



# Perceptions of Infection & Testing in UR Well-Asbury's Patron Population

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## INTRODUCTION

*"Pandemics disproportionately affect the poor and disadvantaged."* – Abrams & Szeffler, 2020

The COVID-19 Pandemic has a greater effect on such groups for various reasons. These groups have more underlying comorbidities and crowded living spaces, higher likelihood to be essential workers, more barriers to accessing quality healthcare, and less infection control knowledge.

Additionally, members of **racial minorities** – compared to members of white populations – are more likely to have a positive COVID-19 test, have less access to testing sites (even in the same zip codes), are less likely to be insured, and experience higher COVID-19 mortality rates.

UR Well's Asbury Clinic reportedly serves such populations. This project's aim was to determine if this was indeed the case and if so use the population's reported needs to direct creation of material addressing COVID-19 testing and related questions to help improve our patrons' health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## COMMUNITY PARTNER

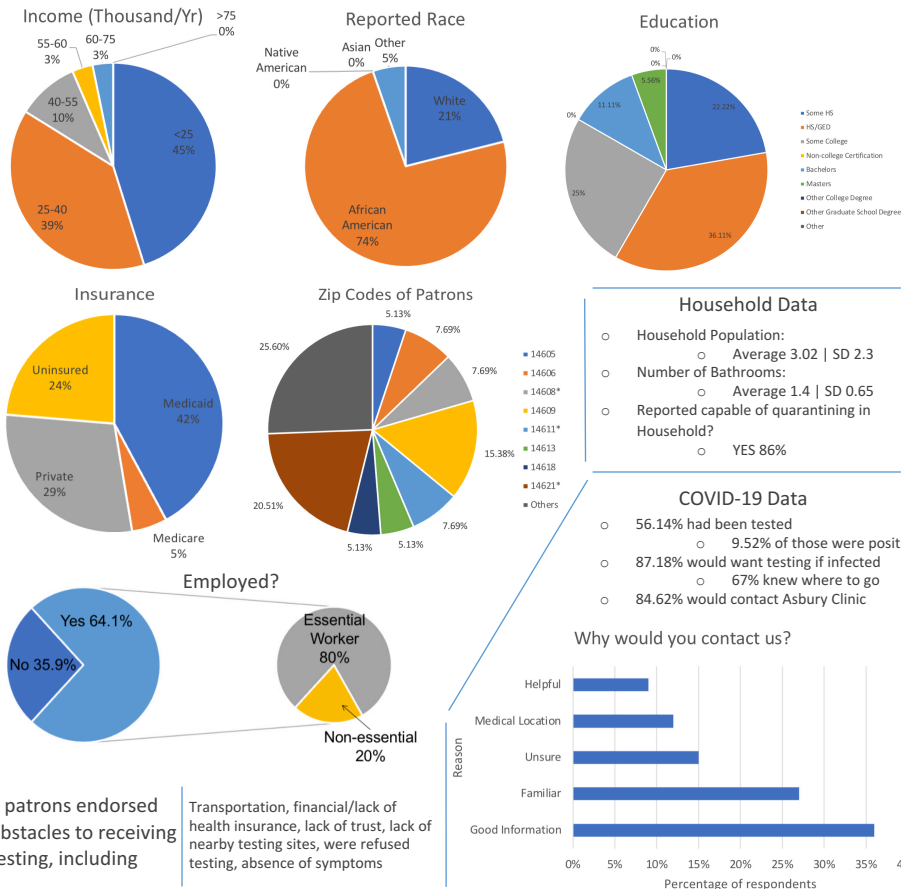
**Asbury First United Methodist Church/Asbury Clinic:** This church's existence dates back to the 1800s. Located on East Avenue, they offer many services to underserved members of their community – including hosting and working with UR Well's Asbury clinic. Choosing to work with them was the natural choice due to their direct work with underserved populations and UR Well's partnership with them that has existed for over a decade.

## COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

### Methods:

A 5-10 minute telephone survey was created and administered to adults (N=40) who had been patrons at the Asbury Clinic between 10/2019-10/2020. Selection was random and limited to those who spoke English, due to the survey administrator's language limitations.

### Key Results:



## CONCLUSIONS

Most of those surveyed matched the demographics of previously studied **poor and disadvantaged** and **racial minority** populations, so our community's needs are probably similar to that found in previous research.

In addition, most of those surveyed are essential workers; live in 3 of the poorest (\*) zip codes in Rochester; and report living conditions not necessarily conducive to effective isolation/quarantining, despite self-reports.

Finally, many have been tested for COVID-19 or would want testing, but fewer would know where to go for such services. There was also a high interest in utilizing the Asbury Clinic as a COVID-19 information resource. *Thus, creating a document – or "Guide" – that addressed these conclusions was deemed warranted.*

**Limitations:** survey questions about barriers to getting tested may not have been successful at eliciting endorsements of these. Also, only English-speaking patrons were surveyed.

## IMPACT AND SUSTAINABILITY

An 8-page **"Guide"** was created, with information about infection, prevention, and testing for COVID-19. This was written at the 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade reading level and utilized pictures to be more accessible to all those in our surveyed patron population.

**Impact:** The Guide will soon be available in print and on the clinic's website for Asbury's patrons.

**Next Steps:** Translate the Guide into Spanish.

**Sustainability:** Asbury Church will manage the Guide to prevent institutional amnesia from quick medical student turnover.