

Move the Money Listening Project Questions

1. How does your work give you insight into the wellbeing of area residents?
2. What do you see as some key attributes of a healthy community or society?
3. How has your work / the work of your organization / agency improved the lives of area residents?
4. What are the greatest unmet needs in our community?
5. How have the people you work with been directly or indirectly impacted by federal budget cutting? State and local budget cutting?
6. How serious a negative impact is federal budget cutting on the lives of community residents?
On a scale of 1-7 (1= not serious / 7= extremely serious)
7. Please share a story of a typical family or individual you have seen impacted by cuts? What's their situation? How has or will their life change?
8. Many economists say that austerity and budget cutting is killing jobs and hurting the economy. Why do you think that Congress and the media do not challenge the austerity narrative?
9. Current federal budget priorities expend almost 60% of discretionary spending on Pentagon spending, over \$650 billion for FY 2014. Do you think these priorities meet our community's needs?
10. In the 2011 federal tax revenue was 15.3% of U.S. gross domestic product (GDP), near a historical low for the past 60 years. Since it has been documented that tax cuts have contributed much more to recent increases to the deficit than increases in social programs, do think there should be more focus on closing tax loopholes and establishing tax policies which increase taxes on capital gains and the richest citizens? What policy would reflect this?
11. How would you change federal budget priorities to improve the lives of area residents?
12. What will it take for these changes to become policy?