



Determining Factors that Limit Community Engagement in a Medical Student-run Clinic in Detroit, Michigan

Authors: Sikander Chohan, Joseph Cavataio, Muhammad Ahmed, Arqam Husain, Dhruva Kadiyala, Jacob Katzman, Elsa Nylund, Samantha Pfiffner, Aila Rahman, Kayvon Sanjasaz



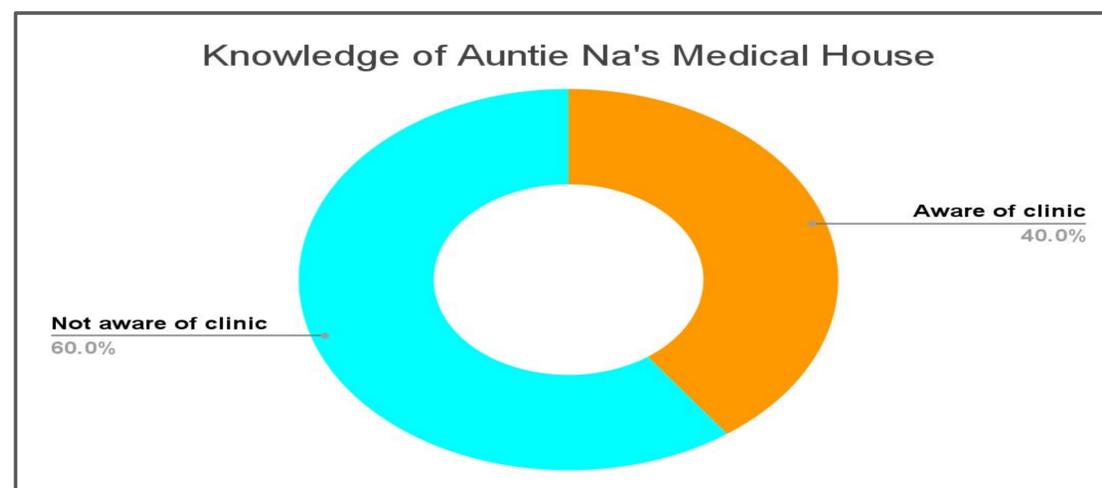
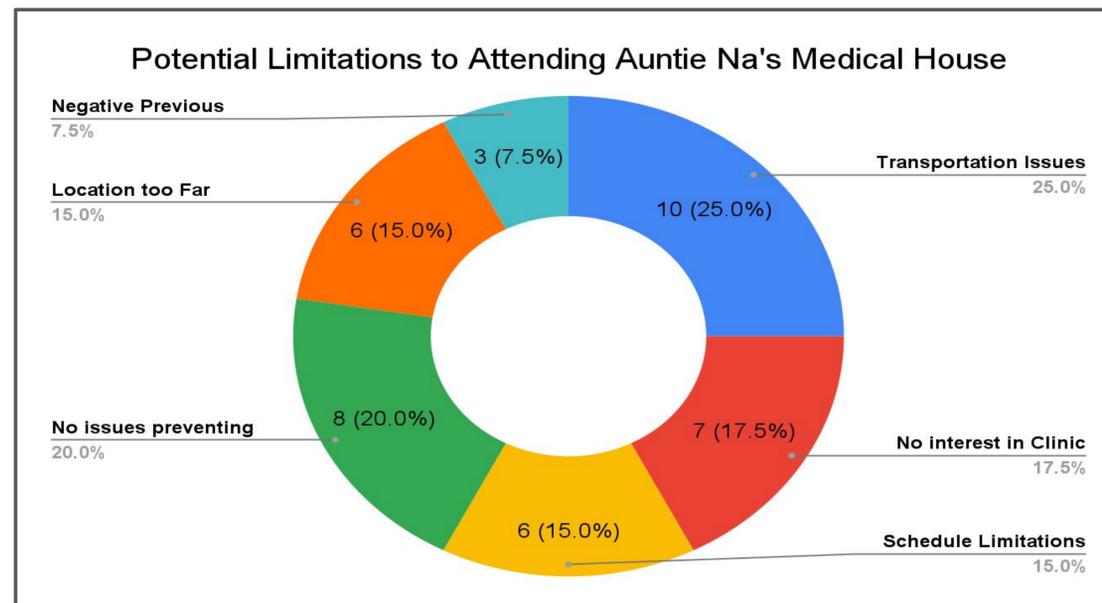
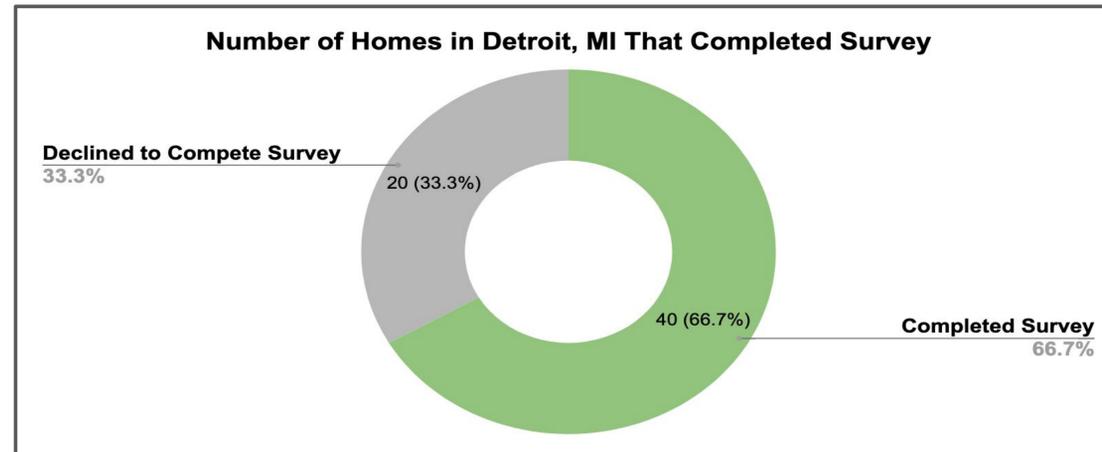
INTRODUCTION

- Auntie Na's Medical House is medical-student run clinic that provides free-of-charge care to patients in Detroit, MI.
- Volunteer students perform biomarker tests such as blood pressure, lipid panels, and glucose levels, and work with patients to improve their health
- In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the clinic shut down operations. Over a year later, we re-established it, but found community engagement to be low.
- We surveyed the local community on interest levels in the clinic and potential limiting factors to engagement

METHODS

- This exploratory study was performed in the west-side neighborhood of Detroit, MI between May, 2021 and November, 2021.
- Volunteers visited 60 homes with informational flyers on Auntie Na's Medical Clinic and questionnaires.
- . Volunteers described the purpose of the free clinic, its location, and requested to administer the survey.
- The survey ascertained whether the respondent thought their community would benefit from a free health clinic, if they were aware of Auntie Na's Medical House, and if there were any factors that would limit attendance.

FIGURES



RESULTS

- Upon completion of data collection, a total of 40 individuals answered the door and were interested in taking the questionnaire.
- 33 participants (33/40, 83%) believed the community would benefit from a free healthcare clinic.
- 16 participants (16/40, 41%) were aware of the clinic. Respondents most often cited transportation issues as preventing them from attending (10/40, 25%).
- Other commonly cited issues were scheduling conflicts and being unaware of the clinic's operations.

CONCLUSION

- While the free clinic was met with excitement by community members, several factors limit patient engagement.
- With regards to transportation and timing issues, the clinic can consider setting up "mobile" healthcare kiosks in popular locations throughout the community.
- Volunteers can provide easily accessible, basic medical screening to those interested.
- The clinic must actively advertise itself to the community. As community engagement grows, additional medical services can also be provided.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Special thanks to Dr. Joel Appel, the clinic's physician. Thank you for teaching students the skills needed to become successful physicians and giving back to the Detroit community. This clinic would not be possible without you.