

BRIDGING THE GAP: HIV PREVENTION AND SEXUAL HEALTH IN LATINE/HISPANIC COMMUNITIES

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A B O U T

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Despite working for different agencies, we regularly collaborate to connect individuals in our community with essential services. Tulare County is a rural area often facing challenges and barriers due to limited resources and services.

Agenda



- 01 Understanding our community: Data snapshot of HIV prevalence in Central Valley**
- 02 Stigma and Access to Services**
- 03 Cultural and Familial Dynamics**
- 04 Strategies to improve engagement**
- 05 Community-specific outreach**
- 06 Political Climate**

Data Snapshot

CDC data shows that:

- **"Of the 1.2 million people living with HIV in the United States as of 2019, about 294,200 were Latin[e]."**
- **"That is a significant overrepresentation: About one-quarter of people living with HIV in the United States are Latin[e], who make up less than one-fifth of the total population."**

California HIV Surveillance Report – 2022

By Identity

- 2,767 of 4882 newly diagnosis (56.7%) were Latine

By Geography

(San Joaquin Valley): Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare

- 629 diagnosis (12.9%)

Stigma & Access Services

**What does
stigma look
like in the
Central
Valley?**

**Where does
stigma stem
from in our
community ?**

**Consequences
of Stigma**

Cultural and Familial Dynamics



Challenges

- a. Silence around sexuality
- b. Gender norms
 - i. Machismo and Marianismo
- c. Religious influence
- d. Language barriers
- e. Lack of comprehensive sex education
- f. Medical distrust

Cultural and Familial Dynamics



Solutions

- a. Normalize conversations about sexual health
- b. Youth sexual health rights
- c. Confidential
- d. Use bilingual materials
- e. Community-Based Outreach
 - i. Promotoras or Promotores de Salud (Community Health Workers)
 - ii. Work in underserved areas that are hard to reach for health care professionals

Strategies to Improve Engagement

What we do!

- **Community-specific outreach**
- **Language and health literacy adaptation**
- **Inclusive services for LGBTQ+ Latine population**
- **Create safe spaces for youth and undocumented individuals**
- **Educate service providers (Case Manager, MA's, Front Desk)**
- **Use of trusted messengers**



Outreach Efforts

Cuadrilla

- Provide free health screenings:
 - height, weight, blood pressure, iron, blood sugar, education and free lunch
 - information about health insurance



Outreach Efforts

Tacos for Testing





Outreach Efforts

Dia De Los Muertos: Resource Fair

New Challenges



Immigration:

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) entering healthcare facilities.



Outreach:

Decline in participants/community members attending.
Possibly will continue to see this in the next upcoming months/years.

Resources



**California Rapid
Response Networks**



**Immigration
Legal Resources**



ACLU Guide



**Immigration
Red Card**



**Guide if ICE enters
healthcare facility**

Any questions?

Thank you!

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