

Life in the Time of COVID-19: Stories of life under quarantine from women living on the West Side of San Antonio

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BACKGROUND

- COVID-19 pandemic is a unique time in history, yet pandemic experiences not equal.
- Those living in central San Antonio and areas immediately east, west and south of the city center experience higher poverty, lower educational attainment, and higher rates of morbidity and disease¹.
- South and West sides of San Antonio have been hit the hardest by COVID-19, several zip codes on the West Side having 1,000+ confirmed cases (See Map 1 & Table 1)².
- Black and Latino communities have disproportionately experienced a loss of jobs, have jobs that place them at higher risk, and are more likely to live in multigenerational homes³.
- The partnership with Las Mujeres Westside is a long standing partnership with the School of Nursing Center for Community-based Health Promotion with Women and Children, together in collaboration with Domesticas Unidas. Las Mujeres Westside offers women support, provides opportunities and impacts communities through service, education and empowerment. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Las Mujeres Westside and Domesticas Unidas have remained active and loyal to helping the women and communities they serve.

METHODS

- IRB was submitted and project was considered non-regulated research.
- Sixteen semi structured interviews were conducted with women from two community partners Las Mujeres Westside and Domesticas Unidas.
- We used convenience sampling to select the women we would interview.
- Interviews were conducted via Zoom, telephone and face-to-face and, in the preferred language of the participant (English or Spanish).
- Interviews were recorded and transcribed verbatim.
- Participants were compensated for their time and participation in the study.
- Analysis is currently underway using Microsoft Word.
- Study team is using qualitative content analysis to analyze the data.

RESULTS

- Participants had a mean age of 57.4 years, 9 were unemployed or had reduced hours at the time of interview.
- Commonalities that arose from the interviews included:
 - A reliance and trust in faith and God
 - Concern for their family/other people
 - Desire to return to work
 - Longing for personal touch
 - the steadfastness of the community at large

Map 1: COVID-19 Surveillance Map San Antonio Cumulative Cases



Table 1: Zip Codes with Highest Cumulative Cases

| Zip Code | Cumulative Case Numbers |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 78207 | 2,796 |
| 78245 | 2,553 |
| 78278 | 2,451 |
| 78223 | 2,228 |
| 78237 | 2,028 |
| 78227 | 1,908 |
| 78221 | 1,816 |
| 78201 | 1,642 |
| 78201 | 1,526 |
| 78211 | 1,308 |

CONCLUSIONS

- In order to elicit change, it is important to highlight the hardships and inequities women in these communities face.
- It is equally important to showcase resilience and how the community has come together to help each other in this time of crisis, despite limited resources.
- Results from this project will be shared with the women who participated and the next steps to determine action will be decided upon collectively.

References

1. American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. Census Bureau. <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2019/acs/5-year/2019-acs-5-year-estimates.html>
2. Texas Health News (2020). <https://www.texashis.com/news/2020/07/20/covid-19-cases-in-san-antonio/>
3. United States Census Bureau (2020). <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/2020/2020-acs-5-year-estimates.html>

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Las Mujeres Westside