Forsyth County Poverty Study

April 4, 2017
Forsyth Futures has studied the challenges facing our community for nearly two decades through data-based analyses conducted by our team of experts. For example, the Forsyth Futures team seeks to understand, through rigorous research studies, topics such as the local school system, the quality and equity of health care delivered in Forsyth County and the surrounding region, and economic indicators like quality affordable housing and transportation. Often, when communities try to tackle these issues, they do not have the information to identify what is really causing the problem, so their efforts may be misguided or miss the mark, wasting valuable time and resources. Our goal is to provide unbiased information that can be used by community leaders and decision makers to make informed, positive changes in our community that hit at the underlying root causes of the problem.
# Methodology: Selection of Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Literature</th>
<th>Local Analyses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interviews with Organizations</td>
<td>Interviews with Community Members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology: Comparison Communities

- Greensboro / Guilford County, NC
- Kansas City / Jackson County, MO
- Roanoke (Municipality), VA
- Lafayette / Lafayette Parish, LA
- Little Rock / Pulaski County, AR
INTRODUCTION
Methodology: Qualitative Findings Not Measurable with Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access to / Awareness of / Coordination of Resources</th>
<th>Behavioral Health</th>
<th>Community Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal History</td>
<td>Financial Literacy / Budgeting</td>
<td>Food Access / Food Deserts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generational Poverty</td>
<td>Larger Economy and Policy</td>
<td>Motivation / Work Ethic / Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>Parenting / Upbringing</td>
<td>Racism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security / Stability / Crisis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

Methodology: Important Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family Size</th>
<th>Poverty Threshold for 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$12,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$15,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$18,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$24,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$28,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$32,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$36,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$40,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 or more</td>
<td>$49,021</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Percent of Residents in Poverty by Geography, 2010-2014

Percent of Total Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percent of Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forsyth County, NC</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guilford County, NC</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jackson County, MO</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pulaski County, AR</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roanoke (munc.), VA</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lafayette Parish, LA</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NC Forsyth County, NC Peer Communities

Legend:
- NC
- Forsyth County, NC
- Peer Communities
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Percent of Residents in Poverty by Geography, 2006-2015

Data on the following had a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution: Roanoke (munc.), 2009.
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Percent of Residents in Poverty by Age and Geography, 2010-2014

- Under 18 Years
- 18 to 64 Years
- 65 Years and Over

NC Forsyth County, NC
Peer Communities

Peer community not significantly different from Forsyth County
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Percent of Residents in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity and Geography, 2011-2015

Data on the following had a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution: Hispanic/Latino for Lafayette Parish; Hispanic/Latino for Roanoke (munc.).
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Percent of Residents Ages 18-64 in Poverty by Gender and Geography, 2011-2015

Percent of Total Population Aged 18-64 within Gender

- Males
- Females

Peer communities not significantly different from Forsyth County
POVERTY IN FORSYTH COUNTY

Poverty Rates by Census Tract in Forsyth County, 2011-2015

Shading indicates percent of tract population in poverty.
Income Sustainability
## INCOME SUSTAINABILITY

### Sources for Expense Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>Child care market rate surveys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>USDA Low Cost Food Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>HUD fair market rent estimates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>BLS Consumer Expenditure Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>10% of income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>BLS Consumer Expenditure Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>Federal and state tax codes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## INCOME SUSTAINABILITY

### Estimated Expenses for Example Households in Forsyth County, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>One Adult</th>
<th>Two Working Adults</th>
<th>Two Adults, One Working, with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
<th>Two Working Adults with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
<th>One Adult with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td>$22,419</td>
<td>$32,997</td>
<td>$41,649</td>
<td>$63,654</td>
<td>$59,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty Threshold</td>
<td>$11,670</td>
<td>$15,730</td>
<td>$23,850</td>
<td>$23,850</td>
<td>$19,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>192%</td>
<td>210%</td>
<td>175%</td>
<td>267%</td>
<td>302%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Required Hourly Wages</td>
<td>$10.80</td>
<td>$7.90</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$15.30</td>
<td>$28.70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Components of Estimated Expenses for Example Households in Forsyth County, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>One Adult</th>
<th>Two Working Adults</th>
<th>Two Adults, One Working, with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
<th>Two Working Adults with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
<th>One Adult with a 2 and 4 year old</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$13,649</td>
<td>$13,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$2,698</td>
<td>$5,041</td>
<td>$8,064</td>
<td>$8,064</td>
<td>$5,365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$6,792</td>
<td>$6,792</td>
<td>$8,316</td>
<td>$8,316</td>
<td>$8,316</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$4,290</td>
<td>$8,467</td>
<td>$11,299</td>
<td>$11,299</td>
<td>$9,593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Care</td>
<td>$2,300</td>
<td>$3,400</td>
<td>$4,200</td>
<td>$6,400</td>
<td>$6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Expenses</td>
<td>$2,146</td>
<td>$3,894</td>
<td>$5,290</td>
<td>$5,290</td>
<td>$4,682</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxes</td>
<td>$4,192</td>
<td>$5,403</td>
<td>$4,480</td>
<td>$10,636</td>
<td>$12,189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Expenses</td>
<td>$22,419</td>
<td>$32,997</td>
<td>$41,649</td>
<td>$63,654</td>
<td>$59,794</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INCOME SUSTAINABILITY

Income Insufficiency by Geography, 2014

Percent of Residents Living with Insufficient Income

- Forsyth County, NC
- Guilford County, NC
- Jackson County, MO
- Pulaski County, AR
- Lafayette Parish, LA

Forsyth County, NC Peer Communities Not significantly different from Forsyth County
Concentrated Poverty
CONCENTRATED POVERTY

Percent of Total Population Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty by Geography, 2006-2010 and 2011-2015

Percent of Total Population Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty

- Forsyth County, NC
- Guilford County, NC
- Jackson County, MO
- Pulaski County, AR
- Roanoke (munc.), VA
- Lafayette Parish, LA
CONCENTRATED POVERTY

Percent of Forsyth County Residents Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2011-2015

- African American: 24%
- Hispanic/Latino: 12%
- White, non-Hispanic: 0%
CONCENTRATED POVERTY
Share of Impoverished Residents Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty by Geography, 2006-2010 and 2011-2015
Income
Forsyth County Annual Income by Quintiles, 2015

- **20th Quintile**: 20% of households earn $20,070 or less
- **40th Quintile**: 40% of households earn $35,987 or less
- **60th Quintile**: 60% of households earn $59,995 or less
- **80th Quintile**: 80% of households earn $96,721 or less
- **95th Quintile**: 95% of households earn $190,674 or less

Poverty threshold for family of four
INCOME

Household Income by Percentile 2006-2015

2015 Dollars

$0 $30,000 $60,000 $90,000 $120,000 $150,000 $180,000 $210,000 $240,000

20th 40th 60th 80th 95th

Data on Hispanic/Latino residents had a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution.
INCOME

Hourly Wage Insufficiency by Geography, 2014

There was no data available for Roanoke (munc.); it was omitted from this visualization.
Unemployment Rates by Geography, 2006-2015

For Forsyth County, NC, the unemployment rate has remained relatively stable compared to the majority of peer communities. Forsyth County's unemployment rate is not significantly different from the majority of peer communities during this period.
EMPLOYMENT

Percent of Residents in Poverty by Work Status in Forsyth County, 2014

Data for Full-Time Employed people has a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution.
EMPLOYMENT

Percent of Workers Employed Part-Time and Full-Time by Geography, 2014

Chart showing the percent of full-time and part-time employment by geography for Forsyth County, NC and peer communities, with a note that the differences are not significantly different from Forsyth County.
EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment Rate by Age in Forsyth County, 2014

Data for people 65 and Over has a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution.

Unemployment Rate by Race/Ethnicity in Forsyth County, 2014

Data for Hispanic/Latino people has a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution.
Employment in the Top 5 Sectors, 2006 - 2014

- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Retail Trade
- Educational Services
- Manufacturing
- Accommodation and Food Services
EMPLOYMENT

Job Quality for Adult Workers Not in School, 2014

Sufficient Hourly Wages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sufficient Income</th>
<th>Expenses met without overtime</th>
<th>Expenses met through overtime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51%</td>
<td>5%*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8%*</td>
<td>Part-time workers needing more hours</td>
<td>Expenses not met; low hourly wage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* These estimates have a high level of variance and may not be suitable for all uses.
Education
Educational Attainment of Residents 25 and Over by Geography, 2014

Percent of Population 25 and Over

- Less than High School
- High School Diploma or Equivalent and Some College
- Post Secondary Degree

NC Forsyth County, NC Peer Communities Not significantly different from Forsyth County
EDUCATION

Educational Attainment of Residents 25 and Over by Race / Ethnicity in Forsyth County, 2014

Percent of Total Population Age 25 and Over by Race

Less than High School
High School Diploma or Equivalent and Some College
Post Secondary Degree
Poverty by Educational Attainment of Residents 25 and Over by Race / Ethnicity in Forsyth County, 2010-2014

Estimates for the following had a high level of variance and may not be suitable for all uses: African Americans and Hispanic/Latinos with Less than High School; African Americans and White, non-Hispanics with Post Secondary Degree. Estimates for Hispanic/Latinos with Post Secondary Degree had a very high level of variance and were omitted.
Immigration
Foriegn Born Residents by Geography, 2015

- Forsyth County, NC: 12%
- Guilford County, NC: 10%
- Jackson County, MO: 4%
- Pulaski County, AR: 8%
- Roanoke (munc.), VA: 2%
- Lafayette Parish, LA: 0%

Percent of Residents who are Foreign Born
IMMIGRATION

Poverty Rates by Nativity and Race/Ethnicity in Forsyth County, 2010-2014
The foreign born Hispanic / Latino community in Roanoke is small enough that the census does not release statistics for them.
FAMILY TYPE

Percent of Households in Poverty by Family Type with Related Children Under 18 in Forsyth County, 2010-2014

Married Couple Families

Single Males

Single Females
Percent of Households by Race/Ethnicity and Family Type with Related Children Under 18 in Forsyth County, 2010-2014

Data for African American single males and Hispanic/Latino single males has a high level of variance and should be interpreted with caution.