

VERDANT _____

Healthier. Community

CONFERENCE

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY ADVOCATE AWARD

Giselle Zapata-García
Latinos Promoting Good Health

INNOVATIVE PROGRAM AWARD

“Issues that Matter”

Sno-Isle Libraries

*Accepted by Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory,
Executive Director*

SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY AWARD

SHIBA Volunteers

Accepted by

Laura Ballard

Carolyn Bodeen

Marcia Broude

Judy Edgmand

Orin Fjeran

Leslie Waliser

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AWARD

Hero's Café Planning Committee

Shawn Baza

Arlene Fredericksen

Paul Fredericksen

Ray Gopher

Robert Lohry

Frank Martinez

John Ostler

Steve Pennington

Myra Rintamaki

Brian Seguin

Shannon Sessions

Angelica Shanahan

Mary Beth Strand

Chris Szarek

Gary Walderman

Who Is Verdant?

Snohomish Public Hospital District #2
dba Verdant Health Commission

Mission:

To improve the health and well-being of our community.

Vision:

To be a sustaining public resource improving the health and well-being of South Snohomish County, collaboratively and creatively working to meet the needs of our community.

~183,000 residents

Who Is in the Audience?

Clinical Providers

Health Systems

Public Entities (cities, police, school districts,
libraries, universities, government)

Social Service Providers

Others Interested in Health

What We Know and What We Need



23% of households in Verdant's district are single-parent households.

Minimum wage in Lynnwood is \$11.50/hour.



Avg. apartment monthly rent in Lynnwood is \$1,495.

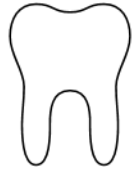
Median home value in Lynnwood is \$475,700.

"Housing, housing, housing."

"There are too many strings attached to housing programs and the wait is too long."

"It is difficult to combat the stigma of those who are homeless. We need to work on this with our electeds and the public."

What We Know and What We Need



29% of residents in Verdant's district do not have dental insurance. 27% have not had a dental visit in the past year.



19% of adults in Verdant's district have no primary care provider



13% of adults in Verdant's district are unable to see a doctor because of cost

"I don't understand my insurance. How do I find a doctor? I need to see a doctor. Who can help me? I am just so tired of getting the run-around."

"What about dentists? I can't find one who takes my coverage."

"We need more resources for TBI and stroke. What are the resources for this? No one seems to know."

What We Know and What We Need



32% of adolescents in Verdant's district reported symptoms of depression



Suicide rate for Verdant's district (per 100,000 population): 19



6% of adults in Verdant's district drink alcohol heavily (15 drinks per week/men; 8 drinks per week/women)

"Treatment. That's the biggest thing we need: treatment for drugs and alcohol and mental health."

"Getting an appointment [for mental health] counseling is really really hard."

"There's not just one thing wrong. It all goes hand-in-hand. You can't just treat the mental health and think that the drug use will go away."

What We Know and What We Need



75%-80% of the 50 inmates in the Lynnwood Jail on any given day have substance use and/or mental health issues



6.8% of youth in Verdant's district reported abusing prescription drugs in the past 30 days

"We've got to address this heroin problem especially with our kids."

"Our community is failing in addressing the drug epidemic."

"Schools and police are now responsible to help families. They are seen as the 'go-to' people to fix all the problems."

What We Would Like to See

More.....

- ✓ Substance use treatment
- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Mental health treatment
- ✓ Dentists
- ✓ Better transportation
- ✓ Childcare
- ✓ Better paying jobs

What We Would Like to See – Connection with Others

“We need a space to help us deal with our issues. Just a place to share stories and be heard and, you know, maybe hear that we aren’t the only ones.”

“I ride the bus and I see everyone texting or on their headphones. We are missing real interaction.”

What We Would Like to See – Connection with Others

“I am bullied in school. I’m being treated for depression because of it. What I want the adults to know is, be on our side. Sometimes it feels like I am all alone and I just need to know that someone, somewhere has my back.”

What We Would Like to See – Connection with Community

“Communication with the public. Educating people about what it is really like to live this way.”

“As a Latino resident of south Snohomish County, I really appreciate programming that is not only in Spanish but that is relevant. It is important to support the entire community, not only the English-speaking people.”

“Observe. Look around at what is happening in the community. The responsibility must lie with the community itself. Do not make those in poverty, those without access to healthcare, those who have no jobs, no home...have to tell us these things. We all have to ask ourselves, “In what kind of a community do I want to live my life and raise my family?”

What We Would Like to See – Connection with Community

“There are a lot of foreign people moving into my neighborhood. I don’t understand them and I know for sure they probably don’t understand me because I look like an old hippie. The point is, we need to know each other. I don’t know how. There are too many rentals and no one knows anybody anymore. The streets are torn up and there is too much traffic so kids don’t play outside. So no one is outside together. Can the city help us with block parties or just something so we have more ‘get to know you’ kind of stuff in our neighborhoods? No one talks to each other and I think we need that. It is really missing.”

What We Would Like to See – Connection between Systems

“We need agencies to connect. People need help; these people are getting lost.”

“There should be a liaison in the jail. To talk to. To help me find services. When you get out, you have no connection to anything, anything at all. Of course I am going to re-offend! It is what I know.”

What We Would Like to See – Connection between Systems

“Act on what is known, collect and study data on what is not. Let the circumstances of the people suffering do the talking. Those who are in positions to affect these circumstances need to listen and act. Their pain is the voice that needs to be listened to. It is already quite loud and clear.”

Your Turn

What is MY organization doing to make sure we are capturing the voices of our clients/patients/residents in a way that makes them feel connected? What am I willing to do to make this happen?

What is working well in south Snohomish County to address those things that our clients and patients need?

What specific things should we as a community be doing that we are not already?

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