Imagine.  
the possibilities – now and in the future

Inform.  
yourself and others about what needs to be done

Invest.  
your energy, talent and resources and get others to invest

Inspire.  
others to build a stronger community

What inspires you?

How can education support a strong community?
What can we do? What can you do?

The 2012 Community Wellbeing Survey was managed by DataHaven, and sponsored by a consortium of funders including The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Carolyn Foundation, United Way of Greater New Haven, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Yale-New Haven Hospital, NewAlliance Foundation, and generous individual donors. The 20-minute telephone survey, conducted by the Siena Research Institute at Siena College, involved landline and cell phone interviews with 1,307 randomly-selected households between September 4 and October 16, 2012. Researchers interviewed residents age 18 and over from within a group of 13 municipalities including the City of New Haven, its inner-ring (East Haven, Hamden, and West Haven), and outer-ring (Orange, Milford, North Haven, Guilford, Branford, North Branford, Madison, Woodbridge, Bethany). The data are representative of neighborhoods and diverse populations throughout Greater New Haven. At a 95% confidence level, the survey carries an overall margin of error of ± 2.7%.

Except as noted, the information presented in the charts contained in this document are based on data from the 2012 Community Wellbeing Survey.

*2011 U.S. Census, American Community Survey
**2005-2010 U.S. Census, American Community Survey
†State of Connecticut Department of Education
˚Risk level is based on the relative magnitude of the disparity by indicator, as it relates to impact on community wellbeing. The risk level helps illustrate the areas in which Greater New Haven has the greatest opportunity to improve its overall quality.
Data for Community Action
A glance at preliminary results from the 2012 Community Wellbeing Survey

According to data collected by DataHaven and its soon-to-be-released 2012 Community Wellbeing Survey, there is much positive news to report about the Greater New Haven region. Among the high points, four out of five respondents express personal satisfaction with the city or area in which they live and report satisfaction with their job. Area residents are also a charitable people, with more than 70% giving time or donations to a local institution within the last 12 months.

Generally, residents of Greater New Haven enjoy a very high quality of life, with our Congressional District 3 ranking among the top 20% nationwide in the Measure of America’s Human Development Index of health, income and human capital. However, many in our region continue to face barriers to economic security, educational achievement, health, housing, transportation, safety and other critical areas.

The data below (and future analyses of survey findings) is a first attempt by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven to identify a few of the indicators that have the greatest ability to communicate the status of our region and help identify the barriers faced by its diverse communities. We believe it can help us in our capacity as the region’s permanent charitable endowment and largest grantmaker—as well as fellow funders and philanthropists, nonprofits and public agencies, and all citizens—to better understand our local community so we can work together to make it stronger, now and forever.

For more information about the survey or information about our community, please visit The Community Foundation’s website at www.cfnh.org or DataHaven at www.ctdatahaven.org.

Why the Numbers Matter
Having access to good data is key to driving progress.

Greater New Haven is experiencing rapid demographic change. There are more children of color under the age of 5 than white children. As the population ages, residents of color will become the majority. Since 2000, the Hispanic/Latino population has more than doubled in the inner-ring towns (to 18,494), and the Asian-American population has nearly doubled in the outer-ring towns (to 9,912). Results from the Community Wellbeing Survey show that, on average, all racial and ethnic groups within the City of New Haven and the Region are satisfied with where they live.

Connecticut’s “Educational Achievement Gap,” is the largest in the nation. Elementary school test scores are a strong predictor of graduation rates, and students who do not graduate from high school are significantly more likely to be unemployed, have low wage jobs or become incarcerated.

Greater New Haven operates as an integrated economic region, but transportation is insufficient. The typical job in the region is reachable within 90-minutes via public transit by just 25% of the working population.

High housing costs, especially rent, is a growing burden on many households. Median rents in Connecticut rose by 37% between 2001 and 2011, even though the median household income of renters rose by just 4% during the same time period. Approximately 20,000 renters in Greater New Haven pay more than 30% of their income toward housing costs each year.

Rates of chronic disease and violent crime in Greater New Haven are lower than the national average. However, in certain city neighborhoods these rates are greatly elevated. The result for those neighborhoods is high health care costs, lower individual wellbeing and reduced life expectancy.

Regional Wellbeing

Our Region at a Glance

By Geography

- SATISFIED WITH WHERE YOU LIVE
  - 12%
  - 18%
  - 32%
  - 41%
  - 81%
  - 67%
  - 31%
  - 91%

By Annual Household Income

- Overall
  - $100,000 or more
  - $50,000 or less
  - Risk

- Overall Wellbeing
  - Satisfied with Greater New Haven (GNH) region
  - 81% 81% 75%
  - Believe GNH region is getting better or staying same
  - 79% 81% 76%
  - Believe that their personal economic circumstances will be better in ten years
  - 67% 73% 63%

- Education and Youth
  - Feel that youth in the area have adequate role models
  - 55% 73% 58%
  - Feel that opportunities for children to succeed today will improve or stay the same
  - 48% 47% 55%
  - Feel that GNH public schools are “Excellent” or “Good”
  - 48% 58% 59%
  - Children participate in after school activities
  - 70% 83% 66%
  - Have computer with high speed internet at home
  - 82% 98% 61%

- Civic Vitality
  - Feel safe to walk in neighborhood at night
  - 62% 76% 45%
  - Often utilize arts and culture resources in GNH
  - 44% 47% 46%
  - Feel they have at least some influence over local govt
  - 63% 73% 53%
  - Volunteerized in Past Year
  - 58% 73% 39%

- Health and Wellness
  - Self-reported health status is “Good” or better
  - 85% 94% 67%
  - Do not have health insurance
  - 13% 2% 21%
  - Currently smoke
  - 17% 6% 35%

Our Region at a Glance

By Race and Ethnicity

- Median Family Income
  - City of New Haven: $87,463
  - New Haven County: $48,881
  - GNH Region: $81,490

- Underemployment
  - Underemployed
  - 11% 81% 21%
  - Unemployed for more than one year
  - 2% 7% 7%

- Underemployment and Long-Term Unemployment
  - New Haven Public Schools 34%
  - Hamden Public Schools 30%
  - East Haven Public Schools 25%
  - West Haven Public Schools 20%

- CMT 3rd Grade Reading: Percent at goal or above
  - West Haven Public Schools 51%
  - Hamden Haven Public Schools 69%
  - East Haven Public Schools 44%
  - New Haven Public Schools 66%

- Food Insecurity
  - 31% 24% 10%

- Housing Insecurity
  - 12% 4% 3%

- Children Living in Poverty
  - 32% 11% 3%

- Adults without a High School Degree
  - 26% 11% 5%

- Adults with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher
  - 32% 29% 49%

- Population Under Age 18
  - 23% 20% 22%

- Households with No Vehicle Available
  - 27% 8% 4%

- Adult without a High School Degree
  - 26% 11% 5%

- Adults with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher
  - 32% 29% 49%

- Population Under Age 18
  - 23% 20% 22%

- Households with No Vehicle Available
  - 27% 8% 4%

- Population Composition by Race and Ethnicity
  - New Haven:
    - 68% White Non-Hispanic
    - 16% Black Non-Hispanic
    - 9% Hispanic/Latino
    - 6% Asian or Other
    - 12% Other

Our Region at a Glance

By Geography

- Adults with Bachelor’s Degree or Higher:
  - New Haven: 32%
  - Hamden: 30%
  - East Haven: 29%

- Adults without a High School Degree:
  - New Haven: 11%
  - Hamden: 18%
  - East Haven: 23%

- Population Under Age 18:
  - New Haven: 23%
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  - New Haven: 27%
  - Hamden: 8%
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- Children Living in Poverty:
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  - Hamden: 11%
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  - New Haven: 31%
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