

# Hillsboro Argus

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## Poverty talk sessions identify critical issues

Community Action Organization of Washington County has announced the results of its four community meetings which were held in June as part of the national Dialogue on Poverty.

Conducted by community action programs across the country, the dialogues enabled participants to share their experiences with poverty and their suggestions for dealing with poverty's causes and conditions.

During the four local dialogues, one of which was held in Spanish, more than 110 participants agreed the most compelling issues are more safe, affordable housing; meeting the basic needs of more people; more full-time jobs with good pay and benefits; increased

family capacity to solve problems effectively and nonviolently; more individuals having basic skills in reading, math and communications; and increased quality, affordable child care and other support for working adults.

Strategies for addressing these issues were discussed as well and will be incorporated into the planning efforts of Community Action Organization and combined with the results of other dialogues in order to influence decision makers at state and national levels.