OVERVIEW

• On behalf of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) and Michaels Development Corporation (MDC), PREL conducted a comprehensive needs assessment for KPT Low Rises, Kuhio Homes, the Towers of Kuhio Park, and the surrounding neighborhood.

• Purpose: To inform the development of a transformation plan for potential improvements for the the Towers at Kuhio Park, Kuhio Park Terrace Low Rises, Kuhio Homes, and the surrounding neighborhood.

• The results provided in this presentation reflect findings from the Kuhio Homes and Low-Rise Community (N~118).
SUMMARY FINDINGS

• Overview
  • Household Characteristics
  • Employment
  • Adult Education and Training
  • Mobility & Transportation
  • Economic Development
  • Supportive Services
  • Special Needs
  • Children & Youth Services
  • Health
  • Crime & Safety
  • Housing
  • Civic Engagement
HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

• The majority of respondents are Chuukese, Native Hawaiian and Samoan.
• The majority of respondents are citizens and have been living in Hawai‘i for five or more years.
• Respondents receive food stamps or Supplemental Nutrition Assistance more than any other public benefit, followed by Medicaid and Medicare.
EMPLOYMENT

• Almost 60% of the respondents/household members work, and of those who work, two-thirds work more than part-time hours.
• Of the 40% unemployed, a little less than half are currently searching for work.
• The need to care for sick family members is the greatest barrier to finding or maintaining employment, closely followed by being disabled and a lack of affordable childcare.
• Q7: Do you or anyone in your household work?

• FINDING: More respondents work (58.5%) than do not work (41.5%).
EMPLOYMENT - Q9

- How many people in your household are currently searching for work?
- Finding: More than half of the respondents reported that household members are not searching for work (53.8%), while almost one-third (29.2%) of households have one member searching for work. 13.2% of households had two members searching for work, and only 3.8% of households had 3 or more members searching for work.
• What makes it difficult for you or members of your household to find work and/or keep a job?

• Finding: Respondents have difficulty finding work mostly because they: Need to care for a sick or disabled family member (24.5%); have a personal disability (14.5%), and lack of affordable childcare (13.6%).
EMPLOYMENT – Q11 DETAIL

Difficulty Finding/Keeping Work

- Legal Issues: 0.90%
- Citizenship: 0.90%
- Language: 1.80%
- No GED/Diploma: 7.30%
- Don't know: 10%
- Lack of training: 8.20%
- Transportation: 8.20%
- Other: 10.00%
- No opportunities: 10%
- Health: 12.70%
- Lack of affordable childcare: 13.60%
- Disability: 14.40%
- Sick family: 24.30%
- Other: 10.00%
- Difficulty Finding/Keeping Work: 30.0%
ADULT EDUCATION & TRAINING

• Respondents are most interested in receiving vocational training, computer training and job readiness training.

• Roughly 65% of respondents’ households have access to the internet, and mostly access the internet via their home computers.

• Roughly 25% of the respondents would use a neighborhood computer center if it were available.
MOBILITY & TRANSPORTATION

• The most relied upon modes of transportation are personal vehicles and the public bus system.
• A lack of transportation correlates to reasons why household members have difficulty finding/keeping work, and 25% of respondents indicated transportation as an immediate/current need.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

• Respondents most frequently cited the need for a neighborhood food store and/or farmer’s market and Laundromat.
• Other highly needed neighborhood businesses and/or amenities include a clothing store, pharmacy, health clinic, bookstore, library, more useable outside space, indoor space, and a senior center.
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

• Services most immediately needed among the respondents relate to financial management, health and wellness and vocational enhancement.
• Respondents and their households most need credit repair and financial assistance, assistance with becoming more physically fit, an emergency food bank, disability services, transportation and computer training.
SPECIAL NEEDS

• Nearly 40% of households have a member who is physically disabled. Subsequently, the same percentage of respondents sited physical accessibility as a special housing need. 20% of households have a member who is mentally disabled.

• The greatest barrier to properly caring for disabled family members is the expense of healthcare, physical barriers, lack of adequate transportation and housing options.
SPECIAL NEEDS – Q24A & 24B

• Does anyone in your household have a physical disability (e.g., in a wheelchair, blind, or hearing impaired)?

• Finding: 38.8% of respondents reported that a household member lives with a physical disability. The services that would best assist these members in managing their daily activities are accessible housing (20%), followed by health assistance (10%).
SPECIAL NEEDS – Q24A & 24B (2)

Helpful Services for Disabled

- Other: 0.90%
- Social worker: 3.60%
- Homemaker: 4.50%
- Transportation: 7%
- Health assistance: 10%
- Don't know: 10.90%
- Financial assistance: 12.70%
- Accessible housing: 20%

0%  5%  10%  15%  20%  25%
• Does anyone in your household have a mental disability?

• Finding: 21.2% of respondents reported that a household member lives with a mental disability.
CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVICES

• 11-17% of respondents and households require childcare for young and older children. 13% of school-aged children are not enrolled in school, and it is unclear as to why this is the case.
• The majority of respondents believe that their children are safe at school, or safe traveling to and from school. They also indicated that they would encourage their children to participate in afterschool youth, arts, tutoring, and mentoring programs if they were available.
• Are all school-aged children (K-12) in the household enrolled in school?

• Finding: 75.9% of respondents reported that the school-aged children in their households were enrolled in school. 13.3% of school-aged children in their households are not enrolled in school and 2.4% did not know.
HEALTH

• Medicare and Medicaid are the most common sources of health insurance for respondents and their households, followed by private insurance companies.
• 4-11% of respondents, their children and other household adults are uninsured. A lack of time, health problems and fatigue are cited as the greatest barriers to families being more physically active.
• High costs/expense was overwhelmingly cited as the primary barrier to eating fresh fruits and vegetables.
• Approximately 17% of respondents and household members go to the emergency room for primary healthcare.
• High costs are the greatest barrier to healthcare access, followed by lack of transportation and long wait times.
• Respondents would like increased access to dental, eye care and primary healthcare services.
CRIME & SAFETY

• The perception of crime as a frequent or occasional occurrence is fairly high. The most commonly witnessed crime is domestic violence, followed by teenage violence and gang-related crime.
• Respondents feel most safe inside their residences, and least safe in the KPT area and surrounding neighborhood at night.
• Respondents would like to see better security systems in place, including an increased police presence, and more street lighting.
In the event of redevelopment, respondents would most like larger units and more recreation space. Beyond these two needs, residents would like to see additional parking, increased security measures and private backyards.

Additionally, slightly over 40% of responding households identified a need for physically accessible accommodation.
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

• Respondents get information about their community primarily from the KPT newsletter and by word-of-mouth.
• Nearly half of respondents are interested in participating in a community association or a resident advisory group.
QUESTIONS?