2016 Refugee Health Needs Assessment in Omaha, Nebraska

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The refugee population in Omaha, Nebraska has exponentially increased over the past decade and will continue to increase, bringing global health matters to our backyard. The purpose of this study is to assess refugee’s perceived needs, barriers, and preferences regarding health care to address them justly.

Results

- Majority of refugees have been in NE for over 5 years but still have difficulties living in the US.
- Top 3 ranking of difficulty reported were in regards to navigating being accustomed to the US.
- Health care organizations that accept patients with no insurance need to reach out to refugees and their community leaders to promote their services.
- Refugees’ main source of health information are from family and friends.
- The results of this health needs assessment will contribute to our ability to prioritize refugee health issues.
- The results will be compiled into a report to distribute to the local jurisdictions and partners.

Discussion & Conclusions

- Providers need to utilize community leaders to optimize health education and promotion.
- Health care organizations need to provide equitable language services.
- Have education acceleration programs catered to refugees.
- More English-Language programming is needed to address the most important, yet the most difficult need for refugees.

Recommendations

- Providers need to utilize community leaders to optimize health education and promotion.
- Health care organizations need to provide equitable language services.
- Have education acceleration programs catered to refugees.
- More English-Language programming is needed to address the most important, yet the most difficult need for refugees.

Acknowledgements

Funding for this Refugee Health Needs Assessment was provided by the Center for Reducing Health Disparities.

We would also like to thank all of the community partners and refugees in the community who helped collect survey data for the 2016 Refugee Health Needs Assessment in Omaha, Nebraska. This project would not have been possible without their time and commitment. These partners included:
- Good Tidings Church & Pam Franks
- Benson High School & Paw Tha Hser
- University of Nebraska Omaha Karen Student Association & Paw Htoo
- Yates Community Center & Veronica Hill and Alana Schriver
- Heartland Family Services: Ready in 5 program and Nicky Clark
- Sunset Hill Church & Paw Htoo