

August 2017

ACCESS Research Priorities

Access to Care

- Arab American understanding of, enrollment in, and usage of healthcare and Medicaid
- Client preferences on health education and healthcare access
- Impact of patient advocates on healthcare
- Oral health (general needs assessment and looking at access to oral health care)

Aging

- General needs assessment of senior Arab Americans
- Effect of aging on well being
- Stigma towards nursing homes and other palliative care facilities among Arab Americans
- Feasibility study of senior daycare
- Developing programs to prevent the social isolation of seniors
- Multi-cultural caregiving for seniors aging in their homes or nursing homes

Business

- Entrepreneurship in immigrant and refugee communities

Chronic Disease

- Prevalence of chronic illnesses such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and asthma among the Arab American community

Demographics

- Better quantitative data on Arab American communities; including better survey instruments and improved methods for analyzing existing data

Domestic Violence

- Accessibility of education/income healthcare for domestic violence clients
- Occurrences of forced/coerced marriage & reproduction in the community
- The perception of marriage among domestic violence clients
- Effects of divorce on domestic violence survivors
- Religious perspectives on domestic violence
- Cultural influence on perceptions of gender roles

Education

- New immigrant assimilation experiences in the American school system (cultural competency, ESL resources, citizenship education safe environment)
- The role of immigrant parents in their child's education and the school system (interest levels, confidence level, barriers)
- Links between nutrition and the performance of students in a school setting
- Relationship between ACCESS academic program alumni and college attainment
- Effects of immigrant parent/caregiver illiteracy on their children's educational and social development
- Relationship between school readiness initiatives and educational achievement in the elementary level

August 2017

Environment

- Delineate pollutant sources in more detail, and provide a means to combat adverse health effects

Health of Refugees

- General assessment of physical and mental health needs of refugees
- Understanding and determining the health needs of different refugee populations and the types of programs that best fit their needs
- Barriers to the accessibility of services (a comparative study of refugees vs. immigrants)
- Pre/post refugee services (longitudinal study)
- The implications of trauma on physical health of refugees
- The relationship between birth defects in refugees and previous chemical exposure
- The relationship between physical/mental health and how it relates to improvement of quality of life, or self-sufficiency (employment and financial stability)

Maternal Health

- Safe sleep practices in Arab American families

Mental health

- A snapshot of schizophrenia in the Arab American population
- Identifying anxiety triggers and exploring best coping practices

Obesity

- The relationship between obesity and various factors (asthma, environment, diet/nutrition, health literacy, etc.)

Politics & Representation

- Effects of discrimination, media bias, and/or government legislation on the Arab American community
- The impact of the changing political climate on the vulnerability of immigrants and refugees

Substance Abuse

- Opiate usage and prevalence
- Correlation between mental health and drug usage
- Traditional vs. new program methods for substance abuse
- Evaluation of mental health and substance abuse programs
- Education and awareness of consequences of drug usage