

**MIAMI DADE COLLEGE  
MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS  
BENJAMÍN LEÓN SCHOOL OF NURSING RN-BSN PROGRAM**

**NUR 4636: Community Health Nursing  
Community Needs Assessment Guide**

**Assignment:**

You will conduct a community needs assessment by choosing a specified population or community. Grades will be based on the guidelines listed. Papers submitted must be typed using APA format. A PowerPoint presentation of community needs assessment needs to be submitted through the drop box.

Community\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

I) Overview

A) Description of the Community

- i) History
- ii) Type of community: urban, suburban, rural

II) Physical Environmental Considerations: The Community As a Place

A) Description: general identifying data

- i) Location
- ii) Topographical features
- iii) Climate

B) Boundaries, area in square miles

C) Environment

- i) Sanitation: water supply, sewage, garbage, trash
- ii) Pollutants, toxic substances, animal reservoirs or vectors, flora and fauna
- iii) Air quality: color, odor, particulates
- iv) Food supply: sources, preparation
- v) Potential disaster in the population
- vi) Extent of disaster preparation in the population

- D) Housing
  - i) Types of housing (public and private)
  - ii) Condition of housing
  - iii) Percent owned, rented
  - iv) Housing for special populations
    - (a) Near homeless
    - (b) Homeless
    - (c) Frail elders

E) Leading industries and occupations

III) The People of the Community

- A) Population profile
  - i) Total population for \_\_\_\_\_(year of last census)
  - ii) Population density
  - iii) Population changes in past 10 years
  - iv) Population per square miles
  - v) Mobility
  - vi) Types of Families
- B) Biological Considerations/Vital and demographic population characteristics
  - i) Age composition
  - ii) Sex distribution
  - iii) Race distribution
  - iv) Ethnic group composition and distribution
  - v) Mortality Characteristics
    - (a) Annual Birth and crude death rates
    - (b) Age-specific death rate
    - (c) Infant mortality rate
    - (d) Maternal mortality rate
  - vi) Cause-specific death rate (specific health area)
  - vii) Leading causes of morbidity
    - (a) Incidence rates (specific diseases)
    - (b) Prevalence rates (specific diseases)

- C) Psychological Considerations
  - i) Significant historical events
  - ii) Future economic prospects
  - iii) Formal and Informal Communication Network
  - iv) Rates of Suicide and Homicides for specific subgroups within the population
  - v) Adequacy of protective services
  - vi) Common sources of Stress (e.g. unemployment , lack of affordable housing)
  
- D) Sociocultural Considerations: The Community As a Social System
  - i) Socioeconomic status
    - (a) Income of family
    - (b) Major occupations
    - (c) Estimated level of unemployment
    - (d) Percent below poverty level
    - (e) People retired
  - ii) Educational level
    - (a) Religious distribution
    - (b) Marriage and divorce rates
    - (c) Language
  
- E) Government and Leadership
  - i) Type of government (mayor, city manager, board of commissioners)
  - ii) City offices (location, hours, services, access)
  
- F) Education
  - i) Public educational facilities
  - ii) Private educational facilities
  - iii) Libraries
  - iv) Services for special populations
    - (a) Pregnant teens
    - (b) Adults with special problems
    - (c) Children and adults who are developmentally disabled
    - (d) Children and adults who are blind and/or deaf
  
- G) Transportation
  
- H) Behavioral Considerations
  - i) Consumption patterns (general nutritional level of the population)
  - ii) Leisure pursuit
  - iii) Other health-related behaviors (e.g. frequency of seat belt use)

- I) Health System Considerations
  - i) Identify existing services
  - ii) Assessing current level of performance
  - iii) Availability and accessibility of specific types of health care services
  - iv) Health needs lacking services
  - v) Extent to which health care services are overused and underused
  - vi) Financing of health care