Latino Families: Nurturing Development from the Clinic to the Community

Photo credit: Tobias Shearer
Latino Families: Nurturing Development from the Clinic to the Community

Julie M. Linton, MD, FAAP
Associate Professor, USCSOM-Greenville
PRISMA Health Children’s Hospital-Upstate
Medical Director, PASOs Greenville

Rut Rivera
Manager, PASOs Greenville
PRISMA Health-Upstate Affiliate
Disclosure

• In the past 12 months, we have had no relevant financial relationships with the manufacturer(s) of any commercial product(s) and/or provider(s) of commercial services discussed in this CME activity.

• We do not intend to discuss an unapproved/investigative use of a commercial product/device in my presentation.
Objectives

1. Consider evolving demographics in South Carolina

2. Describe the impact of current immigration policy and anti-immigrant rhetoric on the health and wellbeing of Latino families in SC

3. Describe culturally-relevant strategies from provision of care, including setting the stage to discuss sensitive conversations, warm hand-offs for referrals to community-based resources, school readiness promotion (Reach Out and Read, Help Me Grow), and cultural pride reinforcement.

4. Describe the work of PASOs, founded in 2005 to help the Latino community and service providers work together for strong and healthy families.
Menti.com

- https://www.mentimeter.com/public/4935becc5ee39e4587085198efdaabc4
And, yes, words matter. They may reflect reality, but they also have the power to change reality – the power to uplift and to abase.

William Raspberry
Common Language

Children in Immigrant Families

Citizens
- Mixed-status Families
  - Family members are all citizens

Non-citizens
- Lawfully present/lawfully residing immigrants
- DACA Youth
- Immigrants without legal status

Image adapted from image by Ricky Choi, MD, MPH and Julie M. Linton, MD
Children Whose Families Prefer to Speak Spanish

Children

Latino Children

Latino Children Whose Families Prefer Spanish

Latino Children In Immigrant Families Who Prefer to Speak Spanish

Image adapted from Kori Flower, MD, MPH; UNC Pediatrics
Hispanic or Latino Children
Hispanics in Greenville

https://www.hispanicalliancesc.com/hispanicsingreenville
Children in Immigrant Families

Kids Count Data Center. [http://datacenter.kidscount.org](http://datacenter.kidscount.org)
Current State of Affairs

• Increased border enforcement
• Expanded interior enforcement
• Refugee and Muslim travel ban
• Termination of DACA
• Threatened participation in public programs: “Public Charge”
• Ongoing rhetoric that criminalizes immigrant families and threatens health and wellbeing
The Health Impact of Emerging Policies
Toxic Stress

Center on the Developing Child
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Persistent Stress Changes Brain Architecture

Normal
- Typical neuron—many connections

Toxic stress
- Damaged neuron—fewer connections

Prefrontal Cortex and Hippocampus

Sources: Radley et al. (2004) Bock et al. (2005)
Adverse Childhood Experiences

Mechanism by Which Adverse Childhood Experiences Influence Health and Well-being Throughout the Lifespan

https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/acestudy/about.html
Immigration Enforcement and Health

Restrictive immigration policies and increased immigration enforcement are associated with negative health outcomes.

Hatzenbuehler et al., 2017; Lopez et al., 2017; Novak, Geronimus, & Martinez Cardosa, 2017; Potochnick, Chen, & Perrera, 2017; Rhodes et al., 2015; Torres et al., 2018; Vargas, 2015; Krieger, et al., 2018
How Can We Nurture Developing Minds?

- High Quality Health Care
- Medical Education
- Advocacy
- Community Engagement
- Research and Public Health

Individual Clinic
Community Regional National “Public Sphere”
First Impressions

• Lucila Lopez Hernandez is a 4-year-old girl whose parents have brought her to clinic for fever and sore throat.
• There is a medical interpreter present, as Lucila’s parents prefer to speak Spanish.

What are some techniques you can implement to create a “safer” space for families?
DO THE BEST YOU CAN UNTIL YOU KNOW BETTER. THEN WHEN YOU KNOW BETTER, DO BETTER.

MAYA ANGELOU
Cultural Humility and Cultural Safety

- Cultural humility: Openness and respect for differences\(^1\)

- Cultural safety: Recognition of power differences and inequities in health and the clinical encounter that result from social, historical, economic, and political circumstances\(^2\)

Setting the Stage

• **Welcome** the family to your space
• Confirm and communicate using the family’s **preferred language**
• Create a “**safer” space**
  • Sit down
  • Speak slowly, calmly
  • Maintain eye contact
  • Avoid jargon
  • Attend to nonverbal cues and body language
• **Verbally set the stage**
  • “I would like to ask you a lot of personal questions that relate to your health and your family’s access to services that keep your family healthy.”
  • **DESCRIBE CONCEPT OF CONFIDENTIALITY**
## Cross-Cultural Approaches

**Kleinman’s Questions**

- What do you think has caused your problem?
- Why do you think it started when it did?
- What do you think your sickness does to you? How does it work?
- How severe is your sickness? Will it have a short or long course?
- What kind of treatment do you think you should receive?
- What are the most important results you hope to receive from this treatment?
- What are the chief problems your sickness has caused for you?
- What do you fear most about your sickness?

Creating Safe(r) Spaces

We care about your health, not your immigration status.

We respect the privacy of all patients, regardless of immigration status. We want you to get the care you need today, before you get sick, and before it becomes an emergency. All New Yorkers should seek care without fear.

All children and their families are welcome here.

Todos los niños y sus familias son bienvenidos aquí.

Image from the Downtown Health Plaza, Wake Forest School of Medicine

Image from Bellevue Hospital, courtesy of Dr. Benard Dreyer
Supporting Families

- Read, talk, sing, play
- Parental self care
- Cultural pride reinforcement
- Know Your Rights
Reach Out and Read
Integrated Resources

• Co-located services
  • Case management
  • Social work
  • WIC, Medicaid
  • PASOs

• Warm hand-offs
Advocacy: Many Facets, Many Levels

- High Quality Health Care
- Medical Education
- Research and Public Health
- Advocacy
- Community Engagement
- Children and Families

Individual Clinic
Community
Regional
National
“Public Sphere”
Community Engagement: PASOs

HEALTHY CHILDREN.
KNOWLEDGEABLE FAMILIES.
STRONG COMMUNITIES.
One paso (step) at a time.
Who am I?
What is PASOs?

• PASOs is a community-based organization that provides culturally-responsive education on family health, early childhood, and positive parenting skills; individual guidance for participants in need of resources; and partnership with health care and social service providers to help them provide more effective services.

• **Mission:** to help build a stronger South Carolina by supporting Latino communities with education, advocacy, and leadership development.

• **Vision:** to have healthy Latino communities contributing to a stronger South Carolina
What is PASOs?

Est. 2005
Pronounced: Pah-sohs
“steps” in Spanish

• **Vision:**
  Healthy Latino communities contributing to a stronger South Carolina

• **Mission:**
  PASOs helps build a stronger South Carolina by supporting Latino communities with education, advocacy, and leadership development.

Website: [www.scpasos.org](http://www.scpasos.org) //Facebook: @pasosprograms //Twitter: @SCPASOs
In 2005...

• South Carolina had the **fastest** growing Latino population in the country.

  – There was a massive increase in birth and fertility rates of Latinos, but there were not sufficient corresponding services to meet the needs of this population

• Latinos in SC were younger, less insured, of lower socio-economic status and had higher fertility rates than other racial and ethnic groups. Now in 2018, this is still true!

Smithwick-Leone, J. 2005 Looking at the present and towards the future: the perinatal outlook for Latina women and children in the midlands region of South Carolina. University of South Carolina. Columbia, South Carolina

*Healthy Children. Knowledgeable Families. Strong Communities.*
Where is PASOs?

PASOs is in 8 counties and offers service to 13 neighbor counties, and supports individuals in 38 counties in SC

**PASOs is in:**

- University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health
- Prisma Health
- Medical University of South Carolina, College of Nursing
- Beaufort/Jasper/Hampton Comprehensive Services
- Upstate Family Resource Center
- Sumter Family Health Center
PASOs Greenville Programs

- PASOs Health Connections
- Connections for Child Development
- Community Leadership Development
- Organizational Capacity Building
- Pediatric Literacy Program

Top Support Interventions

- Medical Homes
- Prenatal Care
- Family Planning
- Dentist
- Adult Education
- Baby/Child Health Needs
- Early Education Resources
- Support with Legal Situations/Documents
- Folic Acid Information

A note to end with...

“They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.”

Maya Angelou
Group Discussion/ Questions?

• https://www.mentimeter.com/public/f77d6e15a2b84ee459a3b91d396d5103
Contacts in Greenville

• Rut Rivera, PASOs Program Manager
  rut@scpasos.org       rrivera2@ghs.org
  Cell: 864.395.9443    O: 864.522.1415

Guillermo Martinez, Resource Specialist
  guillermo@scpasos.org
  Cell: 864.434.2748

• Sebastian Villacis, Resource Specialist
  sebastian@scpasos.org
  Cell: 864.399.3797
Conclusions

• Our nation is better when all children and families can reach their full potential.

• We all have a role and responsibility to work together to create a healthy future for all children—no matter zip code or passport.

Photo Credit: Veronica Cardenas
Acknowledgements

- PRISMA Health-Upstate Department of Pediatrics
- USC SOM-Greenville
- PASOs Greenville team (Sebastian Villacis, Guillermo Martinez, Jennifer Snow)
- PASOs South Carolina
- Accountable Communities
- SC Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
- Community partners
- Children and families who offer the privilege of their trust
References, 1


4. AAP. Trauma toolbox for primary care. M. D. Dowd, Editor. www.aap.org/traumaguide


References, 2


