



Austin Public Health



Responses to Asian American Quality of Life Commission Health Workgroup's Items

Workgroup Item	Austin Public Health Response
1. How many Asian American staff at HHSD work directly with the public (for example, WIC, mobile vans, neighborhood events)?	Seventeen staff identifying as Asian American are employed at Austin Public Health and information was presented categorically by the following sections: Official/ Administrative, Professional, Paraprofessional, Maintenance, and Clerical. City of Austin HRD is reviewing if HRD can provide more specific information.
2. What data exists regarding diabetes, high blood pressure and suicide among Asian Americans in Austin/Travis County? These are nationally recognized health risk factors for Asian Americans. Since health risks vary between Asian subpopulations, a breakdown by subpopulation would be useful.	<p>Recent data received this fall, enabled our epidemiologists to combine behavioral risk factor surveillance data over multiple years to obtain a large enough sample size to analyze Asian American health data. The sample size is too small to stratify by subpopulation, sex, or age group. The requested data will be presented to the workgroup at the January meeting.</p> <p>Over the 5-year period, 2011-2016, sixteen suicides in Travis County are from the Asian American population. The sample size is too small to stratify by subpopulation, sex, or age group.</p> <p>In mid-December, we are requesting Federal Quality Health Center data from ICC on Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans and African Americans. Sample size may need to be aggregate instead of at zip code level. Sample size has to be large enough for data to be shared. Epidemiologists will provide an update on the status at the workgroup's meeting in January.</p>
3. What services have been provided to Asian American communities over the last fiscal year by the Health Equity unit?	<p>In fiscal year 2016, the Quality of Life (QoL) Unit served 51 residents that identified as "Asian". Services provided include blood glucose screening, blood pressure screening, referrals, health presentations, and other biometric screening such as weight and BMI. Now that this unit is fully staffed, the unit will provide services at a variety of events including AARC recommended events. Factors to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 555 residents that identified as "some other race." Anecdotally, this number includes persons that would be classified as Asian.• Numbers for the unit were low overall as a nurse was not hired for nearly half of the fiscal year.• 2016 built capacity for the unit including hiring staff, making connections in Asian and Latino communities to identify neighborhoods in need of QoL services, and working on culturally and linguistically appropriate materials.

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4. How many Asian Americans have been served under the Health Equity contracts awarded in 2016?	Self-reported race data illustrate forty Asian unduplicated service provisions under the 2016 Health Equity contracts. Please note that Asian Americans may be undercounted as they may be included in the following categories: “some other race”, “two or more races”, or “not specified”.
5. How many Asian Americans have been served in the General Fund Social Services Contracts last year?	Self-reported race data illustrate 2,112 Asian unduplicated service provisions under the Social Service contracts in fiscal year 2016. Please note that Asian Americans may be undercounted as they may be included in the following categories: “some other race”, “two or more races”, or “not specified”.
6. Do the Social Services contracts comply with Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) standards? How is that compliance monitored?	<p>The HIV Resources Administration Unit manages contracts providing services to people living with HIV/AIDS. These contracts include that contractors should follow CLAS standards. CLAS standards are included in contractors’ agency and program quality plans. Austin Public Health monitors compliance through quality reviews.</p> <p>The Health Equity RFP included questions for potential contractors to describe how they ensure specific CLAS standards.</p> <p>At this time, other social service contracts do not include CLAS criteria; however, if it were included, Austin Public Health would add these criteria to monitoring engagements when applicable.</p>
7. Please provide the workgroup with details about the CLAMS initiative and HHSD’s progress in providing translated documents to the community.	The department developed a culturally and linguistically appropriate materials (CLAMs) procedure and plan in 2015. We’ve recently updated the procedure and plan. We offer a 3-part series to staff to understand the importance of CLAMs and how to assess CLAMs criteria. In addition, all programs providing materials to clients/community residents are required to assess their materials against our CLAMs procedure/checklist by Dec 31 st , 2016. To date, programs have been assessing, revising, and translating documents for compliance. Some examples of translated materials include Mosquito Prevention (translated to Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Simplified Chinese, and Arabic; Burmese is in process) and “This is Austin Public Health” (translated to Spanish, Burmese, Vietnamese, Korean, and Simplified Chinese; Arabic is in process).