

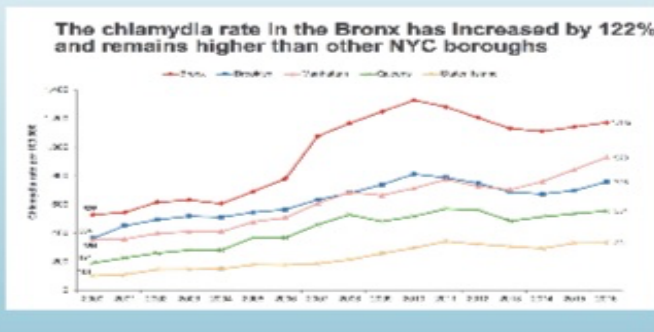
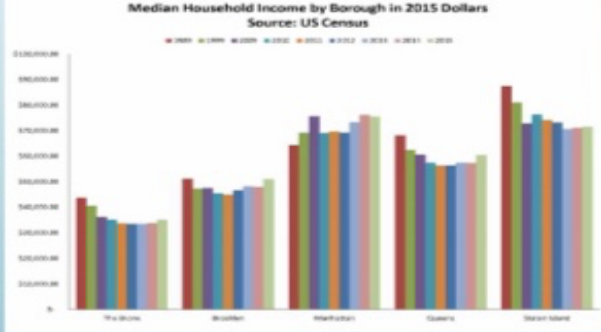


# Increased Sexually Transmitted Infections in the Bronx



## Introduction

- Sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) or sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are generally acquired by sexual contact. The organisms (bacteria, viruses or parasites) that cause sexually transmitted diseases may pass from person to person in blood, semen, or vaginal and other bodily fluids.
- The Claremont, Crotona Park East, Melrose, and Morrisania, sections of district 3 surveillance reported an increase in STI transmission rate primarily affecting young adults
- This community has a high amount of unemployment, poverty, and limited access to health care. Due to these limitations an environment that provides safe, affordable, and educational care will contribute to the health promotion.



## Community Assessment & Analysis

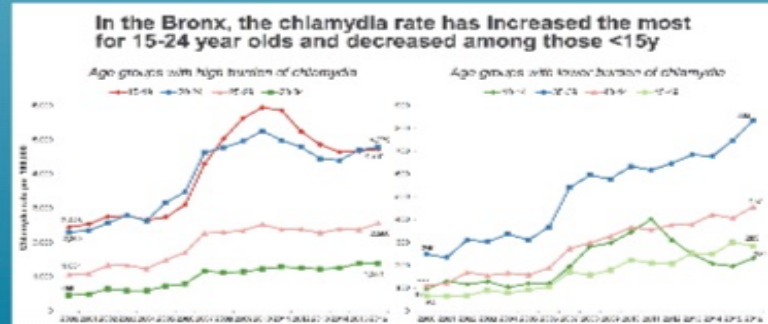
- 79.8k Population
- Top 3 pressing issues are **Health care services, Unemployment, and Youth and children services(2)**
- Top causes of premature death are Cancer, Heart Disease, Drug-related, HIV and Homicide
- 30.3% of district 3 Bronx community residents have incomes below the NYC.gov poverty threshold (1)
- 50.7% of households spend 35% or more of their income on rent. 7.8% of the civilian labor force is unemployed (1)
- The percentage of residents without health insurance is 12%, while 15% report going without medical care(1)
- Bronx community district 3 reports new HIV diagnoses of 51.3 per 100,000 people. Diagnosis of hepatitis C reports 131.0 per 100,000 people (1)
- The Bronx Knows Initiative launched on national HIV Testing Day, September 9th, 2008.
  - The Bronx Knows is a large-scale public health initiative intended to increase voluntary HIV testing for every Bronx resident between the ages of 13 to 64 to learn his or her HIV status (3)
- Limited access to clinics

## Problem in The Community

- According to recent data district 3 has a rate of 1,469 per 100,000 for Chlamydia, 339 per 100,000 for gonorrhea, 37.7 per 100,000 for syphilis (Community Health Board, 2018)
- Since the early 2000s, South Bronx residents have seen an increase in housing costs but not matching income. This results in households forced to spend most of their income on housing payments, leaving them no savings and vulnerable to housing loss if faced with unexpected hardships (Chronopoulos, Themis.2017).
- Based on recents reports, it is found that condom use is dropping among youth in NYC and the Bronx. The percent of sexually active students who used condoms went from 75.6 in 2003 to 47.3 in 2017 (Community Health Board, 2016). The chlamydia rate has increased by 122% and remains higher than other NYC boroughs, per 100,000 increased from 528 in 200 to 1,172 in 2016. The gonorrhea rate in the Bronx was higher than all other NYC boroughs until it was surpassed by Manhattan in 2014 going from 209 per 100,000 in 2000 to 254 per 100,000 in 2016. The Bronx's syphilis rate has increased over 20-fold since 2000. Per 100,000 rates went from 1.2 in 2000 to 27.5 in 2016 (Community Health Board, 2018). The major contributor to these increasing STI rates are related to poverty.
- Having high rates of STIs can have an effect on a community. Higher incidence of STIs lead to more money being put into treatment for these infections. Having high STI rates also affects the overall health of the community. More members who have these infections, some being symptomatic and some being asymptomatic makes it harder to contain. STI testing for sexually active individuals is stressed for this exact reason. STIs also get passed down to infants which can cause numerous complications which may involve the organs, premature birth, and other side effects.

## Solution to The Problem

- The proposed solution for this community is, *EverlaSTing*, a STI clinic that is affordable and resourceful. STIs are on the rise and many people are embarrassed, uneducated or unable to afford the care that goes along with them.
- This clinic will not only be accustomed to the treatment but also to the education, promotion and prevention of STIs. *EverlaSTing* will be open to everyone young, old, someone who has an STI or someone who does not. This clinic gives the community the opportunity to learn and educate themselves on practicing safe sex, so they can prevent themselves from getting an STI. It will also educate on managing their disease and learn how to live with it. The option to talk in groups or individuals will be available to all clients based on their needs and wants.
- By incorporating Pender's model in this solution, it will include educational classes on prevention, therapy that can be group or individual, and treatment for their specific disease. Through doing so, it opens a place in the community where patients feel comfortable and safe to focus on their specific disease and learn how to prevent and manage it, which is the whole notion that Pender had when creating her model.



## Resources

- COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILES 2018 BRONX COMMUNITY DISTRICT 3. (2018). Retrieved November, 2020, from [https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2018chp\\_bx3.pdf](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/data/2018chp_bx3.pdf)
- NYC Community District Profiles. (n.d). Retrieved October 30, 2020, from <https://communityprofiles.planning.nyc.gov/bronx/3>
- Farley, T. (2011). *The Bronx Knows HIV Testing Initiative Final Report*. (Rep.).
- Chronopoulos, Themis. (2017). The Rebuilding of the South Bronx after the Fiscal Crisis. *Journal of Urban History*.