

Savings Lives in the Refugee Community: A Cultural and Linguistic Adaptation of Stop the Bleed

Atlanta Global Research and Education Collaborative
(AGREC)

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Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88025815296>

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With the support of the AGREC award, a team of clinicians, academics, and community leaders from Emory and Georgia State University adapted an evidence-based trauma intervention, Stop the Bleed, for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. The scholarship on health disparities in migrant, ethnic minority, and limited English proficient (LEP) communities as well as our own local research in a refugee resettlement community show there is an urgent need for health interventions to be adapted to communities where language and culture often serve as barriers to health equity.

Stop the Bleed (STB) is a 90-minute course to train lay people in recommended response and bleeding control protocols that can save someone's life while awaiting first responders; over 1 million individuals have been trained in STB. Unfortunately, some of our most vulnerable communities who are affected by trauma do not have access to this critical training as it is only available in English and Spanish. However, a culturally adapted implementation of Stop the Bleed in a large Somali community in the Seattle area demonstrated the feasibility of expanding this program in other ethnic communities as a way to increase knowledge and self-efficacy among community members to respond effectively in a trauma situation as well as address the structural barriers to health equity.

Our team conducted focus groups with key stakeholders in several refugee communities in or near Clarkston, Georgia. Important findings revealed a desire to participate in STB training and other activities that connect communities to the healthcare system. Physicians and nurses from Grady hospital, Emory and Morehouse School of Medicine provided the training to Arabic, Somali and Burmese-speaking individuals at a Georgia state facility; the STB curriculum was modified for cultural and linguistic appropriateness for the three aforementioned language groups which comprise a majority of refugee residents in Clarkston, Georgia by modifying both program content and program delivery. Like knowing how to use CPR, having the skills to stop someone from bleeding to death has the impact of directly saving lives.

Launched in 2020 and housed within the Atlanta Global Studies Center (AGSC), AGREC is currently comprised of six universities:

AGSC, a partnership of Georgia Tech and Georgia State University

Emory University's Office of Global Strategy and Initiatives (GSI)

Agnes Scott College's SUMMIT Center for Global Learning and Leadership Development

Spelman College's Gordon Zeto Center for Global Education

Kennesaw State University's Division of Global Affairs

AGREC seeks to build and strengthen collaborative networks of multi-institutional scholars and practitioners to support global research and education initiatives in the Greater Atlanta region.

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