Increasing Access to COVID-19 and Routine Vaccines for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness in Philadelphia

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Overview

• Background & vaccine rollout
• Addressing gaps
• Mobile Strike Team model
• Outcomes
Philadelphia Overview

- Population: 1,576,251
- Poverty Rate: 23.1%
- Persons without Health Insurance: 8.7%
- ~4,300 residents who're experiencing homelessness
  - ~700 are unhoused
Vaccine Rollout in Philadelphia

- Philadelphia independently responsible for COVID-19 vaccine distribution
- Larger community clinic models were not accessible for people experiencing homelessness
- No dedicated provider for homeless population
- Misinformation and distrust in healthcare system
Addressing Gaps in Service

- Surveying homeless service providers and community organizations
- Information sessions
- Provider matching
- Development of Mobile Strike Team
Mobile Strike Team Model

• Consist of approximately 5-7 team members.
• Low/no barrier clinic model
  • No ID, insurance, appointments
• Clinics at shelters, with trusted reduction community groups, Kensington
• Inclusion of harm reduction materials and routine vaccines.
• Provide information for services.
PDPH Mobile Team Outcomes

• Total Vaccines Administered: 4,266
• COVID-19 Vaccines Administered: 2,568
• Total Number of Clinics Held: 148
N=4,266 vaccines
Race & Ethnicity Demographics

N=766 respondents

- American Indian or Alaska Native: 353
- Asian: 304
- Refused: 59
- More than one race: 22
- Other: 20
- Black or African American: 6

Total: 766 respondents
Health Insurance & Housing Status

Health Insurance:
- Government-Issued: 73%
- Private: 14%
- None: 12%

Housing Status:
- Unsheltered: 19%
- Unstably Housed: 15%
- In Shelter: 21%
Thank you!
References

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