

Latinx Community Health Fair

Event occurred: October 29th, 2023 at St. Mary's Student Parish
in Ann Arbor, MI

Purpose/Objective:

The "Latinx Community Health Fair" was a joint effort between LANAMA and the medical school, along with students from the Latinx Undergraduate Medical Association (LUMA) and community organizations in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti community. The event aimed to address the health disparities faced by members of the Latinx community, such as disproportionately higher rates of diabetes and chronic illness compared to their white counterparts. These health disparities were often compounded by obstacles like language barriers, cultural misunderstandings, and limited access to transportation. Through hosting the health fair for the Latinx community of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti communities, access to essential health services was increased. Services included providing seasonal flu vaccines and preventive screening exams for diabetes, cholesterol, and blood pressure. This work aimed to bring health equity to the campus and the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti community, ensuring that health is not limited but universal. Moreover, the health fair aimed to increase diversity in the physician workforce by closely working with students from historically underrepresented backgrounds in medicine. Collaborations with LUMA exposed undergraduate students to medicine and health-related fields, with students serving as vital members of the planning committee, as well as working as trained health screeners and medical Spanish interpreters.

Highlights:

- 12 Med School Volunteers
- 4 undergrad volunteers
- Activities at the event included: Blood pressure screening, cholesterol screening, A1c/diabetes screening, flu shots administered, children's face paint and games station
- Stations at the event included: health education table on opioid overdose and COVID with free naran and COVID test kits; station from UM Cancer Center educating about cancer screening; UM Ypsilanti Health Center had a booth with various health education topics; Talk with a Doc with Dr. Llanes table
- 50 participants total from the community that participated in these activities

Visuals from the Event:




Contact Information:

lanama@umich.edu or gabmaica@med.umich.edu