

Project H.O.P.E

Community Outreach and Connecting Organizations to Provide Resources to Underserved Populations

Healthy People 2020

- Access to Health Care
- Chronic Disease (Diabetes, Kidney Disease, Respiratory Diseases, etc.)
- Health Communication
- Mental Health
- Nutrition and Weight Status

Student Interns: Kristen Rienstra, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Health Related Professions
Jeanette Taveras, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Osteopathic Medicine

Community Preceptor: James Comstock, LCSW, ACSW, Project H.O.P.E

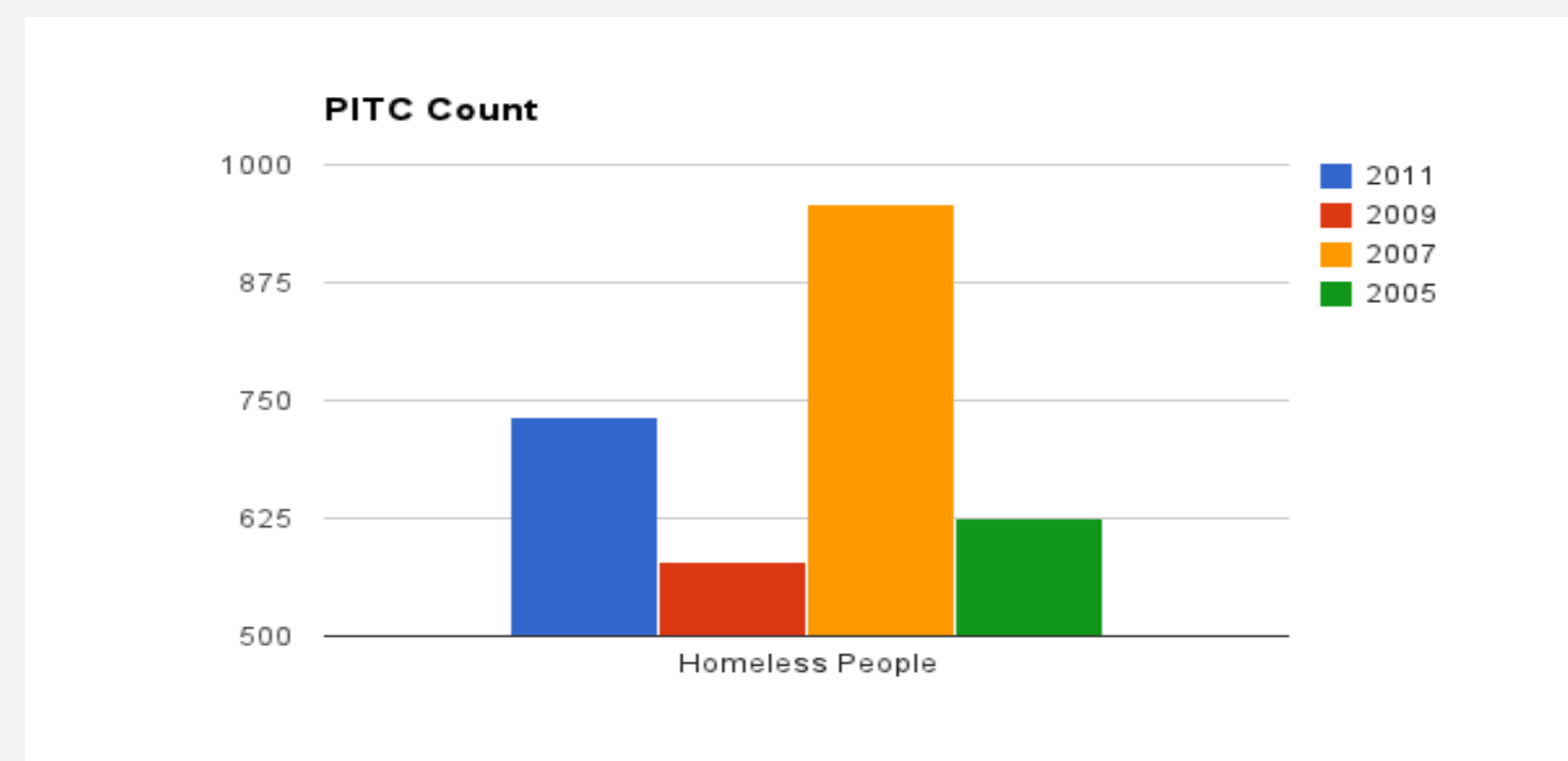
Academic Preceptors: Danielle Cooley, DO, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Osteopathic Medicine

Jill Reichman, MPH, PA-C, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, School of Health Related Professions

A Look at Camden...

Homelessness in Camden County**

- In 2011 the actual count of homeless people was 733, whereas the estimated need was 3,219
- Of the actual count: 564 were adults and 169 were kids



Factors related to health disparities

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Unstable Housing
- Language Barrier
- Inadequate access to healthcare
- Lack of proper health education, advocacy, and transportation

H.O.P.E for Camden*

Project H.O.P.E is the only healthcare provider to the homeless in Camden County. Their mission is to improve the health and well-being of homeless persons and others in need by supplying primary, preventative, and other related health services.

Project H.O.P.E Services

- Primary Health Care
- Counseling for Mental Health and Substance Abuse
- Social Work Service
- Case Management
- Community Outreach

2011 Project H.O.P.E Numbers

- 5,929 medical visits to 2,242 unduplicated homeless patients
- 2,144 behavioral health visits
- 94% of patients are at or below federal poverty level
- Insurance coverage status of Project H.O.P.E patients
 - 49% medicaid
 - 44% uninsured
 - 7% other
- 1,539 outreach contacts for medical screenings, referrals, and case management.



www.projecthopecamden.org

**http://monarchhousing.org, Accessed Jul. 17, 2012

*Project H.O.P.E.'s 2011 Annual Report

"Gappers" at Work



Our Trip to Tent City

- Heat exhaustion health information
- Promoted Project H.O.P.E
 - Appointments
 - Referrals
- Provided residents with water, socks, etc.



Homeless Outreach Team (H.O.T)

- Provide meals while communicating resources geared towards ending homelessness
- Community Outreach
 - Tent Cities
 - Tony Town
 - The Back Woods
 - Hot Meals



Health Education

Health related workshops to community sites and waiting room area to promote health education



- Nutrition and Diabetes
- Staying Cool in the Summer
- Blood Pressure
- ER Care vs. Primary Doctor Care
- Oral Health Education



Farmer's Market

- Community Outreach
- Distribution of Health Information
- Giveaways
 - Socks
 - Condoms
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Oral Health Supplies



Mobile Health Van

- Referrals
- Health Screenings

Other Projects

- Community Outreach
 - Collaboration with other organizations
- Patient Flow for Clinic Wait-Time Improvement
- Children's Book Addressing Homelessness
- Cathedral Kitchen

Our Time at Project H.O.P.E

Kristen Rienstra: This internship has had a profound impact on the way I view people in situations of unstable housing as well as people in the underserved community. I have learned to communicate with individuals who face difficult challenges, as well as collaborate with other organizations to best meet the needs of these clients. Project H.O.P.E has opened my eyes to working with this population and ways that I can make a difference in the future.

Jeanette Taveras: Project H.O.P.E has strengthened my desire to work in an underserved community and allowed me to experience first hand the different situations that those with unstable housing face. I have learned how important it is for the community that these organizations work together for the well being of their clients; and that it is imperative for healthcare providers to be aware of all the psychosocial factors that can be an obstacle to successful treatment.