

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE FOR STUDENT-LED FREE CLINICS



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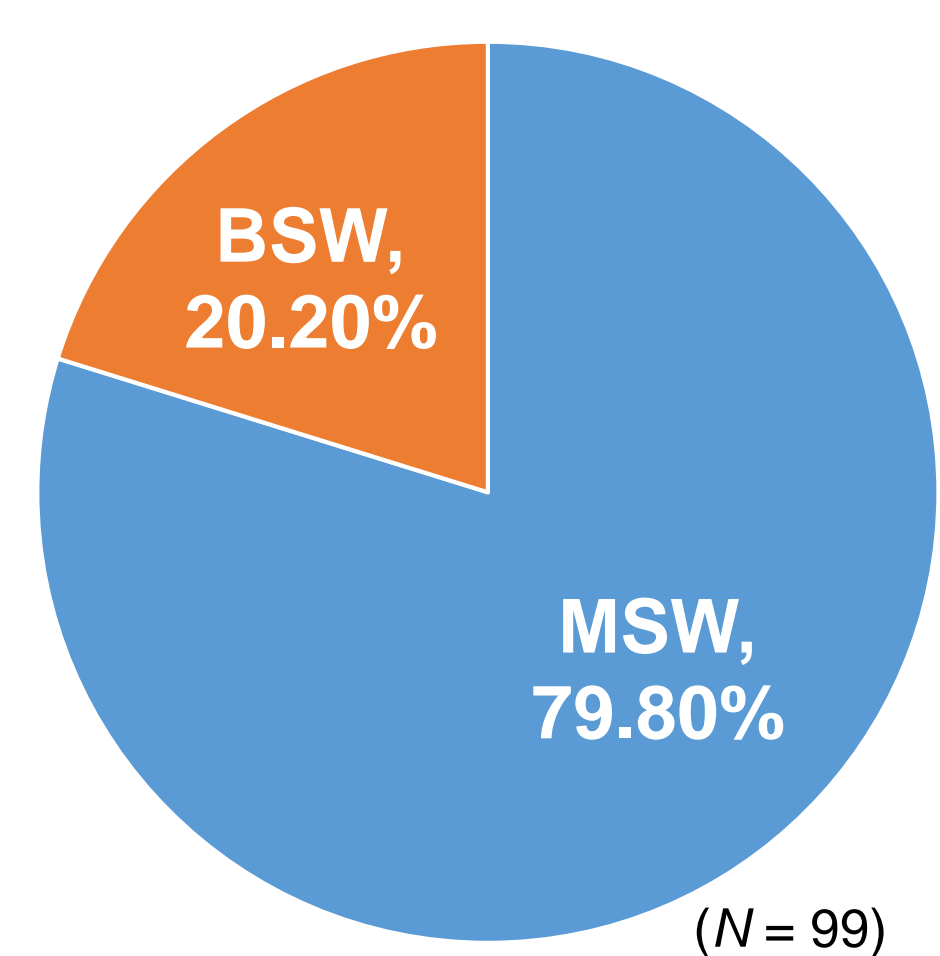
BACKGROUND

The Indiana University Student Outreach Clinic (IU-SOC) is an interprofessional student-led free clinic established in 2009 and located on the East side of Indianapolis in the Neighborhood Fellowship Church. Indiana University School of Social Work (IUSSW) became an IU-SOC partner in 2011. The primary roles of social work at the clinic are evaluating the needs of individual clients, referring as warranted, and research appropriate community resources. Clients are often referred to other professions within the clinic. When client needs cannot be met by the clinic, social work students refer to community resources. A comprehensive resource library has been developed with over 100 community resources packets, including intimate partner violence, employment skills training, hearing aids assistance, LGBTQ support, prescription assistance, GED preparation, and computer training. Social work students research and update the resource database regularly to provide for the clients' basic physical, social, financial, and mental health needs. Social work students meet with community organizations to create referral networks and increased awareness of the clinic and the community being served.

SOCIAL WORK AT IU-SOC

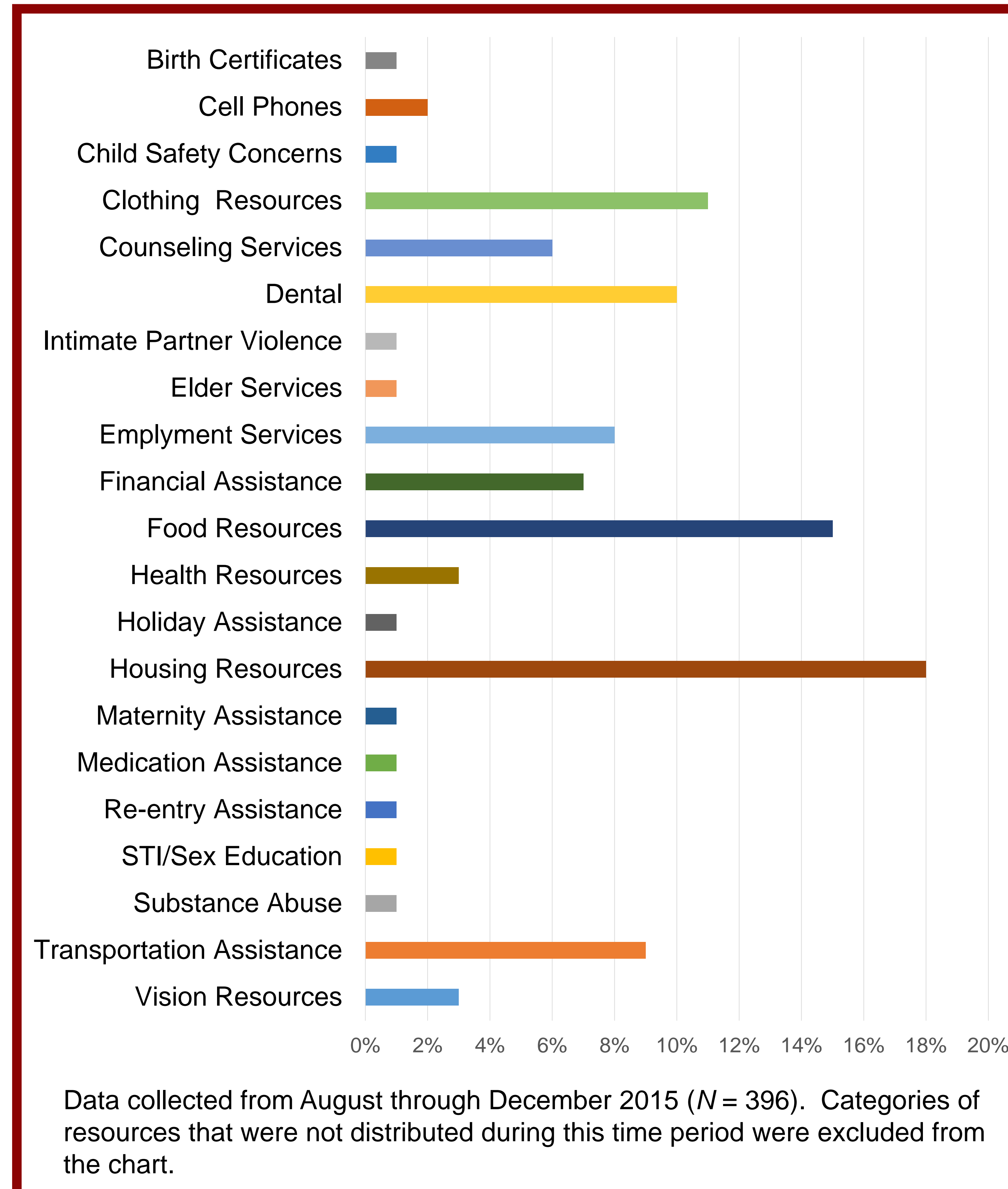
- Offers opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students
- Provides "real-world" practice experience for students
- Incorporates both micro and macro practice skills
- Can be used to fulfill practicum experience
- Collaborates with organizations in the community

2015 Social Work Volunteers



Acknowledgement and appreciation for collecting data for this presentation by the IU-SOC Social Work student volunteers.

2015 DISTRIBUTED RESOURCES

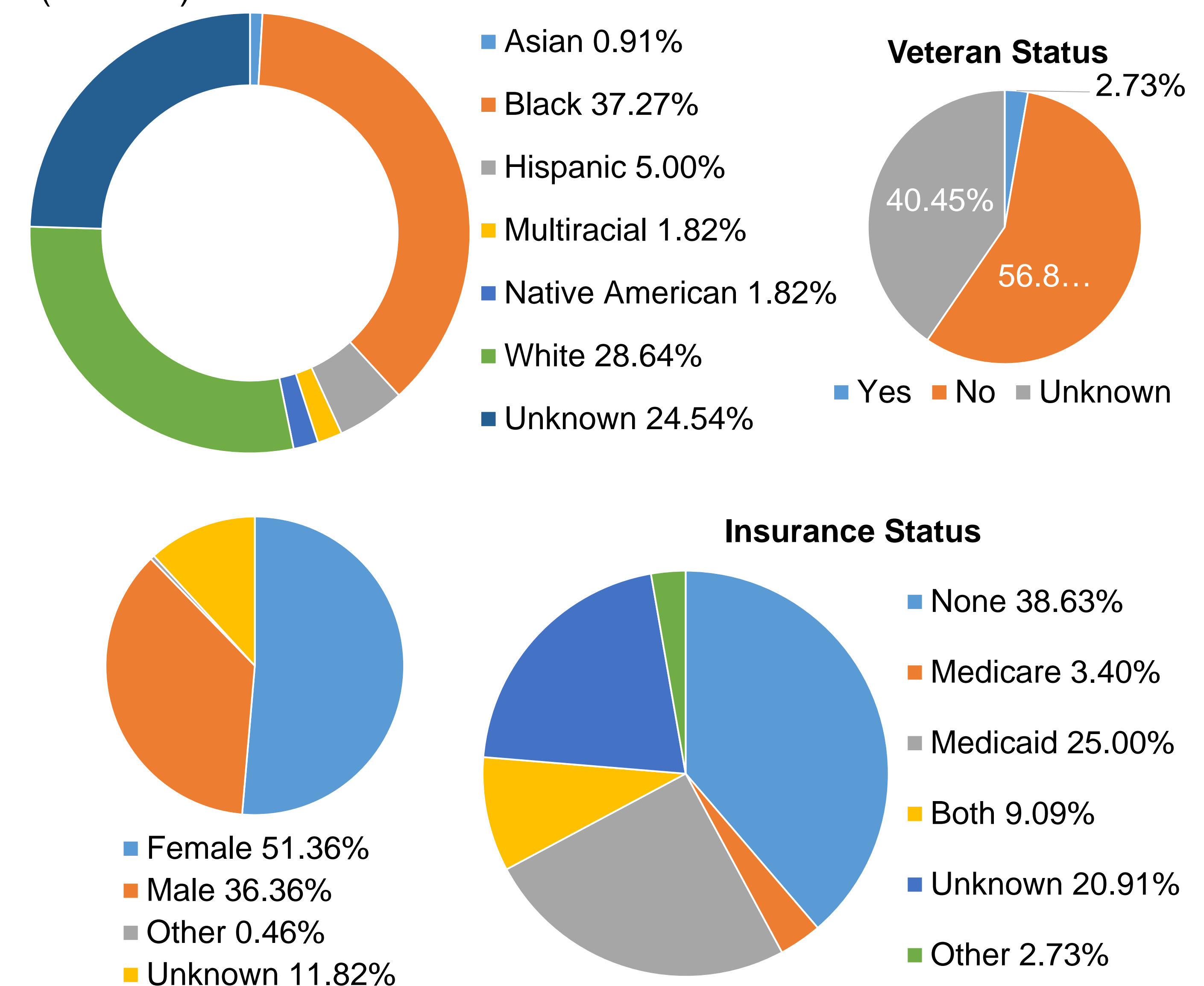


• Other categories of resources that were not frequently distributed during the data collection period include:

- Hearing Assistance
- LGBTQ Services
- Suicide Resources
- Support Groups
- Tax Preparation Assistance
- Recording resource distribution to evaluate needs of the community
- As gaps in services are identified, social work identifies new resources to meet the unmet needs

THE COMMUNITY

The IU-SOC serves a diverse community of Indianapolis Near Eastside residents. Clients demographics were collected for a six month period to create a snap shot of the clients being served by social work. Client's age ranged from 16-77 years old (N = 189, M = 47.88). The largest client groups were women, African Americans, uninsured persons, and those whose veteran status was unknown (N = 220).



DISCUSSION

Suggestions for Social Work in student-led free clinics

- Connect with and bring in community organizations
- Community needs assessments
- Presentation on expungement
- Eating healthy on SNAP
- Health insurance registration
- Free birth certificate events
- Annual toiletries bag give away from local donations

If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact Marea K. Kinney at markkinn@iupui.edu. Thank you.