



# VCU

Virginia Commonwealth University  
VCU Scholars Compass

---

Graduate Research Posters

Graduate School

---

2020

## Addressing Minority Health Disparities in Richmond: Results from a Health Needs Assessment of a Southside Community

Nixon Arauz, MA  
*Virginia Commonwealth University*

Shantene Jackson, MA

Robert A. Blanco, MPH

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/gradposters>



Part of the [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#)

---

### Downloaded from

Arauz, MA, Nixon; Jackson, MA, Shantene; and Blanco, MPH, Robert A., "Addressing Minority Health Disparities in Richmond: Results from a Health Needs Assessment of a Southside Community" (2020). *Graduate Research Posters*. Poster 36.

<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/gradposters/36>

This Poster is brought to you for free and open access by the Graduate School at VCU Scholars Compass. It has been accepted for inclusion in Graduate Research Posters by an authorized administrator of VCU Scholars Compass. For more information, please contact [libcompass@vcu.edu](mailto:libcompass@vcu.edu).

# Addressing Minority Health Disparities in Richmond: Results from a Health Needs Assessment of a Southside Community

Nixon R. Arauz, MA<sup>1</sup>, Shantoney Jackson, MA<sup>2</sup>, Robert A. Blanco, MPH<sup>1</sup>

Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine<sup>1</sup>, Southwood Resource Center<sup>2</sup>



## Focus

- Collect community's demographic information.
- Collect community's holistic health data to identify.
- Identify the local resources community members utilize and the gaps in resources.
- Assess if the local community would be interested in developing a community association.

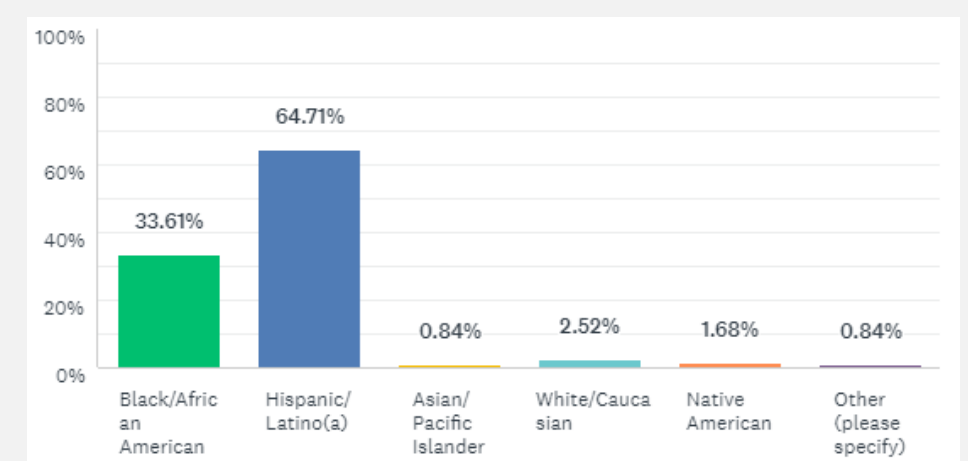
## Background

Evidence shows the effectiveness of integrating community health workers (CHWs) into care models serving high-risk patients to reduce emergency department (ED) use, increase primary care use, and address adverse social determinants of health (SDH). The Southwood Resource Center, part of a network of clinics established by Richmond City Health Department, utilizes CHWs to address disparities affecting underserved populations through primary care referrals and additional resource linkages. Local student-volunteers in partnership with CHWs conducted a community needs assessment to identify patient resource gaps, aid in design and implementation of SDH interventions, and examine the relationship between chronic disease management and ED use reductions.

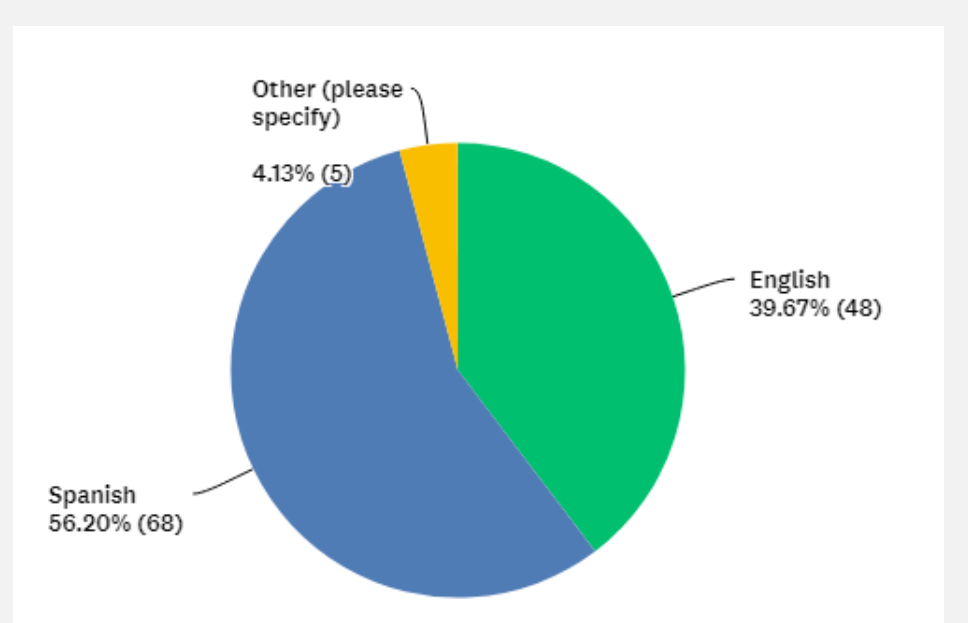
## Results

Significant social determinants identified by the needs assessment included housing stability, and transportation and food access. Respondents indicated need for support managing chronic conditions including heart disease, diabetes, mental health and asthma. 1 in 3 respondents (31%) reported using the ED for primary care, and nearly 2 in 3 (66%) reported not having a family doctor. Barriers to health care included cost (35.6%), insurance status (50.4%) and transportation access (29.6%).

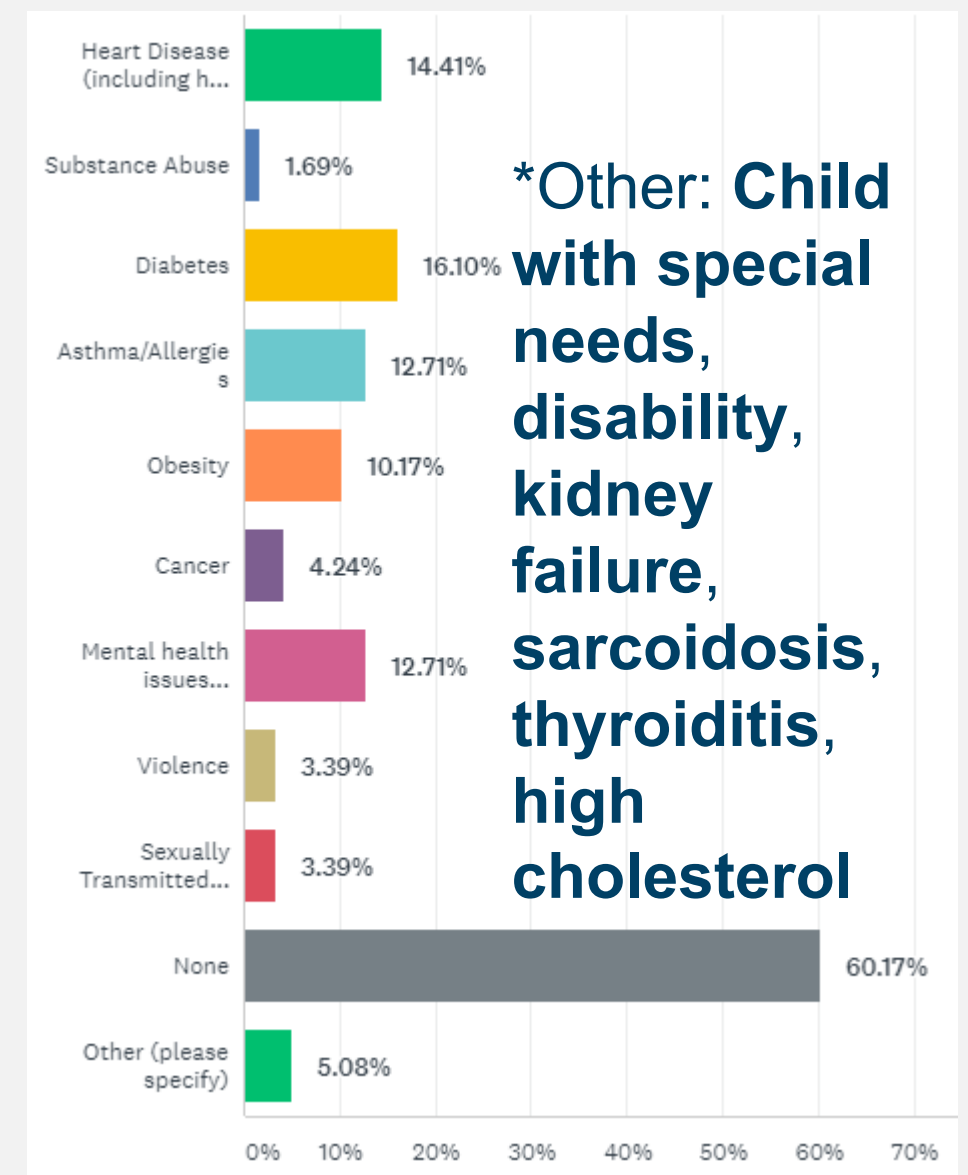
### Race/Ethnicity



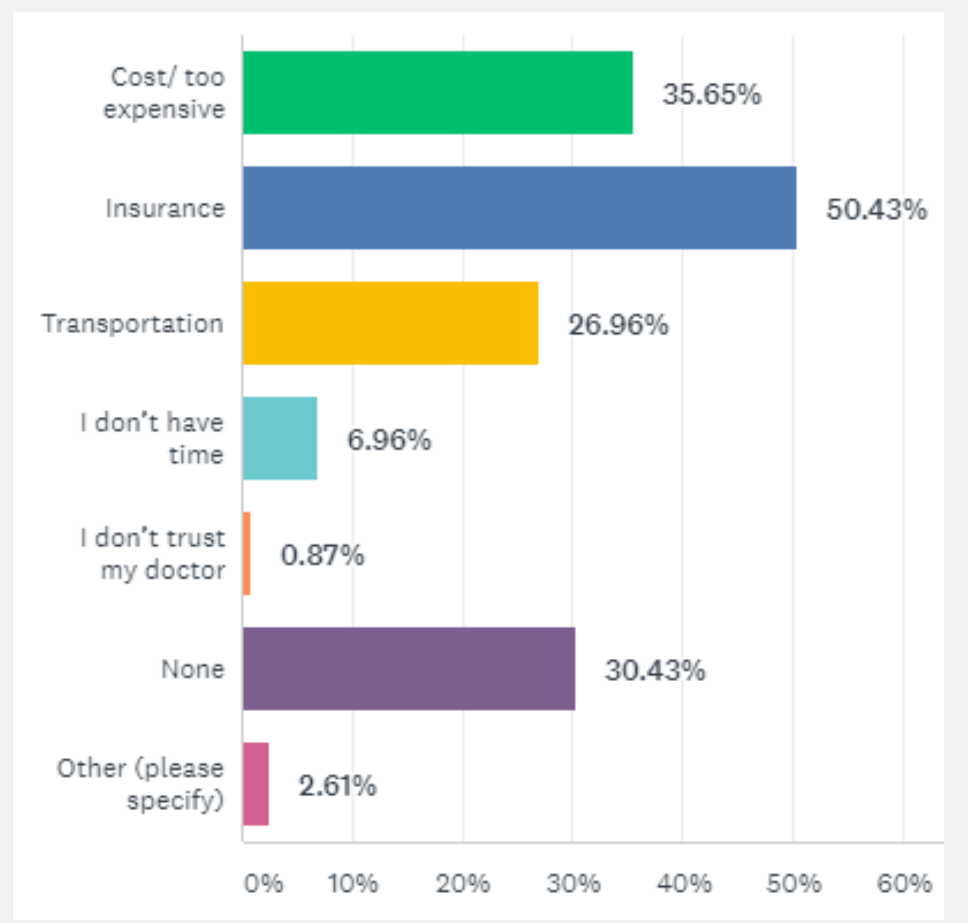
### Preferred Language



### Health issues



### Barriers to healthcare



## Methods

English and Spanish-language surveys were conducted during patient visits to the SRC, in addition to other settings to facilitate representative sampling. A total of 134 responses were received, with Blacks (34%) and Hispanic/Latinos (65%) well represented.

## Conclusion

CHWs play an important role in identifying community strengths and resource gaps and linking patients to additional resources. Opportunities for service improvements include bilingual care coordination, chronic care management, health insurance navigation, food subsistence resources, and transportation support.

## Acknowledgements

- Southwood Resource Center
- Richmond City Health District, Community Health Worker)
- Ms. Kara Heird** (Southwood Community Resource Center volunteer)
- Staff members at Southwood Community Center
- Ms. Stephanie Toney** (Richmond City Health District, Community Health Worker Supervisor)