

Homelessness in Transition: Fostering Healthy Communities Beyond the Doors of the Shelter

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Community Preceptors:

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COMMUNITY PARTNER

Mission: The mission of Joseph's House is to holistically and individually engage people experiencing homelessness in gaining stability and control of their lives.

Vision: For society, that no neighbor has to sleep outside, even for one night. For Joseph's House, to be a visible and financially sustainable organization that has greater capacity for helping guests navigate out of homelessness; to play a strong, collaborative role in the homelessness ecosystem; to fosters an equitable and healthy environment for guests, staff, community partners, volunteers, and board members.



BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

Joseph's House of Camden (JHOC) is an emergency shelter that provides a temporary home to those experiencing homelessness. Guests are given meals, clothing, personal storage, access to showers and a safe space to sleep without judgment. Beyond its role as an overnight shelter, Joseph's House provides comprehensive social services ranging from financial assistance, employment opportunities, legal aid, case management and access to medical care. Enshrined in its vision, "no neighbor has to sleep outside, even for one night" JHOC is relentless in its pursuit to serve the community while striving to empower every guest in creating an individualized pathway out of homelessness. <https://www.jhoc.org/>

TEAM'S EXPERIENCE

- ❖ Designed a Covid-19 vaccination status survey
- ❖ Encouraged Covid-19 vaccine administration
- ❖ Delivered Narcan training and opioid education in partnership with Street Medicine
- ❖ Promoted health education through interactive sessions involving oral and cardiovascular health
- ❖ Collaborated with volunteers to organize donations and serve meals

Section 1 of 10

Covid-19 Vaccine Survey

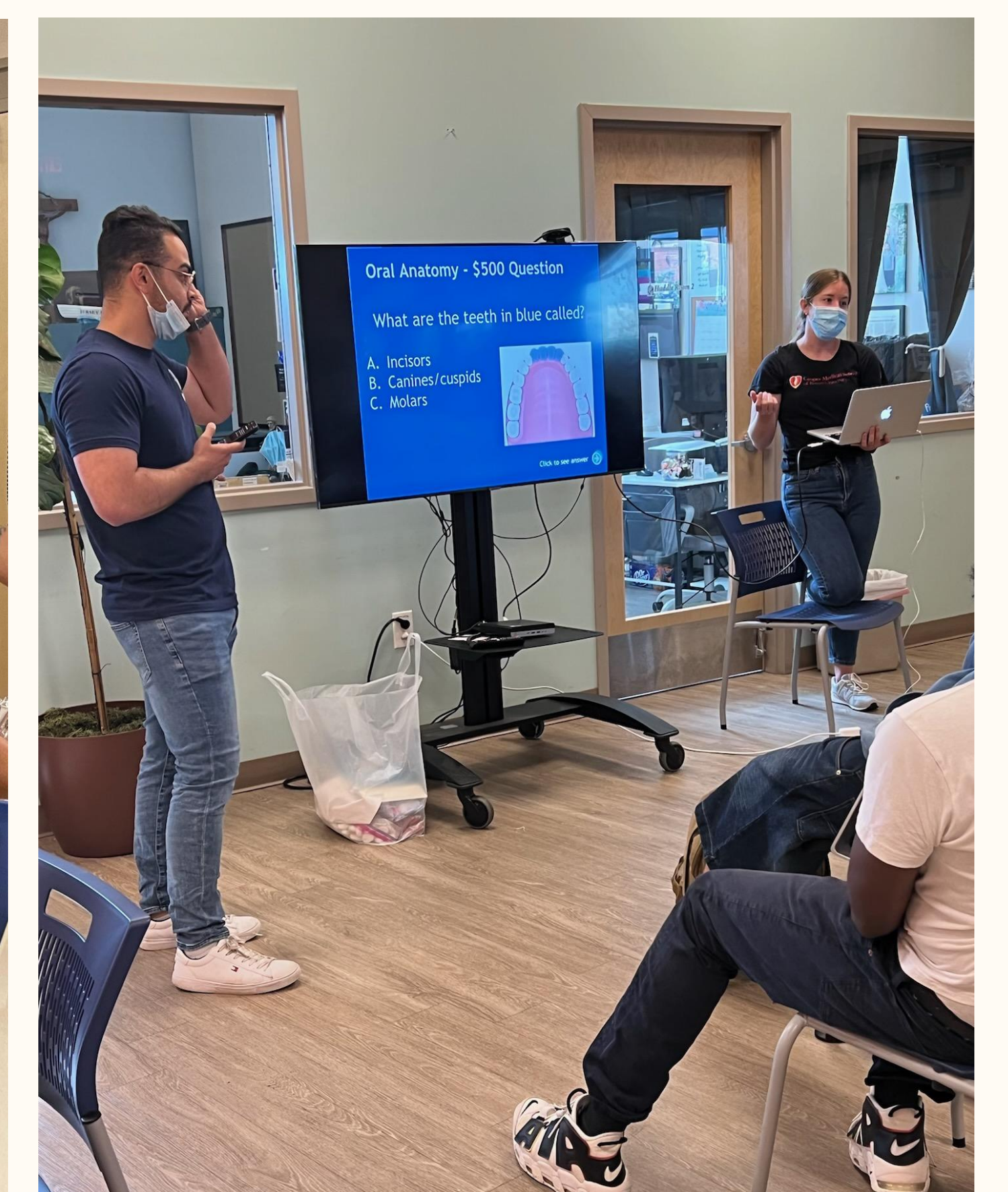
We are looking to learn more about your current Covid-19 vaccine status as well as your thoughts about the vaccine. This is to help us better understand who is vaccinated at Joseph's House and who would like to receive one. It will also help us better understand our guests' feelings and concerns about the vaccine.

Any personal information you share will remain within Joseph's House records only.

Thank you for your participation. We appreciate it!

What concerns do you have, if any, about receiving a COVID-19 vaccine? (Please select all that apply)

- I am concerned about the vaccine's safety and side effects
- I don't trust the vaccine or the companies that make them
- I feel indifferent about getting the vaccine
- I have already had COVID-19 so I don't think a vaccine is necessary
- I am unsure of how or where to get vaccinated
- I have conflicting religious values
- I don't have any concerns about getting the COVID-19 vaccine
- Other...



REFLECTION

"Nearly every public health paper I have read has professed factors such as race, income, and education, are just as impactful in predicting health status as genetics or prescriptions. My experiences at Joseph's House have put faces to that data. The guests experiencing homelessness are amongst the most marginalized members in our communities, inhabiting a socioeconomic climate that exacerbates their ability to access adequate healthcare. These interactions reinforced my conviction that medicine is the vehicle that can bridge the gap between a patient's unique circumstance and the physician's medical expertise, fostering healing in both patients and the communities in which they reside." -Amir Davoodi

"I learned more about social justice and inequities this summer than I have throughout my formal education, and I attribute this knowledge to the many first hand conversations that I had with both staff and guests at Joseph's House. Everyone has an important voice, and I am grateful to have heard many diverse stories that I will carry with me throughout my career. While the social workers and other staff members at Joseph's House do incredible work to help guests in their unique circumstances, this is a systemic battle. I am now more motivated than ever to fight for change and more equitable care. In the meantime, I am glad to know about Camden's many resources, including Joseph's House, to offer to future patients." -Jane Hatzell