

# CHRISTINE E. LYNN COLLEGE OF NURSING

## Advancing Caring Science in Global Health: Assessment of Mental Health Needs in Bondeau, Haiti

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### Background

World Health Organization (WHO) has called for a comprehensive, coordinated response to the global burden of mental disorders.



Haiti :

- estimated population of 10.7 million
- 40% of population has access to health care
- 2 mental health hospitals, .07 psychiatrists, .07 psychologists, .29 nurses, .06 social workers per 100,000 population (WHO, 2014, 2017).

### Purpose & Aims

The purpose of this exploratory study was to investigate the mental health strengths and needs of adults living in Bondeau, Haiti. The aims of the study were to determine:

- the severity of depressive symptomatology,
- degree of anxiety, and
- resiliency of persons.

### Theoretical Framework

**The Community Nursing Practice Model:  
Concentric Circles of Empathetic Concern**



Framework is grounded in beliefs of respect, wholeness, caring and connectedness between person, community, and environment (Parker, Barry, & King, 2013).

### Methods

**Design:** Sequential (quantitative-qualitative) mixed methods.

**Setting:** Episcopalian church community in rural Haiti.

**Consents:** IRB approval was obtained from the University, permission from pastor, and written and/or oral consents were obtained from all participants.

**Sample:** Convenience sample of 83, ages 18-84.

**Instruments:** ZANMI LASANTE Depression Symptom Inventory (ZLDSI), Connor-Davidson Resilience Scale (CD-RIS 10), PROMIS Anxiety Scale.

### Results

**Table 1. Demographics**

Characteristic	n	%
Gender		
Male	21	25.3
Female	61	73.5
Age		
18-24	10	12
25-29	5	6
30-39	22	26.5
40-49	20	24.1
50-59	11	13.3
60 >	15	18.1
Marital Status		
Single	34	41
Married	21	25.3
Widowed	10	12
Divorced	2	2.4
Other	11	13.2

**Table 2. PROMIS-Anxiety**

Anxiety	n	%
None to slight	22	25.5
Mild	22	25.5
Moderate	28	33.7
Severe	10	12.0
Missing data	1	1.2

**Table 3. CD-RIC 10**

Resilience	
Mean	23.04 (SD 8.335)
Median	23.00
1 <sup>st</sup> quartile	0-18
2 <sup>nd</sup> quartile	19-23
3 <sup>rd</sup> quartile	24-28
4 <sup>th</sup> quartile	29-40

**Table 4. ZLDSI**

ZANMI LASANTE DEPRESSION SYMPTOM INVENTORY (ZLDSI) (N=83)							
No Depression		Mild Depression		Moderate Depression		Severe Depression	
N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
24	28.9	20	24.1	33	39.8	6	7.2

### Conclusion

Mental health needs are significant :

- Over 40% of participants experienced moderate to severe symptoms of depression
- 45% experienced moderate to severe level of anxiety
- Resilience level is low for majority of participants

This study advances caring science and the critical role nursing plays in attaining the United Nation's Sustainable Health Goals of "people-centeredness" healthcare programs (United Nations, 2015).

### Acknowledgements

Research funding provided by the Christine E. Lynn Center for Caring and permission for use of ZLDSI instrument by Partners in Health.