

Evaluating Social Determinants of Health in Affordable Housing

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Introduction

Jamboree Housing is a non-profit, affordable housing company based in California that delivers high-quality affordable housing and services that transform lives and strengthen communities. This project aims to create a data-based guide to visualize levels of **social determinants of health (SDOH)** at each property to tailor future decisions.



Figure 2: SDOH are the non-medical factors that influence health, including aspects of a person’s social and physical environment.

The impact of housing on health is considered a major component in SDOH, as healthy homes promote positive physical and mental health outcomes.

SDOH Objectives

Education <input type="checkbox"/> Increase number of parenting classes offered. <input type="checkbox"/> Expand classes and skills-building for elderly residents <input type="checkbox"/> Increase resources for college preparedness. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase number of students enrolled in after-school program and following values of REACH Model.	Neighborhood and Built Environment <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce crime and violence (neighborhood watch). <input type="checkbox"/> Increase access to foods that support healthy eating patterns. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide green living environment (e) recycling, community gardens, energy efficiency. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase access to amenities for all residents, especially seniors and those with special needs.
Economic Stability <input type="checkbox"/> Increase the number of residents that can pay rent on time. <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce household food insecurity and hunger. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase accessibility of resources to meet daily needs. <input type="checkbox"/> Provide career support services for residents to ensure employment opportunities and job security.	Social and Community Context <input type="checkbox"/> Increase participation in Resident Leadership Group. <input type="checkbox"/> Expand community-based resources in support of community living and opportunities for recreational and leisure-time activities. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase resident participation and social cohesion. <input type="checkbox"/> Offer support to formerly homeless residents in community building and in social context.
Health and Healthcare <input type="checkbox"/> Increase the number of residents enrolled in health insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Increase the number of community organizations that provide prevention services. <input type="checkbox"/> Expand resident participation in and access to activities promoting physical fitness and healthy eating <input type="checkbox"/> Increase access to mental health resources.	KEY ✓: Goal Met IP: Goal in progress N/A: Not Available

Figure 1: All 5 SDOH listed with 4 unique objectives for each one.

Materials and Methods

Information collected included 36 compliance binders for 2019 from each property’s manager. These contained materials tracking utilization of support programs at each property within the 5 SDOH: Education, Economic Stability, Health and Healthcare, Neighborhood and Built Environment, and Social and Community Context. We created 4 objectives or criteria to support each SDOH, depicted in Figure 1. Using the objectives, we quantified the events and resources relating to a specific SDOH for each property. From there, we were able to calculate percentages for each SDOH at each property. For example, Laurel Crest had 35% in 2019 allocated to Education and about 20% towards Health and Healthcare (Figure 3).

Results

The final product was a digital handout unique to each property visualizing resident-specific data such as: demographic, average income level, city median income, gender, age group, and average time lived in property. These measures are depicted using bar graphs comparing levels of SDOH measured at each property. The checklist of 4 objectives under each of the 5 SDOH in Figure 1 is included in the property guides.

Conclusion

We evaluated all resources and events across 36 Jamboree Housing properties in 2019 to create a visual guide tracking levels of SDOH that currently exist at each property and any gaps that need to be addressed. This will serve as a guide for property managers, residents, and other community stakeholders to ensure that Jamboree continues to evolve and improve upon its quality housing services to low-income communities across California.

Sample Property Guide

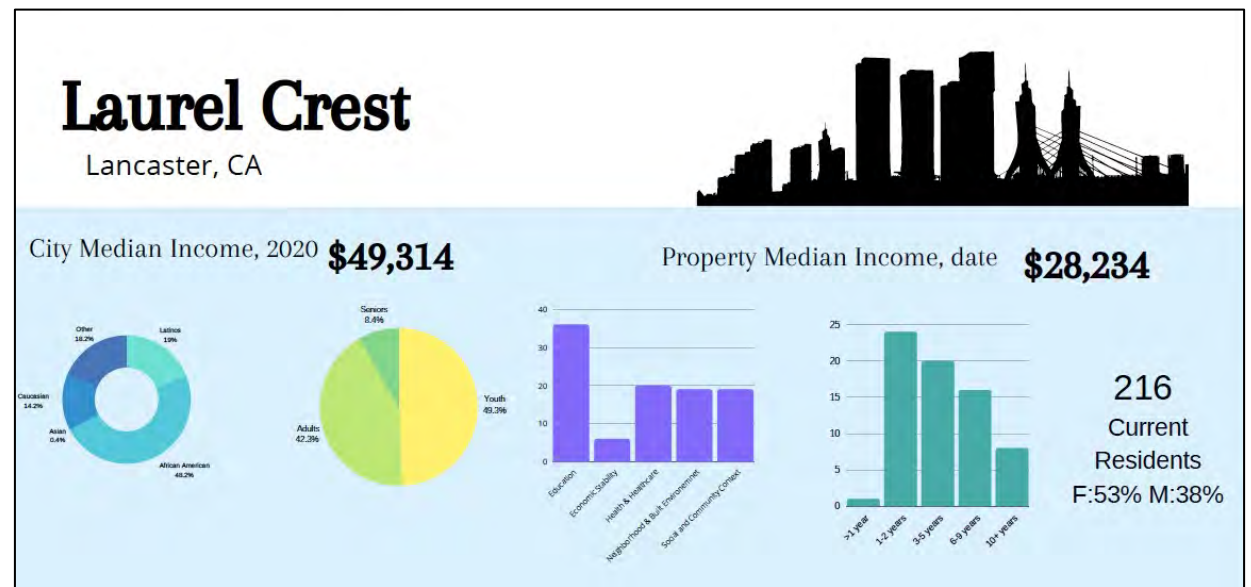


Figure 3: Example of one property guide with resident-specific data and SDOH bar graph.

Future Directions

Jamboree has implemented the property guides and has plans to create a Community Impact model based on the data. This model will be expanded upon in the future to also focus on training surrounding SDOH in housing.