Top 5 List from Conversations and Coffee

Health Care
- This focuses on those who experience insecurity with health care. Some of these groups include, but are not limited to: people in their 20s, those under age 65 and not eligible for Medicare, families, those with pre-existing conditions, veterans, those with disabilities, and women.
- This includes disparities such as economic, geographic, ethnic, and educational within our healthcare system.
- This also includes issues such as family leave, teen pregnancy, family planning, and abortion laws.

Poverty
- This focuses on those who are experiencing income inequality, job instability or unemployment, wage disparity, housing disparity, food insecurity, homelessness, gender wage gap, increase in working hours, etc.
- Some of the barriers to those experiencing the above circumstances are an inequality of opportunity, higher prices for gas and groceries in lower-income neighborhoods, a loss of and lack of technology, and stereotypes placed upon them.

Mental Health
- There are many categories of people who are experiencing mental health crises, but some that were expressed were: teens, adults, veterans, those who are abusing substances, etc.
- Some of the aspects to explore are: supporting parents of young children with emphasis on the early childhood window of development, the impact of social media on teens and young adults, learning how to assist others on an individual basis, teen suicide, veteran suicide, ways for adults to learn how to support and understand young adults and teens, gun control for those experiencing mental health issues, and the general fear of being accepted leading to a crisis of mental health.

Public Education
- This focuses on aspects of our public education system in terms of: funding, access to educational opportunities, accessibility for children with special needs, bullying, a lack of civic education, education about those with special needs, need for mentoring, equity of education across varying communities, and a correlation between education and hunger.

Elderly/Senior Issues
- As a systemic issue, this focuses on a lack of resources, transportation, programming, access to contact information for organizations or others that can be of service to seniors.
- For those who fit the category of elderly or seniors, they may experience isolation and loneliness (especially for men), difficulty making friends, and difficulty being with people whose health is declining. For those who are not seniors, it may be difficult to be with seniors whose health is declining.