Pathways to Wellness: Mapping Mental Health Resources for Immigrants in Houston





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About Tahirih Justice Center

The Tahirih Justice Center is a national, nonprofit that has served over 30,000 immigrant **survivors** fleeing gender-based violence since 1997. Their interdisciplinary, trauma-informed model of service is now delivered from five locations, and they're committed to serving as many immigrant survivors as possible.

Issue Background

Access to mental healthcare resources for immigrant victims of gender-based violence is essential to coping with traumas they have endured. However, immigrants face legal, financial, and language barriers to seeking such resources. And Houston, as a city with a 1.7 million immigrant population, does not have a tool that helps aid in this process.

Research Question & Aim

- What are the resources (psychotherapy & non-traditional services) that exist in **Harris** County, Fort Bend County, and **Montgomery County for immigrant survivors** seeking mental healthcare?
- How can we create a mental health resource map that is accessible in all languages and user technology levels?





Methods



Literature Review & Area-wide Search for Mental Health Services



Calling Clinics and Organizations

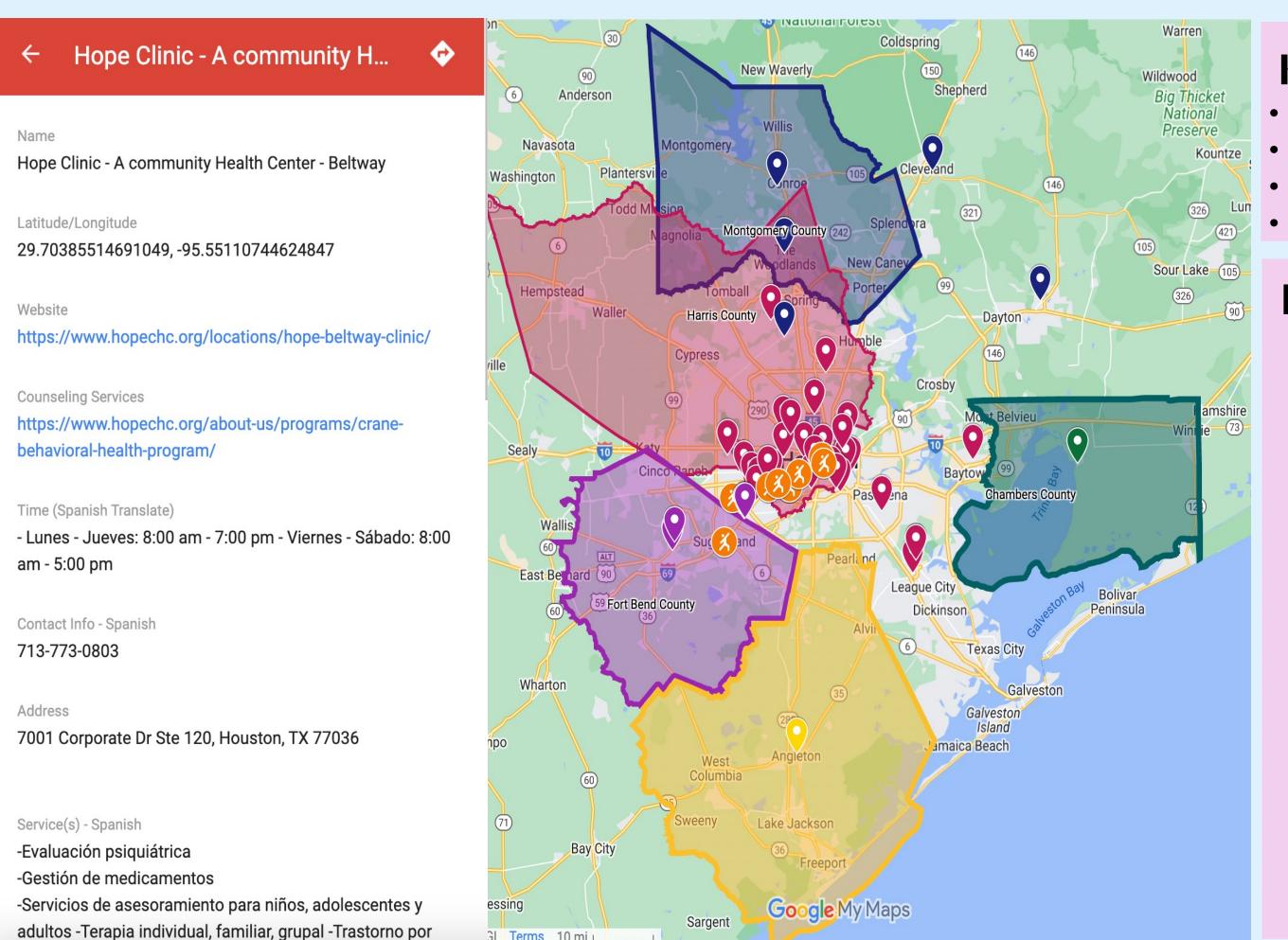


Data Collection for input in Map

KEY LITERATURE FINDINGS

- Gender-based violence cuts across all social, economic, and cultural backgrounds
- Minority women report considerably higher rates of DV compared with women who identify as NHW
- Lack of transcultural knowledge significantly decreases the quality of mental health care
- Survivors of repetitive DV report higher rates of PTSD, depression, and substance abuse

OUR MAP



KEY SEARCH TERMS

Immigrant mental health

Harris County

Harris County

Fortbend County

· Psychotherapy: 31

• Non-Traditional: 10

· Psychotherapy: 6

· Psychotherapy: 7

Psychotherapy: 1

Psychotherapy: 1

Montgomery County

Chambers County

Brazoria County

- Mental health resources for immigrants in Houston
- Sliding based mental health resources in Houston
- Mental health resources for immigrants in the United States

LEGEND **SERVICES**

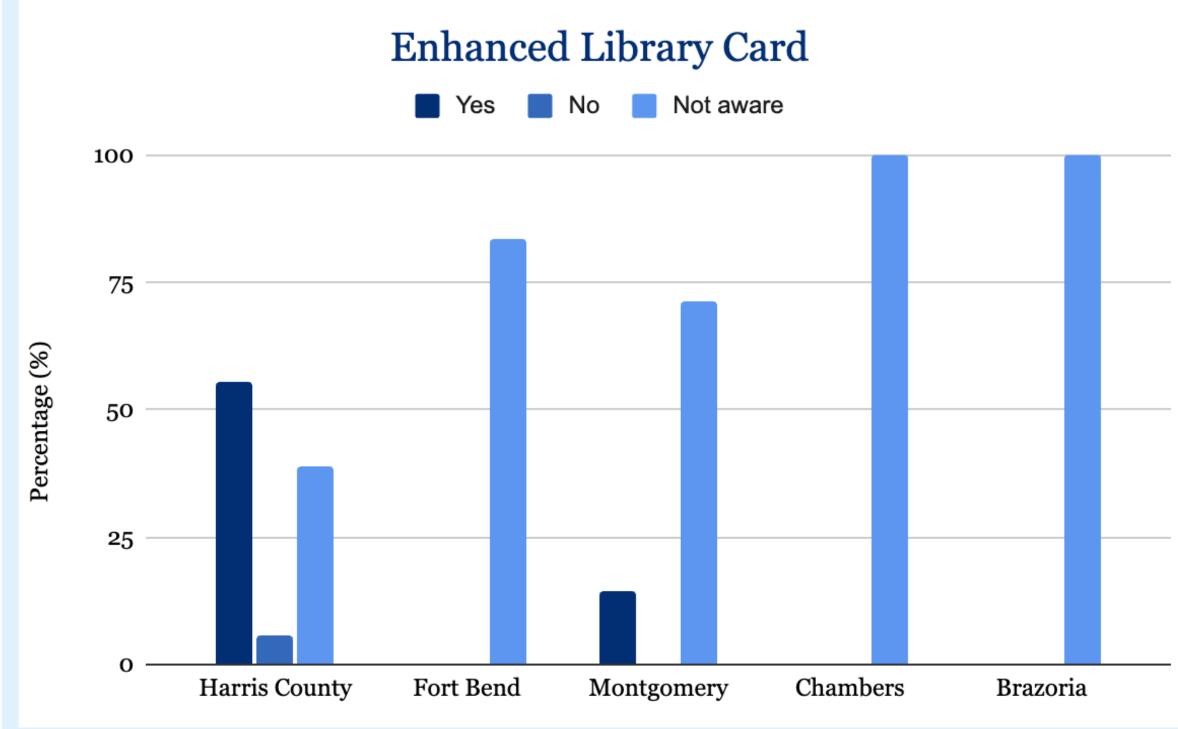
- Website
- Location Address
- Contact Info
- Business Hours
- Languages Insurance Accepted
- Waitlist/Capacity
- Payment/Pricing
- Legal Services
- Eligibility Requirements Telehealth
- Faith-based
- Parking

Enhanced Library Card

CONTENT ANALYSIS

Need to Call

12.7%



ASL 1.3% Dhari/Farsi 1.3% 2.5% Spanish Burmese 43.0% 2.5% Mandarin 2.5% Cantonese 2.5% Arabic 3.8% Nepali 6.3% Vietnamese 7.6% Úrdu Hindi 7.6% 6.3%

Enhanced Library Card

Created Using Google MyMaps

- Valid form of photo identification for undocumented immigrants
- Viable within Harris County. Potential for expansion

Language Services

There is still a need for organizations that offer services in languages in addition to English and Spanish

Languages Offered

GAPS PRESENT

- 4 out of the 46 psychotherapy services only require photo identification and the rest require proof of residence
- Many organizations offer a 24 hour hotline, however, capacity and delayed appointments are still a common issue because most organizations just maintain either walk-in or appointment based services

Beta-Testing Findings

- 10 participants
- Video Tutorial
- Child-care services
- Additional services such as ESL







Impact of Map

Immigrant survivors, can search for mental health resources with reduced burden and barriers.



Resource Guides

Community Facing

- Types of Mental Health Services
- Paying for Mental Health Services
- Link to our tool

Provider Facing

- Barriers faced by immigrants
- Need for the map
- User feedback

Future Work

Map

- Continue adding immigrant-friendly mental health services
- Update organizational information
- Additional language translations
- Inclusion of child-care services

Implications for the future:

- We need to disseminate information on "enhanced library cards"
- More awareness on immigrant's mental health

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References

