Due to flood damage and organizational growth, American Indian Health and Family Services has decided to move locations. The present location can no longer meet the current needs of the organization and will not be able to meet its future needs. Increased space will allow the agency to grow in both volume and scope while allowing the agency to pursue more funding opportunities. To ensure decisions surrounding the move are informed by the community and staff of AIHFS, a needs assessment was conducted. This assessment included surveying AIHFS staff, community members, and the organization’s board of directors. Additionally, focus groups were held with community members and AIHFS staff. Overall, about two hundred individuals were surveyed and forty-five individuals participated in a total of six focus groups. As a result, AIHFS has gained both qualitative and quantitative data to explore during this decision-making process.

This data clearly demonstrates that AIHFS has outgrown its current location. Collected data demonstrates the need for increased space indoors including office, meeting, event, and storage space along with the addition of a commercial kitchen, additional restroom facilities, more therapy rooms, and a staff break room. Additionally, many were concerned over the lack of accessibility in the current space and the safety of the current location. Both can be addressed in a new location. Respondents also indicated a need for increased greenspace including ceremonial space, expanded community garden, and space for large events. It appears that meeting these needs will require about 20,000 square feet of indoor space and one acre of land at a minimum. In order to maintain the current client base and continue to serve Native Americans and other underserved populations and maintain current grant funding, it is imperative that the organization remain in southwest Detroit or a nearby area within the city limits.