

Coconut Grove Community Needs Assessment Guide

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Abstract

The Coconut Grove community found in Miami is a community established by immigrants. The community has had development in its different structures as well as systems. In this case, the guide will offer information about the overall understanding of the community composition in terms of the general demographics in addition to the demographics, the community's economic overview meaning that the major industries and occupations that exist in the community are given thoughtful consideration. The community is composed of systems that improve the lifestyles of the people as well as bring them revenue; the health system, as well as the primary sources of the maladies that the individuals suffer from, are given consideration too. The overall literacy status of the people from the Coconut Grove community is the focus of this guide while the educational centers and the ethnic groups that work and attend at these educational institutions are explored in depth.

I) Overview

A) Description of the Community

i) History

The Coconut Grove community found in Miami is a community established by immigrants from different parts of the world such as Britain and the Bahamas. The first settlers originated from the two countries. Other immigrants came and settled in Coconut Grove working as laborers, intellectuals, artists, and some come looking for adventure (Cowley, 2015). The community was named coconut grove because of the surrounding coconut trees. As more people visited the area, the first permanent settlers established clubs hotels and places of entertainment that could accommodate the increasing number of visitors. With time, coconut grove attracted developers and investors who developed the area to what it is now. This community is majorly an urban community

The community physical environment is characterized by natural setting of a tropical canopy, water of Biscayne Bay, palm trees, ships, physical structures such as buildings that comprises of restaurants, neighborhoods such as Center Grove, Northeast Coconut Grove, Southwest Coconut Grove, and West Grove or Black Grove, yacht clubs, schools, church, galleries and post office and green spaces.

A) Description: general identifying data

The community is located in Miami Dade County, Florida in the United States.

ii) Topographical features

The Community has a cool sub-tropical climate resulting from the high altitude and the surrounding Biscayne Bay. The summers are usually rainy while winters are dry (Elliott et al.,

2017). The area is characterized by high humidity which is lowered during the day due to the sun heat. When temperatures are extreme, the ocean plays a crucial role in bringing a warming and cooling effect during the summer and winter respectively.

The area is approximately 5.607 square miles.

C) Environment

i) Sanitation: water supply, sewage, garbage, trash

There is plenty of water supply in the community due to the presence of the bay. The people hardly face water challenges as homes, commercial areas and industries are connected with water taps. The community has a body or department that is responsible for ensuring that high levels of sanitation are maintained. The main aim of the body is to promote a clean and healthy environment by collecting and disposing of garbage and trash. The community has well-maintained sewers such as septic tanks that ensure proper discharge of effluents (Elliott et al., 2017). The responsible individuals also provide the community with other Solid Waste management services efficiently and affordably. Community cleanups are always organized to keep the environment clean and green.

ii) Pollutants, toxic substances, animal reservoirs or vectors, flora and fauna

iii) Air quality: color, odor, particulates

iv) Food supply: sources, preparation

The potential disaster in the population includes flooding mainly from the stormwater runoff. Other disasters include tides caused by the hurricane, destructive hurricane winds and unstable ground. These hazards always lead to the destruction of properties and loss of lives in

the community and the surrounding areas. To prepare well for the disaster, the authority has constructed drainages to reduce the flooding of the stormwater (Elliott et al., 2017). The public department has also developed the minimum elevations for all buildings to mitigate the impacts of disasters such as flooding.

2

D) Housing

i) Types of housing (public and private)

The community lives in the private property and practices real estate. Therefore, the community lives in mansions. Most of the housing services offered in this community are private residential whereby the community constructs new houses that they offer as rentals.

ii) Condition of housing

The new ultra-luxury condos and waterfront mansions are in good condition such that they have started to attract other immigrants and people from the rest of the world.

iii) Percent owned, rented

Evidently, approximately 70% of the houses in the community is owned by the individuals that lived for the longest time (Alfieri, 2014). The current 30% of the housing is currently being rented to people that are interested from all over the world.

iv) Housing for special populations

In Dade County, the Coconut Grove community offers to house the homeless. One of the housing services provided is needy and the elderly. The program also includes the housing of individuals that have addiction problems and need to be enrolled in rehabilitation and treatment services. One of the housing services offered in this community is the Florida Homeless Shelters and Services. The housing program involves a website through which the needy, homeless and

the frail elderly can be able to access services, and they can make inquiries (Fowler, 2013). The contact for the needy and any individual that would like to help the needy within then Coconut Grove community is accessible through the websites. Some of these services and homeless shelters include Miami Dade Homeless Trust, Eyes On God Homeless Shelter and Camillus House.

E) Leading industries and occupations

The leading industry in Miami, Dade County that is mostly inhabited by the Coconut Grove community is tourism. Therefore, many of the community members work in restaurants, and the touristic centers. Many of the individuals are hoteliers, professional chefs, tourist guides and designers, and artists. Therefore, they help in the creation of new artworks which helps in improving the topography, the tourist scenarios as well as improving the overall nature of the tourist sites. Some of the individuals from the community practice entrepreneurship by constructing housing and residential so that they can help improve the accommodation services for the visiting tourists in the community.

The People of the Community

A)

Population profile

Considering that Coconut community members live in Florida, it is estimated that the population of these individuals is 19.9 million as per the 2011 census (Alfieri, 2014). The population density of the place is estimated at 294 while the median age of the people living in this community is 41.6. For the individual that are married in the community especially those aged 15 years and over accounts for over 54% as per the latest study. The ratio of male to female

as of the latest study is also estimated at 1.0:1. For the past ten years, the young generation has doubled as compared to the elderly. Within the same number of years, it is an evident hat that families that have children especially those that are under the age of 18 accounts for 38% of the overall population of the Coconut Grove Community (Alfieri, 2013). In the country, people between the age of 5 years and 29 accounts for 61% of the overall population while those aged between 30 and 54 years account for 23% while the rest comprises of the elderly aged 55 years and above. Only a few families accounting for 12% in the community are single parented.

B) Biological Considerations/Vital and demographic population characteristics

i) Age composition

As per the latest studies, the age composition of the Coconut Grove Community is as exhibited in the table below

Age	Percentage of People
<10 years	13%
10-17years	9%
18-24 years	7%
25-34 years	15%
35-44 years	13%
45-54 years	13%
55-64 years	14%
65+ years	17%

According to the recent statistics, the gender distribution in the community is characterized by a high number of males as compared to the females: women account for 48%, while men account for the remaining 52% of the whole population.

iii) Race distribution

Race	Percentage
Whites	43%
Hispanic	37%
African American	17%
Two or More Races	2%
Asian	1%

v) Mortality Characteristics

The key findings from the mortality rates of the Coconut Grove Community are recorded at 4.6. However, in the past ten years, it has been noted that the mortality rate decreased by 24%. It is evident that the births with an inter-pregnancy interval which are considered to be more than 18 months are at their highest. Additionally, the perinatal mortality rates of the community as of 2014 were significantly low as compared to the previous years whereby, the total fetal rate was recorded at 7.3, the total IMR was at 4.6, total Neonatal IMR was at three as well as post neonatal at 1.7. The figures were all calculated in terms of percentage (Fowler, 2013). The cause of these deaths in infants was due to poor maternal services due to complications among the expectant mothers. Similarly, the leading cause of morbidity within the Coconut Grove Community is lifestyle and accidents. Many of the community members engage in luxurious lifestyles which

lead to the development of cancers (Elliott et al., 2017). It is apparent that some of the environmental problems such as the infestation by mosquitoes causes the Zika related diseases.

Evidently, many people in the community suffer from cancer-related diseases, and this accounts for 37% of the overall causes of morbidity. The disorders are noted in the elderly as well as obesity which accounts for 12% of morbidity and death rates is associated with individuals between the age of 15 years and 29 years (Alfieri, 2014). The prevalence of mental illnesses is noted among the elderly while children are exposed mainly to pneumonia, fever, influenza and the common cold.

i) Significant historical events

The community engages in specific historical events which include the Arts Festival, the King Mango Strut which is usually conducted in December especially the last Sunday of this month.

ii) Future economic prospects

Evidently, the community usually engages in the development for the region by ensuring that the members engage in real estate which includes the future building restaurants and housing facilities especially mansions.

F) Education

The Miami-Dade is the public library for the residents of the Coconut Community. The public education facilities include a number of schools that are George W Carver, Coconut Grove and Frances S. Tucker Elementary schools. The other include Dade County Training School, which was established between 1899 and 1937 (Alfieri, 2013). Public Middle schools include Georg Washington Carver, and High Schools include Georg Washington Carver Senior and Bridgeprep Academy of Arts and Minds. Private Schools are also quite a number, and they

include Vanguard School, St. Hugh's Catholic School, Coconut Grove Montessori School, St. Stephen's Episcopal Day School and Ransom Everglades School

iv) Services for special populations Services for unique population

The pregnant teens are provided with support and care in order to take care of their children. There are adoption services for mothers who wish to keep their babies but feels that they are not ready to become parents. There is also kinship care where the grandparents or the relative of the mother take custodian of the infant under private, informal or through welfare systems. Adults with unique problems require many cares from their families and the health community. Special services such as patient-centered medical home are provided for them. The patient-centered model ensures that the adults receive coordinated and comprehensive care. For children and adults who are developmentally disabled, the community governance ensures that such patients are provided with auxiliary aids of helping them with communication (Fowler, 2013). People with developmental problems most of the times are either mentally challenged and other have deaf and blindness issues. Hence, for children and adults having deaf and blindness problems, the community has ensured that they have communication and walking aids. They are also provided with educational services such as learning sign language and using braille materials.

G) Transportation

A Metrobus serve the Coconut Grove group all through the territory and the Miami Metrorail. Metrobus Coconut Grove Connection unites Coconut Grove and Douglas Road stations, going to many prevalent territories inside the Grove, including Coco Walk and the Peacock Park.

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