BU WELLNESS NETWORK

Community Engagement in HIV Care
Diagnose Pillar

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WHAT DOES BU WELLNESS NETWORK DO?

Founded in 1999 as a grassroots community-based organization to address HIV-related racial health disparities

Services Provided

- HIV Prevention and Linkage to Care Organization
- Implementing CDC-endorsed evidence-based interventions
- Provide substance use and mental health counseling services via community partnerships
- HIV/STI counseling and testing services
- Non-Medical Case Management/Support groups

Our Mission: The mission of BU Wellness Network is to enhance the health and wellness of our community, which includes sexual, gender, and racial minorities and the people who live and work in our neighborhoods.
2019 REVIEW
ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF MOBILE UNIT

• 2019
  • HIV Testing Goals- 625+
  • 7 new (1 additional w/Bellflower clinic)
  • First day out- 2 new DX
    • 1 refused service navigation (followed up w/PCP)
    • 1 refused service navigation (two reactive screening- but DIS was unable to follow up)
  • Incentives
VENUE-BASED VS SOCIAL NETWORKS

• Importance of multi-faceted approach
• Bars/Clubs and other venues are accounted for with our community partners
• Social networks within priority populations to help determine locations
  • House/Ball Network
  • Recreational Groups
  • Special Events
  • Partnerships
  • Neighborhoods
PARTNERSHIPS

• Women in Motion (STI support in substance use recovery facilities)
• Indiana Pride of Color
• Cleo’s Bodega
  • Areas near Martin Luther King
• Community Recreational groups
  • Kickball tournaments
  • Private Events in Park
• Community Health Workers
COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS

- Represent priority populations
- Identify key gatekeepers
- Link to Program Coordinators
- Provide services - testing, initial linkage
- Social media presence and in-person presence
- Liaison with Community Advisory Board and other frontline staff
COMMUNITY-SPECIFIC HEALTH PROMOTION

What's the State of Black Health?

Black Health is Wellness.

BUIndianapolis
brothersunitedinc.org
CHALLENGES

- Program Development
  - Time and planning intensive
- Staff training and Cross Training
- Capacity and Safety
- Rapid Linkage and Rapid Start
  - We need a collaborative partner specifically for BU Wellness Network
- COVID-19
  - Like many of our partnering organizations- COVID-19 has challenged our testing initiatives
  - Small organization relying on social networks and community engagement
OPPORTUNITIES

• COVID-19
• PPE Community Emergency Support
• Reducing HIV Testing Stigma by offering with COVID-19 Screening
  • Indiana State Department of Health
QUESTIONS?