

**SERVICES PROVIDED FOR THE HEALTH-RELATED CONSEQUENCES OF COMMUNITY VIOLENCE AMONG THE HISPANIC YOUTH OF THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.** *Mayra Rodriguez, Dr. John Klofas\*, Janelle Duda\*, Criminal Justice Department, Center for Public Safety Initiatives, [mxr9911@rit.edu](mailto:mxr9911@rit.edu), [john.klofas@rit.edu](mailto:john.klofas@rit.edu), [jmdgc@rit.edu](mailto:jmdgc@rit.edu).*

Community violence is a problem in the city of Rochester. Homicide is the leading cause of death among adolescents in this city. Rochester ranks within the top cities with the highest homicide rates at 25 homicides per 100,000 people compared to the national rate which is 8 per 100,000 people and NYC's rate which is 6 per 100,000 people. Studies show that exposure to community violence is a major risk factor for the development of substance abuse, injuries, internalizing behaviors, and psychological problems such as depression, anxiety and posttraumatic stress disorder among exposed children and adolescents. Children growing up in inner-cities, which have high concentrations of African American and Hispanic children, are at higher risks of exposure to community violence than those living in other areas. The purpose of this study is to explore the community services for the Hispanic youth with mental and/or physical consequences of violence. A qualitative study of community service agencies in Rochester will be conducted. Unstructured interviews of key employees within the agencies will be completed to better understand the availability and accessibility of resources to the Hispanic youth. This study is part of another study looking at the cost and consequences of violence in Rochester.