to a safe, clean, and well-maintained facility. Others expressed that the death of a family member they care for would likely require them to move due to estate issues, and this would be complicated by limited income, making it difficult to afford safe and affordable housing. Additionally, concerns about income loss after the death of a spouse or partner would further affect their ability to stay in their current home or afford alternative housing.

Housing for Disabled Individuals

For individuals with disabilities the range of housing options was seen as very limited. If rent increases or their disability worsens, finding alternative housing would become even more difficult. Essential needs, such as first-floor housing or complexes with elevators, are often available but accompanied by long wait lists. Furthermore, there is a lack of sheltered parking for those who rely on cars for work or medical appointments, particularly during the winter months when parking lots may not be plowed.

Concerns for Pet-Friendly Housing

Another common concern across both city and county respondents was the availability of pet-friendly housing. Many individuals, particularly those with disabilities or older adults, desire housing that allows pets and includes pet yards or easy access to outdoor areas close to their homes.

Caregivers' Housing Challenges

Caregivers of individuals with disabilities reported a lack of resources for a range of housing needs, including housing that could accommodate both the caregiver and the person being cared for, as well as independent living apartments with support services and group homes. The long wait lists and lack of respite care for these caregiving situations further compounded the difficulties.

These barriers paint a picture of a population facing significant challenges in securing affordable, accessible, and appropriate housing, with an especially pronounced need for housing solutions that can cater to both individuals with disabilities and their caregivers.

Why Move?

Respondents identified several key factors that influenced their decision to move out of their current home. The availability of support was the most important factor, followed by the cost of maintaining the home, accessibility of the home, and the location of the home. This ranking shows that individuals are most concerned with having the necessary support and resources available to them when considering a move. Financial and physical accessibility concerns are also significant, with many prioritizing homes that are easier to maintain and navigate. The location of the home was a lower priority, but still an important consideration for many respondents.

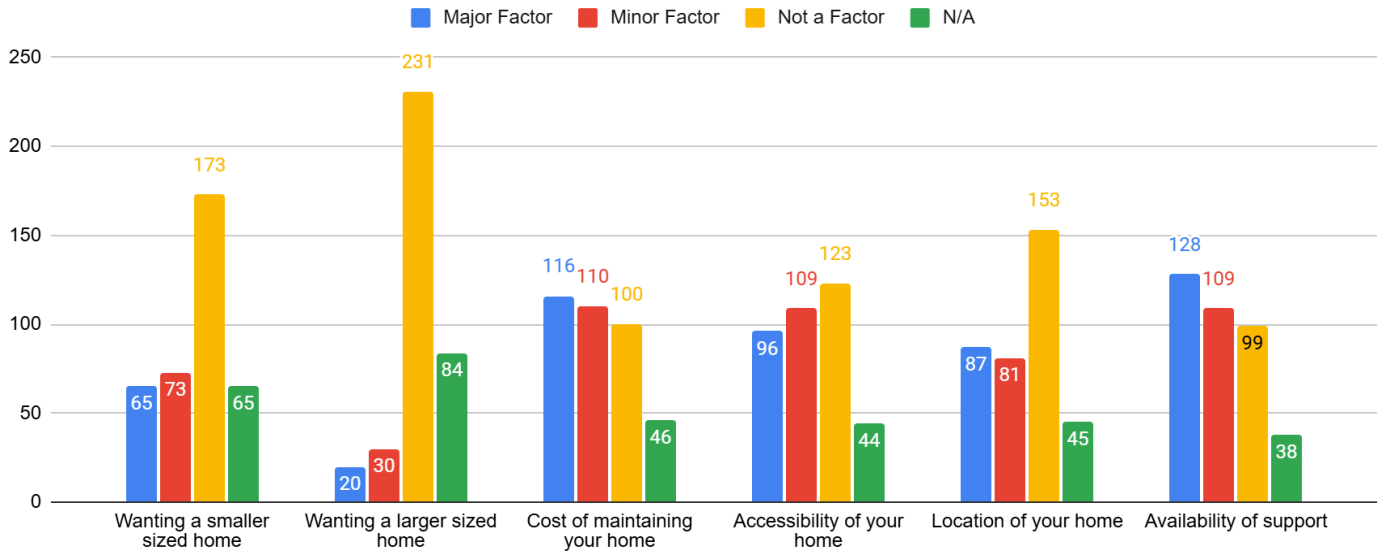


Fig. 2 As you age, would the following factors influence your decision to move out of your current home?

A potential housing solution mentioned was home sharing, where individuals would consider sharing their homes with others. The results showed that family members were the preferred people to share a home with, while sharing with friends was not a widely accepted option. Furthermore, most respondents indicated they would not share their home with a stranger. The data for this question was consistent between city and county respondents.

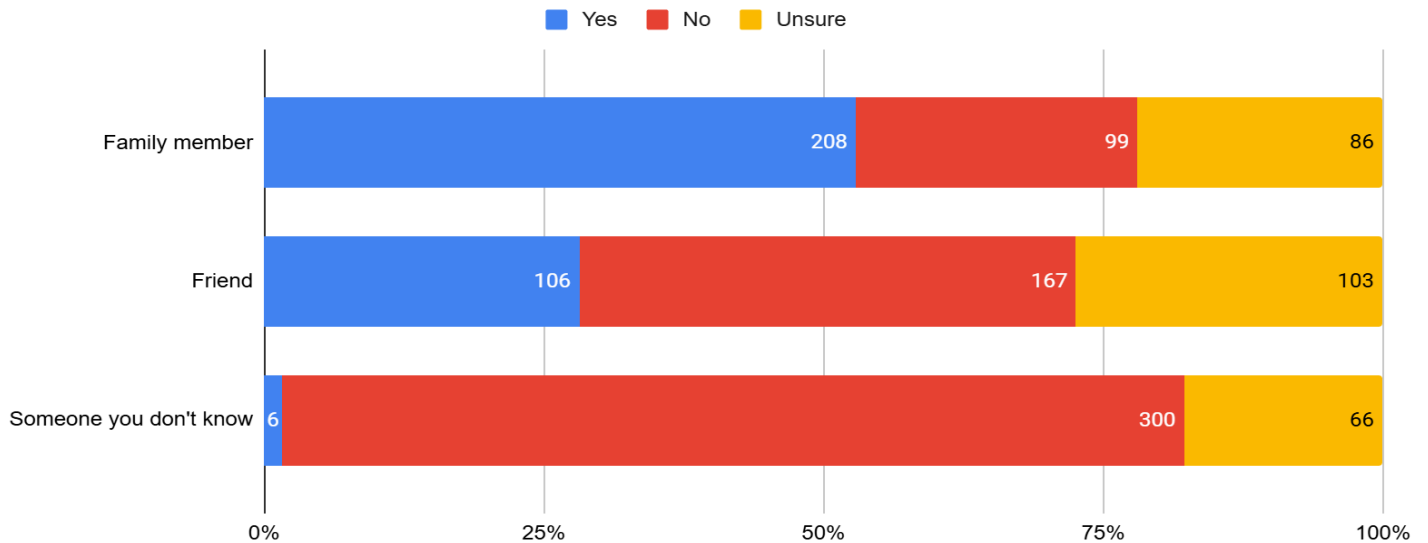


Fig. 3 As you age, would you consider sharing your home with...

Ideal Living Arrangements

Respondents were asked to share what types of housing need to be developed in Kenosha to meet your future needs. Full definitions for the housing types used in the survey can be found in

Appendix D. The majority of respondents indicated that Kenosha should focus on developing social communities (21.4%), supported housing (17.3%), and linked living (16.2%). The responses were similar across both city and county residents.

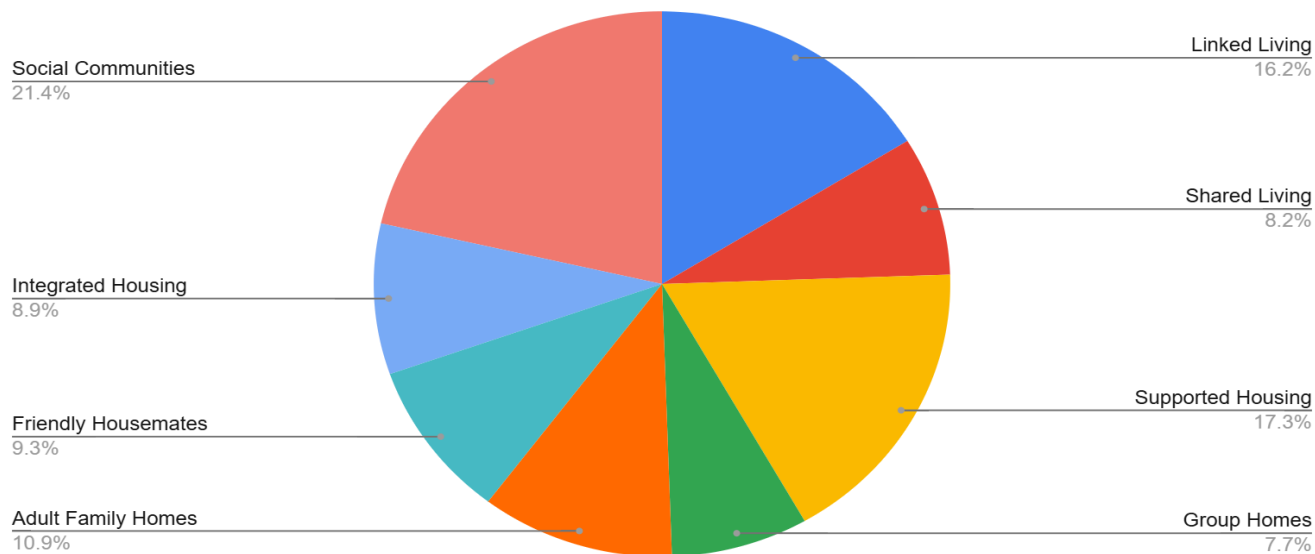


Fig. 4 What types of housing does Kenosha need to develop to meet your future needs?

When asked to expand upon their ideal housing types, the dominant themes revolved around maintaining independence for as long as possible while gradually incorporating home adaptations, maintenance help, and personal care assistance. Many individuals envisioned staying in their own home or a private residence. ADA or Universal Design components were frequently mentioned, with the most common preference being a small ranch-style home. An attached, sheltered garage without steps was considered helpful and some respondents also expressed interest in an attached suite or an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on the same property. Pet-friendly housing was important especially for those with pets or service animals. Additionally, housing should be situated near public transportation to access jobs, medical services, grocery stores, pharmacies, and social activities.

Preferences for caregivers centered around accessible homes or apartments, maintaining independence, and having access to transportation for medical care and appointments. Cost-effective housing options were important, along with the desire for various living arrangements for caregivers and their loved ones. Socialization was also a key concern.

Current Housing Situations

The survey indicates that many people feel that attainable housing options are limited, with about one-third of respondents remaining neutral and 15% feeling that the options are good to excellent. For individuals with very low to moderate/middle incomes, housing availability is particularly constrained. Respondents noted that more group homes are needed, and that the cost of housing is often too high. There are concerns about rent increases in low-income apartments, long waitlists (sometimes several years), and a lack of smaller homes or condos. Many of the homes being built are too large and expensive, with very few affordable ADA-compliant options.

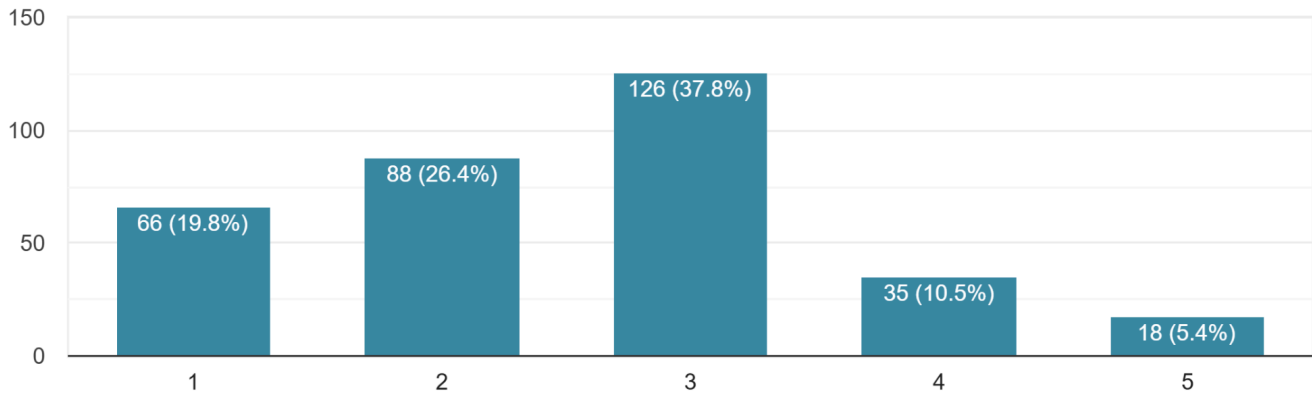


Fig. 5 How would you rate the attainable housing options for adults of various incomes? (1 being poor - 5 being excellent)

Accessibility also emerged as a concern, with about one-third of respondents rating it as poor to mildly poor, another third rating it as moderately poor, and approximately 20% feeling that it was very good to excellent. The majority of homes are not accessible and older homes often cannot be adapted to physical needs, particularly due to the absence of elevators and the presence of steps at entryways.

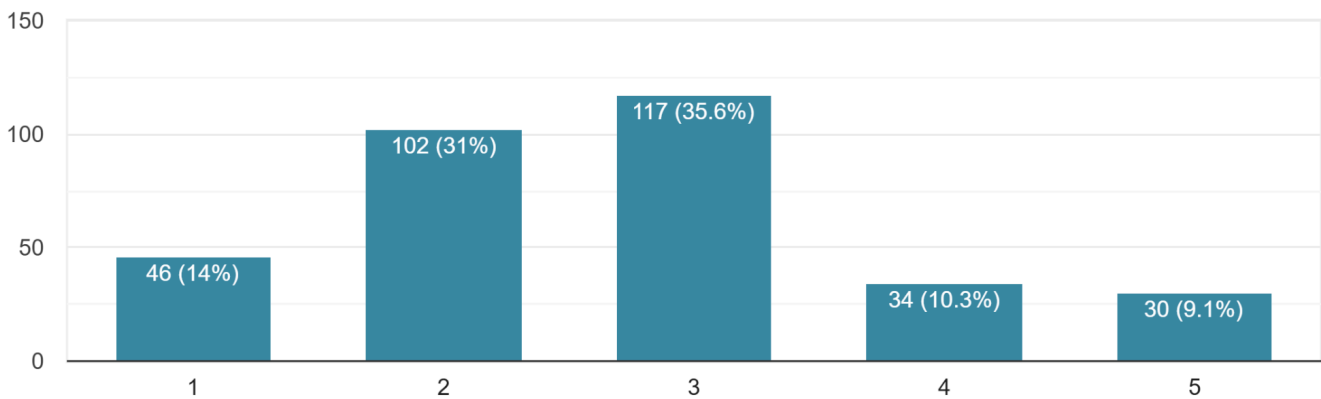


Fig. 6 How would you rate the availability of accessible homes? (1 being poor - 5 being excellent)

In terms of housing safety and maintenance, the majority of respondents had no opinion, which may be reflective of their status as homeowners. About one-third of respondents expressed concerns about segregated areas, issues with homeless individuals, bullying in adult housing, cars blocking sidewalks or parking in yards, lack of landlord accountability, and the poor condition of affordable housing options, particularly in senior housing.

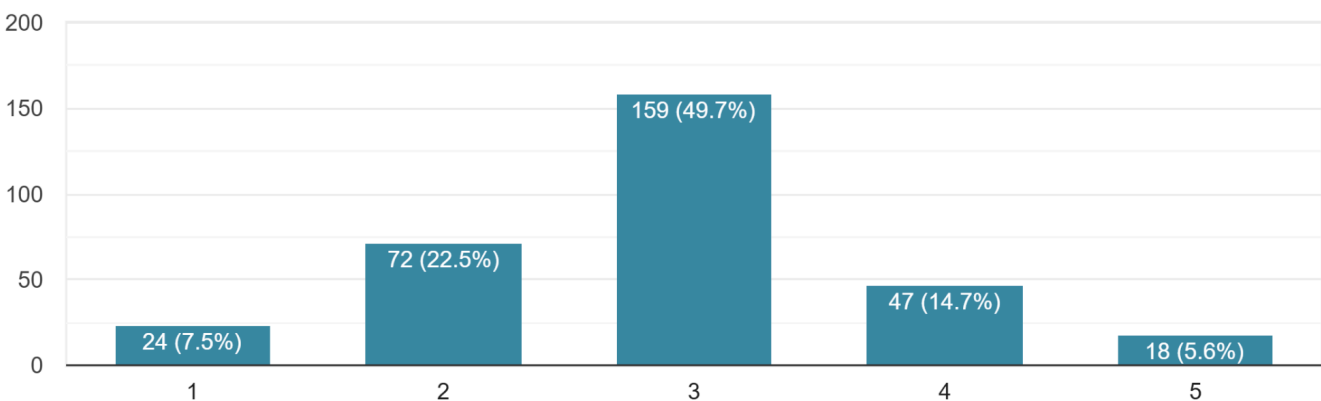


Fig. 7 How would you rate the availability of well maintained and safe housing? (1 being poor - 5 being excellent)

Housing for a Child with a Disability

According to the survey, 16.8% of respondents indicated they are caregivers for a minor or adult child with a disability. Of those, only 26.7% reported having a plan for alternative living arrangements for the person they care for in the future. The top four preferred housing options for individuals with disabilities are group homes, supported housing, adult family homes, and either integrated housing or linked living.

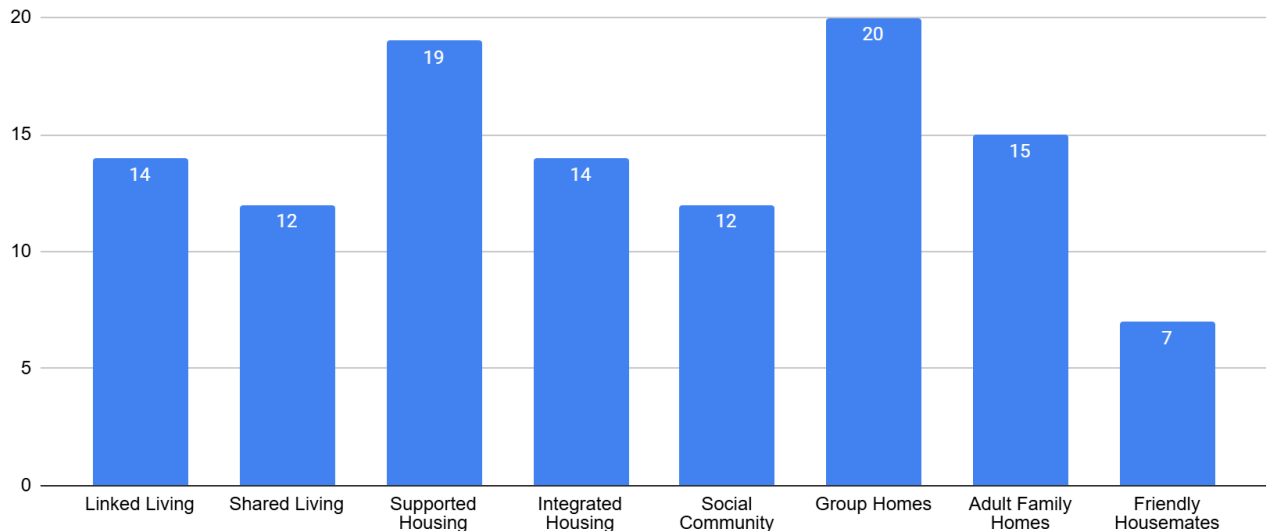


Fig. 8 Have you looked into any of the following housing options for your child?

Comments from parents highlighted a strong desire for their child to be as independent as possible while ensuring their safety. Many parents mentioned the importance of supervised apartments that offer varying levels of assistance based on individual needs. If independent living is not feasible, parents prefer housing that closely resembles a homelike environment, emphasizing happiness and safety. In cases requiring more intensive medical care, parents expressed the need for a clean, safe, and well-staffed facility with caring staff. Additionally, many parents prioritized living near family, making it essential to find housing within Kenosha or Kenosha County.

Other Housing Related Survey Responses

Respondents shared a range of insights and comments regarding their housing concerns. For seniors, key themes included cost with both rental prices and issues such as mortgage rates being significant factors. There were also concerns about accessibility, including difficulties related to housing design and layout, and landlord-tenant issues. Many respondents pointed to the lack of variety in housing and rental stock, which limits available options. Additionally, there were concerns regarding the maintenance and upkeep of properties, with many reporting long waitlists for housing, as well as a lack of resources on the west end of the county.

For caregivers, the most pressing issue was the lack of resources for individuals who are fairly independent but require some level of supervision or assistance. Respondents also emphasized the need for a continuum of housing types to support people at various stages of independence. Similarly,

the cost of housing was frequently mentioned, particularly as a barrier to securing appropriate housing for both seniors and those with disabilities. A complete list of the comments and concerns raised by respondents can be found in **Appendix E**.

Homelessness

A number of well-crafted studies have already documented the need for and availability of housing for the homeless. In the City of Kenosha, several resources are in place to address these needs, though demand continues to outpace availability. Kenosha Human Development Services (KHDS) serves as the lead agency in coordinating and providing options for unhoused individuals across various demographics. KHDS operates the Kenosha County Emergency Shelter, providing temporary housing and case management to help individuals transition into stable living situations. The organization also offers supportive housing programs for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness, those with mental health challenges, and individuals recovering from substance use disorders.

In addition to KHDS, the Shalom Center plays a critical role in providing emergency shelter, meals, and housing assistance to individuals and families. Their shelter programs include both short-term emergency beds and transitional housing. Beyond shelters, the Continuum of Care (COC), a coalition of local agencies, works collaboratively to address homelessness by securing funding, implementing prevention programs, and supporting rapid rehousing efforts.

Despite these efforts, challenges remain. Limited affordable housing, high rental costs, and long waitlists for subsidized housing make it difficult for many individuals and families to secure permanent housing. Additionally, some individuals facing homelessness struggle with barriers such as past evictions, criminal records, or a lack of financial resources to cover security deposits and rent. Programs such as housing-first initiatives, expanded rental assistance, and increased access to supportive services have been recommended as key strategies to address these gaps.

This report does not seek to duplicate what has already been thoroughly researched and documented but instead acknowledges and aligns with the identified needs and solutions. We refer to the expertise and proposals already outlined in these studies, which offer valuable insights into the ongoing challenges related to homelessness in Kenosha. Strengthening and expanding existing programs while fostering collaboration among service providers will be critical in addressing homelessness more effectively.

Government Input

Interviews were conducted with officials from the county, city, town, and village levels to explore the current state and future needs of housing development in the area. A recurring theme in these discussions was the necessity of restarting the housing cycle. Many officials expressed concern that the cycle has been stalled for several years. This cycle, which is essential to meet the diverse housing needs of the community, has faced significant delays.

Officials also highlighted the potential impact of predicted population declines, which could further complicate housing needs. While there has been considerable focus on workforce housing, some attention has shifted toward senior housing options as well. One official referred to the “missing middle” - housing types such as smaller 2-3 bedroom accessible homes - as a critical gap in the market. However, attracting developers willing to build these types of homes remains a challenge with zoning and financing barriers complicating the process.

The City of Kenosha is actively pursuing an aggressive housing initiative, which includes a wide range of options. These range from luxury apartments and condos in the downtown area to apartments designed primarily for seniors, as well as small single-family homes in neighborhoods throughout the city. A notable component of this initiative is a home financing program aimed at supporting middle-income individuals. Additionally, the Innovation Neighborhood, aims to create a mixed-use community featuring diverse housing options, business and educational spaces, and green infrastructure. This project is designed to attract a range of residents, including young professionals, families, and retirees, while also fostering economic development and job creation. With a focus on walkability, sustainability, and community engagement, the Innovation Neighborhood represents a forward-thinking approach to housing and urban revitalization in Kenosha.

In Kenosha County, a housing task force has been established to address key issues such as financial concerns, planning and zoning challenges, and community engagement. The task force is made up of finance professionals, developers, agency representatives, and other community stakeholders. The Kenosha Area Business Alliance has also played an active role in promoting and planning the task force’s efforts. A key focus of the task force is ensuring that housing development aligns with the needs of businesses, as prospective employers frequently inquire about the availability of suitable housing for their employees. This indicates a growing recognition of the importance of housing as a factor in promoting economic growth.

Agency Input

A variety of agencies that address housing concerns and issues related to helping individuals remain in the community were interviewed to provide insights from a system-wide perspective. A list of these agencies involved in the study can be found in **Appendix F**.

The City of Kenosha offers a range of housing options including homeless shelters, various types of apartments with varying levels of support and supervision, adult family homes, group homes, and nursing facilities for seniors and individuals with disabilities. However, these options are insufficient to meet the community’s needs. Seniors (65+) represent a small percentage of those seeking housing assistance from KHDS, though there is a clear distinction in the needs of frail elderly individuals compared to other older adults.

A larger portion of individuals seeking housing assistance are people with disabilities including mental health, physical impairment, and substance abuse conditions. Individuals with cognitive disabilities and their caregivers face even greater challenges in finding suitable housing options that meet their needs.

Agencies noted an increasing number of people losing their homes after living in them for many years, particularly widows who can no longer keep up with taxes and maintenance costs.

Key concerns identified by agencies include:

- A shortage of “affordable” housing for individuals and families, with the definition of affordability often not aligning with the realities of people’s financial situations
- A lack of starter housing options for individuals looking to enter the housing market
- The need for additional funding for housing vouchers
- Assistance with securing housing once an option is found, such as covering upfront costs like deposits, first and last month’s rent, and other associated fees
- The challenge of finding housing for individuals with a past eviction, which can leave a permanent mark on their housing prospects
- The need for housing options close to transportation, allowing people to access work, medical appointments, and other essential services
- Housing options for individuals recently released from corrections, especially those with a history of sexual assault on their record, which further limits their housing opportunities

Discussion

The housing needs in Kenosha are influenced by a variety of factors, including demographic shifts, economic conditions, and the diverse needs of its residents. As the population ages and more individuals face disabilities, the demand for accessible and affordable housing continues to grow. Additionally, housing challenges are not limited to any one group, but are felt across different income levels, creating a complex landscape that requires thoughtful planning and development. Addressing these issues effectively will involve considering the unique needs of elderly individuals, those with disabilities, and families across various income brackets.

Housing Accessibility and Affordability

The cost of housing is a significant concern for many residents across all income levels, from low-income individuals to middle-income professionals and higher-income families. While there is a demand for subsidized senior apartments, especially outside of the City of Kenosha, supply is limited. Additionally, older homes often require expensive maintenance and modifications, which makes it difficult for residents to age in place. There is also a shortage of ADA-compliant housing and affordable in-home support services, forcing some residents to relocate far from family and support networks.

Individuals with disabilities face particular barriers, including financial limitations, reliance on Medicare or Medicaid, and a need for more accessible housing options. Covered parking and reliable public transportation are essential for their mobility and independence. Many elderly and disabled residents fear rising rents will force them out. Some believe landlords intentionally raise rents to attract younger tenants who can pay more. Additionally, unresponsive landlords and poor housing conditions add to frustrations. Long waitlists for subsidized and accessible housing present another challenge. Some felt out-of-state renters are prioritized over long-term Kenosha residents which compounds the long wait.

Other financial and systemic barriers include:

- Upfront Housing Costs – Limited financial assistance is available for security deposits, initial rent, and utility setup.
- Rental & Credit History – An eviction, even years old, can automatically disqualify tenants. Community discussions, including landlord participation, could explore solutions like tenant education programs (e.g., UW Extension’s RENT SMART) to improve housing access.
- Reentry Housing for Formerly Incarcerated Individuals – Many returning citizens, particularly those with disabilities, struggle to find stable housing. Programs like Project RETURN, OARS, and EXPO help transition individuals, but housing gaps remain especially for those with serious offenses.

Challenges for Middle-Income and High-Income Residents

Middle-income individuals, particularly those looking to downsize, struggle with the high cost and limited availability of smaller, accessible homes. These residents often find themselves priced out of the market for both rental and homeownership opportunities. A key need is for affordable, single-story homes with universal design features, such as no steps and sheltered parking. Those in this bracket often earn too much for subsidized housing but cannot afford the high market rates of \$3,600+ per month. Kenosha’s inclusion in the Chicago Market Rate area inflates home prices and rents beyond what is reasonable for local residents. Younger professionals with disabilities - such as teachers, accountants, and tech workers - seek accessible homes, but universal design features can be expensive or difficult to find.

For higher-income individuals, the primary challenge is the lack of desirable housing options. Many stated, “There’s nothing for me to move to if I decide to sell.” Demand exists for smaller homes with high-end amenities in safe neighborhoods with convenient access to businesses and services.

Caregivers and Individuals with Disabilities

Much of the discussion so far has focused on independent individuals who can make their own decisions. However, two other groups require consideration: caregivers and individuals with disabilities. Caregivers often strive to keep their loved ones at home for as long as possible. When that is no longer feasible, they seek high-quality, family-like nursing homes nearby, ensuring both safety and compassionate care. A major concern is whether financial coverage through insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid will be sufficient. Many also worry that corporate-owned facilities may prioritize profits over care quality, as research in other areas has suggested. Caregivers also wish to maintain their own independence even if their spouse or partner moves into a facility. Senior care communities offering a continuum of care - from independent living to assisted living and nursing homes - are often preferred. Proximity is crucial to maintaining lifelong relationships, especially as transportation challenges arise over time.

Individuals with cognitive or behavioral disabilities need appropriate housing. Family members or guardians often make these decisions. Needs vary widely - some require 24-hour nursing care, while others thrive in more independent settings. Families prioritize a home-like environment that maximizes independence, but long waitlists remain a significant barrier. Parents and guardians also stress the need for more local housing options so their loved ones can stay close and maintain strong family connections.

Resources for those who can live mostly independently but need some supervision or assistance are severely lacking. Many individuals with disabilities want the same opportunities for independence as their peers and supportive housing programs help them achieve dignity and self-sufficiency while benefiting the community. Locally, there is growing parental advocacy for apartment-style housing with supportive services. Prairie Haus in New Glarus is an example of an integrated and supported development that is in high demand.

NIMBY Resistance and Community Engagement

The "Not In My Back Yard" (NIMBY) mentality is a significant barrier to housing development in both the city and areas west of I-94. This issue arose repeatedly in interviews highlighting widespread resistance to new housing projects. Many neighborhoods oppose apartments due to concerns about increased population density. Others worry about the potential residents, fearing negative impacts on property values, crime rates, and environmental quality. This mindset is often due to misconceptions applied to low-income residents, moderate-income individuals, and people with disabilities.

Recommendations

The aging population in Kenosha is expected to grow rapidly, with individuals over 65 soon becoming the fastest-growing demographic. Economic development efforts typically prioritize the workforce-age population, but it is crucial to include the aging population in future housing plans to ensure their needs are met. According to survey data, approximately one-third of respondents in both the city and county identified as a person with a disability and 23% of city respondents and 18% of county respondents indicated they were caregivers. These statistics highlight the importance of addressing the needs of both older adults and individuals with disabilities as part of comprehensive housing strategies.

Addressing the Cost of Living & Housing Accessibility

Housing affordability remains a primary concern for residents across all income levels. Data suggests that a wide range of residents - from those experiencing homelessness to higher-income individuals - are struggling with housing costs. While the city has seen growth in subsidized senior apartments, demand significantly exceeds supply, particularly in areas outside of the City of Kenosha. Newer residential models such as social communities and age/disability integrated housing options are limited or non-existent. To address these issues, it is recommended that future housing development prioritize affordability and community integration for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income residents. This includes developing more ADA-compliant housing options that are accessible and that incorporate universal design features to accommodate a broad range of mobility needs particularly models that promote social and community interaction.

Focus on Low-Income Housing Solutions

Low-income residents face significant challenges in securing safe, affordable housing. Many older adults and individuals with disabilities are unable to maintain their homes due to health, mobility issues, and outdated infrastructure. This leads to a higher demand for subsidized housing and affordable in-home support services. A key recommendation is to increase funding and support for affordable housing initiatives that target these groups, particularly in areas west of I-94 where the housing shortage is more acute. Additionally, developers should be incentivized to invest in accessible housing,

and local programs should be expanded to offer financial assistance for security deposits and moving costs, which are often barriers for low-income renters.

Improving Public Transportation and Accessibility

Accessible and reliable public transportation is critical for elders and individuals with disabilities. The survey results highlight a clear need for more well-maintained, sheltered bus stops, and transportation options like Care-A-Van and LINK. It is recommended that the city examine public transportation services, ensuring that bus routes are closely connected to housing developments, especially those serving individuals with disabilities and older adults and that routes are designed for easy access to essential services. Additionally, improving sidewalk maintenance and creating more accessible parking options should be prioritized to enhance mobility for residents with physical challenges.

Enhancing Housing Options for Middle-Income Residents

Middle-income residents, including younger professionals and older individuals looking to downsize, also face housing shortages, particularly in finding affordable, smaller homes. The lack of single-story, universally designed homes that cater to both accessibility needs and financial constraints is a significant gap in the current market. Recommendations include the development of more "Missing Middle Housing" options - 2-3 bedroom homes with universal design features such as no steps, wider doorways, and sheltered parking. These homes should be built in areas close to essential services like grocery stores, pharmacies, and medical facilities to make them desirable for both older adults and younger professionals with disabilities.

Supporting Individuals with Disabilities and Caregivers

The housing needs of individuals with disabilities are diverse, with some requiring 24-hour care or support and others seeking more independent living arrangements. Additionally, the majority of parents do not have a housing plan for their children with disabilities. There is a clear demand for supported housing options such as independent-living apartments with supportive services, group homes, adult family homes, and linked/shared living arrangements. A key recommendation is to increase the availability of such options in Kenosha County, with a focus on keeping individuals with disabilities close to their families and familiar communities. This will help ensure that they can maintain their independence and social connections while receiving the care and support they need.

Expanding senior care communities that allow for gradual transitions between independent living and higher levels of care will provide a safer and more sustainable option for caregivers and their loved ones.

Addressing NIMBY and Community Resistance

The "Not In My Back Yard" (NIMBY) mentality remains a significant barrier to new housing development in both the city and surrounding areas. To overcome these challenges, it is recommended that local leaders engage in proactive education campaigns, fostering open dialogues with community members to address misconceptions and concerns. By showcasing successful housing projects in similar communities, Kenosha can build support for future developments and reduce resistance to necessary housing initiatives.

When considering how to reach target audiences for educational materials or sessions, stakeholders are encouraged to take into account where community members reported seeking housing information.

When seeking information, respondents most often turned to family and friends (13.7%), followed by the internet (11.8%), ADRC (11.4%), and local senior centers (11%).

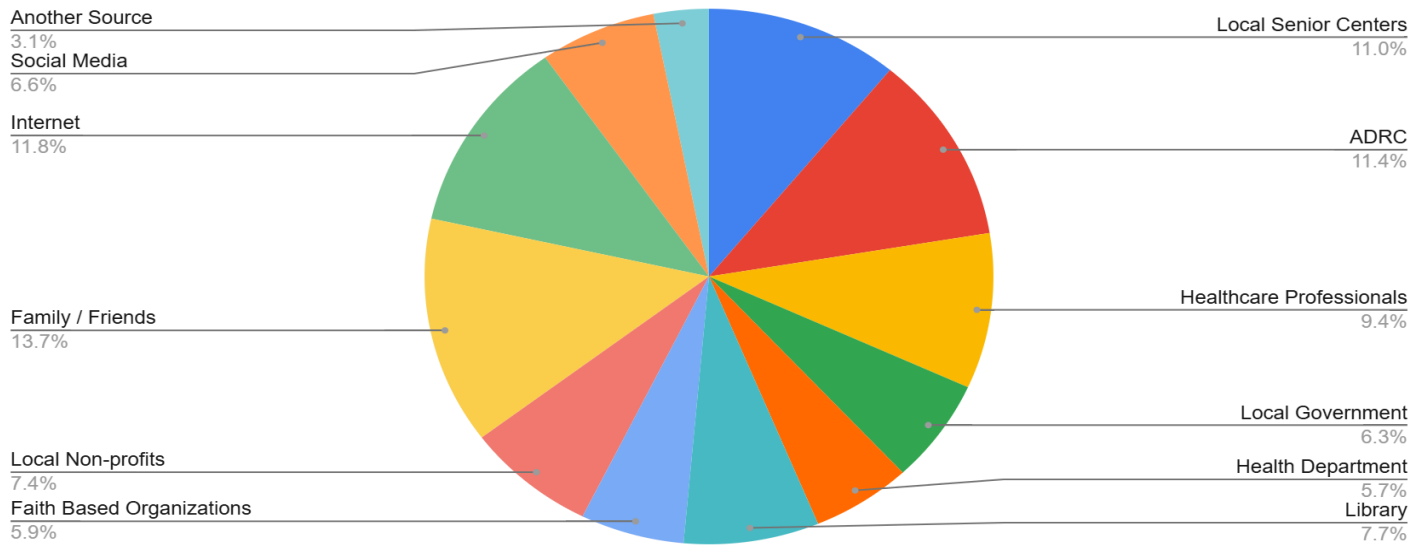


Fig. 9 Which resources would you use to find information?

Enhancing Housing for the High-Income Population

For higher-income individuals, the primary challenge is the lack of desirable, smaller homes with high-end amenities. Many residents in this group are hesitant to move because there are limited housing options that meet their needs in terms of both size and location. Recommendations include attracting developers to build high-quality homes with modern amenities in safe, accessible neighborhoods. This could help retain wealthier residents while also increasing property tax revenues for the city, which can then be reinvested into affordable housing and other community services.

A Comprehensive Housing Strategy for Kenosha

Incorporating the needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and low-income families into the county's housing strategy is essential for ensuring that Kenosha remains an inclusive and thriving community. The city and county should continue to prioritize the creation of livable communities that offer accessible housing, reliable public transportation, and a variety of housing options across income levels. Strengthening partnerships with local developers, businesses, and organizations will be crucial for creating solutions that address both current and future housing demands.

Additionally, updating zoning laws to allow for more flexible housing solutions - such as ADUs, duplexes, and shared living arrangements - can help address housing shortages and provide affordable options for individuals who need them most. Current zoning restrictions may create barriers to homeowners looking to add ADUs or modify existing properties for multi-generational or shared living.

Furthermore, increasing public education on both traditional and alternative housing models is critical. Many residents may not be aware of the full range of housing options available to them, including linked living, the village model and other innovative housing models outlined in **Appendix G**. Providing educational resources, workshops, and outreach initiatives can help individuals and families make

informed decisions about their housing choices and advocate for policies that support diverse and sustainable housing solutions.

By taking a proactive approach to affordable and accessible housing - including zoning reforms and increased education - Kenosha can build a more sustainable community that meets the needs of all its residents, regardless of age, ability, or income.

Moving Forward

To create a sustainable and inclusive housing environment, Kenosha must offer a full spectrum of housing options, from independent living to assisted living and nursing care. The lack of available and appropriate housing not only affects individuals seeking new living arrangements but also prevents movement within the housing market as a whole. Addressing this issue will require the development of new housing options that allow for natural transitions as people's needs evolve.

In addition to expanding housing availability, supportive services must be a key component of any housing strategy. Assistance with daily living tasks, personal care, and other essential services will allow individuals to remain in the least restrictive housing environment possible while maintaining their independence and dignity. Housing should also be located near transportation hubs and essential services to ensure accessibility and convenience.

As Kenosha continues to grow, aligning housing efforts with workforce housing initiatives will help create a vibrant, inclusive community that supports residents of all ages and abilities. This report serves as an initial overview and starting point for ongoing advocacy efforts. The Steering Committee will use this data to engage local officials, developers, and community stakeholders in meaningful discussions about attainable housing solutions.

We extend our gratitude to the individuals, agencies, and organizations that contributed their expertise and insights to this research. Kenosha has long been known as a city of innovation and creativity. With intentional planning and collaboration, the community is well-positioned to lead the way in developing housing solutions that meet the needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities over the next 15 years.

For a full list of resources used in this report, please refer to Appendix H.

**Livable Kenosha
Appendix A
Coalition Member List**

Chris Weyker*

Chief Executive Officer
Kenosha Achievement Center

Erin Winch*

Manager of Therapeutic Recreation
Pleasant Prairie RecPlex

Laverne Jaros*

Former Director
Kenosha Aging and Disability Resource Center

Brian Bynsdorp

Manager of Aging & Disability Services
Kenosha County Division of Aging & Disability Services

Brandi Cummings

Assistant Director
Kenosha Public Library

Jeannine Field

Executive Director
Kenosha Human Development Services

Ellen Kupfer

Former Director of Religious Education
First United Methodist Church

Rebecca Matoska-Mentink

Clerk of Circuit Court
Kenosha County

Nicole Ryf

President
Kenosha Area Business Alliance

Dawn Saku

Senior Services Manager
Kenosha Area Family and Aging Services, Inc.

*Denotes Founding Coalition Member

Livable Kenosha Survey

Kenosha Achievement Center has received an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant to explore housing options for elders and individuals with disabilities in Kenosha. We are currently assessing housing availability, upcoming developments, and community needs and preferences. This survey will help gather insights to inform a final summary report. Individual responses will remain confidential.

Responses are due by January 28. Thank you for sharing your perspective and taking the time to participate. Survey results will be available March 2025. Your input is greatly appreciated!

1. What is your zip code?* _____
2. What is your age?* 18-34 35-50 51-64 65-74 75 or older
3. Do you identify as a person with a disability?* Yes No
4. Are you a caregiver for another individual?* Yes No *(skip to question #7)*
5. Who do you act as a caretaker for? *(check all that apply)*
 - Minor child with a disability
 - Sibling
 - Spouse / Significant Other
 - Adult child with a disability
 - Parent
 - Other _____

Please specify

Housing Needs & Concerns

6. Do you have a housing plan for the person(s) you care for...

- | | Yes | No |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 10 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 15 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

7. Do you have a plan for housing for yourself for the next...

- | | Yes | No |
|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 5 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 10 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 15 Years | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Scan the QR code to
complete the survey online!



www.thekac.com/livable-kenosha/

8. Thinking about the next 5-10 years, how likely are you to...

	Very Likely	Somewhat Likely	Neutral / Unsure	Somewhat Unlikely	Very Unlikely
Stay in your residence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Move to a different residence in your community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Move to a different community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Move closer to family (still living independently)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Move in with family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. Thinking about your answers above, are there concerns or barriers to your plan for the next 5-10 years?

10. As you age, would the following factors influence your decision to move out of your current home?

	Major Factor	Minor Factor	Not a Factor	N/A
Wanting a smaller sized home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wanting a larger sized home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cost of maintaining your home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessibility of your home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Location of your home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Availability of support	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. As you age, would you consider sharing your home with...

	Yes	No	Unsure
Family member	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Friend	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Someone you don't know	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. What is your ideal living arrangement for yourself and the person(s) you care for (if applicable)?

Community Needs

Please use the following definitions of housing models:

LINKED LIVING - Linked Living provides some independence and autonomy with the security of family nearby.

SHARED LIVING - Individuals share housing along with chores such as cooking, cleaning and shopping.

SUPPORTED HOUSING - Supported Housing allows people with disabilities to live on their own and receive available subsidized rental rates.

GROUP HOMES - Licensed by the state, Group Homes provide housing and up to 24/7 support for people with varying levels of need.

ADULT FAMILY HOMES - Certified Adult Family Homes are generally equipped to deliver more individual support in a setting where individuals feel like a “member of the family.”

FRIENDLY HOUSEMATES - Living in a house or apartment with a roommate who is a friend and caregiver.

INTEGRATED HOUSING - Integrated Housing is the practice of housing residents with disabilities within a housing community, apartment, or individual home where most residents do not have a disability.

SOCIAL COMMUNITIES - Social Communities bring together people with similar goals, beliefs, interests or other attributes together, transforming integrated housing into a social community.

13. What types of housing does Kenosha need to develop to meet your future needs?

- Linked Living Shared Living Supported Housing
 Group Homes Adult Family Homes Friendly Housemates
 Integrated Housing Social Communities

Community Opinion

Please rate your current community on the following characteristics:

14. Attainable housing options for adults of varying income levels?

I.E. older active adult communities, assisted living, and communities with shared facilities and outdoor spaces

	1	2	3	4	5	
Poor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Excellent

Comments: _____

15. Accessible homes?

I.E. no step entrances, wider doorways, and first floor bedrooms and bathrooms

	1	2	3	4	5	
Poor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Excellent

Comments: _____

16. Does Kenosha have well-maintained and safe housing?

	1	2	3	4	5	
Poor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Excellent

Comments: _____

Community Resources

17. Which resources would you use to find information? *(check all that apply)*

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Local Senior Centers | <input type="radio"/> ADRC | <input type="radio"/> Healthcare Professionals |
| <input type="radio"/> Local Government | <input type="radio"/> Health Department | <input type="radio"/> Library |
| <input type="radio"/> Faith Based Organizations | <input type="radio"/> Local Non-profits | <input type="radio"/> Family or Friends |
| <input type="radio"/> Internet | <input type="radio"/> Social Media | <input type="radio"/> Another Source |

Planning for Your Disabled Child (minor or adult)

18. Are you a caretaker of a minor or adult child with a disability? Yes No *(skip to question #22)*

19. Do you currently have a plan for an alternate living situation for your child in the future?

- Yes No

20. Have you looked into any of the following housing options?

	Yes	No
Linked Living (independent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Shared Living (independent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supported Housing (independent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Integrated Housing (independent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Community (independent)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Group Homes (supervised)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult Family Homes (supervised)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Friendly Housemates (supervised)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

21. What type of living arrangement would suit your child's needs best?

Additional Comments

22. Is there anything else you'd like to share related to housing?

THRIVE KENOSHA COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (2023–2026)



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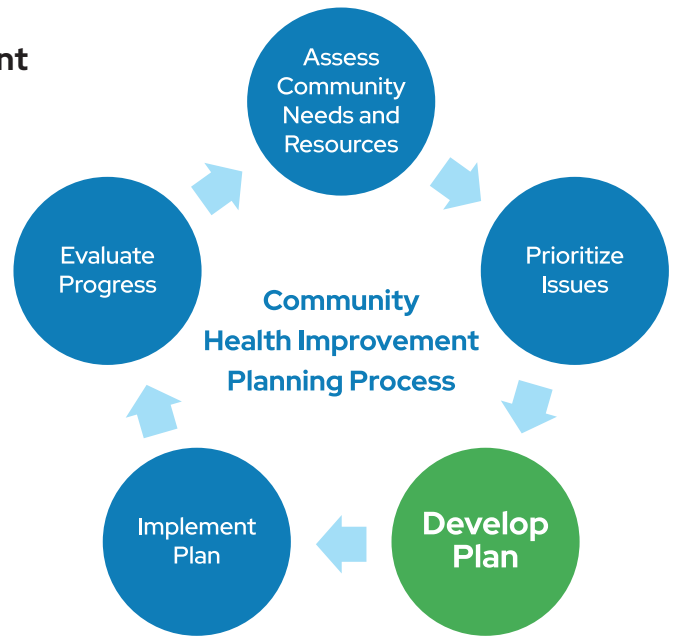


Executive Summary

What is a Community Health Improvement Plan?

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is an important step in the **Community Health Improvement Planning Process**. The purpose of a Community Health Improvement Plan is to create an action plan to improve the health of the community. The Community Health Improvement Plan is built on the foundation of the Community Health Assessment, which identified and helped prioritize community health needs.

The 2023-2026 THRIVE Community Health Improvement Plan (THRIVE Plan) is a plan owned by the community, its residents, community leaders, community organizations, and more. The overall goal is for the community to work together to implement key programs and policies to create a thriving, healthy Kenosha County using the template provided by the Kenosha County THRIVE Community Health Improvement Plan.



Who was involved?

The 2023 Kenosha County Community Health Improvement Planning process was led by Kenosha County Public Health (KCPH) in partnership with Aurora Health Care and Froedtert South. Members of the Board of Health, Health Advisory Council, and Health Equity Task Force were also engaged throughout the process. Most importantly, Partner Organizations and Community Members directly informed the plan by participating on THRIVE Action Teams.

What is included in this plan?

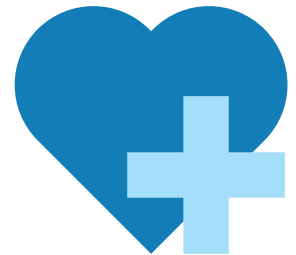
This report builds on the important work contained in the 2022 Kenosha County Community Health Assessment. It provides an overview of the Community Health Improvement Planning Process and outlines the objectives, key strategies, and what community members and partner organizations can do to help achieve the goals related to each of the identified priority areas. The THRIVE Plan also lists some of the key partners involved in supporting the priority areas and lists evaluation measures that will show goal progress. This report also reveals a notable alignment with the Wisconsin State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and our Nation’s Plan Healthy People 2030 (HP 2030).



2023-2026 THRIVE Kenosha County Community Health Improvement Plan Priorities and Goals

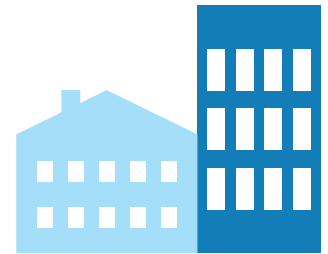
Access to Affordable Healthcare

Enhance access to affordable healthcare in Kenosha County



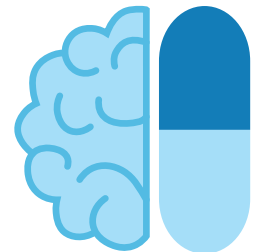
Affordable and Safe Housing

Improve access to affordable and safe housing in Kenosha County



Mental Health and Substance Use

Optimize mental health among members of the Kenosha County community and prevent and decrease the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs



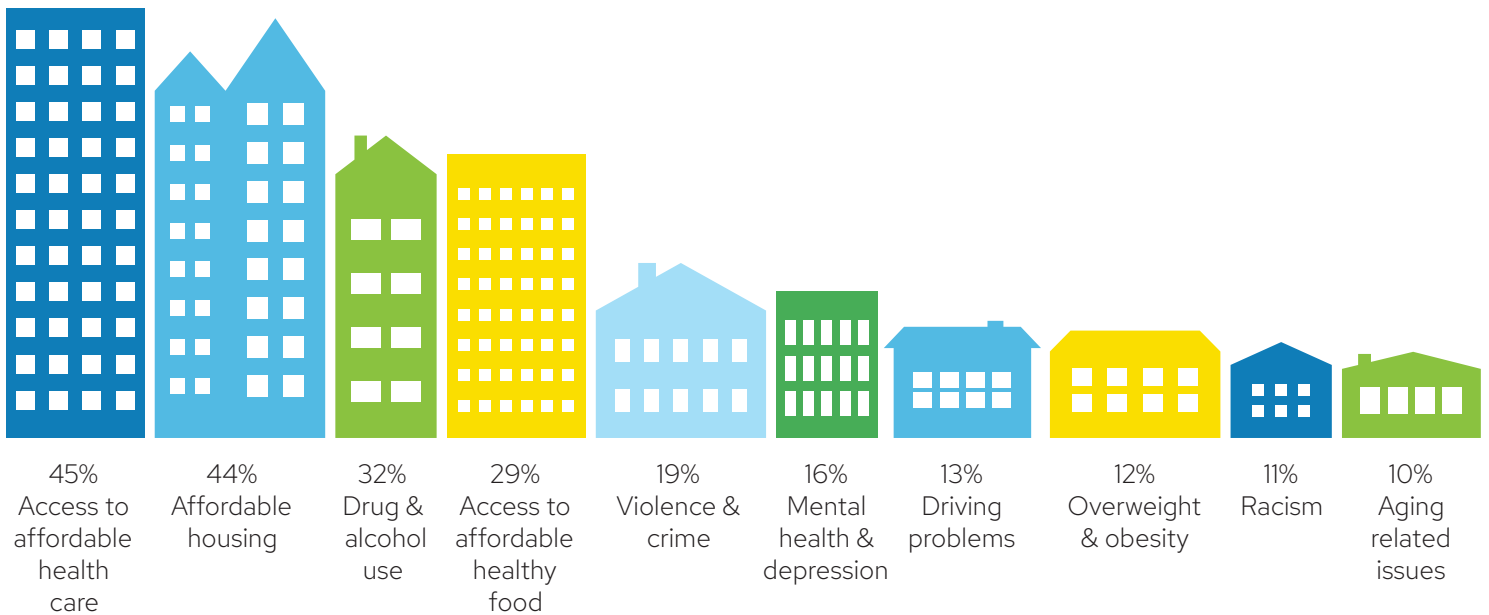
Community Health Improvement Plan Overview

Community Health Improvement Planning Process

The Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) is an important step in the **Community Health Improvement Planning Process**. The CHIP builds off the Community Health Assessment. The 2022 Community Health Assessment was led by Kenosha County Public Health in collaboration with Aurora Health Care and Froedtert South. Members of the Board of Health, Health Advisory Council, and Health Equity Task Force were also engaged throughout the process. Most importantly, Community Members were directly engaged through the Community Health Survey and participation in Community Conversations.

The Community Health Assessment was informed using multiple sources of information. First, a review of existing health data sources was assessed to capture key data related to the health of Kenosha County residents. Second, a community health survey was completed by nearly 1,000 people that addressed topics including individual and family health behaviors, environmental health, mental health, and questions related to the Kenosha County community. Lastly, a total of 85 people participated in community conversations that intentionally engaged individuals from historically underrepresented groups, including members of African American, Latino, LGBTQ+, youth, and rural communities.

Members of the Kenosha County community were asked the question *In your opinion, what are the three largest health concerns in Kenosha County?* The image below shows the top 10 health concerns selected by the community.



THRIVE Structure

There were many ways members of the Kenosha County community engaged in the THRIVE process and many ways for new members to join, as well.

The Steering Committee provides oversight of the process. Action team members are responsible for planning and implementing strategies. Action team co-leads are responsible for convening action teams and reporting to the Steering Committee. Anyone interested in staying up-to-date with THRIVE can join the email list by contacting thrive@kenoshacounty.org. Foundations and funders can provide financial support to partners implementing the strategies.

Action Teams were established to focus on each of the three priority areas: Access to Affordable Healthcare, Affordable and Safe Housing, and Mental Health and Substance Use. Action Teams were co-led by a member of Kenosha County Public Health and a community stakeholder. Action Teams were responsible for creating the key strategies, action steps, and community partners necessary for success within each priority area.



Levels of Engagement



Steering Committee	<p>Who: Action team co-chairs with additional key partners</p> <p>What: Provide oversight of THRIVE</p> <p>When: Convene a minimum of 2x/year</p>			
Action Team Co-Leads	<p>Who: One community partner with expertise in area and one KCPH Employee</p> <p>What: Responsible for convening action teams</p> <p>When: Convene action teams a minimum of 3x/year</p>			
Action Team Members	<p>Who: Partners who are responsible for planning and implementing strategies</p> <p>What: Provide updates on implementation</p> <p>When: Convene a minimum of 3x/year</p>			
Listserv	<p>Who: Anyone interested in staying up-to-date with Kenosha County THRIVE</p> <p>What: Staying informed through email updates</p> <p>When: Updated a minimum of 3x/year</p>			
Sponsor or Donor	<p>Who: Foundations and funders</p> <p>What: Provide financial support to partners implementing strategies</p> <p>When: Throughout entire process</p>			
KCPH Team	<p>Who: KCPH Staff</p> <p>What: Provide backbone support</p> <p>When: Throughout entire process</p>			

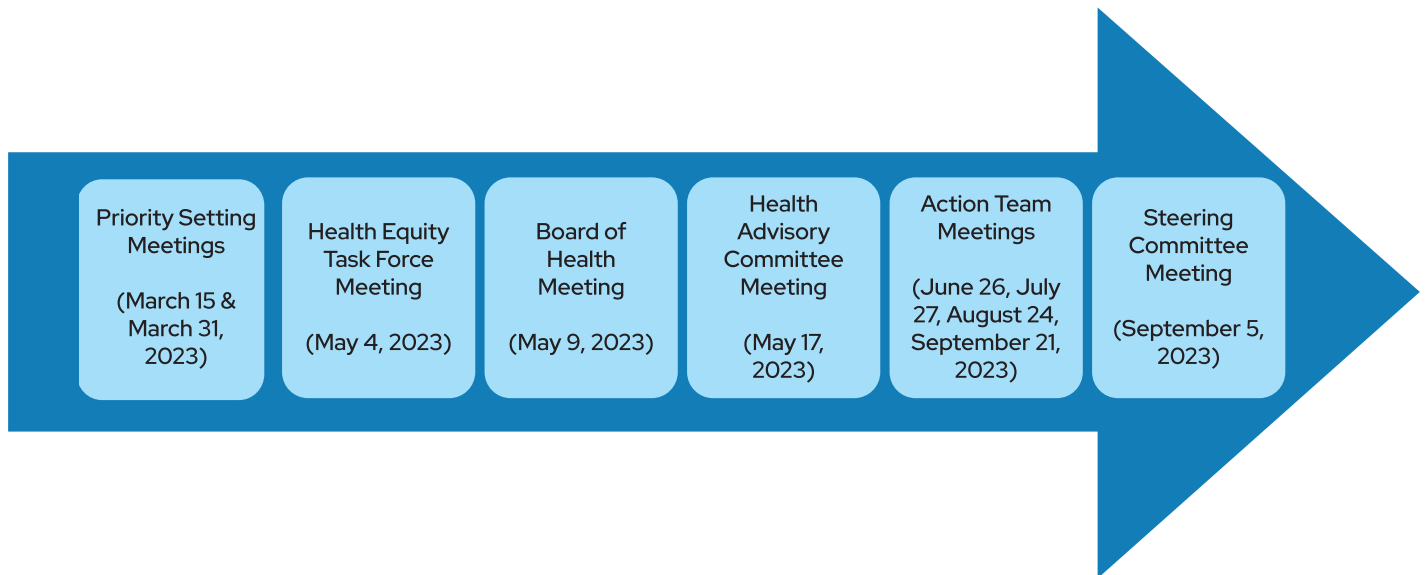
KEY

KCPH Employees Community Partners



CHIP Timeline and Key Activities

A series of meetings were held between March and September 2023 to help identify priorities and develop the community health improvement plan.

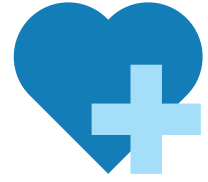


Action teams met in-person a total of four times to achieve the following objectives:

- Explore the root causes of the Priority Action Areas
- Propose specific objectives to help reach Priority Action Area goals
- Identify current initiatives and resources that support the Priority Action Areas
- Review best practices and policies that support the Priority Action Areas
- Propose effective implementation strategies to support identified goals
- Discuss next steps for implementation and evaluation
- Develop a community-centered dissemination plan



THRIVE Priority Access to Affordable Healthcare



Proper healthcare is the most obvious factor essential for preventing illness and ensuring good health. But healthcare cannot be effective if people do not have access to it. All too often, people run up against barriers to getting the care they need, and poor health is the result. Kenoshans recognize these barriers, with 45% of survey respondents naming access to affordable healthcare as a top health concern. To be accessible, healthcare must be reasonably close to where people live, work and play, it must be open at convenient times of day, and there must be enough healthcare professionals in the community so that patients can be seen without waiting too long. In addition, healthcare must be affordable so that people do not have to choose between healthcare and other priorities such as paying their rent.



Goal: Enhance access to affordable healthcare in Kenosha County

By 2026, the THRIVE Access to Affordable Healthcare Action Team will...

Develop a resource guide to enhance awareness of existing healthcare services and resources in Kenosha County.

Increase the number of opportunities for people to access care in their own communities by promoting and facilitating health fairs and mobile clinic services.

Increase awareness of and education to the community about telehealth services.

Develop a plan to promote healthcare as a profession among young people whose identities are under-represented in healthcare professions.



Alignment with national plan

- Healthy People 2030: Increase the proportion of persons with medical insurance. Only 88.0% of persons under 65 years of age had medical insurance in 2019. The most recent data from 2021, indicated that 89.7% now have insurance based on data collected as part of the National Health Interview Survey. The HP 2030 target is 92.4%. [health.gov-health insurance](https://www.health.gov/health-insurance)
- Healthy People 2030: Reduce the proportion of people who can't get medical care when they need it. The target for this objective is 5.9% with the most recent data from the National Health Interview Survey in 2021 was 7.0% which is down from a baseline of 8.5% in 2019. [health.gov-medical care](https://www.health.gov/medical-care)

By 2026, the THRIVE Access to Affordable Healthcare Action Team will develop a resource guide to enhance awareness of existing healthcare services and resources in Kenosha County.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Invite partners to an annual healthcare summit to learn more about what services and resources they have to offer community members
- Develop healthcare resource guide
- Establish an ongoing process to ensure the resource guide stays up-to-date
- Broadly promote and distribute the resource guide throughout the community



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Educate yourself and others about existing resources, including
 - 2-1-1: <https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/>
 - Well Badger Resource Center: https://www.wellbadger.org/s/?language=en_US
 - Health insurance marketplace: <https://www.healthcare.gov/>
- Become a sponsor to help pay for the costs of developing the resource guide
- Contribute to the resource guide by sending resources you know of in your community to: THRIVE@kenoshacounty.org



By 2026, the THRIVE Access to Affordable Healthcare Action Team will increase the number of opportunities for people to access care in their own communities by promoting and facilitating health fairs and mobile clinic services.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify priority health issues and target populations (non-English, those with no internet access/digital literacy)
- Identify and promote current opportunities available in the community
- Identify partner organizations willing to host health fairs and mobile clinics
- Work with partner organizations to provide new opportunities in the community



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Invite Kenosha County Public Health Department and other local healthcare organizations to offer screenings, vaccinations, or health education in your neighborhood or local business.
- Help promote current opportunities available in the community

By 2026, the THRIVE Access to Affordable Healthcare Action Team will increase awareness of and education to the community about telehealth services.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify current initiatives and resources available in the community
- Develop a “train the trainer” model to help community partners (e.g, churches, schools, libraries) become community hubs that can provide education about and access to telehealth services



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Offer to help your family, friends, and neighbors set up their online patient portals
- Become a community hub
- Offer private space with internet access for telehealth appointments



By 2026, the THRIVE Access to Affordable Healthcare Action Team will develop a plan to promote healthcare as a profession among young people whose identities are under-represented in healthcare professions.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify and promote current initiatives in the community (e.g, outreach, field trip, internship, mentorship, and scholarship opportunities)
- Develop a plan with list of key recommendations and action steps
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Encourage high school students to join the Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA)
- If you work in healthcare, talk to young people about what you do and offer to serve as a mentor to those interested in a similar career path
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations





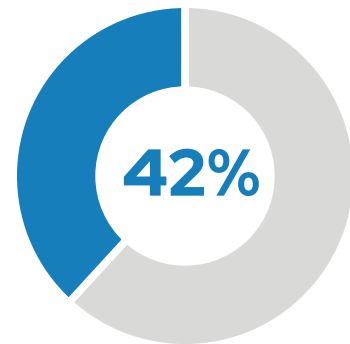
Key Partners

- Healthcare systems
- Healthcare providers
- Community-based clinics
- Academic institutions with healthcare programs
- High school and middle school students
- School districts
- School counselors and social workers
- Workforce development
- Community hubs (churches, libraries, cultural groups)



Evaluation measures (“How will we know we are successful?”)

- Healthcare resource guide developed
- Increase number of health fairs and mobile clinics in the community that result in connecting community members to long-term healthcare services (Do you have primary care provider?)
 - Baseline: unknown
 - Target: to be determined once a baseline is identified
- Development of “train the trainer” model
- Healthcare provider recruitment plan developed
- Increase percentage of community members that agree there are affordable healthcare services in Kenosha County
 - Baseline: 42% of respondents who completed the 2022 Kenosha County Community Health Survey
 - Target: 50% of respondents who complete the 2025 Kenosha County Community Health Survey



Only 42% of respondents agreed that there were affordable healthcare services in their community.



THRIVE Priority Affordable and Safe Housing



Affordable, quality housing is a vital part of people’s ability to live healthy lives. Housing conditions can directly affect people’s health through hazards in the home. Children can be poisoned from lead in water pipes or paint chips, people can develop asthma from poor air quality, and people can experience health problems from extreme temperatures or overcrowding. People who have unstable housing and must move often are more likely to experience stress and have poor physical and mental health than people with stable housing.



Goal: Improve access to safe and affordable housing in Kenosha County

By 2026, the THRIVE Affordable Housing Action Team will...

Assess the existing housing inspection process to identify gaps in current regular safety inspections on rental units in Kenosha County.

Develop a “Housing for All” plan with key recommendations to improve housing affordability for all income levels in Kenosha County.

Develop and distribute an enhanced housing resource guide for Kenosha County.

Alignment with national plan

- Healthy People 2030: Reduce the proportion of families that spend more than 30 percent of income on housing. Current data reflects 35% of families in 2021, which is up slightly from 34.6% in 2017. The target for this national objective is 25.5% using data sources including US Census, American Housing Survey, and HUD. [health.gov-income on housing](https://www.health.gov/income-on-housing)



By 2026, the THRIVE Affordable Housing Action Team will assess the existing housing inspection process to identify gaps in current regular safety inspections on rental units in Kenosha County.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify and learn more about related regulations and initiatives already in place locally and statewide
- Develop a feasibility report with proposed recommendations
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Learn and educate your clients and neighbors about existing resources including:
 - Subsidies for window replacement and other energy-efficiency measures
 - Lead abatement programs
 - Tenant resource centers
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations

By 2026, the THRIVE Affordable Housing Action Team will develop a “Housing for All” plan with key recommendations to improve housing affordability for all income levels in Kenosha County.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Conduct an environmental scan to understand the current landscape, empty lots, and current housing units in our community
- Identify policies and strategies to incentivize builders to return to our area and develop a variety of housing options at different price levels
- Develop a plan with list of key recommendations and action steps
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Get involved with efforts in your community to develop and protect affordable housing options.
- Advocate for the implementation of key recommendations



By 2026, the THRIVE Affordable Housing Action Team will develop and distribute an enhanced housing resource guide for Kenosha County.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify what resources currently exist for landlords and tenants
- Develop resource guide
- Establish an ongoing process to ensure the resource guide stays up-to-date
- Broadly promote and distribute the resource guide throughout the community



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Educate yourself and others about rights and responsibilities of landlords and tenants:
 - Tenant resource centers (Shalom center - Hope Hub Community Resource Center)
 - Free and low-cost legal assistance
 - Public Record of complaints against landlords
 - Rent smart classes available throughout the community
- Become a sponsor to help pay for the costs of developing the resource guide
- Contribute to the resource guide by sending resources you know of in your community to:
THRIVE@kenoshacounty.org



Members of the THRIVE Action Teams at the September 21st meeting.





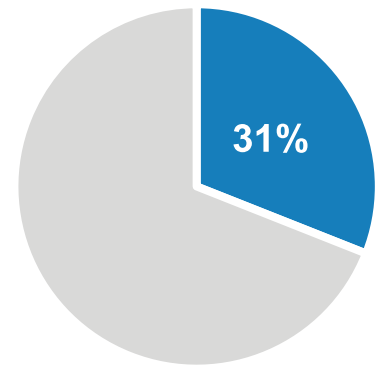
Key Partners

- County Board Supervisors
- City Alderpersons
- Economic Development
- Community Block Development
- Section 8 Housing
- City Housing Authority
- County Housing Authority
- Building Inspectors
- Human Services County Board Supervisors
- Aging and Disability Resource Center
- Kenosha Area Business Association
- Landlords Association
- Landlords
- Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency
- Equus
- Veteran's Administration Programs
- Kafasi
- Realtors
- Renters
- Homeowners



Evaluation measures ("How will we know we are successful?")

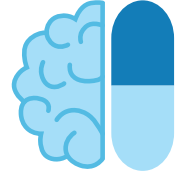
- Rental inspection program feasibility report completed
- "Housing for All" plan developed
- Housing resource guide developed
- Add new question to Kenosha County Community Health Survey "I am aware of housing resources available in my community"
 - Baseline: n/a
 - Target: 25% of respondents who complete the 2025 Kenosha County Community Health Survey "agree"
- Increase percentage of community members that agree there are affordable places to live in Kenosha County
 - Baseline: 31% of respondents who completed the 2022 Kenosha County Community Health Survey
 - Target: 40% of respondents who complete the 2025 Kenosha County Community Health Survey



Only 31% of survey respondents agreed that there are affordable places to live in Kenosha County.



THRIVE Priority Mental Health and Substance Use



Mental health is just as important as physical health; in fact, they are often tied together. Depression can increase the risk for physical health problems like diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. While historically stigmatized, mental health disorders are extremely common; more than 50% of people will be diagnosed with a mental health disorder at some point in their lifetime. There is no single cause for mental illness, but trauma, genetics, and substance use can all play a part. Many mental health disorders are risk factors for suicide and negatively affect the quality of a person's life, which is why treatment is so important.

Substance use and abuse is often fundamentally linked to mental health related issues. Drug overdose deaths are high across the country, and in the U.S. in 2020, 75% of drug overdose deaths involved an opioid. Injection drug use with used needles can spread chronic diseases like Hepatitis C and HIV. Fentanyl, a highly potent opioid, is now common across the country and has caused a greater proportion of opioid-related deaths in Kenosha County. Alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in Wisconsin. Almost two-thirds (65%) of adults in Wisconsin report alcohol use in the past 30 days, higher than the U.S. average of 55%. Alcohol can cause short- and long-term health effects, including acute alcohol poisoning, high blood pressure, liver disease, and cancer.



**Goals: Optimize mental health among members of the Kenosha County community
Prevent and decrease the misuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs**

By 2026, the THRIVE Mental Health and Substance Use Action Team will...

Work to raise awareness and reduce stigma around mental health and substance use by sharing stories of Kenosha County residents.

Establish a youth leadership program to train peer educators and ambassadors who will work to prevent the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs among youth.

Promote community connectedness by developing a program that supports communities to host neighborhood events and activities.



Alignment with national plan

- Healthy People 2030: Increase the proportion of people with substance abuse and mental health disorders who get treatment for both. 2018 data identifies that only 3.4% of persons are receiving both mental health care and specialty substance use treatment. The target goal is 8.2% using the National Survey on Drug Use and Health and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) data. [health.gov-treatment](#)
- Healthy People 2030: Increase the proportion of adults with major depressive episodes who receive treatment. Target for this goal is 69.5% with most recent data for 2019 measured 66.3% of adults having received treatment in the past 12 months; this compares favorably with baseline data of 64.8% in 2018 using National Survey on Drug Use and Health and SAMSHA data. [health.gov-treatment for depression](#)
- Healthy People 2030: Reduce overdose deaths involving opioids has a target of 13.1 per 100,000 population. Baseline data from 2018 determined a rate of 14.6 deaths per 100,000 population, though current data from the National Vital Statistics System determined a 2021 rate of 24.7 deaths per 100,000 population. [health.gov-opioid overdose deaths](#)

By 2026, the THRIVE Mental Health and Substance Use Action Team will work to raise awareness and reduce stigma around mental health and substance use by sharing stories of Kenosha County residents.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including peer support specialists, National Alliance on Mental Illness [NAMI] members, community members impacted) to serve on a work group
- Identify and help promote current initiatives and resources (e.g. videos developed by Kenosha Behavioral Health; Kenosha County Substance Abuse Coalition)
- Develop and implement a plan to solicit and share stories from Kenosha County residents
- Support any plans or initiatives for improved inpatient treatment in Kenosha County



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Share your personal stories to help raise awareness and reduce stigma
- Host an event to help increase awareness



By 2026, the THRIVE Mental Health and Substance Use Action Team will establish a youth leadership program to train peer educators and ambassadors who will work to prevent the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs among youth.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Review similar models for ideas on how to create a successful program (e.g, Providers and Teens Communicating for Health [PATCH], FACT, anti-stigma pilot program at Wilmot High School)
- Develop a youth leadership program
- Engage youth in prioritizing educational topics (e.g, vaping, Narcan training)



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Become a peer educator or youth ambassador
- Talk to youth about the negative impacts of substance use
- Create safe spaces for youth to engage in healthy activities

By 2026, the THRIVE Mental Health and Substance Use Action Team will promote community connectedness by developing a program that supports communities to host neighborhood events and activities.



Action Team Strategies

- Identify and engage key stakeholders (including community members most impacted) to serve on a work group
- Review similar models for ideas on how to create a successful program (e.g, block parties, community murals, Neighborhood Navigator Program, Multicultural Festivals)
- Develop a program that supports communities to host neighborhood events



What can community members and partner organizations do?

- Join the work group!
- Get to know your neighbors.
- Start a meetup group for people with shared interests.
- Sponsor or host a community event in your neighborhood!





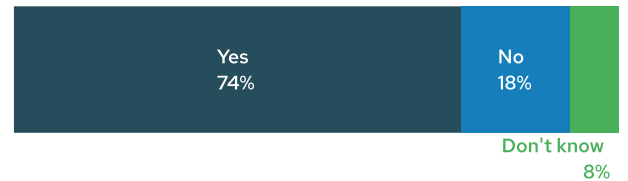
Key Partners

- Mental health providers
- Treatment programs
- Schools
- County Board Supervisors
- City Alderpersons
- Youth
- Faith-based organizations (Church festivals)
- Harbor Markets
- Youth-focused organizations (Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, youth sports clubs)
- People in recovery community (Bridges Community Center; Oakwood; NAMI)
- Substance Use Coalition
- Hope Council



Evaluation measures (“How will we know we are successful?”)

- Story sharing program developed
- Establish baseline measure for this program
- Youth leadership program developed
- Establish baseline measure for this program
- Neighborhood events program developed
- Establish baseline measure for this program
- Increase percentage of community members that report having an adequate support network that benefits their mental health
 - Baseline: 74% of respondents who completed the 2022 Kenosha County Community Health Survey
 - Target: 80% of respondents who complete the 2025 Kenosha County Community Health Survey



3 out of 4 respondents said they had an adequate support network that benefits their mental health.

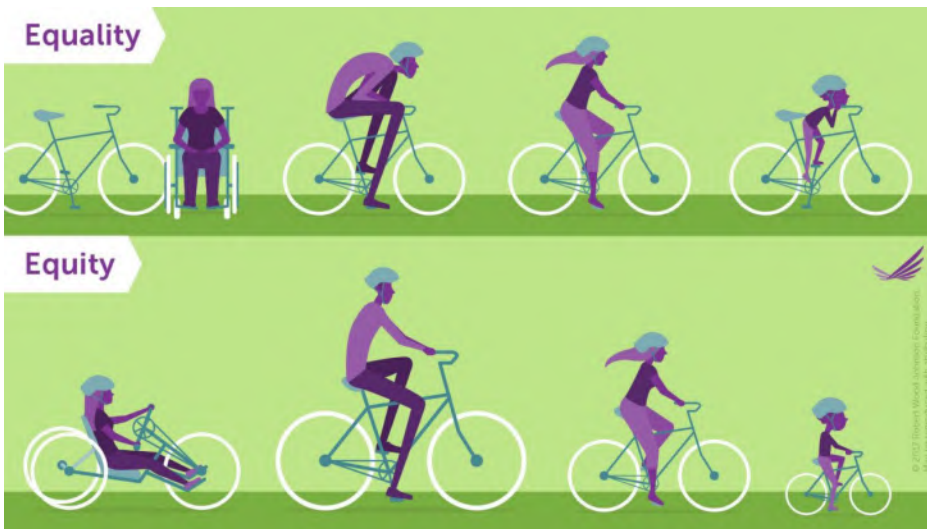


Cross-Cutting Strategies

In order for Kenosha County to THRIVE we need to also focus on two cross-cutting strategies throughout the implementation process: health equity and partnerships.

Health Equity

Health equity is all about meeting people where they are and addressing people's specific needs. As we implement the strategies identified in the THRIVE Plan, we need to remember that a one-size-fits-all approach will not work for every person or group of people. This visual below from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation shows how when it comes to expanding opportunities for health, thinking the same approach will work universally is like expecting everyone to be able to ride the same bike.



Equality:

Everyone gets the same, regardless if it's needed or right for them.

Equity:

Everyone gets what they need, understanding the barriers, circumstances, and conditions.

Partnerships

Kenosha County is fortunate to have many organizations already working hard to improve the health of the community. However, we know that we can do more and have a greater impact when we work together. The THRIVE Plan calls on all of us to align our existing work and to lead, collaborate, or support efforts for greater collective impact. Throughout the implementation process, it will be important to continue to establish new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.

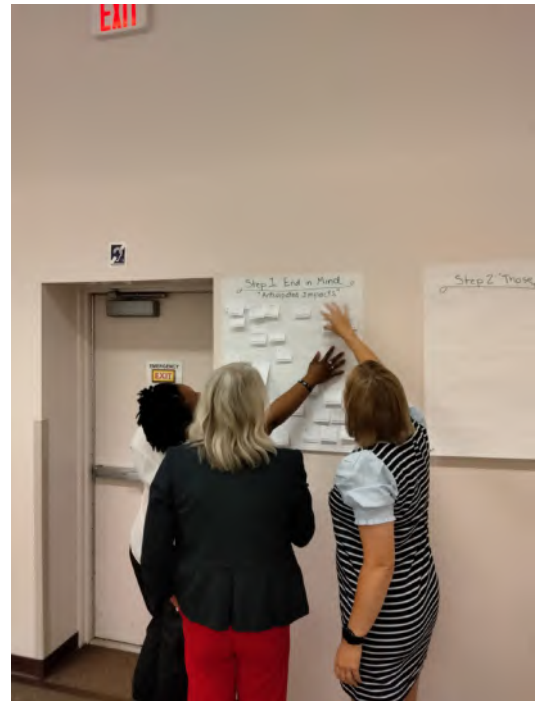
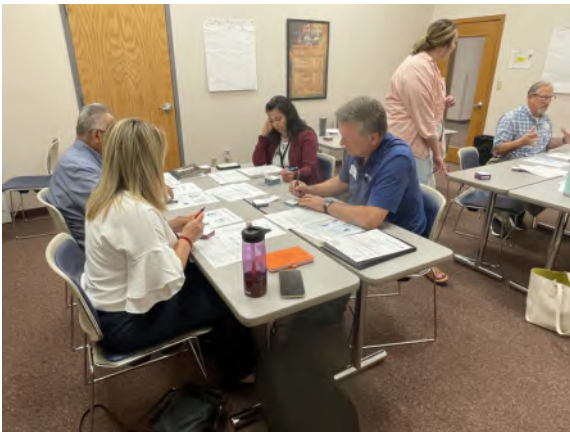


Next Steps

Now that we have developed the THRIVE Plan, the next steps in the Community Health Improvement Planning Process involve working with the community to implement and evaluate the plan. This work will be led by the THRIVE Action Teams but everyone is welcome to join this important work to help create a thriving, healthy Kenosha County!



Photos of THRIVE Action Teams at work



Get Involved

The Kenosha County THRIVE Community Health Improvement Plan is the **COMMUNITY's** plan!

Driven by the community
Developed for the community
Implemented with the community

Individuals

We need residents of Kenosha County to engage with each Action Team and promote the important work to improve the health of our community. Residents are key to our success and you can engage with this work in many ways:

- Join an Action Team
- Engage in activities that support the goals
- Attend events and bring a friend

Organizations

The community is the owner of the THRIVE Community Health Improvement Plan, yet the work cannot be accomplished without community partners and organizations supporting the important work occurring in the community. Our collective efforts are enhanced through the support of community organizations, and there are several ways to become involved:

- Join an Action Team
- Endorse the CHIP
- Engage in activities that support the goals
- Sponsor Action Team efforts

If you would like to join the THRIVE Email List or Join an Action Team, please email THRIVE@kenoshacounty.org

Let's work together to develop a plan to create a thriving, healthy Kenosha County



Acknowledgment

The 2023-2026 Kenosha County Community Health Improvement Plan and the development of this report was led by the Kenosha County Public Health (KCPH) THRIVE Planning Team. However, this important work would not have been possible without the contributions of many members of our community. Kenosha County Public Health would like to express its appreciation for the contributions made by those who participated in the process, including:

- Aurora Health Care
- Froedtert South
- Kenosha County Board of Health
- Health Advisory Council
- Health Equity Task Force

Thrive Steering Committee

- Liane Blanck, KCPH
- Tamarra Coleman, Shalom Center*
- Felicia Dalton, Building Our Future*
- Kari Foss, Division of Aging, Disability, and Behavioral Health
- Dr. Diane Gerlach, Aurora Health Care
- Tessa Kohler, KCPH*
- Jaymie Laurent, Froedtert South
- Tina Link, Aurora Health Care
- Lori Plahmer, KCPH
- Sharon Pomaville, The Sharing Center*
- Stacey Wians, KCPH*
- Bradley Woller, KCPH*

**Action Team Co-Leads*



Special thanks to Ujima United, LLC for leading the THRIVE Action Teams and providing project management and guidance throughout the process.

Most importantly, we are very thankful to the members of the Kenosha County community who participated in the THRIVE Action Teams. Your voice matters and was heard!

Suggested Citation: Kenosha County Public Health (2023). *2023-2026 Kenosha County THRIVE Community Health Improvement Plan*. Available online at <https://www.kenoshacounty.org/thrive>.

The Kenosha County Community Health Assessment was made possible by the generous support of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.



Data Reference List

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Linked Living

Linked Living provides some independence and autonomy with the security of family nearby.

Shared Living

Individuals share housing along with chores such as cooking, cleaning and shopping.

Supported Housing

Supported Housing allows people with disabilities to live on their own and receive available subsidized rental rates.

Group Homes

Licensed by the state, Group Homes provide housing and up to 24/7 support for people with varying levels of need.

Adult Family Homes

Certified Adult Family Homes are generally equipped to deliver more individual support in a setting where individuals feel like a “member of the family.”

Friendly Housemates

Living in a house or apartment with a roommate who is a friend and caregiver.

Integrated Housing

Integrated Housing is the practice of housing residents with disabilities within a housing community, apartment, or individual home where most residents do not have a disability.

Social Communities

Social Communities bring together people with similar goals, beliefs, interests or other attributes together, transforming integrated housing into a social community.

9. Are there any concerns of barriers to your plan for the next 5-10 years?

- Aging Process and need to implement sooner
- Barriers are: independent housing for my disabled child as an adult.
- If my rent goes up significantly or my disability gets worse, I will have to move somewhere cheaper or more accessible. Both would be very difficult.
- Finding housing for my mentally challenged son
- Finding a place for my son to live
- My son cannot live alone, but I do not trust any of the available group homes. I would love to see an assistant living type arrangement available for adults with disabilities.
- Lack of group homes for my daughter to move into
- There aren't enough residential homes for adults with disabilities. We are hoping he can get into one and he is on an extensive waiting list through Matthias Academy.
- I Can't find a good home for him, in the new community that we are moving into.
- Stairs and work needs on home
- Not knowing what the future holds
- Some in my own ability to manage
- health
- Money
- I currently live with my 82 year old uncle and help with caregiving. my uncle dies, I have no place to live.
- Any move would be because of the need for either assisted living or full care
- yes
- Yes
- Cost, availability of resources
- I don't think the current house I own will be a good fit once I am a senior, so it is unlikely that I will live out the rest of my days there.
- Due to husband being disabled
- My husband is 85 & I am 84, walk with a walker. We don't know where we will go as David is 56 & a mental disability. It depends on what happens to our health which is good.
- Yes, we will no longer be able to care for our daughter.
- Yes
- Depends on our health
- Can't find safe and affordable housing stuck in a bad living apartment
- money, health
- It seems so complicated. Lots of loose ends re family etc.
- Finances I'm a single parent in family care who makes just enough to not qualify for benefits but can't afford rents or to buy In a safe area
- Financial Outlook due to increased wealth gap, corporate greed, and affordable housing
- Moving away from a parent in assisted living is keeping us from moving
- Housing concerns for my kids with intellectual disabilities
- Loss of mobility/wheelchair usage. Home is older and has narrow doorways, stairs for entry, high light switches on the walls, low outlets.
- status of our parents health
- Co-operation
- parents are too stubborn
- Loss of parent/parents, affording the family home, teenage daughter @ home
- We moved thinking about the future.

- Income
- Our concerns is we have a disabled adult currently living in a group home. He has been in the home for over five years and he is very comfortably there as are we in having him live there. If we move out of Wisconsin our concern is not being close to him and not having the same care available to him where we may move to.
- There is no affordable housing in the area in a safe neighborhood. I have to rent.
- Yes
- Affordability
- Health, unexpected mobility issues
- Ramps
- I personally have no barrier. It's having something in place for my adult child. There is no one really to look out for him after me.
- Affordable housing
- I am 55. My disabled son is 25. For 15 years he could continue to live with me. I am concerned about making sure he has an supportive group home he can move to before he is too old (change gets harder) and before something unknown happens to my health-ability to care for him. He is on a waiting list for Crabtree Group homes and I have no idea when he will be invited to stay with them. He is has been on the list for 2 years. I definitely need to stay in my house until he moves out. He is physically active and noisy in a way that an apartment would not work. It might be better for me to move out of my house by 65 (20 years).
- Not sure about
- I like to be by myself
- financial and services available for aging at home
- Yes, home owner but house requires a lot of work that is not affordable. Never know what's going to happen in the future.
- For me the caregiver no. For the disabled adult living in my home YES! Her group home closed and living with me as the social worker is unable to find anything appropriate.
- Concerns after 10/15 years
- Affordability concerns
- Home modifications so i can stay in my home
- Finances
- It would depend on my health and mobility and my husband's as well.
- I want high end assisted living in the city. Something like St John's on the Lake, Prospect Ave Milwaukee
- My concerns would include access to adequate health care (including vision, hearing, various therapies, etc.) and maintaining personal mobility.
- physical mobility
- disposing of furniture and other possessions
- stairs; steps into house (first floor is still two steps up from outside)
- Just changes in general health.
- Affordable on limited retirement funds from social security.
- the cost of rental units in Kenosha keeps rising
- My current residence the mortgage is paid off. However, it is a two story townhouse and could become a mobility problem or be difficult to maintain. If we sold the residence it could be difficult to add rent to our expenses for the long term.
- Available affordable assisted living and nursing care
- I have concerns around housing availability due to people moving from outside of Kenosha. If there is housing availability (which I would assume given KIN and the downtown redevelopment plan) housing

has to be at a level that I can afford. Affordable to (to me) is less than what market rate would be in a few years.

- Affordability
- Remain in my current home
- Affording housing
- Costs for moving; basic living needs (rent, utilities); wanting to remain as independent as possible (continue to drive, manage personal finances); inaccessibility of health care should I lose complete independence.
- Living on a fixed income
- Finding affordable housing for a senior with limited income and a disability
- cost of everything rising
- Not at this time. I have LTC insurance
- The cost of housing, my house is paid for but I would not be able to sell it and buy another home without taking out a new mortgage.
- High home prices and interest rates
- The availability of affordable housing.
- Housing Market and money troubles
- Mortgage rates and cost of houses
- Costs for new housing will keep me where I'm at.
- I'd like to stay here in Kenosha, but want to reduce housing cost.
- Job, finances, availability of affordable housing
- Age, Health - arthritis, Ability to care for home
- Have no family
- Dog, blindness, home ownership, moving to be closer to my daughter and vision resources
- Affordability, is the primary barrier. what is currently considered "affordable" is not actually a price point a majority of presidents can actually afford.
- Finances or the cost
- 1. Financial, 2. Health, 3. Available, appropriate
- Health
- Finance, mobility
- Health
- Need to be closer to family.
- Cost
- cost of housing/living expenses
- Health, mobility, driving
- Concern: How fast my Parkinson's will progress
- Cost of assisted living
- The increase cost of living.
- Availability of appropriate housing options
- Money
- Affordable and wheelchair accessible housing.
- poor health & mobility issues
- The housing market, it's become grossly unaffordable
- Yes the price for apartments is outrageous, even a studio apartment is around \$1300.00 a month
- Stairs
- Yes
- Have 2 cats I inherited, need pet friendly housing
- Accessibility - single story w/garage

- The cost of housing
- affordable housing
- unsure of future health concerns
- At this point, no.
- Doing yard work, snow removal
- Distance to stores for food
- Minimal
- Yes- increasing mortgage interest rates, need to make a plan for my elderly parents
- Financial and can't physically do a lot
- Physical condition
- If one of us dies, social security income might not be enough to sustain current housing.
- Stay where we are
- Affordable independent housing
- Impact of an unknown illness or disability (e.g. stroke)
- No stairs
- Yes, being able to fully retire - had to go back to work - prices too high
- If my partner and I continue to be employed at our current salaries and barring any financial catastrophes, we should have no problem remaining in our current home.
- None at the moment
- My health and how long I can take care of myself.
- Availability of paid caregivers if needed.
- None other than if our children move away and we'd want to be near them.
- High Housing costs would make a change of residence financially impossible for us.
- My health
- changing health of me or my spouse
- IDK
- yes for physical concerns
- Want a high end assisted living apartment in or near downtown
- I don't make enough income to pay \$1000 and over for rent. I live at someone's house now . I work but will never make enough \$ to buy my own home
- services like snow removal
- Other than our mortgage, no
- income
- Finding income based housing
- I will be take care of myself.
- We rent so I am not sure if when all our children move out we will continue to live there or if we will be able to continue to live there if our rent keeps going up.
- Availability of desired housing.
- Looking for a home with more room for child and more ada accessibility
- Physical ability to stay at home; Finances for Assisted Care Facility
- Real estate taxes - too high for seniors
- Yes, because of my age I don't know what my health will be.
- Cost of living, I would like to own my own home but the cost is too great. I would need a higher paying job. Rent is also costly. Rooming with others makes it a bit more affordable.
- Family lives out of state. Don't know if want to move.
- snow removal
- Home maintenance
- I'm 87 years

- My health
- Finances
- I just have to take it "one day at a time."
- Nope, just my health
- Physical limitations that cannot be accommodated with at home caregiving
- I sold my home & moved into HUD housing Dec. 2019 am happy but a bit small
- I would like to try a smaller house on one level, but pricing and scarcity make it very doubtful.
- No - but circumstances can change. Assisted living should be a good option if affordable
- Prefer condo or 55+ community that has stand-alone units (houses) rather than attached or apartment style.
- Rent and transportation
- Stay living with my mother which is my caregiver
- Cost of housing, availability of single story, ADA type housing
- Health status and impact on housing
- Health
- Normal health concerns
- yes
- Yes need stair lift
- Financial, residential

12. What is your ideal living arrangement for yourself and the person(s) you care for?

- Private residence
- Independent living for my child with a disability, when they're old enough to move out. There are concerns between me and my spouse as to whether Kenosha is a community we can stay in, due to the low housing options available to folks with disabilities. ESPECIALLY the lack of SAFE housing options.
- to be able to stay in our own house
- Ideally there would be an appropriate place for my daughter to live and be supported while living with friends.
- Fully accessible with roll in shower & bidet, central air-conditioning, attached garage or underground parking, pet friendly, non-smoking, on bus route, close to pharmacy, medical facilities, grocery store and library. I would love to be in a condo or duplex instead of a large apartment building.
- Duplex or garage apt.(ADU) additional living unit
- Affordable low income rent and availability. Not a lot available without a 2 plus year wait list. And cost is not affordable on an extremely fixed income.
- Funding for my son to live in an Adult Family Home
- An assistant living type facility for adults with special needs. A place where they could have an independent apartment but have meals, meds etc taken care of. They could have both independence and be supported and safe.
- Group home for the person I care for.
- I would like to stay in my home and find a group home for my child
- We are hoping Matthias Academy can receive funding to build more residential homes.
- being independent for myself, having my father live in a supervised, caring situation
- A place with first floor living, close to the lake.
- Attached garage with no steps, outside maintenance help
- I stay in my home. They find a independent but assisted apartment

- Group home
- We can have affordable living in a peaceful inclusive community
- Group home for the person I care for.
- Assistance with their physical needs
- Stating where we are at
- Staying in our home. With additional care givers.
- safe, accessible, clean home.
- at home
- Mobile home not apartment
- It's ideal now. He needs me. I need him.
- Senior apartment with step up to assisted living
- accessible townhome with services for maintenance
- Safe and affordable
- Living independently close to each other.
- Ideally I would love to see more apartment complexes like Saxony Manor, a nice little community that is handicap accessible. It allows adults to maintain their independence without being completely isolated or alone.
- Adequate shelter, cost, mobility
- A good place for David to live, affordable, Roger & I could go to assisted living. My son Robert is checking on this, he lives by Rockford, IL. Harborside Apts. for David if he can afford rent or less rent.
- We will find supportive care for her in her own home/residence.
- To live with my spouse for as long as we can!
- us without others
- living close to family, preserving independence
- Opponents a 4 bedroom home to finish raisins by girls and move my mom in with my mom
- A nice house with a "guest house" for my Son to live independently without leaving the safety of the property
- Living in the same home
- Stay in my home for my husband and myself, and find a place for my sons with disabilities
- As is until I'm no longer to care for her due to my age or a disability
- Ranch on slab
- Independent
- group home for my sibling
- get along
- Having my daughter stay with me as long as possible.
- easy access to things needed, accessibility to ramps instead of stairs
- The family home is where I live and take care of father, mother and daughter. Affording it (house) is the concern.
- Continue to stay in my house with support
- trailer
- House with roommate for daughter with someone to check in with them
- Continue to have access to a group home for our son. He needs that independence and interaction with his peers.
- Ideally I would like to live in my own household and have my child live independently within separate household space, such as in-law suite.
- Being able to purchase a home within my budget in a safe neighborhood
- Single level home with no stairs, accessibility and closer to Froedtert Milwaukee
- Duplex with accessibility, 2 bed/2 bath

- Separate room with bell ringing for notice of need
- The way it is now is great. It's just I can't outlive my child.
- Ground level ranch style house
- again in place. However, really need a garage attached to home for ease of husband getting to car.
- He and I in our own home, maybe personal care worker to come in as needed.
- Something similar to a small apartment but at the house for the feeling of a little more independence.
- Us both living as we do now
- That a group home would become available that is appropriate.
- Staying where I am
- Living with my partner in a walkable area where I can access all of my daily needs (grocery, pharmacy, bank, etc.)
- My home
- two or three bedroom ranch
- Living alone
- Independent living
- My husband and I living together in a place with good accessibility, transportation options (when we no longer drive), and with options for social interactions with other people.
- To stay in my 3 bdrm ranch as long as I can drive.
- maintaining my independence
- staying in my home
- 1 story house with less maintenance near family and friends in a "nice" neighborhood with available shopping, dining, and entertainment.
- with or near family members
- alone
- Ranch home with outdoor space for garden, etc
- Independent living
- With family
- My current home
- Ability to live and care for myself alone with situational support
- Affordable, safe residence for my husband and I. Something similar to St. Catherine Commons but more affordable.
- Single Family home with spouse and dependents
- Assisted living
- A small space that's affordable and safe to live in (up to code, maintained, etc).
- Independent renter
- Alone in my own home
- With spouse
- Living independently
- Living alone
- Remain in my ranch home with fenced yard
- Me and my girlfriend, maybe some close friends and family
- I'm very social and would consider sharing living accommodations, but would need creative space for myself/both of us. Obviously, space to keep a car. Close to shopping and activities. Help with food planning/prep/ being able to eat socially with others.
- With my spouse in an affordable apartment
- A senior subsidized community or smaller affordable home
- be in secure, well lighted, Senior Community, no children, no loud music, rules enforced
- A place with first floor living, close to the lake.

- To stay in my own home
- Live with spouse and two dogs
- by myself
- Living independently
- Living alone the rest of my life. God willing!
- Stay with my wife as long as we both live
- Condominium for my wife and I
- Own a house within the next 3-5 years maybe with a few friends
- Remain in my home
- Owning home near family
- Living with spouse independently
- Single family home
- In my current home
- staying in a house, preferably one story.
- Independent, near friends and family
- Staying independent
- Assisted living for active seniors
- Having enough money to stay in my home. To pay my bills and keep up the house & yard.
- Close to my daughter but in different homes.
- In my current condo
- stay as is
- Able to afford my own home and the cost associated with it, on my own.
- Living with my partner
- Independent living with some support, mutuality
- Stay in my residence
- Home
- Alone and independent
- Staying with my children
- Affordable single family home
- Remain in my current home
- Staying in my own home
- Maintaining my current home
- remaining at home with supportive home care
- My home
- Independent living
- Live alone in my own house or apartment
- Whatever my health allows
- on my own
- Continue to live with my immediate family.
- Unsure
- My own apartment with community around me
- Walkable city with increased public transit, affordable and wheelchair accessible in all parts of the home.
- periodic home health care availability
- in my condo living alone
- Living alone/with partner or close friend
- By myself
- Senior housing where someone is keeping an eye or building/housing owners.

- Ranch - electric/battery locks, handicap bath ready (shower seat, open door tub, etc.)
- Single story - easy access - no outside maintenance
- Live alone or in a small assisted living facility
- independently
- Accessibility within the space - public transit such as Western Kenosha Transit
- Status quo
- Single family home
- myself
- staying in our home
- Staying where I am
- Townhome with attached garage
- Ramp access and railings, wide pathways
- Living alone in my own house
- accessibility
- To be OK on my own but near others
- Safety
- Same as I have now.
- No steps
- Staying where we are at
- Ranch style home - large halls & doorways, attached garage - no stairs. Bathroom with handicap equipment
- Senior housing community
- Living independently
- Our current home with my partner and child, but it would be nice if my mother moved out of our basement.
- a 1 story house with out stairs
- To live at home with someone to help me
- Stay in my home til I die
- Alone for now.
- Self-directed home with private living space but joint communal space to share meals. Could share paid caregivers.
- Apartment or villa
- Living with my husband in our home of 40 years.
- Independent living near family and community.
- Living alone
- Condo
- Home
- Independent living near family.
- My home
- unsure
- Stay in our ranch house in Pleasant Prairie
- I am currently in my ideal arrangement.
- Own my own home. I am single. Or at least be able to afford rent at one of them nice new condos in Kenosha county
- living alone but with needed services
- My current home
- small efficiency, studio,
- Owning a place

- Current living situation in house with husband
- own house, single story, accessible, enough space to continue doing the things I enjoy, close enough to amenities.
- Smaller ranch 2 bedroom 2 bath with a large outdoor space for garden attached garage open concept
- Condo
- Living with my husband and son only.
- What I have now.
- Stay in this home due to my blindness. With live-in helper to assist with meals, etc. for 4 hours/day
- House to fit a family of 5, lots of space
- Separate
- A home within a more ideal location, i.e. near grocery stores.
- Right now being in same home
- Downsize
- Stay with family if something happened to my Mom or Dad
- Independent
- Living here at Towers helps me cope
- Apartment is too small
- Be by myself and still have a community
- HUD or voucher apt.
- Stay at my home
- Less property, live on a more quiet street, no highway
- Single family ranch home close to medical and shopping
- Near children/grands
- A condo in a major city
- Continuing to live in my current home.
- Single family home - 2-3 BR, 1.5 bath, garage - walkable community
- Living independent, with help as needed
- Living alone with pets
- Would like to live with someone
- My dad I stay with
- Cat and helpers
- Unknown at this time
- Current present home
- Linked Living
- ability to get to my doctors

21. What type of living arrangement would suit your child's needs best?

- Family
- A safe housing option with support and the option to not have roommates as a default. Group homes and adult family homes are the only options for my child if we stay in Kenosha. I would love something like Linked Living or Supported Living, where there is autonomy and support and safety all in one. Group homes and Adult family homes are not adequate for many people with disabilities.
- Supervised group home
- Linked living or supported housing
- independent living with own affordable housing
- Adult family home

- An assistant facility type of place for adults with disabilities. I do not trust group homes and it is too hard to find employees for in ho e support
- Group home
- Group home, possibly supported housing
- Group Homes, Adult Family Homes
- Group Home (supervised)
- Independent living with someone other than me to supervise them
- Group Home supervised
- Unknown at this time. Hes 11years old
- group home
- She needs an affordable apartment.
- The one we have
- An apt. like Harborside Apts., close to shopping, he does not have a car, close to a Catholic Church, busses, food stores
- She needs 24/7 full care.
- Group Homes (supervised)
- Shared living
- independent livng with supports. We love IRIS
- To live with me her sister and to move my mom in with me
- Linked Housing
- Living with me
- Someone who can support my children with day to day tasks.
- Unfortunately, none of the above would suit her needs.
- Specialized loving care
- group home with individuals that have a same/similar disability
- Group home or adult family home
- She would need one on one full time care and accessibility for wheelchair/walker.
- Shared living
- Small group home that resembles her current living arrangement
- Independent Living
- Living with me. His needs are minimal.
- Home with roommate and some minor support
- He currently is living in a supervised group home with three other people.
- Supported housing.
- Linked living
- Linked living
- Adult Family Home - 24 hr. supervision
- He could survive in a group home with light supervision.
- Group home supervised
- To stay with family
- Supportive housing
- Continue living with me or family member.
- Group home
- Being close to family
- Be able to keep his own apartment
- Adult family homes with small ratio that can deal with some behaviors.

22. Anything else you'd like to share related to housing?

- If the only thing separating my child from a non-disabled child is the way they were born, then it is unacceptable to tell my disabled child they simply need to live with their housing options. Typical people have all options available to them; the world is their oyster. We can do better for our disabled community members; they regularly get forgotten when choices are made. Their needs are regularly not considered when plans are discussed. I am more comfortable with moving somewhere else to support my disabled child in their autonomy than I am settling for the current housing options available to them in Kenosha County. Countless communities across the country have figured out ways to better help disabled folks in their area; Kenosha can, too.
- There are very long waiting lists for the current Subsidized Apartment options. We have plenty of Market rate and Affordable options but these rents are way too high for most people on social security only. Subsidized apartment options would help this very much
- affordable housing isn't affordable. Make it affordable
- I'd like a downtown high end assisted living which is close to my church, restaurants and entertainment
- Prices need to come down!
- better local transportation for seniors who can no longer drive and do not have local support for transportation.
- Senior independent living and assisted living is too damned expensive. Only the rich can afford it!
- So many people seek affordable housing here and accessing it is a challenge, not to mention a dearth of places of pet friendly units
- There is a large need in the low to moderate income space, and the current market rates are high. I would love to see more investment in duplexes and ADUs (mother in law or accessory unit dwellings) to integrate more renters into residential neighborhoods. In multi-unit buildings, not only do units need to be physically accessible, but smoke free and at least some fragrance/chemical free for those with allergic and respiratory diseases. Landlords should be required to give notice before applying pesticides/fertilizer/other chemical inside and out.
- Kenosha has very few townhouse situations available, Housing costs are far out of reach for anyone making a medium income.
- Housing is only part of the issue. Nearby grocery stores and pharmacies are vital. Also, better public transportation. Kenosha public transportation leaves a lot to be desired.
- "Almost ALL housing projects currently are not priced in the middle/lower class range
- The highest number of homeless,,, cannot afford housing and Kenosha continues construction with high prices to accommodate the Illinois crowd"
- Young people just starting out need to have house that is affordable. More affordable Housing for disabled and seniors is greatly needed.
- There are an awful lot of new apartment complexes being built but the rent is very expensive. Affordable housing needs to be a priority for Kenosha.
- This survey would be better if you clearly separated questions related to the elderly from those of adults with disabilities. They have very different needs.
- Need more group homes
- "Being newer to Kenosha, I would use any means possible to locate proper housing, but, being new here means you don't have these resources ready to hand! Who is there to direct new residents to these resources under these circumstances?"
- Existing managers and owners of existing housing are not likely sources as they do not wish to cut into their own profits."

- There is a considerable gap between what is considered market rate and what is realistic for people with less than \$40,000/yr in terms of rentals. The less financially able person's in Kenosha are being priced out of decent affordable housing.
- Rents are high in Kenosha. More affordable housing is needed.
- Need info on where to learn about Kenosha's resources in this area. ADRC? KAC? IRIS or Community Care Case Managers?
- I would like to have him close to me so we can visit him.
- Housing is a question we get at the ADRC often. Kenosha isn't alone in this endeavor to improve.
- cost of rental housing is WAY TOO HIGH! Cost to purchase a reasonable home is WAY TO HIGH!
- We need to take care of people who are unable to help themselves.
- The price of housing has been driven up by big corporations buying single family homes, real estate developers building apartment complexes, and zoning laws that do not help moderate income families.
- Landlords need to keep up their properties.
- There is a need for more secure memory care communities in Kenosha. Senior/subsidized housing is good, but there have been issues with bed bug infestation. Room size sufficient to accommodate a mechanical lift/hoyer and other medical equipment would be helpful.
- There are virtually no low cost apartments for young adults, especially if they have intellectual or mental health challenges.
- New apartments are really small and new low income housing is ridiculously small. Rehabbing older neighborhoods with modest housing would be a good way to solve some of the housing crunch in our community
- In looking for rental properties first, they seemed sparse. In looking for buying houses - there are fewer choices than should be.
- I have to admit I don't know much about what is available
- We should partner with habitat for humanity to make accessible housing for seniors and those with disabilities
- There isn't enough affordable, safe housing for anyone, let alone the elderly or those with disabilities.
- I am very well-satisfied w/my caregiver coming from Kelly Mitchell w/Community Care, Inc. going through the Todd's Companion Plus.
- I would like to live in my own home but I would possibly want extra help from a qualified caretaker on a limited basis.
- Has disabled child who lives on his own in Madison, WI in low income housing. He is 62 years old now-uses a walker. I'm concerned about his health as he continues to age.
- I would like to see more available within walking distance to grocery stores and plazas if possible.
- Thanks
- We need to continue to develop housing in the downtown neighborhood following the plan that Mayor Antaramian had spearheaded.
- I don't know who he would go to if he is in need, health wise as he is used to being home. His sister died recently, Oct. 18. He needs to go to a friend maybe for advice, he doesn't have friends except at church (St. James/St. Elizabeth), internet friends from high school, no close friends. He has 2 nieces and nephew, all work. That's why Roger & I are not in assisted living although we should be. Who would help David, he helps us a a lot at home.
- Current budgeting doesn't allow for the quality staffing deserved and required for most full hands on disabilities.
- Affordable housing for all segments of society are needed.
- Affordable housing with other seniors
- The area needs more ramps, wider doors for people that are using wheelchairs, scooter & walkers. Walk in tubs & showers for seniors that have problems with their legs (raising legs).

- Senior transportation is a problem
- Be careful with building "affordable housing"(Cabrini-Green, Pruitt-IGOE, Etc.)
- Disabled people on SS cannot afford squat so local program help very little but I'm so grateful.
- I am a case manager for people with all abilities. It would be beneficial to have more safe housing options for our participants to reside in, mainly for those who need minimal support in an apartment setting rather than a group home, assisted living or nursing home. There are no many options available to the in between populations who need assistance but dont truly meet the need for placement in a facility.
- We need safe affordable clean housing for disabled people young disabled people there is not enough places for young disabled people there are tons of senior housing in Kenosha and housing for 55 and older disabled people
- Take a past eviction at least one break, make rentals in safe communities more affordable and ada compliant
- It's impossible for someone like me, I have dyseration (spelling?)
- I called a place advertising as a senior community - they were not. They were only assisted living. I found St. Catherine's Commons, where I rent a villa & we are a community.
- There needs to be more affordable options for people with disabilities and seniors. We also need to look to ways for individuals to live independently with the supports they need, not just automatically putting them in a group home setting. The use of technology needs to increase for individuals with disabilities, so that they can utilize it as a resource in order to gain more independence. This also in the long run would save money.
- i live alone & my friends are either deceased or live far away. no family members
- I would like there to be a set of standards that landlords would need to follow that would be overseen/checked on a regular yearly or bi yearly schedule. I believe that Racine has such a program so it would be feasible to build off of it and tailor it to fit the needs here in Kenosha. Maybe a permit like process for people who rent out properties to hold them accountable to provide safe, clean, lead free, insect/mice free, accessible, well maintained places for people to rent. If a property owner is receiving payments due to a renter on a housing assistant program there should be checks and balances in place. The cost of renting homes/apartments are extremely high making it very difficult for people to balance their budgets. Of course age, education, the cost of living, student loan debts, food, utilities and wages all factor in as to what is affordable. There has been much talk about the need for single family homes and building more of them to alleviate the shortage. Many people are struggling so exactly how are they going to be able to afford these newly built single family homes? Do programs need to be developed and or expanded for renters of various income levels? Food for thought. Thank you for creating and circulating the survey and collecting and organizing the data it will create. I am hopeful that Kenosha is able to improving on making a more livable, safe, inclusive place to work, live and play!
- Affordable housing for all levels of abilities is desperately needed in the area. Instead Kenosha officials are focusing on new expensive builds rather than supporting the community.
- Yes the prices of rental, better customer service
- Keep an eye on owners/aids always!
- Need veteran "tiny homes"
- need to find passionate and qualified individuals who can work at these group homes
- The west end of Kenosha Co. is in need of this type of housing.
- Thank you!
- Availability of health care located near senior living spaces.
- Any schools not being used going forward could be converted for homeless people for the winter months. And also try to improve the homeless situation to get employed or other!

- The cost to build a home is still going to be a major problem. 1. I will not move out of our home because I am paying. 2. 85% rates if I could get the same rate I would consider. This would put my home on the market at a reasonable price and for next pad. A younger home buyer and/or a disabled person. Much more reasonable than building a new home. Summary: Give me and many seniors with larger homes an opportunity to downsize or move. This would put our homes on the market faster and at a reasonable price.
- Smaller houses
- Cost of new housing & apartments & condos is high. Affordable is the necessary word.
- My mother lived in her own home until her 90's. I would be happy to do the same.
- More affordable housing based on income for seniors
- I live with my daughter and family.
- Would like to see independent housing with the care available to check on them
- I am worried going into the next 4 years that we will have many more people in need of SAFE and affordable housing.
- As we age, death of spouse or partner becomes a more real possibility...impacting income by 50% or more, so options for affordable housing becomes more important than ever.
- Need for a holistic approach: public transportation for multi-unit dwellings (either LINK or bus service)
- Personal contact with single elders.
- I'd like a condo, one level living space, no steps - with elevators
- I'm back to work to pay for rent (increased 1,400 a year), to keep my car maintained, goodies and keeping my animals vetted.
- There is not enough income based housing that people can afford
- I would like to see Kenosha offer a senior planned community in the style of a Del Webb.
- Affordable housing for low income families
- There is currently a waiting list of up to a year for the group housing program we visited.
- Just more options for assisted living
- I don't feel there is enough safe reasonably priced housing for young adults.
- It is almost impossible to get on Section 8 for lower rent.
- "Care-A-Van is great!
- Drivers are caring & safe!"
- Not enough assisted living facilities in Kenosha for under 55 and affordable on social security disability. My brother was 39 when he became paralyzed and brain damaged. When he could no longer stay at the no lift facility he had to move to Racine which was really hard on us, but especially him. He couldn't learn the new area bus routes and felt so isolated. He became severely depressed and died 6 months later when he had been doing well before hand, other than hurting his back and not being able to transfer himself at the old facility.
- Housing needs to reflect the community - be equitable and culturally aligned. I hate the apartment/condos that were put up on 22nd after the fire. Who can afford those? How do they move belonging and equity forward?
- Kenosha is in need of more affordable housing in general. It's difficult to find rent under \$1200.
- Housing for a single person is out of reach, even without disabilities. Kenosha needs better options.
- Tiny home community with smaller homes, shared rec center, garden area, pool, walking paths,
- I believe that the city needs to step up on enforcement of the codes and hold landlords and home owners accountable to ensure the city is safe for all.
- Related to senior citizen lifestyle, not housing: It is difficult to be homebound by weather and stairs/accessibility when I'm not feeling well and the Aurora MD insists on an in-person examination before prescribing basic meds (such as antibiotics). We have found a pharmacy that will visit the home for flu and covid shots, etc. ... but no one to examine/treat minor symptoms, such as cold symptoms or

a scratch or something. Please pass this info on to your Health Department. The aging and disabled would greatly benefit from a self-pay house-call medical service. I am age 96, blind, and use a walker due to knee arthritis and shoulder pain. I am homebound other than occasional outings during good weather.

- Senior supported tax relief
- Handicapped accessible
- I grew up in Wilson Heights from mid 90s to about 2010. Most of that neighborhood is gone. I had many neighbors that were great. It was a tough yet vibrant place. I would have liked to have lived in a nicer apartment complex. I would like to see that neighborhood rebuilt and to have similar neighbors as I had before.
- Pricing is outrageous for people on Social Security. Available homes are in dire need of repairs. Racine prices are lower but in less safe environments.
- Regardless of income or ability level, everyone deserves to live in a home with dignity.
- Keeping cost for renters at reasonable amount. Keeping investors from charging outrageous amount.
- Low income housing for independent living
- Would like central position for contact and information.
- Apartment for 1
- I don't have much to share. It's a definite need. I'm not sure what is available or how to go about setting up a home of my own.
- My sister (who is 58 and Disabled) Lives in a family care home, but in the foreseeable future, I would like to move into a home, In the Kenosha area, and be her caregiver
- A key part of housing is the staff. In Illinois, due to state lawsuits, staff are paid very well (around \$20+ an hour) so staffing is stable and high quality. I think in Wisconsin, good organizations such as Crabtree really struggle because they simply can't offer the same pay rates. I definitely think that that the housing needs to be scattered about Kenosha. I wouldn't want my son to live in an area where he would not be safe taking a walk or living next to people who would be more likely to take advantage of him as he has autism and his discernment about how the world works is low. This is tricky issue I know.
- Living alone on retired farm
- Quit F me on property taxes!
- When you rent, the manager should show you around - I learned from other residents. Clean the apt. before it's rented out. There's just not enough room for me to write how I really feel.
- No smoking in building, no pets, not live plants
- More vouchers or HUD housing
- I live in Kenosha County. I really don't know what Kenosha has for housing options.
- Handicap accessible
- it is not easy for a senior to move. it is expensive to move to a home that may be better suited for aging in place.
- The county is unwalkable - how do you expect aging in place without providing walking to shopping, bakery, doctors, restaurants, etc.
- Linked to the viability of housing is transportation and a walkable community which are lacking in most parts of the county.
- Hear that it is too expensive and there are waiting lists.
- Walkable communities where housing is in an area that one can walk or bicycle to get necessary services (food, healthcare, entertainment, restaurants) is appealing to me.
- I feel the social worker should know what kinds of homes they are sending your adult to and be sure they let them know some history. Also everyone is all inclusive and if you have been in a program for over 10 years they should be able to keep the program.

- Look @ developing single story, ADU's, mother-in-law type suites, universal design. Resources to adapt your home if someone has a stroke or other illness that makes your home difficult to remain in. No steps anywhere-in or out of home. Look at some of the other types of housing that AARP has. Reassess what is "affordable" to be realistic for Kenosha and county. Look @ incentives to builders/developers. Recruit developers to build appropriate housing seniors and individuals with disabilities. Don't be passive about proposing types of housing we need, especially in west part of county. Area for service pets.
- There should be clarification on alternative living and low income housing. I have seen how L & H has truly destroyed urban area.
- I need more info @ local assisted living properties and how could I apply for financial assistance. Thank you. (included name and phone number)
- Be close to shopping & hospitals
- Single level, elevators, transportation (public) to Dr. Appt & Health Facilities, church

AARP Wisconsin

222 W Washington Ave Suite 600, Madison,
WI 53703

City of Kenosha Planning & Development

625 52nd Street Room 308, Kenosha, WI
53140

Community Care, Inc.

5614 52nd St, Kenosha, WI 53144

Congregations United to Serve Humanity

P.O Box 1324, Kenosha, WI 53141

Easter Seals Southeast Wisconsin

7101 53rd St, Kenosha, WI 53144

ELCA Outreach Center

6218 26th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53143

Grace Lutheran Church / l'Arche

2006 60th St, Kenosha, WI 53140

Habitat for Humanity of Kenosha

6203 28th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53143

IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct)

1 S. Pinckney St., Suite 320, Madison, WI
53703, US

**Kenosha Area Family & Aging Services,
Inc.**

7730 Sheridan Rd, Kenosha, WI 53143

**Kenosha County Aging and Disability
Resource Center**

8600 Sheridan Rd #500, Kenosha, WI 53143

Kenosha County Planning & Development

19600 75th St suite 185-3, Bristol, WI 53104

Kenosha County UW-Extension

19600 75th St #2, Bristol, WI 53104

Kenosha Housing Authority

625 52nd St, Kenosha, WI 53140

Kenosha Human Development Services

3536 52nd St, Kenosha, WI 53144

Kenosha Innovation Neighborhood

2222 63rd St, Kenosha, WI 53143

Kenosha Special Olympics

Matthias Academy

12603 224th Ave, Bristol, WI 53104

NAMI Kenosha County

5718 7th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53140

Pleasant Prairie Community Development

9915 39th Ave, Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

Shalom Center

4314 39th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53140

Sharing Center, Inc.

25700 Wilmot Rd, Trevor, WI 53179

Veterans Service Office Kenosha County

8600 Sheridan Rd # 700, Kenosha, WI 53143

Village of Salem Lakes

9814 Antioch Rd, Salem Lakes, WI 53168

Village & Town of Somers

7511 12th St, Kenosha, WI 53144

Westosha Senior Community Center

19200 93rd St, Bristol, WI 53104

With Kenosha County at the cusp of unprecedented growth and transformation, there are boundless opportunities to create a variety of residential options to meet the needs and wants of older adults, persons with physical and intellectual disabilities and their families while addressing our overall housing shortage. It is clear that people in Kenosha County want more choices than are currently available, but their preferences vary.

Following are examples of some residential options in place and popping up throughout the country. We hope these models will spark the interest and creativity of consumers, non-profits, developers, policy-makers and others when thinking about housing for older adults and persons with disabilities in Kenosha County.

TRADITIONAL

Group Home / Assisted Living / CBRF

There are many community based residential facilities (group homes) and assisted living facilities in Kenosha County, often specializing in specific populations, e.g. seniors, persons with Alzheimer's, intellectual disabilities, or mental illness. Licensed by the state of Wisconsin they provide housing and up to 24/7 support for multiple people with varying levels of need. They are an option for people who need a higher level of support that cannot be provided by family or in another setting.

Adult Family Homes

Kenosha County also has a number of adult family homes. Certified by counties in Wisconsin 2-4 bed AFHs provide supportive living for people with a disability. Hosts generally deliver more individual support in a setting where the resident feels like a "member of the family."

Apartments for Seniors / Individuals with Disabilities

We have many apartments designed for independent older adults at market rate and reduced rent for qualified persons; also federally subsidized apartments for low-income seniors, individuals with a disability who can live independently, and families.

Apartments with Supportive Services / Residential Care Apartment Complexes

A few of these apartment buildings provide additional services such as housekeeping, medication monitoring, dining options and call buttons, or in the case of RCACs, up to 28 hours a week of supportive care and nursing services.

Note: Kenosha County ADRC has a complete listing of the above facilities.

ALTERNATIVES

Shared Living / Shared Housing

Home sharing is a living arrangement in which two or more unrelated people share a house or apartment. Home sharing can help use existing housing stock, address the rent burden faced by many older and disabled adults and the increasing isolation that individuals can experience when their mobility is limited. A home share program provides a service that helps match a person with an extra room or unit available with a person looking for a place to live. There are approximately 60 home share programs in the country and a national association with resources to help start-up programs. Best practices include services to ensure the success of the match, such as thorough screening, criminal background checks, follow-up support, and conflict mediation.

National Shared Housing Resource Center (NSHRC) is a network of non-profit home sharing programs that raises awareness of home sharing, encourages best practices and cross learning and fosters the development of new home sharing programs.

Friendly Housemates

Living in a house or apartment with a roommate who is a friend and caregiver is a newer concept in the realm of shared living. A new roommate matching service in Minnesota called Rumi helps connect individuals who have a disability (intellectual or physical) with caregiver-roommates who can provide the required support. This option tends to work best for people who seek independence and need more significant support.

Flat Sharing / Roommate Living

Think “Golden Girls” or “Friends.” Two or more people live under a single roof while sharing common spaces, such as a living room, kitchen, and one or multiple bathrooms. Apartments or houses that are (re)purposed for sharing with other people are Friends apartments.

Linked Living

Linked Living provides some independence and autonomy with the security of family nearby. In linked-living situations, individuals with IDD have their own “apartment” or even small home located on the family property. Think of an apartment over the garage, in-law suite, or an addition with a private bath and small kitchen.

Supported Housing

Supported Housing allows people with disabilities to live as independently as possible by subsidizing rentals and providing access to intermittent support services. In a supportive housing arrangement, a person with disabilities is able to live on their own and receive available subsidized rental rates. Kenosha currently has some supported housing programs.

Integrated Housing

Integrated Housing is the practice of housing residents with IDD within a housing community, apartment, or individual home and neighborhood where most residents do not have a disability. Integrated housing helps people with IDD participate fully within their communities. Unlike gated

communities or farmsteads, integrated housing exists within a larger community where people with IDD can participate in social, work and other community activities outside of their home.

The Mission Project supports individuals with developmental disabilities in apartments spread throughout the community of Mission, Kansas, promoting independence and self-governance with the oversight of parents and guardians for assistance when needed. A steering committee and board help organize activities. There is case management, job coaching, group problem solving and a 24-hour support line staffed by parents. Social activities are planned. A van service provides transportation to jobs. Participants must be able to function moderately autonomously. They are responsible for their own rent, food, and independent living and job supports, paid for with SSI/SSD, Medicaid waiver funds, special needs trusts, job earnings and family resources.

Social Communities

Bringing people with similar goals, beliefs, interests or other attributes together, transforms integrated housing into a social community. Residents of varying age, income and experiences create a diverse community.

Prairie Haus in New Glarus, developed by Home of Our Own (HOOO), a 501(c)(3) in partnership with other nonprofits, is a community of 40 affordable apartment homes for disabled adults, seniors, and working adults and families, providing affordable rent, an integrated setting, social activities and a wide range of supports and behavioral needs.

AbleLight Village in Victoria, Minnesota, is a new social faith-based community that integrates adults with IDD and adults 55 and greater. The community includes private apartments and townhomes along with social gathering spaces to support resident's shared interests and encourage socializing among residents.

Retirement / Senior Living Communities

A residential community with individual homes or housing complex designed for older adults who are generally able to care for themselves. They may provide assistance from home care agencies, activities and socialization opportunities.

Saddlebrook Farms by Hometown America Communities, in Grayslake, IL has attractive affordable manufactured homes for people 55+ providing garages, outdoor maintenance, resident amenities, leisure and fitness facilities.

Three Pillars in Dousman, WI provides an amazing number of higher priced housing options. In an attractive rural community with many outdoor and indoor activities and amenities.

Accessible Dwelling Units

An ADU is a small residence that shares a single-family lot with a larger, primary dwelling. An ADU is self-contained, with its own kitchenette, bathroom and sleeping area. It can be located within, attached to or detached from the main residence, converted from an existing structure or built anew. They are often invisible from view because they're positioned behind or are tucked within a larger home. An ADU can enable family members (including family or paid caregivers) to reside on the same property while

having their own living spaces. An ADU can provide rental income to homeowners and help older residents remain independent and “age in place.”

The Backyard Homes Project in Madison, in order to support the development of new ADUs, in 2022 provided financial support to homeowners facing barriers in the traditional lending market. The City offered a 15 year installment loan at 2% interest to eligible homeowners. Boundless Tiny Homes in Madison is an example of one builder that specializes in ADUs and helping home owners navigate zoning requirements whether it be garage conversions, additions, or detached units.

Village Model

The Village model is a burgeoning, consumer-driven model that promotes aging in place for community-dwelling older adults. Typically determined by geographic areas, (like a zip code or neighborhood), Villages are membership organizations composed of older adults (can also include younger members) living in their own homes. Villages typically charge yearly dues and, in exchange, support community members by organizing social activities, volunteer opportunities, transportation assistance, and referral to services in the community. Members may serve as volunteers for other members. Service providers provide additional help. Need to see a doctor? A volunteer driver will take you. When your sink clogs, the village will send a trusted repair person who services all the village members. Social and educational events keep members connected. There are over 300 villages in the US and each is governed by a board of directors made up of members. Dues paid by members support paid staff - often a single coordinator - who aims to meet villagers’ needs by sourcing, screening and delivering services.

Sharing Active Independent Lives (SAIL), in Madison is a member-led community that supports the independence of adults age 55+by embracing the talents, experiences and wisdom of its members. They learn together, share experiences, and help each other as members’ needs change over time. SAIL is funded by membership dues, donations, and grants. They collaborate with the University of Wisconsin and local community organizations, and draw on the talents, insights, and ideas of our membership to solve problems and provide needed resources to seniors.

Village to Village Network is a national organization that helps communities establish and operate thriving Villages.

Affordable Rental Loans

To address Madison’s housing shortage, the city is starting a program to make some of its most affordable rentals better places to live and to keep them available long-term. The program will offer property owners who offer fair market rents in lower-income parts of the city up to \$200,000 in low-cost loans for renovations.

Below is a collection of resources providing data, reports, and tools related to housing, income, aging, and community development in Kenosha County.

Housing & Economic Data

- Income by Age Cohort – U.S. Census Bureau
<https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDT5Y2023.B19037?q=income%20by%20age&g=050XX00US55059>
- Housing Vacancy Rate – U.S. Census Bureau
<https://data.census.gov/table?q=DP04:%20Selected%20Housing%20Characteristics&g=050XX00US55059>
- Median Housing Price & Median Gross Rent – U.S. Census Bureau
<https://data.census.gov/table?q=DP04:%20Selected%20Housing%20Characteristics&g=050XX00US55059>
- Rental Market Trends in Kenosha – Apartments.com
<https://www.apartments.com/rent-market-trends/kenosha-wi/>

Community Planning & Development

- City of Kenosha Consolidated Plan – Overview of community development initiatives and funding priorities
<https://www.kenosha.org/Document%20Center/Departments/City%20Development/Community%20Development/Block%20Grant%20Program/Plans%20and%20Reports/Consolidatedplan.pdf>
- Thrive Report (Kenosha County Health Department) – Community health improvement plan focused on housing, well-being, and equity
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/17773/2023-Kenosha-County-Thrive-Community-Health-Improvement-Plan>

Aging & Disability Resources

- Aging & Disability Resource Center (Kenosha County) – Programs and services for older adults and individuals with disabilities.
<https://www.kenoshacounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/21988/AGING-PLAN-2025-2027-11124>
- AARP Livable Communities – Resources and strategies for creating age-friendly communities.
<https://www.aarp.org/livablecommunities>