



East Lake Street Walking Engagement

April 5, 2024



On March 29, 2024 we walked up and down East Lake Street from Clinton Avenue to Hiawatha Avenue. The team doing engagement included City of Minneapolis staff who spoke English, Spanish, and Somali. We talked with about 38 people including:

- Adults
- Youth
- New immigrants from Ecuador
- Unhoused people
- Spanish speaking people
- Somali speaking people
- English speaking people
- Minneapolis residents
- Visitors to Minneapolis

We asked the people who we met what services they thought were most important in the Lake Steet and South Minneapolis Community Safety Centers. Most people said the same services were important at both sites.

Top 5 social services:

- Drug or alcohol addiction
 - Talking with youth about drugs
 - Case managers and incentives to help people reach their goals
- Affordable housing
- Mental health
 - Therapy
- Employment support
 - Job training
 - Jobs
- Homeless Resources
 - Showers
 - bathrooms
 - Help getting IDs
 - Lockers
 - Mailboxes
 - Warm space
 - Hand sanitizer

Top ranked other uses or resources:

- Medical services
- Space for community meals
- Space for donations
 - clothing
- Giving out opioid overdose medication
- Childcare for people using services in the community service center

Of note:

After suggesting having a basketball court at the South Minneapolis Community Safety Center, a group of young men were asked if having police at the site would be a problem. One of them said “[Youth] don’t care if police are there. They just want to hoop!”