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## COMPETITIVE DIVISION – GRADUATE STUDENT

## COVID-19 Vaccinations and the Hispanic Communities of Texas and California

Vaccination rates of Hispanics were low, but significantly less discussed than the rates of African Americans. The Hispanic community needed to be engaged and educated o the importance and safety of vaccines, as the Hispanic population were making up almost a quarter of the morbidity cases of COVID in the United States, while simultaneously making up 18.5% of the population. The purpose of this study is to make up for the lack of research done on the effectiveness of the outreach methods used to during COVID-19 to encourage vaccination within the Hispanic community, and to use that knowledge to have a better understanding of what needs to be done differently the next time a global health crisis that involves vaccines as a recommended treatment takes place.

**Presentation Theme:** Effectiveness of the community engagement tactics used to encourage COVID-19 vaccinations within the Hispanic communities of Texas and California.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: N/A