

An Evaluation of Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Community Health Needs



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INTRODUCTION

- Worked with the Vanderbilt Community Health Improvement Team at Vanderbilt University Medical Center's (VUMC) Institute for Medicine and Public Health
- This team focuses on improving the health of communities served by VUMC through engagement, outreach, and a focus on specific needs of the community
- As mandated by the 2010 Affordable Care Act, all non-profit hospitals must conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment and Implementation Plan every three years to maintain tax exempt status
- Information to feed this assessment was gathered through collection of primary and secondary data, and systematic reviews of literature documenting health outcomes and needs

OBJECTIVES

- Engage with community leaders with different backgrounds and needs
- Use skills and knowledge obtained from classroom to understand the complex and interdisciplinary components of factors associated with access to care
- Learn and understand how to plan and execute community health assessments

STRUCTURE/DESIGN

- Communities of focus: Davidson, Rutherford, and Williamson Counties
- Community Prioritized Needs/Areas of Interest: Access to Care, Mental Health, Social Determinants of Health, and Wellness
- Using federal, state, and local resources, gathered secondary data and information pertinent to communities of focus
- Conducted systematic reviews of current and past literature documenting primary health concerns and needs in communities of focus
- Moderated and scribed for interviews with leaders and stakeholders in communities of interest
- Input data from interviews into REDCap

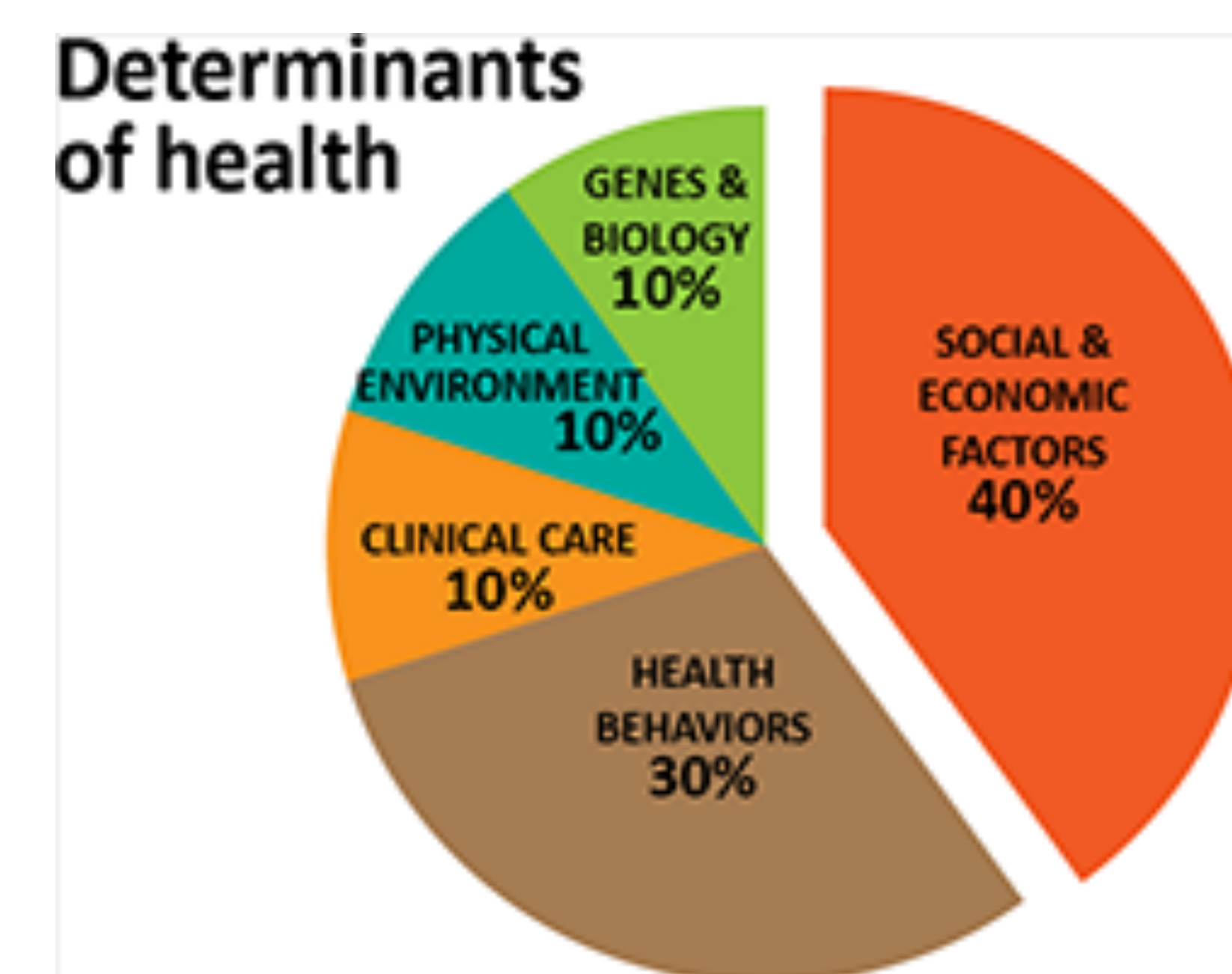


OUTCOMES

- **Davidson County Major Themes:** growth of Nashville and rising costs of living, job availability, workforce development, land development and infrastructure; growing immigrant population; social determinants of health
- **Rutherford County Major Themes:** affordable housing and homelessness; social determinants of health; wellness and disease prevention
- **Williamson County Major Themes:** pollution and particulate matter; excessive alcohol consumption; unaffordable housing and high food insecurity

CONCLUSIONS

- This experience allowed me to gather new skills and knowledge
- There were many recurring themes among VUMC's communities served including affordability and social determinants of health
- This assessment will allow VUMC to better cater to its patients and communities it serves



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