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## Ways to Educate Yourself About Community Needs

- Call your Regional Association of Grantmakers. (To find the office closest to you, go to the Website, [www.cof.org](http://www.cof.org). Click “Links and Networking.”)
- Call your local community foundation and ask to talk with a program officer.
- Consult foundation trustees funding in your areas of interest.
- Interview staff and clients in organizations that interest you to learn what services are needed.
- Assemble a focus group of local community workers and academics who have experience in and an understanding of the topics you are exploring.
- Search the Internet or go to a public or university library.
- Attend relevant workshops and conferences.
- Research the availability of services by acting as if you were a client in need of those services.