

Foothill Unity Center, Inc.

40 YEARS

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

OXY  
Occidental  
College

# Assessing community health and resource needs in the San Gabriel Valley during the COVID-19 pandemic

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# Foothill Unity Center

The mission of Foothill Unity Center is to “help neighbors in crisis attain self-sufficiency by partnering with the community and using our resources wisely to provide vital support services with love and dignity.”

# Foothill Unity Center

- Founded in 1980
- Community Action Agency in the San Gabriel Valley
  - Pasadena\*
  - Monrovia
- Has served over 4,000 families in need across Southern California by providing necessary services such as:
  - housing/shelter assistance
  - food and household goods distribution
  - health care and education access
  - crisis management
  - job development opportunities

## Monrovia's Foothill Unity Center Starts Drive to Collect School Supplies

By Susan Motander · June 21, 2019

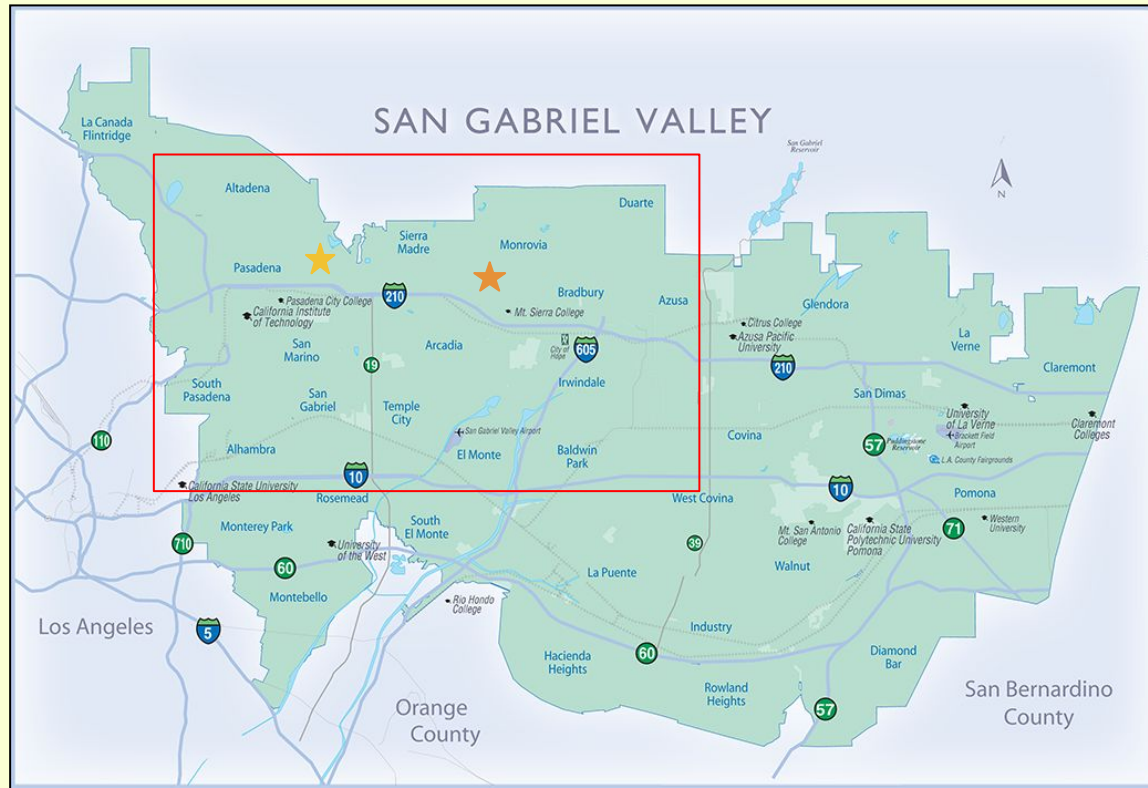
## Nearly 1,100 kids Attend Foothill Unity Center Back to School Distribution

*Community support helps Foothill Unity Center prepare nearly 1,100 local kids of very low income families for class at 16th Annual Back to School event*

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Published on Thursday, August 7, 2014 | 4:01 pm

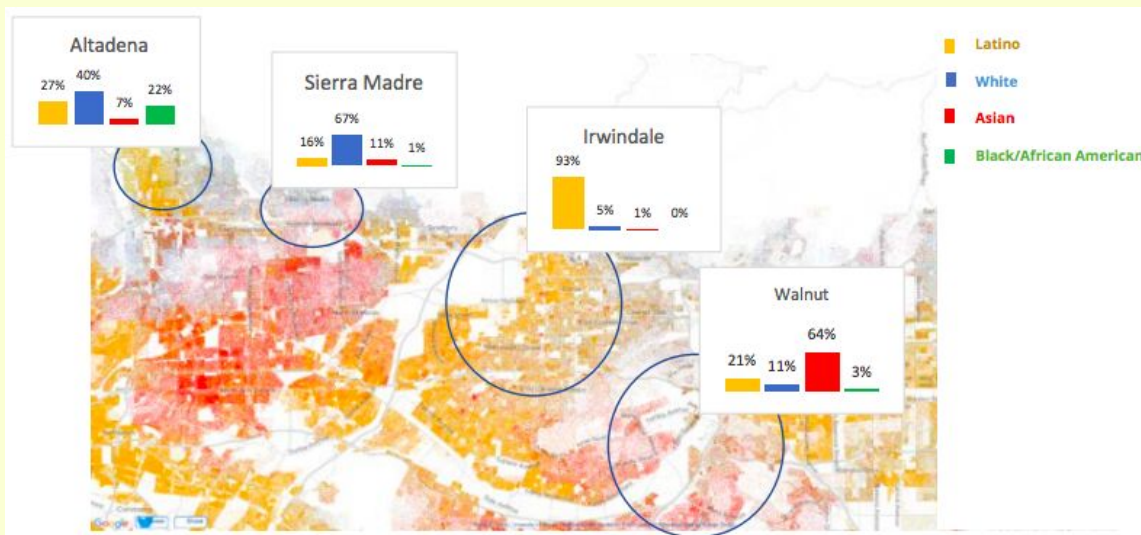
# Service area



**Source:** San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership.

# SGV ethnoburbs

Despite its overall diversity, “racial/ethnic populations are highly concentrated in specific geographic “pockets” throughout the Valley”.

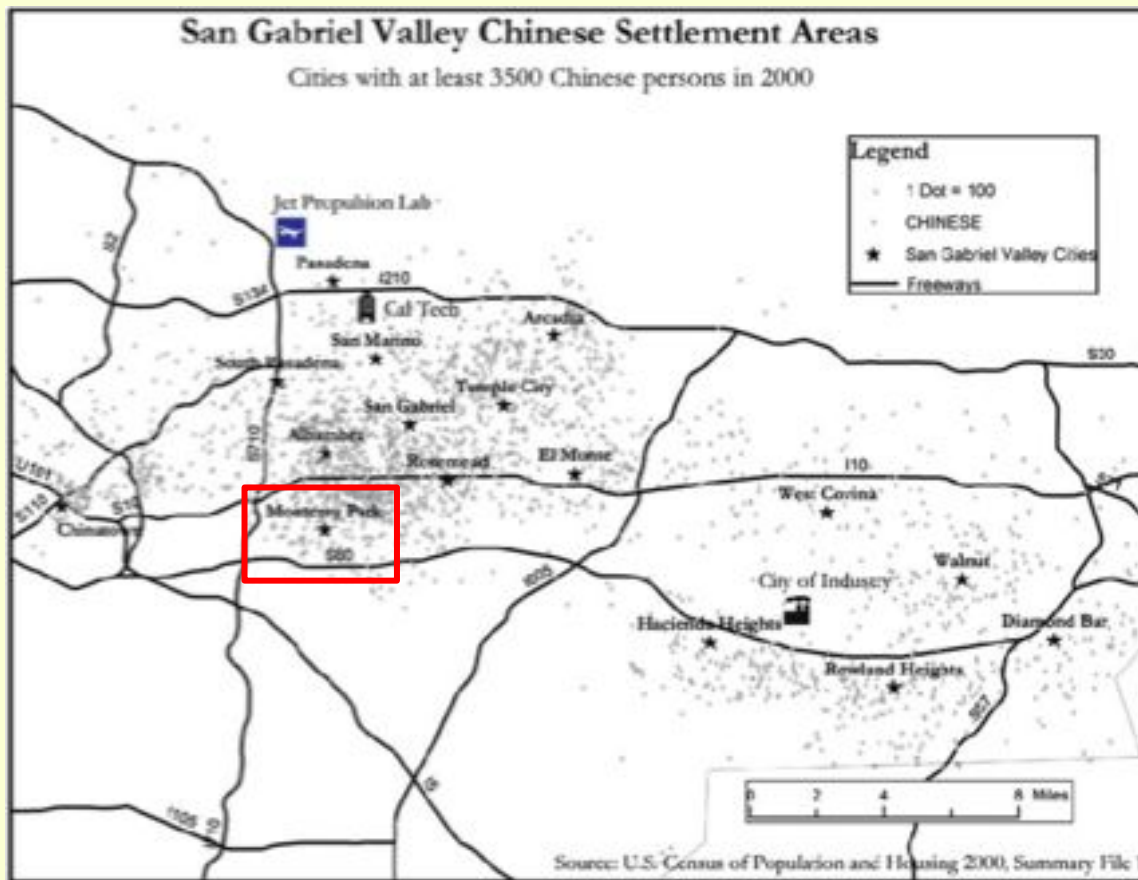


Source: Greater San Gabriel Valley Hospital Collaborative

## A consequence of:

- Segregationist housing policies
- Patterns of immigration and migration
- Patterns of out-migration of white residents, “white flight”

# Chinese ethnoburbs

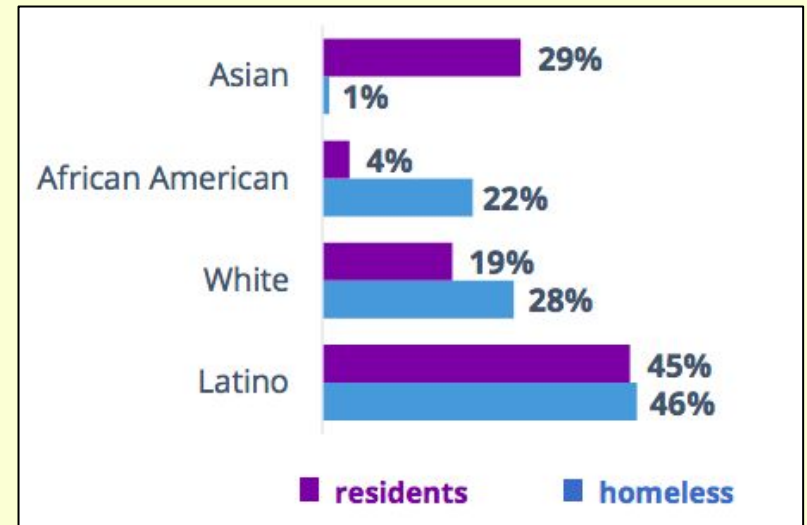


**Chinese ethnoburbs in the San Gabriel Valley include Monterey Park, Alhambra, San Marino, Rosemead, El Monte, Arcadia, and more.**

**Source: Lin and Robinson 2006**

# Vulnerable communities

- Documented/undocumented  
\* Immigrants
- Non-Native English  
Speakers
- Chronically homeless
- Black or African American
- LGBTQ+
- Aging seniors
- Disabled



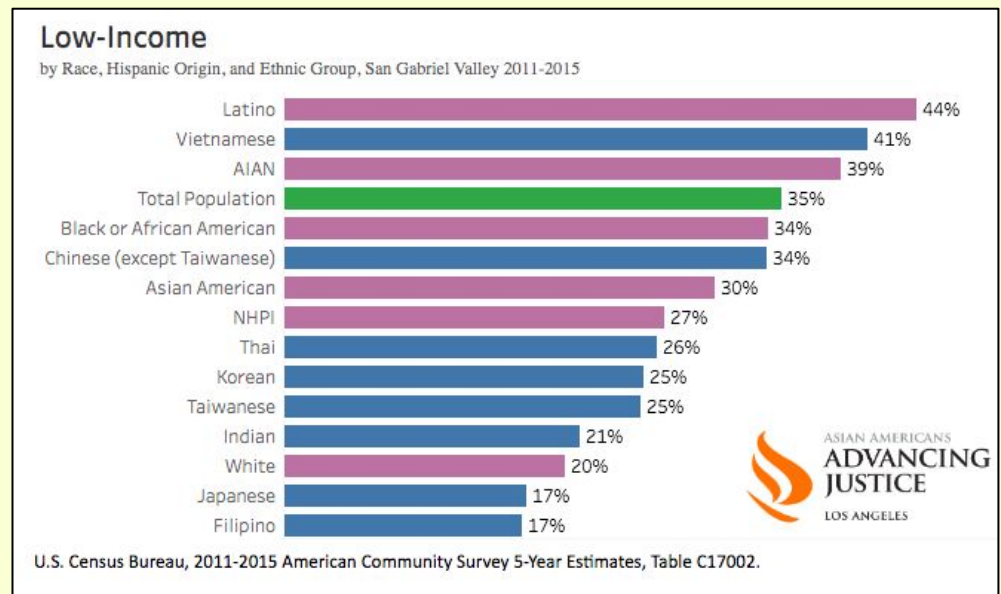
Breakdown of the San Gabriel Valley population by race (purple) paralleled with the breakdown of the homeless population in the SGV by race (blue).

Source: Greater San Gabriel Valley Hospital Collaborative

# Asian-American community in the SGV

- ~67,000 Asian-Americans and about 1,000 Pacific Islanders are impoverished
- 80,000+ Asians and Pacific Islanders lack health insurance
- Cities in the SGV with the largest Asian-American populations also struggle with industrial pollution and other environmental problems.

“A Community of Contrasts: Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the San Gabriel Valley”



Source: Asian Americans Advancing Justice Los Angeles

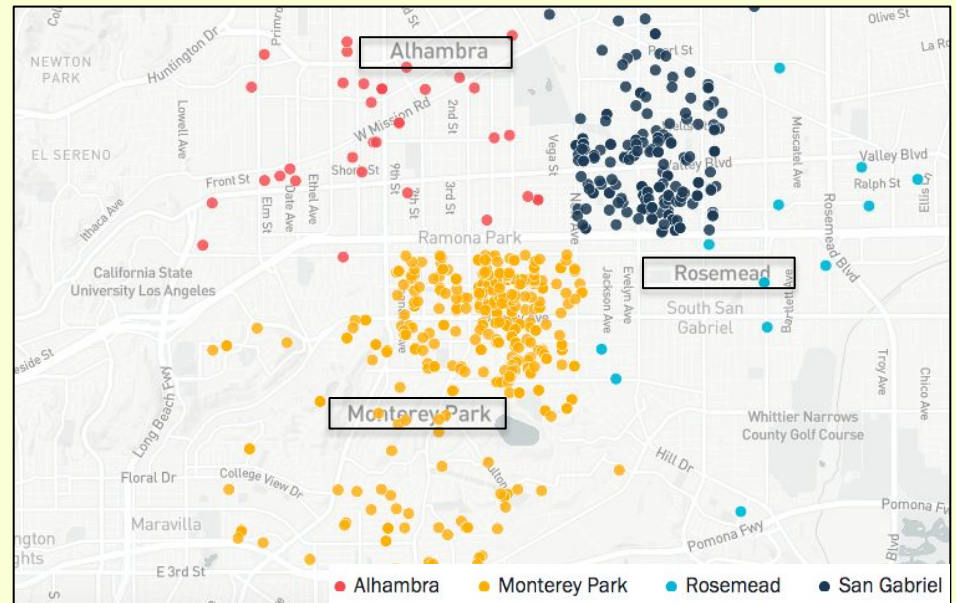


# Chinese immigrant communities

Illegal boarding homes spread out across the SGV house thousands of Chinese immigrants

- Unsanitary
- Overcrowded
- Unsafe

**Effects of the pandemic on these communities?**



Source: Yingjie Wang, LAist

# Impact of the COVID-10 pandemic

## Altered methods of providing services and distributing resources

- Food distribution: drive-thru or homebound delivery
- Housing/shelter assistance: phone or email
- Crisis case management: phone or email
- Health services: available at food distributions
- Cooking demos and food prep: social media



# However...

Though the condition of the pandemic has imposed limitations on the nature of how services and resources are delivered to participants, Foothill Unity Center remains committed to assessing and meeting the temporary and anticipated needs of the community both during and after the pandemic.

Pasadena's Foothill Unity Center providing boxes of food to those in need amid Coronavirus pandemic

 By Sid Garcia  
Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Pasadena's Foothill Unity Center Offers Food Donations to Hungry Families During Coronavirus Crisis

Published on Thursday, March 26, 2020 | 4:57 am



# Community needs assessment

## Purpose

- The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing inequities impacting vulnerable and low-income community members
- Analyze the needs of community members amid the pandemic
- Participants are asked to choose which resources or services, from a list of services offered by Foothill Unity Center, they either currently need or anticipate needing in the future

# Community needs assessment

Please choose the following services provided by Foothill Unity Center that you foresee needing now and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Crisis case management

Food services

Health services

Housing and homeless services

Job development services

Other (immigration services, legal services, re-entry/formerly incarcerated services, access to pet food and veterinary care, access to hygiene and household items, transportation services, etc.)

# Community needs assessment

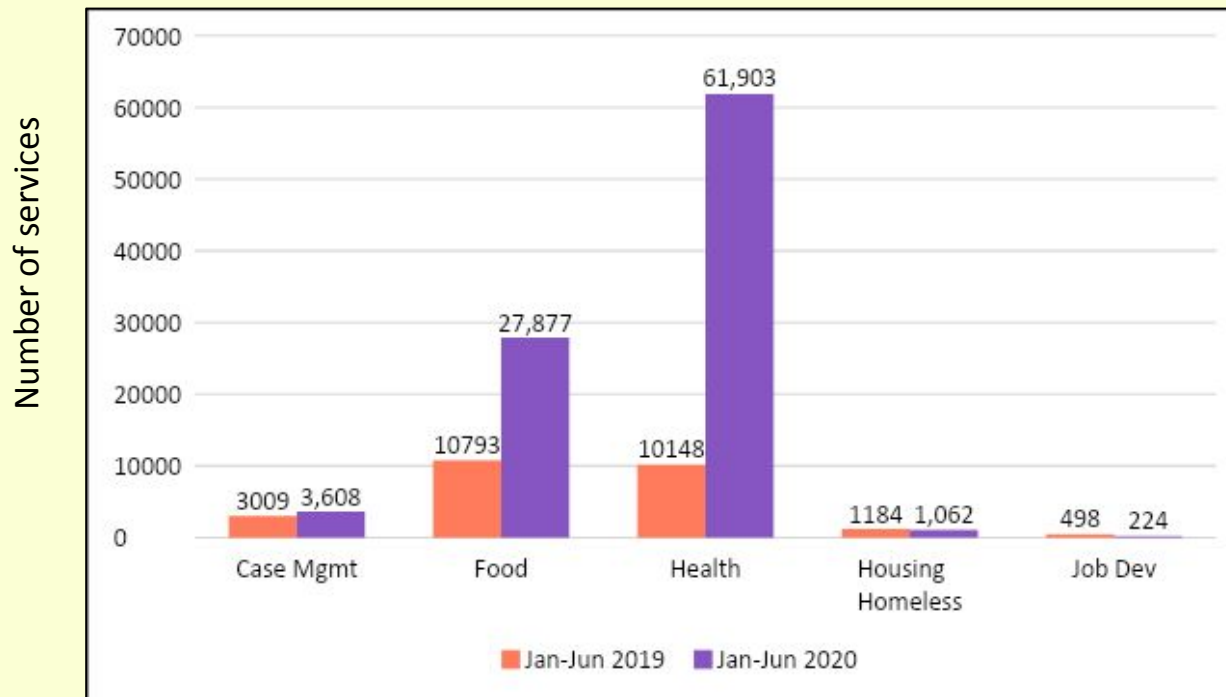
## Methods

- Qualtrics
  - Translated in English and Spanish
- Live Wednesday, June 22
  - Closes in a few weeks
- Responses collected on iPads at weekly food distribution drive-thru lines
  - Pasadena: T & F 9-11:30am, W 1-3:30pm
  - Monrovia: W & F: 9-11:30am, M 1-3:30pm
- Responses also collected via short phone calls with previous clients



# Community needs assessment

## Importance



Source: Foothill Unity Center Client Services



# Community needs assessment

## Importance

- Survey results will:
  - **Address increased vulnerability caused COVID-19**
    - Exacerbation of existing inequities
  - **Assess lasting impacts of the pandemic on the community**
    - Specifically marginalized groups, including those who are non-native English speakers, immigrants, earn low incomes, are Black or African American, are LGBTQ, and/or are houseless, are at greatest risk.
  - **Be instrumental in the allocation of funding resources to specific services**





# Thank you

*Thank you for watching!*

And a huge thank you to the following individuals who made this experience possible:

- Tashera Taylor, Foothill Unity Center Client Services Director
- Foothill Unity Center and the UEPI
- Professors Heng Lam Foong, Jessica Dirkes, and Raquel Galarza
- Fellow public health interns
- Participants and clients at Foothill

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