

## HOUSING

1. Are you worried or concerned that in the next two months you may not have stable housing that you own, rent, or stay in as a part of a household?<sup>1</sup>
  - Yes
  - No
2. Think about the place you live. Do you have problems with any of the following? (check all that apply)<sup>2</sup>
  - Bug infestation
  - Mold
  - Lead paint or pipes
  - Inadequate heat
  - Oven or stove not working
  - No or not working smoke detectors
  - Water leaks
  - None of the above

## FOOD

3. Within the past 12 months, you worried that your food would run out before you got money to buy more.<sup>3</sup>
  - Often true
  - Sometimes true
  - Never true
4. Within the past 12 months, the food you bought just didn't last and you didn't have money to get more.<sup>3</sup>
  - Often true
  - Sometimes true
  - Never true

## TRANSPORTATION

5. Do you put off or neglect going to the doctor because of distance or transportation?<sup>1</sup>
  - Yes
  - No

## UTILITIES

6. In the past 12 months has the electric, gas, oil, or water company threatened to shut off services in your home?<sup>4</sup>
  - Yes
  - No
  - Already shut off

## CHILD CARE

7. Do problems getting child care make it difficult for you to work or study?<sup>5</sup>
  - Yes
  - No

## EMPLOYMENT

8. Do you have a job?<sup>6</sup>
  - Yes
  - No

## EDUCATION

9. Do you have a high school degree?<sup>6</sup>
  - Yes
  - No

## FINANCES

10. How often does this describe you? I don't have enough money to pay my bills:<sup>7</sup>
  - Never
  - Rarely
  - Sometimes
  - Often
  - Always

## PERSONAL SAFETY

11. How often does anyone, including family, physically hurt you?<sup>8</sup>
  - Never (1)
  - Rarely (2)
  - Sometimes (3)
  - Fairly often (4)
  - Frequently (5)
12. How often does anyone, including family, insult or talk down to you?<sup>8</sup>
  - Never (1)
  - Rarely (2)
  - Sometimes (3)
  - Fairly often (4)
  - Frequently (5)

13. How often does anyone, including family, threaten you with harm?<sup>8</sup>

- Never (1)
- Rarely (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Fairly often (4)
- Frequently (5)

14. How often does anyone, including family, scream or curse at you?<sup>8</sup>

- Never (1)
- Rarely (2)
- Sometimes (3)
- Fairly often (4)
- Frequently (5)

### ASSISTANCE

15. Would you like help with any of these needs?

- Yes
- No

### SCORING INSTRUCTIONS:

**For the housing, food, transportation, utilities, child care, employment, education, and finances questions: Underlined answers indicate a positive response for a social need for that category.**

**For the personal safety questions: A value greater than 10, when the numerical values are summed for answers to these questions, indicates a positive response for a social need for personal safety.**

**Sum of questions 11–14: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Greater than 10 equals positive screen for personal safety.**

### REFERENCES

1. [https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/Universal\\_Screener\\_to\\_Identify\\_Veterans\\_Experiencing\\_Housing\\_Instability\\_2014.pdf](https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/Universal_Screener_to_Identify_Veterans_Experiencing_Housing_Instability_2014.pdf)
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5. Children's HealthWatch. Final: 2013 Children's Healthwatch survey. <http://www.childrenshealthwatch.org/methods/our-survey/>. Accessed October 3, 2018.
6. Garg A, Butz AM, Dworkin PH, Lewis RA, Thompson RE, Serwint JR. Improving the management of family psychosocial problems at low-income children's well-child care visits: the WE CARE project. *Pediatrics*. 2007;120(3):547-558.
7. Aldana SG, Liljenquist W. Validity and reliability of a financial strain survey. *J Financ Couns Plan*. 1998;9(2):11-19.
8. Sherin KM, Sinacore JM, Li XQ, Zitter RE, Shakil A. HITS: a short domestic violence screening tool for use in a family practice setting. *Fam Med*. 1998;30(7):508-512.

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