

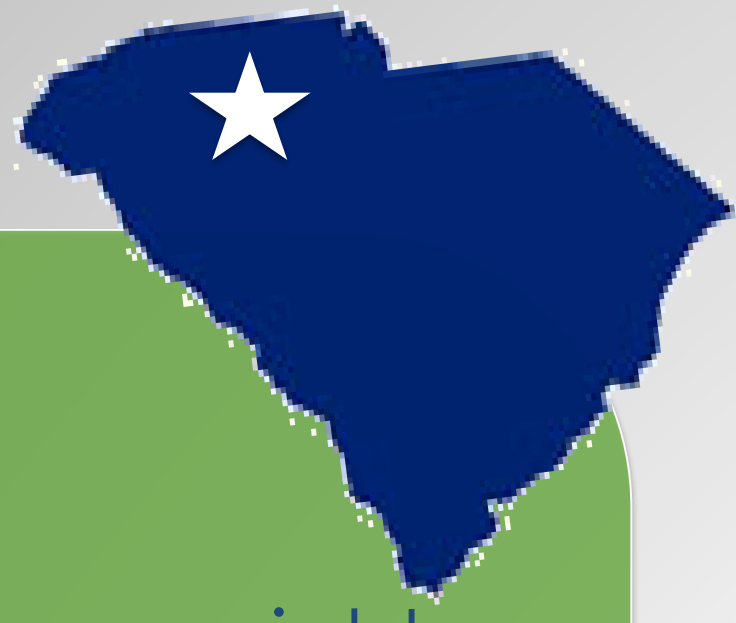
Growing Together in Faith: New Partnerships to Promote Health in At-Risk Communities

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BACKGROUND

- 61% of adults and 41% of youth are overweight or obese in Greenville County, South Carolina.
- Hispanic or Latinos make up 8.7%, and Black or African Americans make up 18.5% of Greenville County.
- Hispanics are 23% more at risk for obesity and 50% higher death rate caused from diabetes (CDC).
- African Americans have the highest rates of obesity: 53% for women, and 36% for men, and heart disease is the leading cause of death (NAACP).



PURPOSE

To support Greenville's faith communities in helping members achieve healthier lifestyles through promotion and support of policies, systems and environments that make the healthy choice the easy choice.

Internship Learning Objectives

- Gain an understanding of the breath of faith-based health promotion on a policy level.
- Conduct data entry of individual-level health behaviors pre and post- intervention surveys and institutional-level baseline surveys.
- Analyze and interpret evaluation results.
- Create a codebook and written data entry protocol.
- Complete reports to be presented to congregations.

Next Level Youth Leadership Initiative

- Participating congregation expanded health promotion efforts to include youth.
- LWG and Furman conduct evaluation of youth initiative

Our Contributions

- Attended the first session and collected data concerning life-style factors, attitudes, and support systems.
- Utilized the PYD survey.
- Entered enter the data and analyze it using STATA.
- Wrote a report of the significant findings.

Data Collection & Dissemination: Youth and Adult Populations

Growing Together in Faith, Adult Initiatives

- New congregations continue to join the At Worship initiative.
- LWG and Furman conduct evaluation of adult initiatives.
- Refers congregants to specific resources to help them achieve their goals.

Our Contribution

- Collected data on 3 new congregations
- Entered and analyzed the data using STATA.
- Wrote a report for the congregation to be presented to the Health Ministry Team.
- Post- evaluation surveys are held in a year to track progress.

Nutrition Education

- A Spanish-speaking congregation requested nutrition education in Spanish.
- We developed an interactive presentation in Spanish.
- The focus points of this presentation were:
 - Reading Nutrition labels
 - Sodium consumption
 - Sugar sweetened beverages

Event Planning

Assisted in planning of 2016 Worship Summit

- Developed agenda.
- Coordinated Vendors.
- Assisted Health Ministry Teams with development of 'Spotlight' posters.
- Welcomed attendees and assisted with registration.

What's Next?

- LWG At Worship workgroup will continue to mentor and support new congregations.
- Furman University will continue to evaluate impact of At Worship initiatives.
- Summer 2016 Fellows will focus on development of a comprehensive curriculum for quarterly networking sessions of Spanish-speaking congregations in Greenville County.

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