Partnering with Public Health and Communities to Address COVID-19 and Health Disparities Among Latino Kansans



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BACKGROUND

Latinos experience systemic conditions that put them at higher risk of chronic disease and limit their access to healthcare. In 2020, COVID-19 emerged as the primary cause of death in this population¹. The partnerships developed to mitigate the pandemic can be leveraged to address other health disparities experienced by Latinos.

OBJECTIVE

To mitigate COVID-19 and the disparities it exposed in Latino communities through community-academic-public health partnerships.

METHODS

We partnered with local and state health departments, clinics and community organizations to host community-based clinics in under-resourced Latino neighborhoods, providing COVID-19 vaccines, testing, food distribution, and other health and social resources. JUNTOS Promotoras offered information, navigation, N-95 masks, and at-home tests at small businesses. We offered free soccer clinics for vaccinated children and co-developed and distributed health messages in Spanish through a statewide network.

References:

www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=64

Acknowledgments:

Faith Based Orgs: Sacred Heart church, St. John the Evangelist church, St. Patrick Parish, Good Shepard Church, Marianela Valdovinos and Martha Murguia. Partners: Vibrant Health Clinic, Heart to Heart International, U.G. Public Health Department of Wyandotte County, KDHE, Harvesters, KUMC Latino Medical Student Association, United Health Care, Aetna, Soccer Nation, Mercado Fresco and Intercambio express.

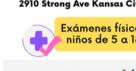


Meeting individuals where they are through community-academicpublic health collaborations showed potential to address **COVID-19 and related health** disparities in Latino communities.



Vaccine event flyer







OVID-19 Materials

COVID-19 YA ESTÁN DISPONIBLES PARA BEBÉS Y NIÑOS DE 6 MESES A 5 AÑOS!

Las vacunas contra COVID actualizada (bivalente) de Pfizer y Moderna para niños de 6 neses a 5 años han sido autorizadas por la Administración de Alimentos y Medicamentos (FDA, por sus siglas en inglés) y recomendadas para su uso por los CDC.



LAS VACUNAS ACTUALIZADAS CONTRA EL

o @juntos_ks

RESULTS

59 Community Clinics

1,483 **COVID-19 Vaccines**

675 **COVID-19** Tests



250 families **Recieved Food Boxes**



Promotoras reached 7,123 people at small businesses and communiy organizations



100 vaccinated children participated in soccer clinics

Disseminated evidence-based health resources through social media and video-podcast:

155,942 reached

6,795 reached

6,136 reached

All results are from January 2022 to July 2023