La Importancia de la Communidad

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COMMUNITY PARTNER

Community Partner: **Puentes De Salud**
Puentes de Salud's mission is two-fold: First, to partner with Philadelphia's rapidly growing Latinx immigrant community to build long-term prosperity by addressing immediate education, health and social service needs. Second, to create a responsible learning environment for future generations of advocates, educators, and healthcare providers to examine Social Justice and Structural Violence, and to explore their impacts on the Social Determinants of Health within a marginalized community. Located at 1700 South St, Philadelphia, Puentes is one of very few health clinics in the country that provides care to the undocumented Latinx community.

PROJECT

As a BTG intern at Puentes I spent my time in both clinical and no clinical roles around the clinic. Clinically, I assisted in vaccinating patients and interpreting patient encounters. Non-clinically, I assisted in the reflection of the COVID-19 initiatives conducted on Puentes which culminated in the writing of a COVID-19 report detailing the work done .

PROJECT RESULTS

COVID-19 Report Findings

- 1500+ people were screen over the phone for social determinants of health and connected with resources
- New Babies and Moms program served 60+ new/expecting mothers with diapers, formula and other newborn supplies
- 130+ people have been served by the food pharmacy program directed at providing people with food insecurity culturally sensitive food

REFLECTION

The seven weeks I spent at Puentes de Salud taught me so much. This experience opened my eyes to the significant barriers that many Latinos in Philadelphia face when seeking healthcare. When we start talking about Latinos who are uninsured and sometimes undocumented these barriers become twice as high. In addition to the barriers to access many Latinos face, language barriers and cultural differences make it very difficult for them to receive excellent medical care. These people at the expense of their personal circumstances don't have access to basic healthcare and therefore suffer from preventable and easily treatable conditions. Puentes de Salud's work in these community makes a world of a difference to the many individuals that frequently get overlooked by the government and the rest of society.