

## WHITTIER IS A MEDICAL HOME

Swahili, Arabic, Bosnian, Krio, Portuguese, Yoruba, Russian, Farsi, Somali, Urdu, Haitian Creole, Spanish... these are just a few of the seventeen languages spoken by the staff at Whittier Street Health Center. Serving individuals from twenty different countries, Whittier is committed to the highest quality health care for all members of our community. We are dedicated to delivering this care to every patient, regardless of ability to pay. We utilize clinical and social services to meet specific community needs through outreach, targeted programs and state of the art health care delivery. By doing whatever it takes to meet the needs of the patient, Whittier is a Medical Home.



## THE HEALTH OF ROXBURY

Due to poverty, a history of neglect by the nation's health care system and cultural and linguistic barriers to health care access, much of Roxbury and other communities that Whittier serves are at a great health risk:

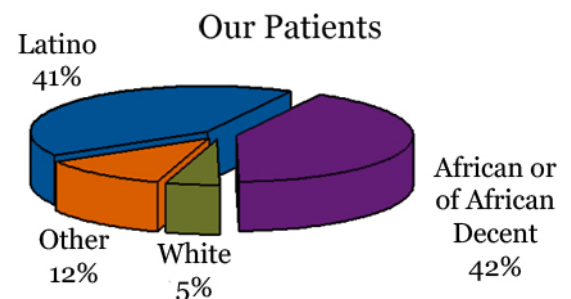
- Among Boston's sixteen neighborhoods, Roxbury has the highest rate of low birthweights, infant mortality, emergency room visits, hospitalizations for children under the age of five due to asthma, hospitalizations due to diabetes, and hospitalizations due to heart disease.
- Roxbury also has the second highest rate of new HIV cases, obesity, and mortality due to substance abuse
- 75.8% of Black pregnant women receive adequate pre-natal care compared to 86.7% of White women. Black mothers have the highest infant mortality rate in the city. It is three times higher than White mothers.
- Only 27% of Black High School students and 29% of Latino students in Boston engage in regular exercise. This is significantly lower than White students. Black and Latino students in Boston are also more than twice as likely to be overweight or obese than White students.
- Black residents of Boston are more than twice as likely to have diabetes than White residents.
- Black women have a mortality rate from breast cancer nearly twice that of White women and Black men in Boston have a mortality rate from prostate cancer nearly three times higher than White men.
- In 2007, 95% of the homicide victims in Boston were Black or Latino.

## COMPREHENSIVE. COMPASSIONATE. COMMUNITY.

Through a commitment to applying the Medical Home Model to all facets of health care delivery, Whittier works with the community to provide patient-centered, compassionate and comprehensive health care to 12,000 patients. Community outreach, wellness, prevention, patient navigation and connection to primary care are key components of Whittier's strategy to eliminate health and social disparities in the communities we serve.

Our programs include:

- A Diabetes Clinic that is recognized by the American Diabetes Association for the diabetes education component of the program that helps with self management, goal setting, treatment adherence and healthy living.
- A Public Housing Primary Care program that is one of 45 such programs federally funded across the country and the only one in Boston. Through outreach and education, the program connects public housing residents to primary care and addresses disparities in chronic diseases that exist for public housing residents.
- A Cancer Survivorship Clinic that, in partnership with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, addresses disparities in cancer mortality rates in Whittier's community and connects cancer survivors to primary care in order to provide resources after treatment is over including case management, education on changes in the body and healthy living strategies, and access to cancer specialists.



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WHITTIER STREET HEALTH CENTER  
Comprehensive. Compassionate. Community.