Background

- Climate change will produce intense weather events like increased precipitation and flooding
- Based on climate projections, Philadelphia will be hotter and wetter, and will experience more frequent and intense weather events (OOS, 2016)
- Floods are the second most common hazards in our city (OEM, 2017)
- Vulnerable population such as children, people of color, elderly population and people with disability are severely impacted by climate change

Social Capital Definition and Methods

- Social capital consists of three components bonding, bridging, linking to services
- Interdisciplinary approach
- Built on trust, reciprocity, shared interest and collective action among community members
- Increase community resilience
- Faster recovery from disasters

Methods

- 20 African American participants were recruited for this study aged 65 years and above, living in Eastwick for more than 5 years through a method of snowball sampling
- Eastwick Disaster Impact Questionnaire (DIQ), a non valid instrumental tool was developed for this study
- Door to door survey administration

Key findings

- Eastwick will remain as a vulnerable community,
- Community perceives that the current FEMA flood plain maps are outdated
- People are highly concerned and show increased levels of stress.
- Educating and building awareness about negative impacts of climate change among vulnerable population is key (bridging and linking)
- Establishing an updated warning system (linking and bridging)
- Drafting and practicing local disaster evacuation plan is critical (bonding and bridging)

Conclusion and Future Public Health Implication

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References