A new data (re)sourse for social needs

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Basic needs

- Enough to eat
- Place to stay
- Physically threatened
- Enough $ for “essentials like food”
- Enough $ for “unexpected expenses”
Basic needs

- Neighborhood safety
- Enough space in current home
Basic needs index (0-7; n=1,898)

- 0 unmet basic needs 6%
- 1 unmet basic need 14%
- 2 unmet basic needs 34%
- 3+ unmet basic needs 46%
The bad news...

More unmet needs =

- Poorer health

- Less prevention

- Greater perceived stress

- Less responsive to health intervention

Boyum et al (2016) Social Serv Rev
Thompson et al (2016) Hlth Beh Hlth Educ
The good news...

- We can screen for unmet needs

- Unmet needs can be addressed

- When addressed, health actions improve
Audience poll questions
2-1-1®
Get Connected. Get Answers.
A national view

- 50 states, DC, PR, CA
- 16 million calls per year
Demographics

- 86% women
- 53% child < 18 in home
- 68% < $15,000
- 27% < H.S. education
- 45% out of work
- 41% no health insurance
2-1-1 service requests

- 77% bills
- 42% home and family
- 9% employment
- 8% health
- 6% housing
- 10% other
2-1-1 counts