Health Promotion Through Environmental Design

Background

- Historical disinvestment in Flint and institutional racism contribute to significant racial health disparities.
- Flint is the 5th fastest shrinking city in the U.S. and has the highest vacancy rates in the U.S.
- Flint’s story is also one of a strong and committed community. A 2013 community survey of Flint residents indicated that over 1/3 were active in Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to improve their neighborhoods.
- CTPED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) initiatives were implemented in key neighborhoods in Flint, MI
- Over the past 10 years, 120 community groups are actively engaging with neighborhood improvement projects, such as installing/maintaining community gardens, repairing homes and public structures, and organizing community gatherings.
- In 2018, PRC-MI and our community partners developed a research plan to implement and evaluated HPTED strategies.
- Based on community board feedback and changing community needs, the research team worked with partners to adapt our core research approach.

Partnerships

Community Academic Leadership:
University of Michigan School of Public Health; Michigan State University; Healthy Flint Research Coordinating Center-Community Core (HFCC)

Community Advisory Board (CAB) and HPTED Research Partners: Genesee County Health Department, Community Foundation of Greater Flint, Flint Neighborhoods United, Crim Fitness Foundation, University Avenue Corridor Coalition, Neighborhood Engagement Hub, Kettering University, and Genesee County Land Bank.

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Original HPTED Independent Variable
- Adapt CPTED trainings to integrate DEI and health promotion
- Implement community engaged HPTED training for neighborhood groups
- Provide funding (mini-grants) for local community organizations to implement HPTED projects by paying for services (e.g., garbage pickup, mowing) or materials (e.g., tools, plants, paint)

Modified HPTED Independent Variable
- Document and map existing HPTED activities
- Organizational leader Interviews to assess location, type and level of resident engagement in HPTED activities
- Collected implementation data on 945 instances of HPTED activities
- 398 sites containing HPTED activities

Outcome Evaluation (unchanged)
- Research Team assesses neighborhood violence and health outcomes in areas around HPTED projects
- Use Neighborhood Life Survey (NLS), Neighborhood Inventory for Environmental Typology (NIfETy), and MI State Crime Incident Data to evaluate the impact of HPTED work city-wide
- Translation and Dissemination of findings through Toolkit, data dashboard, information champions

Dissemination and Translation

Work with HPTED Partners and other community organizations to:
- Guide the translation of research findings to develop accessible and useful products useful for residents and community organizations.
- Identify key audiences and the best channels for dissemination to successfully share research findings and Center information.

Partner Spotlight Interviews with partners that allows them a chance to promote their organization through the PRC-MI website and social media channels.

Blog Posts and Social Media Updates

Story Map: (planned) showcase of individual neighborhood groups in the HTPED project and the work they would like to promote.

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website: http://prc.sph.umich.edu