

**TITLE:** Assessment of sexual and reproductive health needs among houseless individuals in Portland, Oregon

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**STUDENT SUBMISSION:** Yes

**TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE:** Topic: sexual and reproductive healthcare at a student-run clinic in Portland; Target audiences: program developers working with housing-insecure populations, health professional students, public health researchers

**ABSTRACT:** Background and Purpose: The Bridges Collaborative Care Clinic (BCCC) is a student-run clinic that partners with Transition Projects, an organization that supports houseless members of the Portland community, to provide low-barrier health services at transitional housing shelters. Free, student-run clinics have the potential to improve access to low-barrier health care, but it is crucial that this care is responsive to the populations being served. In response to patient requests for expanded sexual and reproductive healthcare (SRH), we conducted a survey-based needs assessment to identify gaps in care. Methods: We surveyed individuals living in transitional housing, collecting information on demographics, SRH history, and interest in accessing SRH services at BCCC. Results: Of 42 participants, 21 identified as female, 15 as male, and 2 as nonbinary, with an average age of 40. Common gaps in participants' SRH history included never having received a human papillomavirus vaccine (48%) and not having had a pap smear in the last three years (40% of female-identifying patients.) There was also an apparent need for resources for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence (62% of female-identifying participants). Lastly, 43% of participants reported feeling comfortable having students participate in the provision of their SRH. Conclusions and Implications: There is a need for expanded access to SRH among individuals in transitional housing in Portland. Student-run clinics may be able to fill gaps in care by providing services, supplies, and care coordination, though they should be conscious of potential discomfort with student involvement in SRH.

**OBJECTIVE(S):** Identify gaps in sexual and reproductive healthcare among individuals living in Portland transitional housing shelters. Describe ways in which student-run clinics can address gaps in sexual and reproductive healthcare among their patients. Demonstrate ways in which student-run clinics can seek feedback from their patients to provide care that is responsive to the populations they serve.

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