



Background

The Columbus CARE (Community, Action, Resilience, Empowerment) Coalition is comprised of a variety of partners and stakeholders who have a common mission to support trauma informed and responsive work in Columbus. Formed in 2016, CARE has become part of Mayor Ginther’s Comprehensive Neighborhood Safety Strategy and works to build an infrastructure for rapid response to trauma and to increase capacity for resilience. The CARE Coalition developed and administered a community survey in its pilot neighborhoods of **Hilltop** and **Linden** to inform its ongoing and future work.

Survey Objectives

- Establish baseline metrics of residents’ perceptions of crime, safety, trauma, trust, and personal resilience.
- Fill a crucial data gap to better understand the needs of these neighborhoods and implement interventions that treat trauma and violence as local public health issues.
- Inform and guide CARE Coalition activities and programs in **Hilltop** and **Linden**.

Survey Methods

- CARE staff and coalition members reviewed literature of existing approaches and instruments for measuring trauma and resilience at the local level. The final survey tool included both newly developed questions and those adapted from existing instruments.
- Respondents were recruited using convenience and snowball sampling¹, with trained surveyors administering the survey at community events and popular local venues from July-October 2018.
- Surveys were collected in person with informed consent. Incentives were not given and no identifying information was collected. Survey results were confidential.
- Adults (age 18+) residing in **Hilltop** (ZIP codes: 43204, 43222, 43223, 43228) and **Linden** (ZIP codes: 43201, 43202, 43211, 43214, 43219, 43224, 43229, 43231) were eligible.

Respondent Demographics

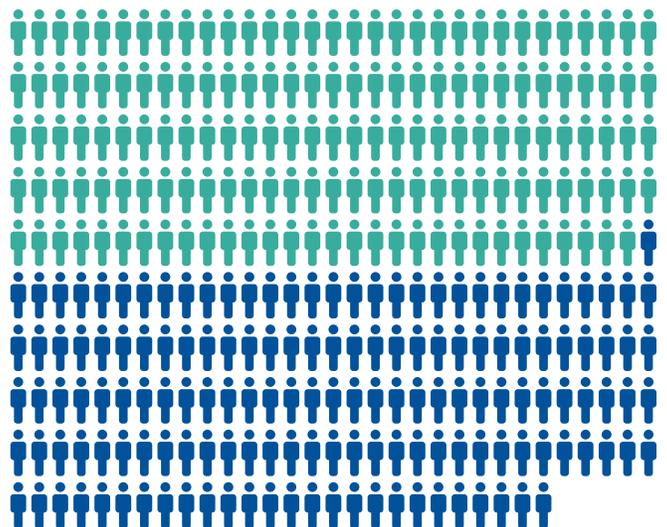
Total number of respondents - 305

Hilltop - 154 respondents

- 50%** of respondents resided in the primary ZIP code (43204).
- 48%** of respondents were female.
- 35%** of respondents were Black/African American.
- 21%** of respondents had less than a high school education.
- 84%** of respondents had an annual household income below \$40,000.

Linden - 151 respondents

- 78%** of respondents resided in the primary ZIP codes (43211, 43224).
- 75%** of respondents were female.
- 76%** of respondents were Black/African American.
- 16%** of respondents had less than a high school education.
- 63%** of Linden respondents had an annual household income below \$40,000.



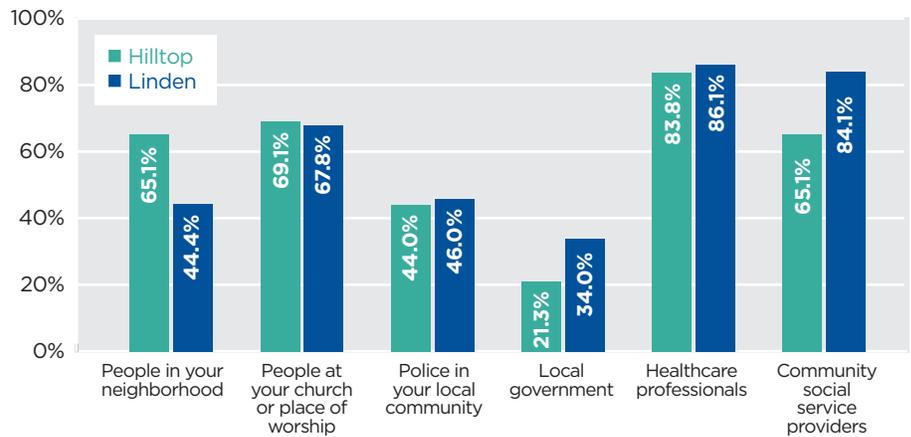
Survey Highlights

Trust in Community Groups

Respondents living in **Hilltop** and **Linden** place the most trust in individuals from their **places of worship** and in **healthcare professionals**.

- Continued partnerships with religious and healthcare organizations are essential to the future success of CARE.

“Somewhat” or “A Lot” of Trust in Community Groups



Dealing with Crime

Linden respondents felt **police** were best suited to deal with crime in their neighborhood, while **Hilltop** respondents felt that **community residents** were best suited.

- CARE must consider each neighborhood’s unique values when implementing trauma-responsive initiatives.

Trauma Among Respondents

Percent of respondents who:	All	Hilltop	Linden
Have ever experienced trauma ²	78.5%	78.8%	78.2%
Of those who have experienced trauma:			
Experienced trauma as a child	70.9%	70.0%	72.0%
Experienced trauma within the past year	32.5%	44.5%	20.3%

Trauma & Resilience

The majority of respondents from both **Linden** and **Hilltop** reported normal resilience. A greater percentage of respondents living in **Hilltop** had low resilience, despite **similar experiences with trauma** among respondents from each neighborhood.

- Survey results reaffirmed the need for the CARE Coalition to provide services that build resilience.

Resilience

Brief Resilience Scale Scores (BRS) ^{3,4} Range: 1-5	All	Hilltop	Linden
Mean Score	3.5	3.3	3.7
Median Score	3.7	3.3	3.8
Brief Resilience Scale Categories⁵			
Low Resilience (<3.0)	18.9%	28.0%	9.6%
Normal Resilience (3.0-4.3)	65.9%	57.3%	74.7%
High Resilience (4.3+)	15.2%	14.7%	15.8%

Interpreting the Scale: BRS scores range from 1 (low resilience) to 5 (high resilience). Studies to validate the BRS found that when given to a large, psychologically diverse population, the average resilience score was 3.7.⁵

Notes:

- When considering the above survey results, it is important to note that the data reflect the views only of those who responded to the survey, not all residents of the pilot neighborhoods.
- The Ohio Department of Health Institutional Review Board and the Columbus Public Health Research Review Committee approved the study.

Sources/Definitions:

1. Convenience and snowball sampling involve recruiting respondents who are easily accessible to surveyors, i.e. through their social networks or at highly-trafficked community venues.
2. Trauma was defined as a deeply distressing or disturbing experience.
3. Smith, B.W. et al., (2008). The Brief Resilience Scale: Assessing the ability to bounce back. *International Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 15(3), 194-200.
4. Scores were calculated only for respondents who answered all six of the scale’s questions.
5. Smith, B.W. et al., (2013). *The Foundations of Resilience: What are the critical resources for bouncing back from stress? Resilience in children, adolescents, and adults: Translating research into practice.* New York, NY: Springer, 167-187.