

Page 5, Q1. Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. Please use this space to list any other concerns, comments or questions you may have. (optional)

1	I think that there are adequate medical services in Berkshire County and the town need not get involved in providing medical services at taxpayer expense.	Feb 20, 2013 12:48 PM
2	Flu clinic has been very helpful.	Feb 20, 2013 12:25 PM
3	See my answer to question 13. If you need help, I am a pediatrician. Also, while we are full time residents and we sometimes leave for warm weather in the winter.	Feb 20, 2013 9:10 AM
4	I feel that any elderly person should never have to be out of telephone or electric service for more than a few hours. Without these services no one can be contacted for help. How the Town could handle this - I do not know but these 2 services are most important to an elderly person.	Feb 19, 2013 5:49 AM
5	see letter sent in with survey too long to put online.	Feb 19, 2013 5:45 AM
6	Healthcare in the Berkshires has been more than adequate and my wife and I, at the present and foreseeable future, see no need in Monterey for additional health services. Thanks for the opportunity to participate in this survey.	Feb 18, 2013 7:44 AM
7	A lot of people could benefit from a nurse being in town on a regular basis so we don't have to drive all the way to town for blood pressure checks and it would be great to have continuity of care. The rate of turnover of nurses in Great Barrington at the doctors seems high..	Feb 14, 2013 8:21 PM
8	I am a nurse.A clinical nurse specialist for medical issues for adults. I would love to be a community health nurse in Monterey where I live & work for the last 5 1/2 yrs. I know I would be what this town needs! One of my jobs is 3 days in Roadside Cafe the other is farm team where I pasturize milk along with collecting & washing eggs & help milk cows. This town would benefit from my care of older adults! Lauren Tofias, M.S. RN 528-4498	Feb 14, 2013 10:39 AM
9	Towns should not get in the business of providing health services unless it is through an agency, if it isn't broke, don't try to fix it. Education of already existing services (most of which are free) should be provided to the citizens.	Feb 12, 2013 5:49 AM
10	Any health care needs in town should be directed to local health agencies such as social services, visiting nurse services and county health services. Seniors would have benefits through medicare and low income should qualify for medicaid or similar programs. I do not think the town should take on any responsibility or cost related to health care services.	Feb 11, 2013 4:14 PM
11	I am a summer resident. I only come for vacations in the summer for two or three weeks a season. Paramedics service would be good. Also a bus service to take older residents to Great Barrington or Lee for doctor's visits etc would be useful.	Feb 9, 2013 12:29 PM
12	emergency care	Feb 8, 2013 2:00 PM
13	As part-time residents, we rarely use medical services in the Berkshires. When we do, we have used the emergency room at the hospital in Great Barrington.	Feb 8, 2013 11:26 AM
14	We own a vacation home in Monterey and have not yet had to use any medical	Feb 8, 2013 6:05 AM

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	facilities.	
15	Town Nurse is needed.	Feb 7, 2013 5:49 PM
16	Concerned about the cost of the health insurance that we currently purchase from employer, as it is a large percentage of our annual income. Would love to have access to affordable health insurance and medications	Feb 1, 2013 9:38 AM
17	This looks like a loaded questionnaire to put in place the Nurse program. I believe the community does need to help citizens and we should pay for it, but this is really stretching it. At least the nepotism part is out of it, now. Thanks for asking.	Jan 18, 2013 7:02 PM
18	I would have used a visiting nurse last week but did not know who to contact.	Jan 16, 2013 3:11 PM
19	Although we don't have a particular need for in-house assistance, there are many in the community who do need it.	Jan 16, 2013 5:10 AM
20	We need cell phone service for all locations in Monterey to deal with emergency medical issues.	Jan 15, 2013 10:30 PM
21	the times for checking blood pressure is too early and there are people that works in the community	Jan 15, 2013 5:27 PM
22	#9 presumes taking medications, but I am not taking any, so I can't really answer this question.	Jan 15, 2013 3:38 PM
23	The biggest problem is buying health insurance for someone my age who is self employed. I'm 62 and the Health Connector is a joke.	Jan 15, 2013 10:28 AM
24	If I ever had an urgent need, I'd like to know if I could choose the hospital an ambulance would take me to, e.g. in Gt Barrington or Pittsfield	Jan 15, 2013 9:45 AM
25	If this is re the issue of a part-time nurse/clinical nurse specialist for the town, I think it's a great idea.	Jan 15, 2013 8:43 AM
26	Monterey is a great community. Thanks for asking about health issues - great idea!	Jan 15, 2013 8:31 AM
27	If I was post operation or in bad weather in the winter I would really appreciate having the services of a nurse checking on me	Jan 13, 2013 7:15 PM
28	Cell phone ability is also a health safety issue. I feel a high priority should be placed on our ability to call for help if needed. Get the towers working!	Jan 11, 2013 1:16 PM
29	Programming about diet and lifestyle options that can prevent or improve health conditions is woefully underutilized in the U.S. Also, telemedicine options that can reduce health care costs and also defer patients living in assisted care facilities are critical to increasing the quality of health care, quality of life and reducing the costs of care. It would be great if our Board of Health learned more about what's required to implement these programs and strongly supported the buildout of broadband infrastructure to enable these applications.	Jan 11, 2013 1:01 PM

submitted late 30. Sounds like a "create a job" project

A couple of years ago following vascular surgery my Mother had an issue with excess lymph fluid draining from the wound. This required the attachment of a vacuum pump device to draw off the fluids into a container which for more than three weeks needed to be emptied morning and night. My mother did not have the strength to change the canister herself. Luckily she was able to find a local nurse to come twice a day to take care of this small, not time consuming but absolutely necessary, procedure and to look at the wound to be sure it was not becoming infected.

What would I do in a similar situation? What do our neighbors who have diabetic issues do? Or, a new mother with a chronically ill baby? There are so many times when the help of a professional nurse just might make the difference between someone being able to stay safely in their own home or deteriorating and having to go to a nursing facility.

Monterey is a forward thinking community. We are not afraid to spend money for the well being of our community. We spend freely to have our highways maintained and free of snow. We spend freely to keep speeders off our roads and have other police protection. These large expenditures benefit not only our citizens but all who drive through Monterey. Now, especially with an ever aging population, I think it would stand to reason that we also spend a bit to look after the health and welfare of our citizens. Monies spent for a Town Nurse would be spent strictly to help the citizens of Monterey.

After all, at any time the person in need might be you.