

challenges confronting the community, meaning the scope and severity a problem the community may be experiencing. It also means the identification of pockets of sub-populations that may be more vulnerable to the challenges confronting the community.

Once this information is garnered, the next step is to determine the degree to which coverage of challenges is taking place by the current configuration of service providing entities. There is a need to discover whether the system of operations within a location are compatible to the actual needs of that jurisdiction. A determination is to be made as to the implications about the configurative pattern. Are there any disparities in access to needed elements? Do the resources garnered by entities that make up the configuration actually translate into improved life for the community at-large and do so equitably, not omitting sub-populations that experience the severe need.

Such information may prove to be a very useful instrument for individuals who wish to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of resource allocation for a specific jurisdiction. In addition, this approach will uncover discrepancies in planned vs. observed activity and/or execution of programs and policies is currently in place in the location.

Recommendations can then be made as to what would constitute appropriate configuration of activity and allocation of resources for the community.