Lehigh Valley Health Network

Department of Family Medicine

#### Community-engaged fRAP: a Mixed Methods Approach for Policy Change and Advocacy to Reduce Cancer Disparities in Hispanic Women

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## **Community-engaged fRAP: a Mixed Methods Approach for Policy** Change and Advocacy to Reduce Cancer Disparities in Hispanic Women

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#### **Clinical Relevance**

 Cervical cancer is preventable and curable, yet Hispanic populations in certain areas of the country have higher mortality rates from invasive cervical cancer than non-Hispanic white women.

#### **Community Engaged Partnerships** for Change

Our study aimed to develop community-engaged on-the-ground partnerships between our research team and local stakeholders to identify policy change targets for advocacy and action that could impact cervical cancer disparities in geographic areas of high need

#### Methods

- A mixed methods study utilizing fRAP (focused Rapid Assessment Process)
- Multi-level investigation (community, medical, policy level) using GIS mapping to identify areas of interest for qualitative participant observation, interviews, focus

#### Dataset

- Quantitative geocoding of cervical cancer cases (1995-2015) to ZCTA level in three Texas counties, Bexar, Dallas, Tarrant
- Qualitative interviews with 42 key informants from three levels of interest, community, medical and policy

Integration and Identification of Modific Policy Targets Through Roundtable Commun-Member-Researcher Coalition

Second Visit Qualitative Exploration With Participant Observation and Additional Interviews

Community-led Targeted Quantitative Mapping

Qualitative Exploration Participant Observation and Key Informant Interviews, Formal and Informal Partnership Development

Exploratory Quantitative Mapping, Focus on Community Disparities Seen in Geocoded Maps

fRAP



Trusted Community-researcher partnerships

Dissemination of research results in community settings







Action using the power of research results to drive necessary local change

## Results

 Through the use of multi-level cross-comparative investigation of community, medical and policy elements in different counties, we identified important contextual/policy differences impacting cervical cancer disparities in certain highest need locales.

## **Community-Research Partnership Has Accomplished:**

- Community Lever: A Facebook live "Platicas" workshop on women's health, in Spanish, disseminated directly to women in highest risk communities for cervical cancer risk
- Medical Lever: An online teach-out on immigrant health course through Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
- Policy Lever: Creation of a county level disparities taskforce targeting Hispanic health disparities seen in certain zipcodes
- County Level Forum on Health Disparities
- Opinion Editorial/Reporter for County newspaper
- Elected Public Officials who manage the county hospital

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