Exploring the Health and Housing Link in Richmond, VA

Danny TK Avula MD, MPH
Richmond and HOLC
“Areas were ‘hot spots… where good mortgage lenders… are willing to make their maximum loans.”

“Areas were not as desirable but ‘still good.’”

“Areas had reached ‘the transition period’ where they were in decline due to factors such as age, obsolescence, and change of style and infiltration of a lower grade population. Any threat of infiltration of foreign-born, negro or lower grade population? If so, indicate these by nationality and rate of infiltration like this: ‘Negro-rapid’…”

“Areas had fully declined and were ‘characterized by detrimental influence in a pronounced degree.””
1950 Richmond Population and HOLC
Concentrated Poverty

Windsor Farms:
Population Density: 936

Gilpin Court:
Population Density: 10,287

Project Based Public Housing Units
- 76 - 130
- 131 - 220
- 221 - 400
- 500 - 599
- 600 - 787
Richmond and HOLC
Percentage of population below poverty line, 2009-2013
Percent with no high school diploma, 2009-2013
Percent of households with no vehicle, 2009-2013

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2009-2013 American Community Survey
Gonorrhea diagnosis rates Richmond City, 2014
Low Birth Weight
Life Expectancy in Richmond
Social Determinants of Health

Population Health

Physical Environment
- Environmental quality
- Built environment

Socio-Economic Factors
- Education
- Employment
- Income
- Family/social support
- Community safety

Health Care
- Access to care
- Quality of care

Health Behaviors
- Tobacco use
- Diet & exercise
- Alcohol use
- Unsafe sex

Source: Authors’ analysis and adaption from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute’s County Health Rankings model ©2010, http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/about-project/background
Housing quality

Housing that is safe, dry, clean, maintained, adequately ventilated, and free from pests and contaminants, such as lead, radon, and carbon monoxide, can reduce the incidence of negative health outcomes such as injuries, asthma, cancer, neurotoxicity, cardiovascular disease, and poor mental health.

Housing community

Neighborhoods free from segregation and concentrated poverty, and in which residents have close and supporting relationships with one another, can improve physical and mental health by reducing stress and exposure to violence and crime as well as improving school performance and civic engagement.

Housing affordability

Affordable housing enables people to pay for other basic needs such as utilities, food, and medical care, which can reduce the incidence of negative health outcomes such as malnutrition, diabetes, anxiety, and depression.

Housing location

Easy access to public transportation, parks and recreation, quality schools, good jobs, healthy foods, and medical care can help reduce the incidence of chronic disease, injury, respiratory disease, mortality, and poor mental health.


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AsthmaCAPITALS
2018

The Most Challenging Places
to Live With ASTHMA
Out of the 100 Cities AAFA Ranked, the Top 20 Most Challenging Places to Live With Asthma Are:

2. Richmond, Virginia

Richmond is #2 on our Asthma Capital list, but it's top in the nation for the number of asthma fatalities. The city's high poverty rate of 26.2% is a factor. Low-income families may face poorly maintained rental housing, urban locations with high pollution and lack of resources to pay for proper care. With a high pollen count and higher-than-average emergency room visits, it's no surprise Richmond is near the top of the list.
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Richmond Region Market Value Analysis

February, 2018
Areas Affordable at up to 80% Median Household Income

Median household income in 2011-2015 for Richmond Metro Area: $59,919. Visible MVA areas had average sales prices (2015/2016) less than 3x 80% of median.
Transforming investment in communities

The Center for Community Investment works to overcome disinvestment and improve opportunity so that everyone has a fair chance to lead a healthy and productive life.

What’s your role?
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