

Justin N. Daniels¹, David P. Holland¹, Tanner Forbes², Jane Y. Scott¹

1. Fulton County Board of Health, GA, USA

2. Community Organized Relief Effort, GA, USA

BACKGROUND

- The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected racial and ethnic minority groups.^{1,2,3}
- Fulton County Board of Health (FCBOH) sought to promote COVID-19 health equity by partnering with Community Organized Relief Effort (CORE) and community-based organizations (CBOs) to address access barriers and increase vaccine acceptance in Black and Latinx residents.

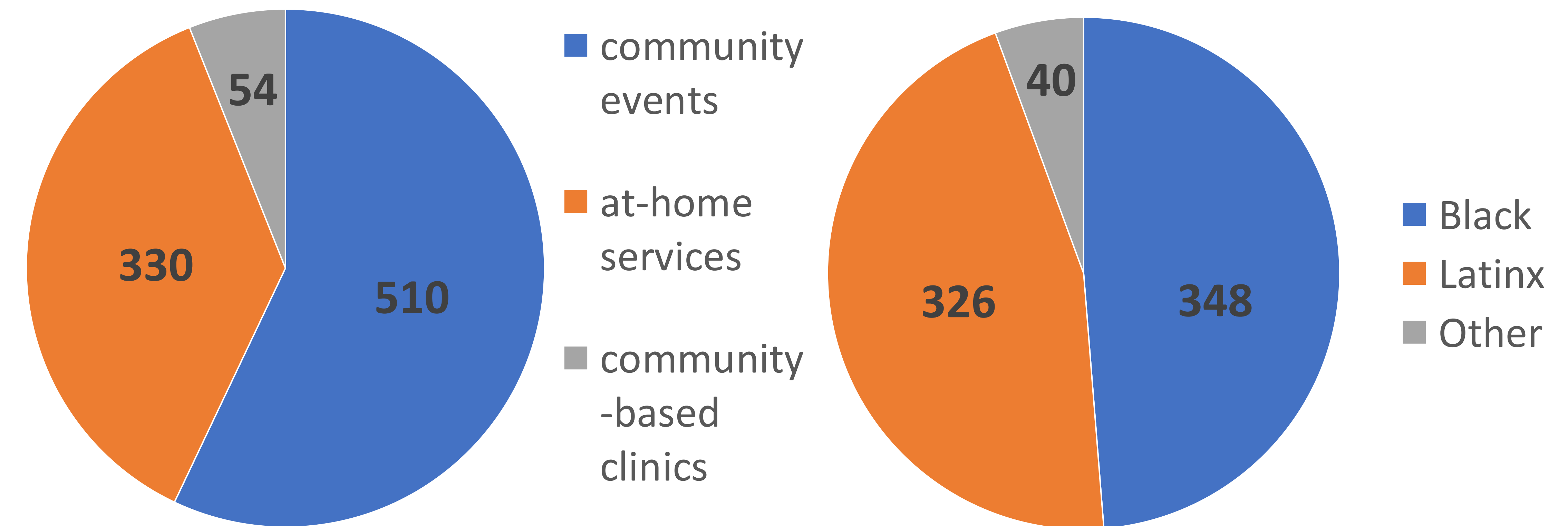
The primary purpose of this program was to increase COVID-19 vaccination rates in identified vulnerable communities.

METHODS

- FCBOH partnered with CORE to deploy mobile units that provided free at-home vaccination services to Fulton County residents.
- CORE promoted their services in target zip codes identified using data from the Social Vulnerability Index, the COVID-19 Community Vulnerability Index, and local data regarding COVID-19 positivity and death rates.
- CORE partnered with three CBOs that represented our target populations. These CBOs promoted CORE's at-home services to their constituents.
- CORE provided vaccination and health education services at community outreach events and clinics hosted by the CBOs.

RESULTS

- Between September 2021 and March 2022, the program administered 897 vaccinations - 510 (57%) at community events, 330 (37%) through at-home services, and 54 (6%) in community-based clinics.
- Among the 714 vaccinations for which race and ethnicity information were available, 348 (49%) were delivered to Black individuals and 326 (46%) vaccines were administered to Latinx individuals.
- Uptake of vaccines for Black and Latinx individuals was highest at community events (54% and 88%, respectively), followed by at-home services (35% and 12%, respectively).



DISCUSSION

- At-home vaccination services and partnerships with local CBOs can support a higher proportion of COVID-19 vaccinations administered to populations most at-risk.
- Community events were the most effective settings for administering vaccines to these populations.
- Utilizing these methods can help overcome barriers to accessing healthcare and ultimately reduce COVID-19 health disparities in underserved minority communities.

REFERENCES

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