

Promising Models from the Field: The Florida International University Experience



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FIU Anchor Institution: Solutions Center Approach



- ❖ **Student Access & Success:**
 - Partnership with Miami-Dade County Public Schools System
 - The Education Effect

- ❖ **Sea Level Rise & Coastal Infrastructure:**
 - Sea Level Solutions Center
 - Institute for Water & the Environment
 - Institute for Resilient and Sustainable Coastal Infrastructure

- ❖ **Community Health:**
 - Green Family Foundation NeighborhoodHELP
 - FIU EMBRACE

Green Family NeighborhoodHELP

Overview



- ❖ Interdisciplinary education and community service program involving medical, nursing, social work, physician assistant, education, public health and law students who provide household-centered care.



- ❖ Currently provides services in six (6) municipalities in the greater Miami-Dade metropolitan area.
- ❖ Long-term sustainability: FY 2018, \$1.9M annual endowment funding, plus state funding through curriculum.

Green Family NeighborhoodHELP

Overview

❖ **Program Focus:**

- Core component of medical student training.
- Addressing urgent household needs (focus social determinants of health);
- Developing a network of community partnerships;
- Improving chronic disease self-management; and
- Reducing unwarranted emergency department visits.

❖ **Program Includes:**

- Outreach worker teams that are in monthly contact with households;
- Faculty-student teams that visit homes three times a year;
- A behavioral health team; and
- A primary care clinical team headed by a family physician that delivers preventive and primary health care.

Green Family NeighborhoodHELP



2017-18 Highlights

- ❖ NeighborhoodHELP enrolled 207 new households.
- ❖ 642 students made 1,851 visits to 436 households with 1,277 members.
- ❖ 2,373 household visits to 493 unique households by interdisciplinary team members.
- ❖ 3,688 primary care visits, 144 physician assistant visits and 1,453 behavioral health visits.
- ❖ Through dental navigation services, 424 dental care referrals were received and addressed.
- ❖ Provided 956 screening mammograms to unique 956 women at 25 sites.

Green Family NeighborhoodHELP

Outcomes

- ❖ Program goal to improve health care outcomes through integrated primary care and behavioral health therapy in the home and mobile health centers:
 - ✓ Breast cancer screening in the Linda Fenner 3D Mobile Mammography Center
 - ✓ Home-based outreach services connecting household members to an integrated web of more than 150 community partners, including health care providers and social service agencies.

Green Family NeighborhoodHELP

Outcomes

❖ *Initial Health Outcomes:*

- *Reduction of emergency department utilization among high utilization cohort*
 - ✓ 2014 to 2015: 8% decrease
 - ✓ 2015 to 2016: 34% decrease
 - ✓ 2016 to 2017: 10% decrease
- *Program vs. non-program household 1-year follow-up effects on healthcare/health impact measures*
 - ✓ More frequent physical examinations among program participants
 - ✓ Greater blood pressure monitoring among program participants
 - ✓ Greater cholesterol screening among program participants
 - ✓ Greater cervical cytology screening among program participants
 - ✓ Greater mammogram screenings among program participants

Challenges & Barriers in Sustaining Anchor Institution Health Equity Efforts: Lessons from the FIU Experience



❖ External Barriers:

- ✓ As a state institution, many university priorities are set by State Government and governing boards (in Florida, the State University System Board of Governors and the University Board of Trustees).
- ✓ Governing boards tend to focus on student graduation rates, student employment and university research.
- ✓ Health equity usually not part of Boards' focus.

Challenges & Barriers in Sustaining Anchor Institution Health Equity Efforts: Lessons from the FIU Experience

❖ Internal Challenges:

- ✓ Efforts become “programmatic” rather than “institutional”
- ✓ Poor ongoing assessment of impact (examples from NeighborhoodHELP)
- ✓ Resistance within the University and by external university partners (examples from NeighborhoodHELP)
- ✓ University alignment beyond Presidential leadership (examples from NeighborhoodHELP and EMBRACE)

THANK YOU!