Assessment of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services on Martha’s Vineyard

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Introduction

- Martha’s Vineyard is part of Duke’s County, which encompasses six towns on island and the Elizabeth islands off Cape Cod
- The county is a rural the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy with a year-round population of 17,246.
- Martha’s Vineyard, crucially, is deemed a medically underserved population by Governor’s Exception, with both profound primary and dental care shortages.
- These shortages, combined with a lack of specialty care on the island, directly impact reproductive health care delivery, and access, on the island.
- Women from Martha’s Vineyard can travel up to 90-101 miles to access abortion services off the Island, while 67% of women in the United States travel less than 25 miles to access abortion services nationwide.

Project goals

1. Identify the reproductive and sexual health services available on Martha’s Vineyard (MV).
2. Assess the community’s knowledge of the sexual and reproductive health resources.
3. Evaluate the current reproductive and sexual health services.
4. Provide recommendations for improvement.

Methods

- 69 participants were interviewed through in-person interview, anonymous online survey, or via phone conference.
- Participants included organization leaders, medical providers, and Martha’s Vineyard community members.
- Questions covered reproductive and sexual health topics, including access to contraception, STI prevention and treatment, infertility counseling and treatment, resources for sexual assault, and domestic violence, and abortion access.

Results

Current Reproductive & Sexual Health Resources Available on Martha’s Vineyard

**SCHOOL HEALTH EDUCATION, PROTECTION, TREATMENT**

**Family Planning**

Health Impertives Clinic

517 State Road

Vineyard Haven

(508) 693-1108

- Monday: 9am–4:30pm
- Tuesday: 11am–4:30pm
- Wednesday: 9am–6:30pm
- Thursday: 9am–4:30pm
- *Not Planned Parenthood (Does not perform abortions)

**Island Health Care (OHIO)**

245 Edgartown-Vineyard

Haven Road (At the Triangle in Edgartown)

(508) 939-9358

- Mon-Thurs: 8am to 8pm
- Fri & Sat: 8am to 4pm

Three resources provide:

- Sexual health exams, birth control options, pregnancy testing, testing for sexual transmitted infections
- Services are given regardless of ability to pay
- Integrate Portuguese

**TRAUMA/ABUSE**

CAMPbell to end violence (MAA Program)

2427 Hotline: 508-696-SAFE (7233)

Office: 774-549-9667

Free, confidential services, including short-term counseling, court advocacy, medical accompaniment

MV hospital: Emergency Department

1 Hospital Road, Oak Bluffs

508-693-0410

State Police

508-693-0144

**PREGNANCY**

MV hospital: OB/GYN Department

1 Hospital Road, Oak Bluffs

508-693-0410

Physicians and certified nurse midwives

**BUYING FRESH, NUTRITIOUS FOOD**

Women Infants and Children WIC at Family Planning

In take interview every other Friday

**MALE SEXUAL HEALTH FAMILY PLANNING**

Male reproductive health exams

Off-island

Urgent care

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

Health Care Access

114 New York Ave Vineyard Haven

508-696-0620

Monday – Thursday

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturdays by appointment

Obtain and keep health insurance

**TRANSPORTATION OUTFITS**

40 percent use car

27 percent use bus

22 percent use public transportation


Acknowledgements

The project was made possible through the Martha’s Vineyard Rural Health Scholars Committee, the UMass Rural Health Pathway, and Suzanne Cashman, ScD. Martha’s Vineyard Hospital generously donated the accommodations. Special thanks to the community members of Martha’s Vineyard who graciously shared their insights about accessing and receiving care through different sexual and reproductive health services.

References