



Established in 1998, the Morehouse School of Medicine Prevention Research Center (MSM PRC) is the only historically Black institution among a network of academic research centers currently funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. By partnering with the community to deliver Community-Based Participatory Research, MSM PRC aims to improve public health practice within minority communities and cultivate more effective state and local public health programs, among other objectives.

Overview of Community Health Needs & Assets Assessment Process

The MSM PRC conducted a community health needs & assets assessment to:

1. Engage the Community Coalition Board and other community stakeholders in identifying the health needs of the community for potential research and program areas.
2. Collect qualitative and quantitative data from community stakeholders and secondary data sources to identify the health priority needs of the communities served.
3. Use recommendations from the community related to planning and implementing research, disease prevention, health promotion, policy, and evaluation initiatives to develop a community-driven research and program agenda.

The MSM PRC is governed by a Community Coalition Board (CCB) composed of resident leaders and representatives from neighborhoods and agencies of interest. The PRC is currently engaged in City of Atlanta Neighborhood Planning Units (NPU) T, V, X, Y, and Z ("PRC Service Area"). The 2017-2018 Community Health Needs & Assets Assessment is the fourth needs assessment that the MSM PRC has conducted since its inception.

MSM PRC staff and CCB members collected information from state, county, city and local governments, community-serving organizations, and partner agencies to learn more about the residents of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County. Additionally, 607 residents of NPUs T, V, X, Y, and Z completed a survey to provide feedback on the major health issues in the community, health-related policy, system or environmental issues, health resource availability, and the best ways to share health information.

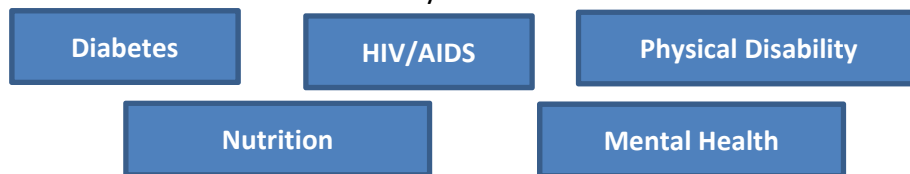


COMMUNITY
OVERVIEW

- 87% of residents in the PRC Service Area are African-American/Black
- The median household income of residents in the PRC Service area is \$23,616, almost \$26,000 less than the median household income for the entire City of Atlanta (\$49,398)
- 21% of City of Atlanta violent crimes between 2014 and 2017 occurred in the PRC Service Area
- The top 5 causes of hospitalization for African-Americans in Fulton County were: 1) major cardiovascular disease, 2) digestive system diseases, 3) respiratory diseases, 4) mental and behavioral disorders, and 5) infectious and parasitic diseases (e.g., HIV/AIDS).

HEALTH
CONCERNS

Survey respondents indicated the following top 5 health issues as ones their community needs to know about:



POLICY,
SYSTEMS,
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONCERNS

Survey respondents reported the following policy, systems, or environmental issues that need to be addressed to impact their community's health:



COMMUNITY
ASSETS

Of 607 survey respondents:

- 43% reported attending a health program in their community
- 74% reported having some form of health insurance
- 70% reporting having a primary care doctor

SHARING
INFORMATION

Survey respondents indicated the following top three best ways to share health information with themselves and the community:

