



EMORY

ROLLINS
SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC
HEALTH

Interfaith Health Program
Hubert Department of Global Health

Multi-Sectoral Collaborative Approach to Flu Clinic and Education Initiative

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

Presented by Debra Boudreaux

Core Partners

- LA County Department of Public Health
- Herald Christian Center SGB Health Consortium
- Buddhism Consortium
- Walgreen's Pharmacy
- San Bernardino Health Consortium



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Objective 1: Increase influenza awareness through FBO education and outreach

- Hosted 7 health information sessions for FBO and community leaders to discuss the challenges of flu related deaths and need for increased awareness – 270 attended
- Introduced the Model Practice Framework to ten religious leaders and increased their commitment to provide influenza education outreach in vulnerable Asian communities, (example)
- Tzu Chi actively participated in LA County Public Health planning and information meetings
 - Tzu Chi was able to incorporate up-to-date educational policies and strategies on Ebola information and influenza vaccinations



ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONTINUED)

Objective 2: Engage diverse community partners in vaccination outreach to vulnerable populations

- Seven flu clinics conducted in San Bernardino County to reach undocumented
 - 2135 participated in information sessions and 1,578 accepted flu vaccinations (74% vaccination acceptance rate)
- 10,000 educational flyers distributed and as a result 1835 individuals took health actions - 735 received flu shots at 3 additional Tzu Chi medical outreach events
- 20 church, education, and community leaders worked as trained volunteers supporting Tzu Chi's information sessions and flu clinics – translating, assisting with forms, providing information, etc.



CHALLENGES

- Lower vaccination rates
- Perceptions “not as effective”
- Too many viruses (Ebola, whooping cough, etc.) competing fears, confusion
- Reduced public health clinical human resources
- Stretched resources in FBO and CBO outreach partners



CAPACITIES

Multi-Sectoral Collaboration

- Tzu Chi collaborates with a wide array of faith groups and leaders, schools, senior centers, the public health sector, and private sector organizations for resource leverage, education outreach, and flu clinics
- By working closely in the community – clinical care with frequent medical/non-medical outreaches, home visits, etc.– trust can be developed, which will subsequently create a space for strong collaborations and leadership in said collaborations to occur.
- After years of attending and participating in public health meetings, persistently showing up, Tzu Chi has been able to develop not just trust, but also a reputation as a credible source for “community surveillance”.

Volunteers as Groundwork and Compassion-Driven Flexibility

- The largest and most unique capacity is the volunteer nature of Tzu Chi. The mobilization of general and medical volunteers, which includes nurses, dentists, doctors, surgeons, optometrists, etc., can exponentially expand the reach
- Using compassionate volunteers, Tzu Chi is able to be very flexible, reaching remote locations and populations.



OPPORTUNITIES

- Using public health emergent information, Tzu Chi is able to work with local church/temple groups, schools, and senior centers to provide education on enteroviruses and Ebola, that reduces fear and misunderstanding
- The trust and connection that trusted CBOs and FBOs have with the community helps counter hardline anti-vaccination rhetoric
- Since the roll out of the ACA, Tzu Chi has been a CC enrollment entity with several enrollment agents



QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What more would you like to know about this site's work?
2. As an FBO, you have been recognized by public health as a credible source for "community surveillance" (Mimi's language vis-a-vis NACCHO). What does that mean and what could it mean for you and others to have that kind of role?

