

IMPACT REPORT



Clarkston
Summit

20
22



"This year's summit felt like a family reunion. It was a collaborative environment where everyone came together as a community to improve the health and well-being of Clarkston residents."



**- Dr. Mary Helen O'Connor
Deputy Director
Prevention Research Center
at Georgia State University**

*L-R. Dr. Mary Helen O'Connor with Amed Kelli;
Dean Rodney Lyn, GSU SPH; Mayor Beverly Burks, Clarkston, GA;
Dr. Heval Kelli.*

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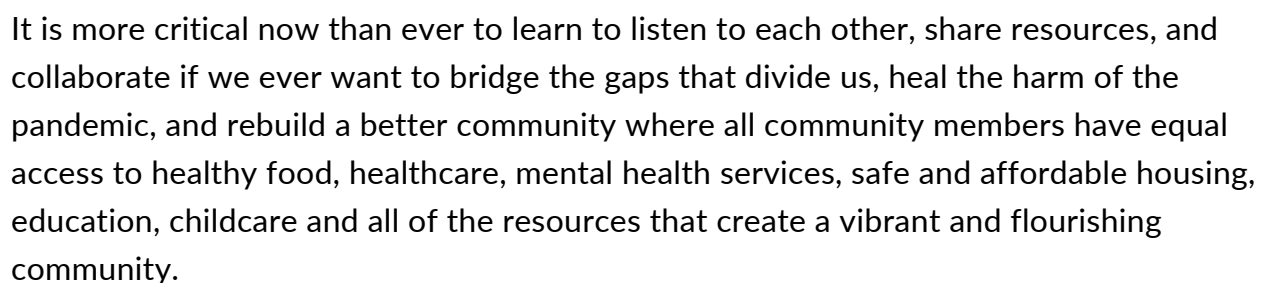
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Clarkston Summit was held on May 14, 2022 on the campus of Perimeter College, Georgia State University. The mission of the 2022 Summit organizing committee was to create a day of listening to the needs, desires, and dreams of the community. Creating an event to ethically, efficiently, and practically provide a platform for so many diverse community members is perpetually challenging. Whether engaging in research, service, or partnership with our community members, our guiding principle is “community first.”

What this means includes thinking about and planning for the vast diversity of language, culture, and everyday reality of our community's residents. Whether a newly arrived Afghan evacuee, Somali community leader, Congolese working mom, or Syrian nursing student, we wanted all participants to feel welcomed, valued, and have the ability to share their thoughts, concerns, problems, dreams, and ideas. It was unconventional and somewhat risky as far as traditional academic conferences go, but the day was a success. We created a call for community organizations to present in three morning panels broadly categorized as resettlement, education, and health. We expected and received robust participation from the long-serving and established organizations in the community, as well as small, new, and more grass-roots organizations.

Ultimately, the diversity of voices in the morning panels was testament to the intentional work of encouraging and supporting a wide range of partners and community representatives from a group of Congolese youth expressing concerns about health of their families to resettlement agencies sharing the extreme stress of the current burdens on the resettlement system with more new arrivals than ever before.

Working in under-resourced communities can be fraught with competition and territoriality. We have strived to create an event highlighting the assets and resources of the Clarkston community, letting the community lead the conversation on its own needs and wishes, and uplifting the resilience, strength, and endurance of our residents. We are immensely grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the day.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Clarkston Summit would not have been possible without the generous support of our funders: the Georgia State Office of University Research and Services, the Atlanta Global Studies Center, Emory's Office of Global Strategies and Initiatives, the Georgia State Perimeter College Clarkston Center for Community Engagement, the Georgia State Prevention Research Center. Donors of other in-kind services and supplies include the City of Clarkston, the Georgia State School of Public Health, Georgia State's Perimeter College, the Emory Trauma and Emergency Department physicians and medical students at Grady Hospital, Grady EMS, and CDF Action.

The all-volunteer Clarkston Summit Planning Committee: Roberta Malavenda, Diana Wrenn Rapp, Temple Moore, Dr. Saria Hassan, Bracolla Peters and Dr. Ashli Owen-Smith deserve enormous praise and thanks for the time, creativity, energy, and dedication.

Mayor Beverly Burks has been an advocate for the community, GSU, and the PRC from the very beginning of our collaboration. She facilitated our morning listening sessions encouraging robust community participation and conversation.

We were thrilled to host our CDC Program Officer Reginald Gooden and share the work the PRC is facilitating in the community.

We would also like to thank our team of student volunteers and graduate assistants, PRC faculty and staff: Erin Weeks, Saja Khader, Amy Nyman, Raven Hudson, Julie Roseman, Amelia Phan, Suad Ali, Hasset Zelealem, Khadija Abourawi, and Dr. Iris Feinberg. Our Fulbright scholar, Dr. Dawood Azeemy. Dean Rodney Lyn for his support and participation. Perimeter College facilities staff Marcus Cooper, Reginald Thornton, and James McBrayer as well as the GSU Public Safety team. Also, thank you to photographer, Leita Cowart.

Finally – the most sincere thanks to our vibrant, courageous Clarkston community – residents, organizations, leaders, collaborators. Clarkston is a unique and exceptional place that beautifully exemplifies how people from every corner of the world can learn to support one another.

Dr. Mary Helen O'Connor, Deputy Director
Dr. Michael Eriksen, Principal Investigator
The Prevention Research Center at Georgia State University



SUMMIT SESSIONS

There were three morning panels broadly categorized as resettlement, education, and health. Following these panels, conference attendees moved to a lunchtime expo of more than 35 organizations; a printed resource guide of Clarkston organizations was provided to each conference attendee. We were overwhelmed at the response from organizations eager to participate – whether large institutions like Emory Health and DeKalb County Schools or smaller CBOs like Tapestri, Friends of Refugees and the brand-new Afghan Alliance of Georgia. Applying the lessons learned from previous community events, we knew community residents would need and want to bring their children.

Special care was taken to provide activities and a safe space for children including storytelling and art activities. Also, as part of a supplemental CDC vaccine confidence grant, we partnered with CORE/IRC and the Dekalb Board of Health's vaccine team who administered more than 100 COVID vaccinations including pediatric and booster shots during the expo. Following the expo, working sessions were organized around topics the community had identified as priorities among community leaders. Each session was focused on solution-building with a specific request of the facilitators to encourage community residents to express their vision and ideas for ways to solve issues in the areas of employment, housing, health, mental health, education, early learning, childcare and resettlement. Reports on the activities of these sessions are summarized in this report.



Safa Tokhi, Clarkson Community Member, asks a question during the Clarkston Summit 2022 morning panel.



Kimberly Herard, a Resident at Emory Hospital, teaching Stop the Bleed training.

Finally, a new feature of the summit included CPR and Stop the Bleed skill training in multiple languages for community members.

In partnership with Grady Emergency Department Physicians and Trauma Surgeons and funding from a summit supporter (Atlanta Global Studies Center), we provided a culturally and linguistically adapted version of Stop the Bleed, a life saving skills course, in Somali, Dari, Pashto, Burmese, Spanish, and Arabic to interested conference attendees. This team, which also included Grady EMTs and medical students from Emory and Morehouse, offered both CPR and Stop the Bleed training at the summit.

We have learned that these skill building opportunities are highly valued by the community.

RESETTLEMENT

Years of massive cuts to resettlement infrastructure and then the tremendous redirection to welcome unprecedented numbers of new arrivals continues to strain and stress the

community. Shaista Amani of Refugee Women's Network (RWN)– reiterated that new Americans need help beyond the first 6 months of arrival, agreeing with Dr. Heval Kelli's introductory remarks that work needs to holistically approach the needs of new arrivals– they are not in an emergency state, they are in a growth state and need nurturing and networking.

Ms. Amani emphasized the three most crucial needs for new arrivals: English, English, English. Panelists and working groups sessions agree and call attention to the persistent need for more and better English instruction along with interpretation services which are expensive and inaccessible for most organizations. This need crosses all areas of the community: education, health, legal representation, employment.

Dr. Hogai Nassery, founder of the Afghan Alliance of Georgia, discussed the fact that no systems were prepared for what has happened this past year and with her new and small organization sometimes welcoming 20 families a week they quickly learned they were in a perpetual state of crisis management. Dr. Nassery also emphasized some of her community's most urgent needs include accessing dental care and family planning services.

Other salient points brought up included the rising rates of substance abuse among community members especially youth. Also, asylum seekers (including the Afghan humanitarian parolees) are in a constant state of fear and stress because of their immigration status. Panelists agreed that new arrivals in Clarkston were having an easier time than those that had to be settled in satellite communities like Savannah, Macon, and Gainesville which lack the experience and diversity of the Clarkston community in resettlement.

Among solutions presented in the sessions, community aspirations include the development of a MARTA app in common community languages, using off-duty school buses for transportation to social service providers (legal and medical appointments, language classes), hiring of mental health system navigators (New American Pathways is actively recruiting) and developing a system that recognizes education and professional training in sending countries so that new arrivals can contribute to the community by continuing their careers and education here.

SOLUTIONS PRESENTED:

- **Development of a MARTA app in common community languages**
- **Using off-duty buses for transportation to social service providers**
- **Hiring of mental health system navigators**
- **Development of a system that recognizes education and professional training in sending countries**

EDUCATION & EARLY LEARNING

The morning education panel included a wide range of providers and began with comments from the Global Village Project's Crispin Wilondja who emphasized the language barriers between the school and parents as well as the extra burden their students carry as both full-time learners and often family providers (cooking, care of siblings, cleaning) as middle school-age students. Latonya Winters-Buford, family engagement liaison for DeKalb County School District, highlighted the need for more partner innovation, collaboration and communication as well as resources and opportunities to communicate and collaborate because, "If we want to go fast, we can go alone. But if we want to go far, we need to go together." Amber McCorkle, Director of Education and Programs with the Clarkston Community Center, pointed out the equity issues in the community asking that more be done to improve the schools and programs serving Clarkston residents.

Roberta Malavenda, with CDF Action, agreed that language access is important and learning English is important, but also emphasized the importance of babies, toddlers and preschoolers learning in their home language. To address this need that was also requested by the community, the READY School programs (free early learning, in-language schools in apartment complexes and churches) have been developed with more to come thanks

to Congressional funding from Representative Hank Johnson's advocacy. Mary Baxter, Instructional Coordinator at Georgia Piedmont Technical College called attention to the need for adult education being accessible –meaning affordable, with transportation, childcare services, and with language support.

Mrs. Malavenda also highlighted issues identified and being addressed by the City of Clarkston Early Learning Task Force, which she facilitates: (a) increase access to and affordability of child care - difficulty for families in navigating enrollment and subsidy applications; (b) increase the number of bi-lingual early learning teachers and home visitors; (c) increase wages for early learning teachers; and (d) increase opportunities for community-based early learning and outdoor play in Clarkston.

NEED TO INCREASE:

- Access to and affordability of childcare
- Number of bi-lingual early learning teachers and home visitors
- Wages for early learning teachers
- Opportunities for community-based early learning and outdoor play



Global Village Project's Crispin Ilombe Wilondja listens as Latonya Winters-Buford, family engagement liaison for Dekalb County School District talks about language barriers.



L-R: Mayor Beverly Burks, Clarkston, GA with Education & Early Learning Panelists: Crispin Ilombe Wilondja, Latonya Winters-Buford, Amber McCorkle, Roberta Malavenda, and Mary Baxter.

Mayor Burks asked the panel about lessons learned from COVID with the most frequently referenced needs being community digital literacy and services, the need for wraparound services for families, and the value of in-person education. Virtual education is not a replacement for in-person learning for

this community. Panelists also agreed there needed to be more opportunities for the community to “sit and talk” like the summit or a think-tank to converse about community needs and aspirations. There was also a call for equity and inclusion in the community so that collaborating with people included all – people who are black, white, refugee, immigrant, “wherever you are from.” The designing of programs should be based on the needs of the community and not just individuals, businesses, collaborating partners, or funding sources.

Indian Creek Elementary teacher and Community Advisory Board member, Adam Nykamp, facilitated the afternoon working session. One issue that was discussed was the incorrect school placement of refugee students. The school system places them based on age and not on knowledge/skill level. In addition, many refugee students work and support their household which can cause suboptimal performance in school.

There is also a major language barrier between schools and the families they are serving. This creates poor communication with parents, as well as challenges for students. Another concern that has persisted in the community despite massive effort to address it during the pandemic is the digital divide which further alienates new families. There is a need for donated technology such as laptops, as well as technical training in using these devices. Residents also shared that refugee resettlement and education system support have decreased in the community. One community member expressed that, “refugee adolescents need more support than younger children.”

The proposed community solutions included increasing the accessibility, availability, and quality of English language instruction in the community – a refrain heard in every session and conversation during the summit. It was suggested that organizations such as churches and community centers should provide these classes, not just the school district for students – enhanced instruction for students and other locations and times for adults. Community members also requested increased accessibility and funding of afterschool activities, ESOL programs, and digital devices and digital literacy. The development of a strategic “Education Plan of Action” was a recommendation that could also engage policy makers and elected officials to advocate on behalf of the community.



HEALTH

An earnest group of Congolese youth began the session. Among their concerns was that their community believes their faith will protect them from the pandemic.

These youth expressed their appreciation for having a community leader like Thomas Roger being an ambassador for the vaccine and bringing it to their community and helping them understand how the vaccine will protect them from COVID. They also expressed concern about increases in substance abuse among youth as well as dropping out of school, working factory jobs for their entire lives without pursuing higher education, and early/child marriage increasing in the community.



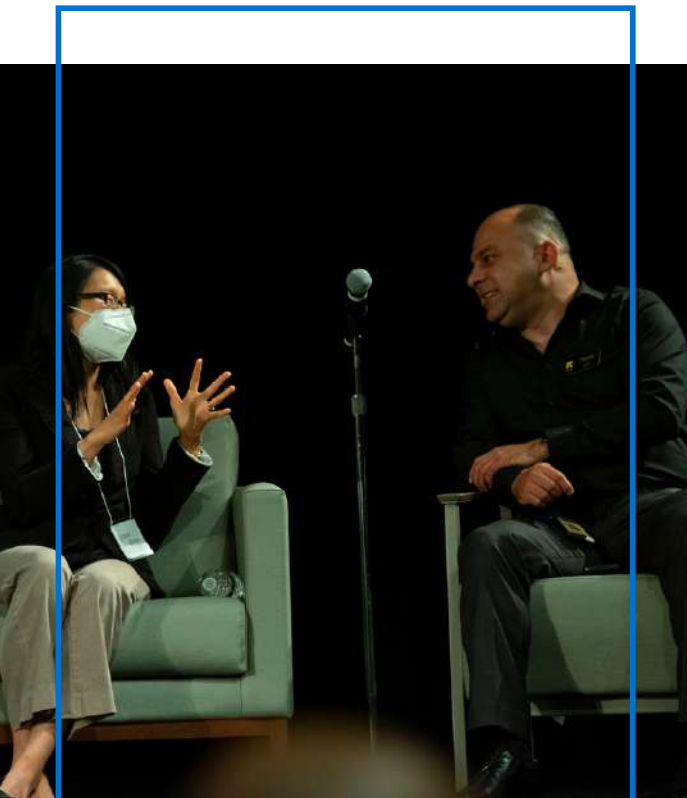
Congolese youth presenting their concerns about health issues in their community during the morning panel discussions.

The issue of language proficiency was prevalent throughout the session with the Swahili speakers commenting how this prevented their parents from knowing what was going on with their children's health and education, Drs. Aziz (IRC) and Kim (Ethne Health) agreed that language proficiency, cultural dissonance, and a lack of transportation are the primary barriers to positive health outcomes in Clarkston. Dr. Kim also pointed out the complexity of healthcare system and heavy chronic disease burden they see among their patients.

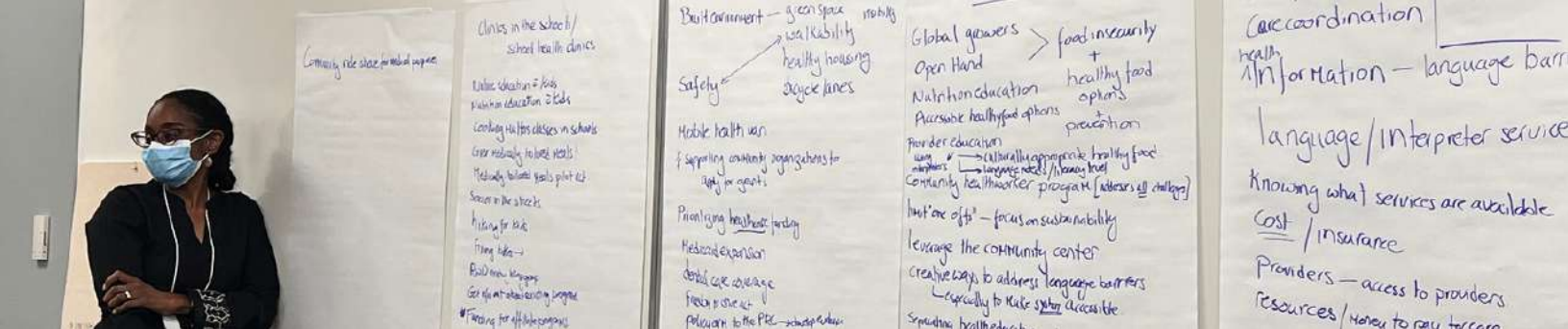
Muzhda Oriakhil from Embrace reiterated lack of transportation, language proficiency, and the absence of dental services in the community as primary concerns. David Kendrick from NAMI DeKalb and Aruna

Shrestha of Tapestri explained the difficulty in identifying mental health concerns in the community because of stigma and a lack of resources. Each of these concerns was affirmed in the afternoon health working session facilitated by Dr. Saria Hassan: transportation, care coordination, culturally and linguistically responsive health information, language barriers, lack of and affordability of language/interpreter services, limited capacity of existing organizations, lack of insurance and resources to pay for care, and the limits and condition of the built environment to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Among the recommendations the community expressed was strong advocacy from organizations to prioritize funding for healthcare including the expansion of Medicaid, dental care coverage, and urging well-funded organizations like Emory and CHOA to invest in the community.



Dr. Esther Kim of Ethne Health and Dr. Omar Aziz of CORE/IRC discuss the barriers that affect positive health outcomes.



The working group suggested the PRC should develop a policy arm to advance work in this area by translating research findings into policy recommendations specifically around health.

Community ride sharing for medical visits and mobile health vans was also discussed, but there was wide consensus that a culturally and linguistically concordant community health worker program could “address all of these problems.” Another frequent request from the community was the need for volunteers to be better trained, prepared, and supervised to ethically and effectively serve in Clarkston.

The community’s aspirations for programmatic solutions included providing mentorship and organizing activities for youth like sports, drama, hiking, biking, and spiritual clubs and attracting more youth programming to Clarkston. They expressed a desire for nature and nutrition education in schools, improvements to the built environment including healthy housing, bike lanes, safe greenspaces, and improved walkability.

There was widespread agreement that hiring from the community, supporting small organizations, building stronger community connections, and talking openly and frequently about mental health to reduce stigma, and having the community drive the decision-making are best practices for all volunteers and organizations working in the community.

1 RIDE SHARING & MOBILE HEALTH VANS



2 BETTER TRAINED VOLUNTEERS



3 YOUTH ACTIVITIES



EMPLOYMENT

Ahmad Habibzai, Employment Coordinator at Inspiritus, facilitated this afternoon working session. Participants raised issues including transportation accessibility, training, navigating systems, workplace safety, and resources. Participants discussed various transportation barriers that impact people's ability to work such as the lack of reliable transportation to and from work especially amongst new refugees who cannot obtain a driver's license. The Georgia driving test only being administered in English has been a persistent barrier to transportation and employment requiring driving skills for many residents. Many refugees struggle with job readiness and employers need to be culturally aware and sensitive.



Ahmad Habibzai facilitated the Employment working session. Ahmad says that refugees are hard workers, but have many barriers to overcome.

In addition, session participants voiced concern about systemic discrimination against refugees in many workplaces. Navigating systems to get more information regarding employment rules and regulations is difficult. Another area of concern involves the transfer and acknowledgement of international education and professional certifications. This keeps thousands of new arrivals from continuing in their careers including law, medicine, engineering, teaching and trades like electrical, HVAC, and mechanical work. Lastly, residents mentioned a lack of linguistically diverse resources and affordable childcare programs which often prevent people from working.

“There are a lot of barriers. A lot of the community members don’t speak English, but resettlement organizations can enroll them in ESOL classes to know a bit of English so they can communicate when they are working. There is a transportation problem – refugees are new to the country and can’t get a driver’s license. Also, refugees are not used to the internet and to the digital world, sending emails or completing paperwork online. These are some of the problems and we try and work with them.”

– Ahmad Habibzai

The group brainstormed a variety of solutions including subsidies for employers to provide reliable transportation. In addition to efforts underway to develop ballots in the most commonly spoken languages in the community, this group recommended policy advocates also work to have the Georgia Driving Test offered in refugee-spoken languages. The group hoped to see more outreach to employers unfamiliar with the needs of new arrivals and suggested resettlement agencies put a focus on providing training to employers about the refugee experience so that they would be more interested in hiring refugees. On the other side of this relationship, the group felt refugees needed more and better cultural orientation about being a part of the workforce in the United States. Discrimination among refugees in U.S. companies was reportedly common and participants expressed a desire for more collaboration among resettlement agencies in protecting their clients from workplace discrimination.



Maja Hasic and David Kendrick both agree that mental health resources are needed.

MENTAL HEALTH

The issue of mental health was raised throughout all of the morning panel sessions, with many panelists stressing the extent of mental health issues and the need for mental health support among those in the

Clarkston community.

NAMI DeKalb's David Kendrick introduced his organization's mission to provide mental health resources for DeKalb County and discussed the link between physical and mental health, underscoring the need for equal access to both. Tapestri's Maja Hasic agreed with the need to provide access and to encourage people to feel comfortable accepting mental health services, as community members who have experienced trauma are often apprehensive about reaching out for help.

At a later panel on Resettlement, Darlene Lynch, from the Center for Victims of Torture and CRSA, spoke about the mental healthcare they provide for refugees and others who have endured war and persecution. She discussed the pervasive mental health issues and the need for more mental health resources within this community. Minas Rodriquez from New American Pathways also noted mental health as an urgent concern, with noticeable increases in domestic violence and other traumatic experiences many community members have suffered. Dede Ntumba, representing the Congolese Community of Atlanta, mentioned issues with alcohol and drugs, including among teenagers, and the difficulties of working hard for their families at a young age without enough education or language skills.

Panelists shared recommendations and solutions to mitigate the mental health concerns in the community. David Kendrick recommended recruiting and training specialized resources from within each community. In addition, Maja Hasic mentioned that tele-mental health has worked well during the pandemic, once patients were coached on the technology needed.

Last year, NAMI DeKalb held a well-attended multicultural mental health fair in Clarkston. For now, they will continue to assist people virtually.

NAMI is also working to create print materials in a variety of languages so they can reach a wide range of community residents.



HOUSING

Facilitated by City of Clarkston Councilman Awet Eyasu, the housing solution building session allowed community members to discuss their concerns surrounding housing in Clarkston,

as well as develop possible solutions. The primary concerns include the substandard living conditions and unaffordable housing costs caused by gentrification occurring in Clarkston. Due to the increasing price of housing in the area, many residents are forced to live in inadequate housing conditions that include water leaks, poor ventilation, dirty carpets, and pest infestation. These conditions are associated with various negative health outcomes, including chronic disease, injury, and poor mental health. In addition, many residents live in multi-family homes and hundreds of residents have applied for COVID-related funding in order to afford housing.

The group supported the creation of an advocacy coalition to work with government toward subsidies and code enforcement as many of the residents are afraid or unable to submit code violations.

VCN GRANT

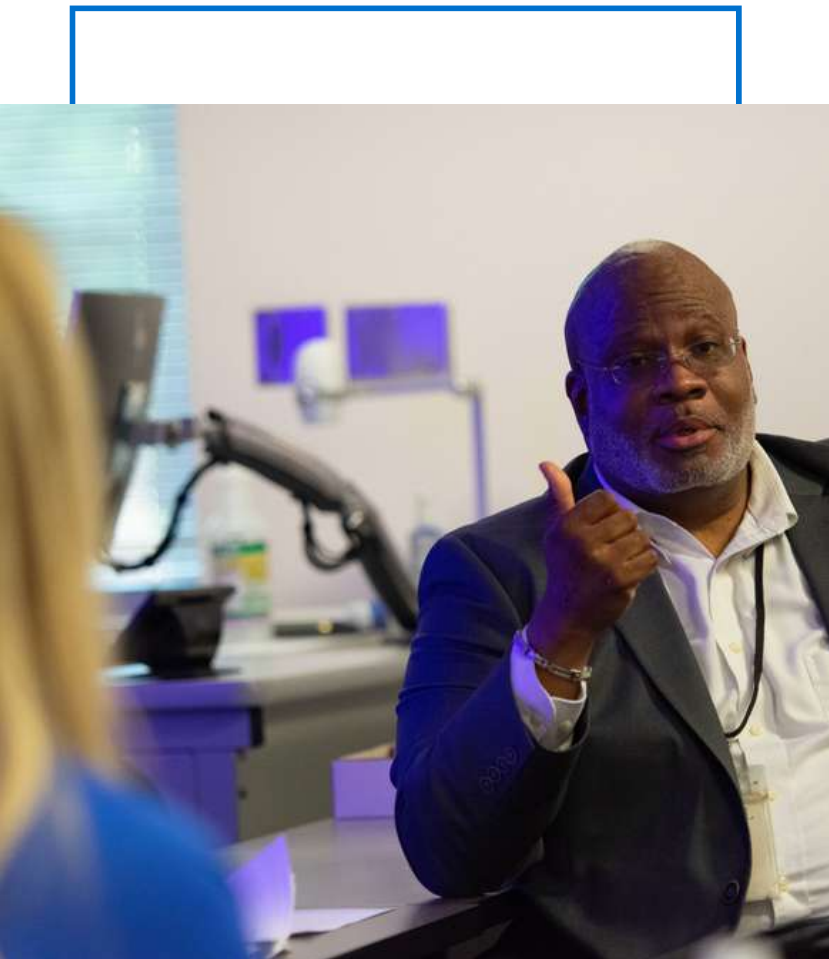
The VCN grant workshop included an engaging discussion on the second round of Vaccine Confidence Network (VCN) Funding being awarded by the Prevention Research Center at Georgia State University in the summer of 2022. The workshop included an overview of the eligibility requirements for applicants as well as review of fundable activities and programs and tips for writing a competitive proposal.

Participants were encouraged to present their ideas for projects and discuss questions about the application with a member of the PRC team.

Providing grant guidance and support to small organizations has been requested by the community. It is an unmet need for larger organizations and institutions to address.



Councilman Awet Eyasu and Pastor Trent DeLoach, Clarkston International Bible Church, listen to residents share their stories about inadequate housing in Clarkston.



Wendell Fields discusses VCN Grants with Erin Weeks, Prevention Research Center at Georgia State University.

"Our partnership with Georgia State's PRC has been extremely successful! They have been an integral force in communicating critical issues with cultural competence that impact our students and families. We are appreciative of their work and dedication."

***- Principal Stephanie Brown-Bryant
Indian Creek Elementary School***



Dr. Michael Eriksen, Principal Investigator, The Prevention Research Center at Georgia State University and Principal Stephanie Brown-Bryant, Indian Creek Elementary School, Clarkston, Georgia.

COMMUNITY TRAININGS

Building on the successful adaptation and translation of "Stop the Bleed" for the Clarkston community in March, a lay-person intervention designed to save lives in case of traumatic bleeding injuries, the organizing committee was pleased to offer more STB training along with CPR training. The community has requested trainings in other languages and a partnership with Grady Hospital's emergency and trauma departments has resulted in the delivery of "Stop the Bleed" in 5 additional languages to more than 50 community members.



At the summit, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training was led by John Rapp, Paramedic and Certified AHA CPR instructor, Grady Hospital, and Dr. Esther Hwang, Emergency Medicine Physician, Grady Hospital and Emory Healthcare. Participants listened to a short presentation on what to do in emergency situations and watched a demonstration of how to save a life using CPR. Individuals worked in small groups with the facilitators and translators to practice life-saving compressions on adult and infant mannequins and learned how to correctly use an AED (automated external defibrillator).



"Stop the Bleed" training was led by Dr. Amy Zeidan, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine and assisted by Madeline Roorbach, General Surgery Resident, Emory School of Medicine; Kimberly Herard, Emergency Medicine Resident, Emory School of Medicine; Mustafa Rasheed, Emergency Medicine Resident, Emory School of Medicine; Isra Al Jamed, Emergency Medicine Resident, Emory School of Medicine; Esther Hwang, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine; and Randi N. Smith, MD, MPH, Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Assistant Professor of Public Health, Emory University.



12 community members participated in CPR training and 23 in STB.





CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Including activities for our young community was important to the planning committee from the first meeting. The plan was coordinated and implemented by CDF Action, partner organizations and faculty member Dr. Ashli-Owen Smith. A large corner of the gym was set up with tables and chairs and activities including a free book table with multicultural books, a ball toss, and infant/toddler corner with a blanket on the floor with age-appropriate games and toys, arts and crafts (playdough, paper bag puppets, butterflies on a stick, puzzles, coloring and pipe cleaner art).



Deborah Strahorn, an early learning professional, provided storytelling. Older children played Connect Four and a matching game as well as jumped rope. The station was staffed by Americorps and Catholic Charities volunteers and READY school teachers (who are multi-lingual/Arabic and Somali) who received training from CDF Action. Other valuable information for parents was provided including parenting and child development materials from Georgia Bright from the Start and a sign up for more information and future literacy activities, including the annual Tell Me a Story! Festival in Clarkston.



More than 40 toddlers to elementary-age children had fun at the activity center. More than 75 books were distributed to families. And 15 parents signed up for additional information about literacy and other early learning activities in the community. Parents participated with their children and interacted with each other and with the volunteers. Setting up the area with stations, providing stipends to teachers, and having on-site support and assistance from the planning team (Bracolla Peters) were essential to the success of the children's corner. The pilot Summit Children's Activities Corner was a success and can serve as a model for future children's activities at summits, festivals, and fairs. This component should be considered an essential activity for community-engaged events in Clarkston.



SURVEY RESULTS

Following Clarkston Summit 2022, an online survey was sent to registered attendees to evaluate the quality of their experience and inform future community event planning.

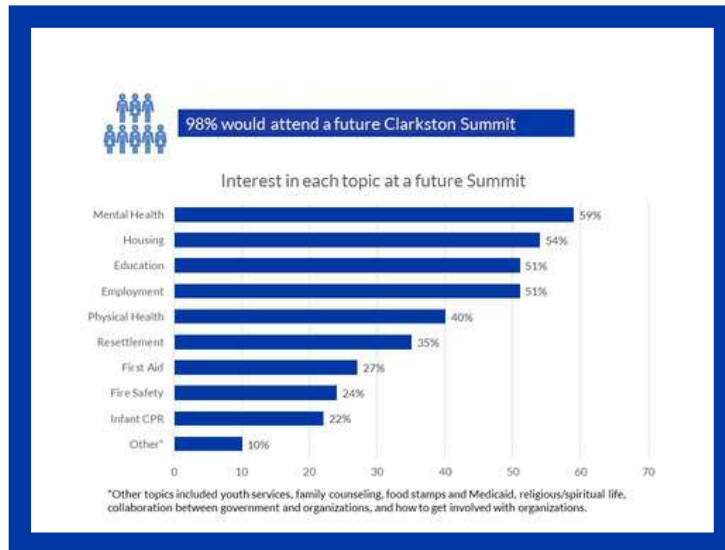
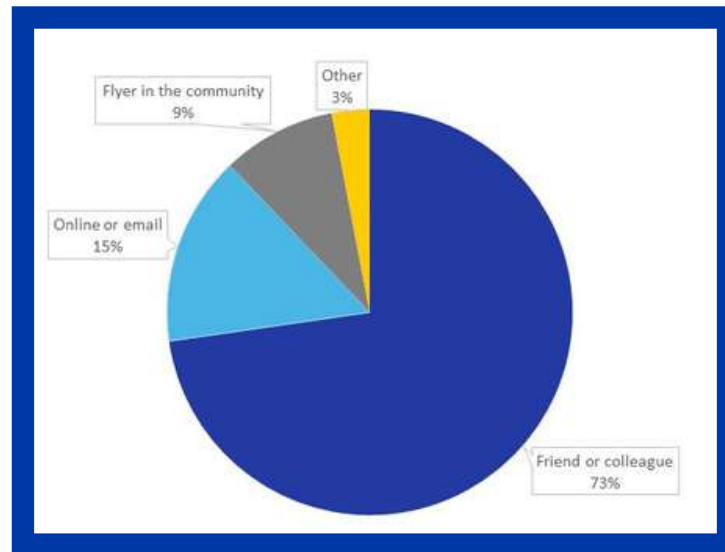
63 attendees completed the survey, for a 25% response rate. Their responses are summarized in the charts and graphs that follow.



"Why did you attend the Summit?"



"How did you first hear about the Summit?"



Impact on Organization Members



81% of those representing organizations serving Clarkston said they were introduced to other organizations they didn't know about before.



86% of those representing organizations serving Clarkston said they exchanged contact information with other organizations or individuals.



"It was an incredibly enriching and inspiring event. I was able to meet and network with different community members."

Impact on Attendees



86% of attendees learned about Clarkston groups they didn't know before.



100% of attendees found the sessions they attended helpful. Helpful information learned included needs and services addressing refugee healthcare, mental health, and transportation.



83% of attendees met new people from the community.

PARTICIPANTS

Introductory Remarks - Dr. Heval Kelli

Moderator - Beverly Burks, Mayor of Clarkston

Morning Panelists

- Shaista Amani – Refugee Women’s Network
- Dr. Omar Aziz – International Rescue Committee
- Mary Baxter – Georgia Piedmont Technical College
- David Kendrick, Jr. - NAMI
- Dr. Esther Kim – Ethne Health
- Darlene Lynch – Business & Immigration for Georgia Partnership
- Roberta Malavenda – CDF Action
- Amber McCorkle- Clarkston Community Center Foundation, Inc.
- Ikhlas Mohammed – New American Pathways
- Dr. Hogai Nassery – Afghan American Alliance of Georgia
- Dede Ntumba – The Congolese Community of Atlanta
- Muzhda Oriakhil – Embrace Refugee Birth
- Thomas Roger – Union of Swahili Refugee Youth Mission, Inc.
- Crispin Ilombe Wilondja – Global Village Project
- Latonya Winters-Buford – Dekalb County School District

Expo Participants

- Afghan American Alliance of Georgia
- Amani Women Center
- Behavior Health Link
- Catholic Charities of Atlanta
- CDF Action and the Clarkston Early Learning Task Force
- Civic Clarkston
- Clarkston Community Center
- Coalition of Refugee Service Agencies
- CORE (Community Organized Relief Effort)
- Dekalb Schools Family and Community Empowerment
- Dr. Shannonhouse in the Department of Counseling and Psychological Services at Georgia State University.
- Emory University School of Medicine/Emory Rollins School of Public Health
- Emory's HERCULES Exposome Research Center
- Ethne Health
- Friends of Refugees: Embrace Refugee Birth, Jolly Avenue Garden, Refugee Family Literacy



CONTINUED...

Expo Participants cont.

- Georgia Piedmont Technical College
- Georgia State University's Intensive English Program/Community English
- ICNA Relief USA Programs Inc.
- Indian Creek Elementary School
- Inspiritus - Economic Empowerment
- Memorial Drive Ministries (MDM)
- NAMI DeKalb
- New American Pathways
- Open Hand Atlanta
- Prevention Research Center at Georgia State University
- Refugee Women's Network
- Tapestri Inc.
- The Center for Victims of Torture
- The WellRefugee Center
- Women Watch Afrika, Inc.

Afternoon Facilitators

- Shaista Amani, Refugee Women's Network
- Alia Asmar, Center for Victim's of Torture
- Dr. Omar Aziz, CORE/IRC
- Awet Eyasu, City of Clarkston
- Ahmad Habibzai, Inspiritus
- Dr. Saria Hassan, Emory University School of Medicine
- Adam Nykamp, Indian Creek Elementary School

Children's Activities

- Catholic Ministries
- CDF Action

Thank you to our COVID-19 Vaccine Community Ambassador Team: Ahmad Habibzai, Mohamed Mohamed, Thomas Roger, Selar Shwani, and Kaeden Tun.

Special thanks to all community members who contributed, participated and collaborated.



This report is available on our website: www.prc.gsu.edu

Connect with the Prevention Research Center on social media to get the latest news and updates.



The Prevention Research
Center at Georgia State
University



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