

THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED

# DHS Provider Briefings

Thursday 9/3/20

Provider Briefings are held  
**weekly, on Thursdays.**



# Agenda

- Announcements/updates
- Legislative updates
- Supply update – Scott Hemphill
- Policytech update – Rachel Schneider
- Health metrics & New data tool – Katy Collins
- Allegheny Housing Assessment – Andrea Bustos
- Program updates



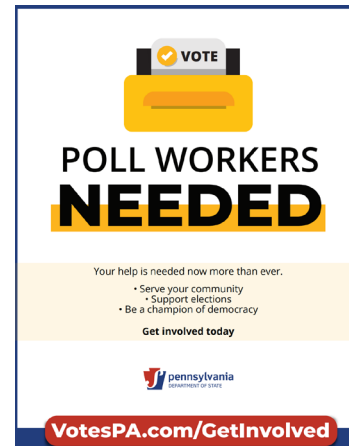
- CMU & Voter Protection Corps: [Voting Risk Assessment](#) for Allegheny: "Recruit Immediately"

## Election Poll Workers Needed

- Allegheny County continues to recruit poll workers for the November 3rd election. Poll workers will be provided with "infection prevention kits" for election day that includes a face shield, mask, gloves, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizer.
- Serve as a Judge, Inspector or Clerk of Election. Election Officers/poll workers earn from \$115 to \$140 for the day. New Election Officers receive paid training. County website [link](#) for more information.
- [Application for Allegheny County Election Poll Worker](#)
- [Student Poll Worker Program](#) (not yet updated for November election)
- [Become a Poll Worker](#) video

## Voter resources

- Allegheny County Elections Division E-newsletter: [Sign-up](#) to receive information on preparations for the November general election
- [Overview of vote by mail process in Allegheny County](#)
- [Register to vote](#)
- [Check voter registration status](#)
- [Absentee Ballot Application](#): October 27th is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot for the November 3, 2020 election. The application must be received in the Elections office by that date.



# HAVE YOU FILLED OUT YOUR CENSUS YET?

Please help your community  
get the resources it needs, by  
filling out your census today!



*There are three ways to fill out the census even  
while practicing physical distancing:*

---



VISIT [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020census.gov)



SPEAK TO A REPRESENTATIVE BY CALLING  
1-844-330-2020



FILL OUT A PAPER COPY SENT TO  
YOUR HOME

# COVID-19 Mobile Testing Schedule

## Squirrel Hill Health Center

register at <http://alleghenycovidtesting.com>

- Monday Aug. 31 9am to 12 pm  
Concordia Lutheran Church  
3109 Brownsville Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15227 (Brentwood)
- Tuesday Sept. 1 9 am to 12 pm  
Human Services Center Corporation  
413 Penn Ave.  
Turtle Creek, PA 15145 (Turtle Creek)
- Wednesday Sept. 2 9 am to 12 pm  
Allegheny County Children Youth & Families  
10700 Frankstown Road  
Penn Hills, PA 15235 (Penn Hills)
- Thursday Sept. 3 9 am to 12 pm  
Jewish Association on Aging  
100 JHF Drive, Lower Level  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217 (Squirrel Hill)



**Schedule announced**

**Mondays on**

*Allegheny County Health Dept*

Facebook & Twitter

## Allegheny Health Network

walk-ins welcome; physicians' orders are not required

- Monday, August 31 10:30am to 4pm  
Former Shop N' Save plaza  
1850 Centre Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (Hill District)
- Tuesday, September 1 10:30am to 4pm  
City Hall Building  
551 Ravensburg Boulevard (Clairton)
- Friday, September 4 10:30am to 4pm  
Duquesne Elementary  
300 Kennedy Avenue (Duquesne)
- Wednesday, September 9 10:30am to 4pm  
Hazelwood Family Health Center  
4915 Second Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15207 (Hazelwood)
- Thursday, September 10 10:30am to 4pm  
Alma Illery Medical Center  
7227 Hamilton Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15208 (Homewood)

9/2/2020

# REMINDER! — INTERNET ACCESS REQUESTS!

- Request in-home, portable internet access for your clients in need.
- Each service plan lasts for 12 months!
- Available options include a mobile hotspot (available now) or in-home internet (available in ~6 weeks).
- Link below:

[DHS Device Request Form](#)



# Active Solicitations

- RFP for Inpatient Program for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
  - Proposals Due ~~September 16~~ **September 30**
  - **RFP was amended on 8/28! New requirement added and deadline extended**
- RFP for Latinx Community Needs Assessment
  - Proposals Due September 18
- Available on [DHS Solicitations Page](#), along with form to sign up to receive email notifications when we post new solicitations



# Neighborland.com/alleghenycounty



## What are some of the ways Allegheny County can continue to reduce its jail population?

Asked by [Allegheny County Department of Human Services](#)



The jail population is at its lowest in 20 years. We want to help ensure that trend continues.



## How should Allegheny County support community-based efforts to improve public safety?

Asked by [Allegheny County Department of Human Services](#)



We want to help prevent more people from entering the criminal justice system. Share your ideas about alternatives that help keep people safe without using the jail



## If you or a family member were involved in the criminal justice system, what do you wish had happened differently?

Asked by [Allegheny County Department of Human Services](#)



We want to hear from people who have been there. What was your experience and how could it have turned out more favorably?



# Policy & Legislative Update – Federal

- Negotiations on larger 5th Federal stimulus bill remain at an impasse.
  - Stimulus funding may become part of the larger government funding negotiations that must occur by the end of September to avoid a government shutdown.
- The CDC declared a nationwide halt to all evictions through the end of the year on Tuesday.
  - Halts evictions for nonpayment of rent only and does not waive rent due or any penalties or fees associated with late rent.
  - The order does not provide new funding to help pay rent and directs states and HUD grantees to use the CDBG, ESG, and the Coronavirus Relief Funds they were granted as part of the CARES Act in March 2020 to fund rental assistance programs.
  - Renters are not automatically protected; must sign a Declaration to declare qualification.
  - Because PA's moratorium expired last week, there was a rush of evictions filed by landlords in court before the CDC's announcement. It is unclear how those will proceed.

# Policy & Legislative Update – State and Local

- PA was approved to receive additional unemployment funds from President Trump's executive order, which repurposed FEMA funds for state unemployment.
  - PA Labor Secretary Jerry Oleksiak announced it could be 3-4 weeks until these additional unemployment checks will be available.
- Gov. Wolf signed a second renewal of his 90-day disaster declaration for the COVID-19 pandemic on Tuesday, and an attempt by the General Assembly to overturn the declaration failed to gather enough votes for a veto override.
  - Waivers and extensions allowable in the first disaster declaration have been continued.
- Mayor Peduto announced City Planning will begin work on a new comprehensive plan for the City of Pittsburgh.
  - City Planning will begin seeking community input on equitable changes to the zoning code over the course of the next year.

# Update on PPE Supply Availability



**GLOBAL LINKS**  
*Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.*

- DHS is continuing its partnership with **Global Links** to provide PPE and other supplies for our provider network.
- We're pleased to announce that we have applied **\$1M of CARES funding** to the purchase of these supplies as a "safety net" for a possible resurgence of the virus.
- DHS providers can receive these critical supplies **at no cost**.

# Update on PPE Supply Availability

- There is a **NEW REQUEST FORM** that will be announced **NEXT THURSDAY 9/10** on this call.
- You will need to select “Yes” to indicate that you are a DHS-contracted provider, then select the DHS program office with which you’re most closely affiliated.

## Organizational Affiliations

Are you a contracted provider of the Allegheny County Department of Human Services? \*

Yes

No

Please select the DHS Program Office with which you're most closely affiliated. \*

Office of Children, Youth, and Familie

Please select...

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Office of Behavioral Health (OBH)

Office of Children, Youth, and Families (CYF)

Office of Community Services (OCS)

Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI)

Office of Intellectual Disability (OID)

Other (Please specify)

(check all that apply) \*

# Update on PPE Supply Availability

- You will see a special note (shown right) to DHS providers.
- We encourage providers to request what they need while being mindful of a finite quantity available of all items.
- On the next page, you'll see a special menu of items you can select.



**GLOBAL LINKS**  
*Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.*

Save my progress and resume later | [Resume a previously saved form](#)

**A note to DHS providers**

Items for DHS providers are supplied through funding from DHS and the CARES act. We encourage providers to request what they need while being mindful of a finite quantity available of all items.

[Previous Page](#) [Next Page](#)

[Save my progress and resume later](#) | [Resume a previously saved form](#)

# Supply Offerings

- Emergency facemasks (reusable, not intended for clinical use)
- Full-face shields
- Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers (Limit 2 per order)
- Hand Sanitizer (8oz and 64oz options)
- Clorox Clean-Up Disinfectant
- Limited supplies of baby, incontinence, & personal care items.

*Image of emergency facemask*



*Limit of 2 per order*



*64 oz size*



*8 oz size*



*Image of full-face shield*

# What to Expect



1. Submit your application.
  2. Global Links will contact you in 1-2 days regarding availability of inventory.
  3. Global Links will prepare your order and arrange delivery within 48 hours.
  4. On delivery day unless requested otherwise, delivery is typically in the morning. Drivers will arrive and can unload material outside the building but cannot enter any facility.
- Please note this is a request and not a guarantee of materials. Depending on approval and availability, Global Links aims to distribute materials 3-5 days after the request is approved.
  - **NEW REQUEST FORM** to be announced on **NEXT WEEK'S CALL.**

# Public site for viewing DHS policy documents

## DHS Policies, Procedures, and Standards of Practice

[Search for and view DHS policies, procedures, and standards of practice.](#)

[View instructions for how to use the new public website for viewing DHS policies, procedures, and standards of practice.](#)

Nearly every aspect of the work conducted by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) is subject to oversight in the form of policies, regulations, and guidance issued by federal, state and/or county governments. In addition, DHS issues its own policies, procedures, and standards of practice to further define expectations related to how DHS staff and DHS-contracted service providers support county residents. Adherence to these documents ensures that DHS provides services that are consistent, high quality, equitable, and accessible.

[What is the difference between a policy, a procedure, and a standard of practice at DHS?](#)

The public is invited to click on the link above for access to DHS policy documents related to service provision and the use of public funds. Please note some documents are not included in this site if prohibited by law, specifically excluded in [Pennsylvania's Right-to-Know law](#), or outlined in the [DHS public access standard of practice](#).

Ways to navigate to the [DHS policies, procedures, and standards of practice page](#):

1. 'Doing Business' link
2. 'About' link – click on 'DHS Policies & Procedures'



- Documents
- Search
- Browse

Site: DHS  
Status: Published

Find...

- All Categories
- [All]
  - Document Type (94)
  - Office (94)
    - Administration
    - Analytics, Technology and Planning (1)
    - Area Agency on Aging (2)
    - Behavioral Health
    - Children, Youth and Families (33)
    - Community Relations (8)**
    - Community Services
    - Executive Office

Type	Title	Actions	Ver #	Status
	DHS CONSUMER RECORD REQUEST POLICY	...	6	Published
	DHS CONSUMER RECORD REQUEST PROCEDURE	...	5	Published
	MEDIA RELATIONS POLICY	...	1	Published
	MEDIA RELATIONS PROCEDURE- EVENTS AND MEDIA	...	5	Published
	MEDIA RELATIONS PROCEDURE- MEDIA INQUIRIES	...	4	Published
	PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTS FROM LEGISLATIVE OFFICES OR FEDERAL AND STATE AGENCIES	...	6	Published
	SOCIAL MEDIA FOR WORK USE POLICY	...	1	Published
	SOCIAL MEDIA FOR WORK USE PROCEDURE	...	1	Published



## Allegheny County Department of Human Services

### MEDIA RELATIONS POLICY

11/13/2013

Printed copies are for reference only. Please refer to the electronic copy for the latest version.

#### Policy

It is the policy of the Department of Human Services (DHS) that no staff member may communicate with the media as a representative of DHS unless authorized to do so by the DHS Director, Deputy Director of the Office of Community Relations (OCR), or the OCR designee. Staff should immediately direct media inquiries to OCR media staff and notify the Deputy Director of the related program/support office of the call.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to: (1) provide accurate, consistent, and complete information to the media and public regarding DHS and its work in the community, (2) protect confidential information, and (3) foster transparency, whenever possible. OCR staff will assist with media



- Translate
- Help
- Accessibility Help (Alt+Shift+A)
- Give Feedback to Microsoft
- Terms of Use
- Privacy and Cookies

nt Status: Published Tools




Immersive Reader

**Policy**


It is the policy of the  
Department of Human Se

✕

Text Size



AA      42      AA

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Increase Spacing

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Font

- Calibri
- Sitka
- Comic Sans

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Themes

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Rachel Schneider

Integrated Practice Specialist

(DHS Policy Coordinator)

[Rachel.schneider@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:Rachel.schneider@alleghenycounty.us)

412-350-2751

# Local Health/ACHD Public Meetings

## Quarterly Board of Health Meetings

Sept 2 at 12:30, recording available on Facebook

Agenda includes Covid-19 Update

<https://www.facebook.com/AlleghenyCountyHealth/videos>



## Weekly Covid-19 Press Briefings

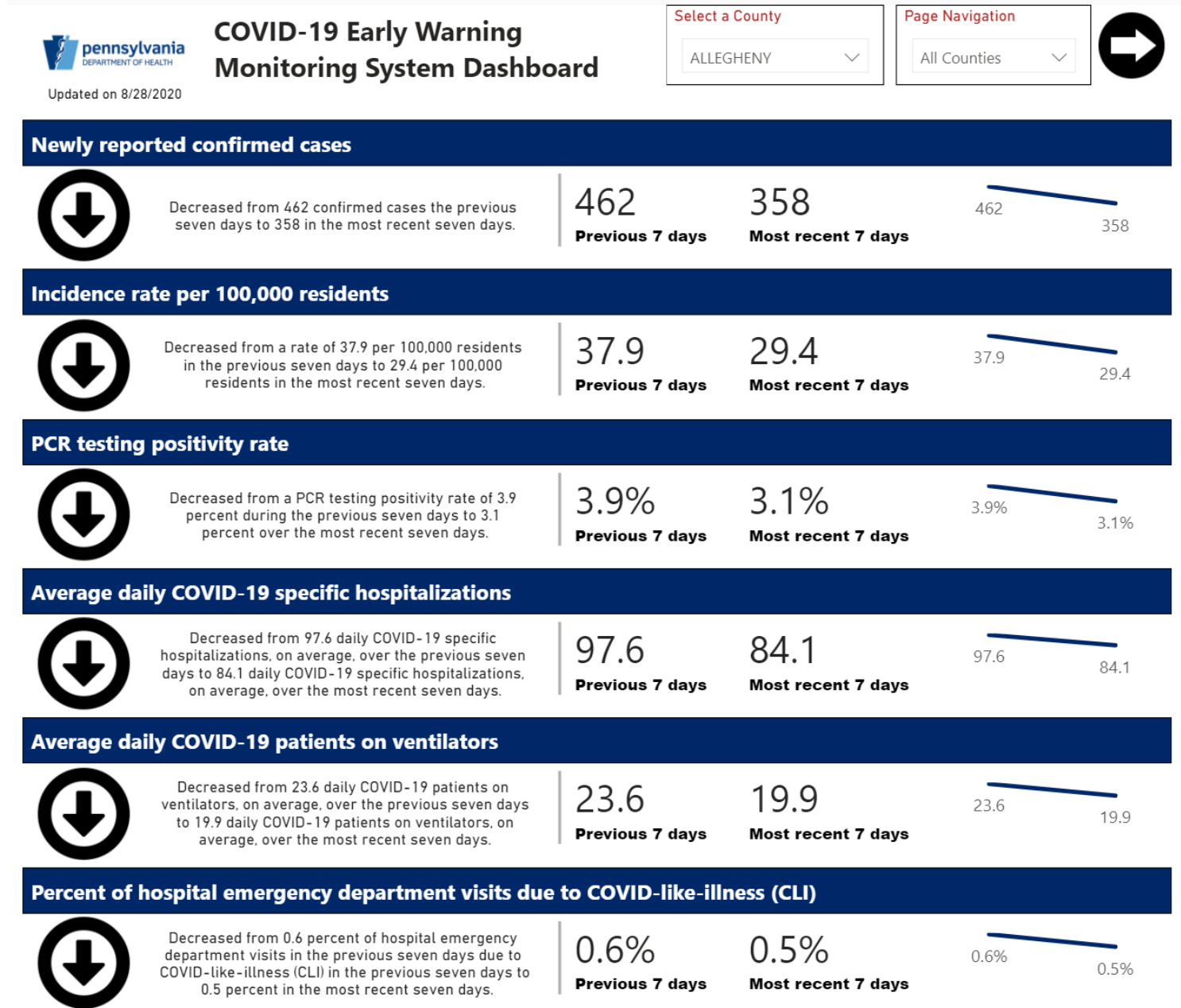
Recurring Wednesdays at 4pm with county executive

On Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube channels for Allegheny County and AC Health Department

# PA State Metrics

- Compares this week (August 21<sup>st</sup>-August 27<sup>th</sup>) to previous week (August 14<sup>th</sup>-August 20<sup>th</sup>). Data is updated every Friday.
- All metrics are decreasing.
  - There was a 23% decrease in new cases reported over the last week.

PA state's early warning system dashboard (<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>).





USA	H1N1 2009 <sup>2</sup>	Seasonal Flu(2019-2020 Flu Season) <sup>1</sup>	COVID-19 <sup>8</sup>
Cases	43.3 – 89.3M	39 -56M	5,752,653
Hospitalizations	195,086 – 402,719	410,000 – 740,000	364,325
Deaths	8,868 – 18,306	24,000 – 62,000	177,759



PA	H1N1 2009 <sup>7</sup>	Seasonal Flu (2019-3/28/20) <sup>6</sup>	COVID-19 <sup>3</sup>
Cases	8,280	129,912	130,035
Hospitalizations	655	3,226	N/A
Deaths	61	102	7624



Allegheny County	H1N1 2009 <sup>7</sup>	Seasonal Flu (2019-20 Flu Season) <sup>4</sup>	COVID-19 <sup>5</sup>
Cases	1,604	13,804	10,004
Hospitalizations	107	177	938
Deaths	5	15	317

H1N1 data totaled from April 12, 2009 to April 10, 2010  
 Seasonal flu data totaled from October 1, 2019 to April 4, 2020  
 COVID-19 data totaled as of August 26, 2020



## Human Services Community Profile

The tool allows users to identify the number of participants across a selected list of programs in their community using data from the Data Warehouse.

Users can easily create a comprehensive human services snapshot and compare it with up to 5 other communities across Allegheny County in a printable profile.

## Allegheny County Analytics Tools

The links below provide access to analytic tools designed to address specific queries related to service data from the Allegheny County Department of Human Services. With the exception of QuickCount, access to these tools is restricted to authorized users. If you believe that you have been mistakenly denied access to these tools, please contact [DHS-Research@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:DHS-Research@alleghenycounty.us)

### PUBLIC TOOLS



#### [QUICKCOUNT](#)

QuickCount allows for queries about participation in a wide range of services from data integrated in the DHS Data Warehouse. Users can sort by time period, view participation in multiple services, and filter counts demographically and geographically. If you require assistance, please contact [ServiceDesk@AlleghenyCounty.us](mailto:ServiceDesk@AlleghenyCounty.us)



#### [HUMAN SERVICES COMMUNITY PROFILE](#)

The tool allows users to identify the number of participants across a selected list of programs in their community using data from the Data Warehouse. Users can easily create a comprehensive human services snapshot and compare it with up to 5 other communities across Allegheny County in a printable profile. If you require assistance, please contact [ServiceDesk@AlleghenyCounty.us](mailto:ServiceDesk@AlleghenyCounty.us)



**Create unique geographies:** User can select more than one area to create custom areas. The user can also rename them

**Add comparison areas:**  
User can choose up to five distinct areas

**Select geography:** User can choose municipality or school district

The screenshot displays the Allegheny County Community Profile interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the Allegheny County logo and the text 'ALLEGHENY COUNTY'. Below this is a 'Community Profile' logo and navigation links for 'Contact Us' and 'Help'. The main content area features a horizontal menu with four items: 'Pittsburgh' (with 'Rename | Delete' links), 'Mon Valley' (with 'Rename | Delete' links), 'West Mifflin SD' (with 'Rename | Delete' links), and '+ Add Geography'. Below the menu, there are two tabs: 'MUNICIPALITY' and 'SCHOOL DISTRICT'. The 'MUNICIPALITY' tab is active, showing a dropdown menu with '(selected)' and 'West Mifflin Area (selected)'. To the right of the dropdown is a map of Allegheny County with several areas highlighted in orange. On the far right, a 'Current Selection' panel lists the selected areas: Pittsburgh (Municipality), Mon Valley (Municipality), and West Mifflin SD (School District). At the bottom, there are two buttons: 'View Profile' and 'Reset Selection'.

**View Profile:** Once geographies have been selected, the user can view the results

**Time frame:** User can change the selected time frame from the report page. The default is the current year to date.

**Allegheny County Department of Human Services** Human Services Snapshot

**Modify Report**

Pittsburgh Mon Valley  
Braddock, Clairton, Duquesne, East McKeesport, East Pittsburgh, Elizabeth Borough, Elizabeth Town, Liberty, Lincoln, McKeesport, North Braddock, North Versailles, Port Vue, Rankin, South Versailles, Verona

Selected Demographics	Pittsburgh	Mon Valley	West Mifflin SD	Allegheny County
1. Total Population	312,471	96,280	21,713	1,264,658
2. Children Under 3	8,884	2,952	632	39,097
3. Children Under 18	54,876	21,562	4,576	270,431
4. Individuals 15 and Over	264,584	77,974	18,039	1,034,514
5. Adults 18 and Over	257,595	74,718	17,137	994,227
6. Adults 60 and Over	62,094	26,207	6,001	308,939

Community Trends	Pittsburgh	Mon Valley	West Mifflin SD	Allegheny County
Overdoses <sup>1</sup>	< 6	< 6	< 6	12 (0%)

**Demographics:** Report displays basic demographics by population group for selected geographies. Source: US Census Bureau

**Community Trends:** Report displays counts of people experiencing identified metric for selected geographies. Source: Allegheny County Data Warehouse. Note: Populations with fewer than 6 individuals will display as <6

**Services:** Report displays information the number of people served in each area for selected geographies. Source: Allegheny County Data Warehouse. Note: Populations with fewer than 6 individuals will display as <6

**Human Services Snapshot** Year To Date 2020

Modify Report

Pittsburgh | Mon Valley | West Mifflin SD

Braddock, Clairton, Duquesne, East McKeesport, East Pittsburgh, Elizabeth Borough, Elizabeth Township, Forward, Glassport, Liberty, Lincoln, McKeesport, North Braddock, North Versailles, Port Vue, Rankin, South Versailles, Versailles, White Oak | West Mifflin Area

Selected Demographics	Pittsburgh	Mon Valley	West Mifflin SD	Allegheny County
1. Total Population	312,471	96,280	21,713	1,264,658
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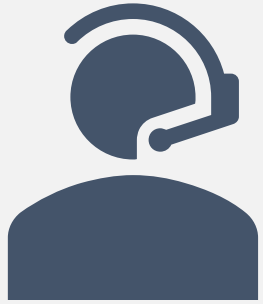
Community Trends	Pittsburgh	Mon Valley	West Mifflin SD	Allegheny County
Overdoses <sup>1</sup>	< 6	< 6	< 6	12 (0%)
Suicides <sup>1</sup>	9 (0%)	8 (0%)	< 6	67 (0%)
Mental Health Crises <sup>1</sup>	1,505 (0%)	406 (0%)	71 (0%)	3,657 (0%)
Involuntary Commitments <sup>1</sup>	778 (0%)	276 (0%)	33 (0%)	2,791 (0%)
Homeless Population <sup>4</sup>	943 (0%)	259 (0%)	16 (0%)	2,053 (0%)
Jail Population <sup>5</sup>	2,594 (1%)	877 (1%)	84 (0%)	6,614 (1%)
Homicides <sup>1</sup>	11 (0%)	7 (0%)	< 6	34 (0%)
Children in Care <sup>3</sup>	1,362 (2%)	218 (1%)	25 (1%)	2,241 (1%)

Population Served by DHS	Pittsburgh	Mon Valley	West Mifflin SD	Allegheny County
Children and Parents Using Child Welfare Services <sup>1</sup>	5,439 (2%)	2,019 (2%)	255 (1%)	13,209 (1%)
Children Using Early Intervention Services <sup>2</sup>	925 (10%)	253 (9%)	63 (10%)	3,962 (10%)
Older Adults Using Services <sup>6</sup>	6,250 (10%)	1,702 (6%)	246 (4%)	18,010 (6%)
Individuals Using Intellectual Disability Services <sup>1</sup>	1,256 (0%)	512 (1%)	104 (0%)	6,298 (0%)
Individuals Using Mental Health Services <sup>1</sup>	13,450 (4%)	5,254 (5%)	775 (4%)	42,543 (3%)
Individuals Using Substance Use Disorder Services <sup>4</sup>	3,251 (1%)	972 (1%)	133 (1%)	8,567 (1%)
Individuals Using Self Sufficiency Services <sup>1</sup>	6 (0%)	16 (0%)	< 6	101 (0%)
Individuals Using Homelessness and Housing Services <sup>1</sup>	2,778 (1%)	819 (1%)	62 (0%)	6,176 (0%)

**Allegheny County displays on all reports**

# Improving Response to Homelessness



30,000+ calls



Coordinated Entry  
needs to use an  
assessment



What if we use  
the data we  
already have?

# Supply and Demand

Project Type	# of Beds*
Permanent Supportive Housing	1028
Rapid Re-Housing	313
Bridge Housing	138

\*These beds further breakdown by single households and households with children.



How do we identify and prioritize the most vulnerable?

# Model Predictors & Outcomes

Demographics  
(Age &  
Gender)

Homeless

Child Welfare

Outcomes

Jail

Courts

Probation

**Likelihood of:**

- **4 or more Emergency Department visits**
- **Mental Health Inpatient stay**
- **Jail Booking**

Juvenile  
Probation

Assisted  
Housing

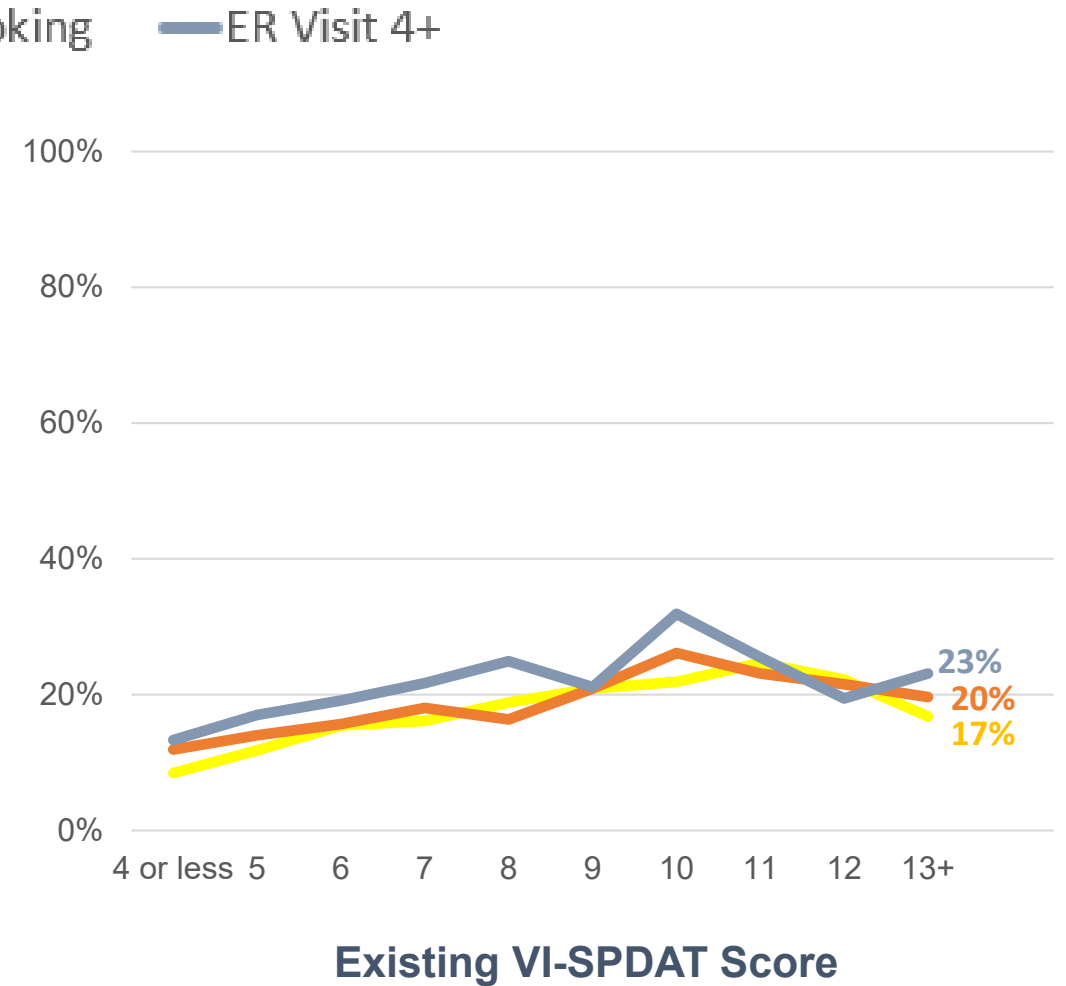
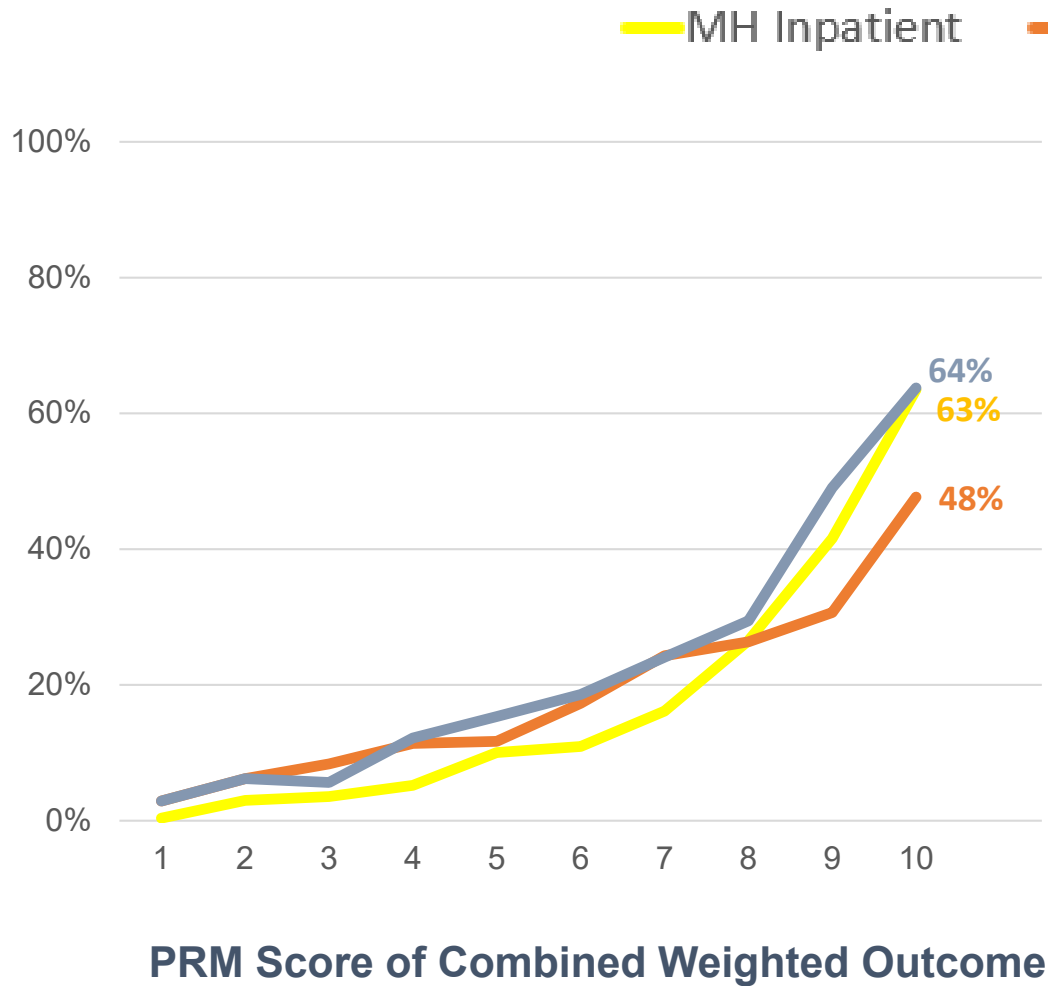
Behavioral  
Health

**Validated on mortality**

# Future Harm: Target Outcomes and Prevalence

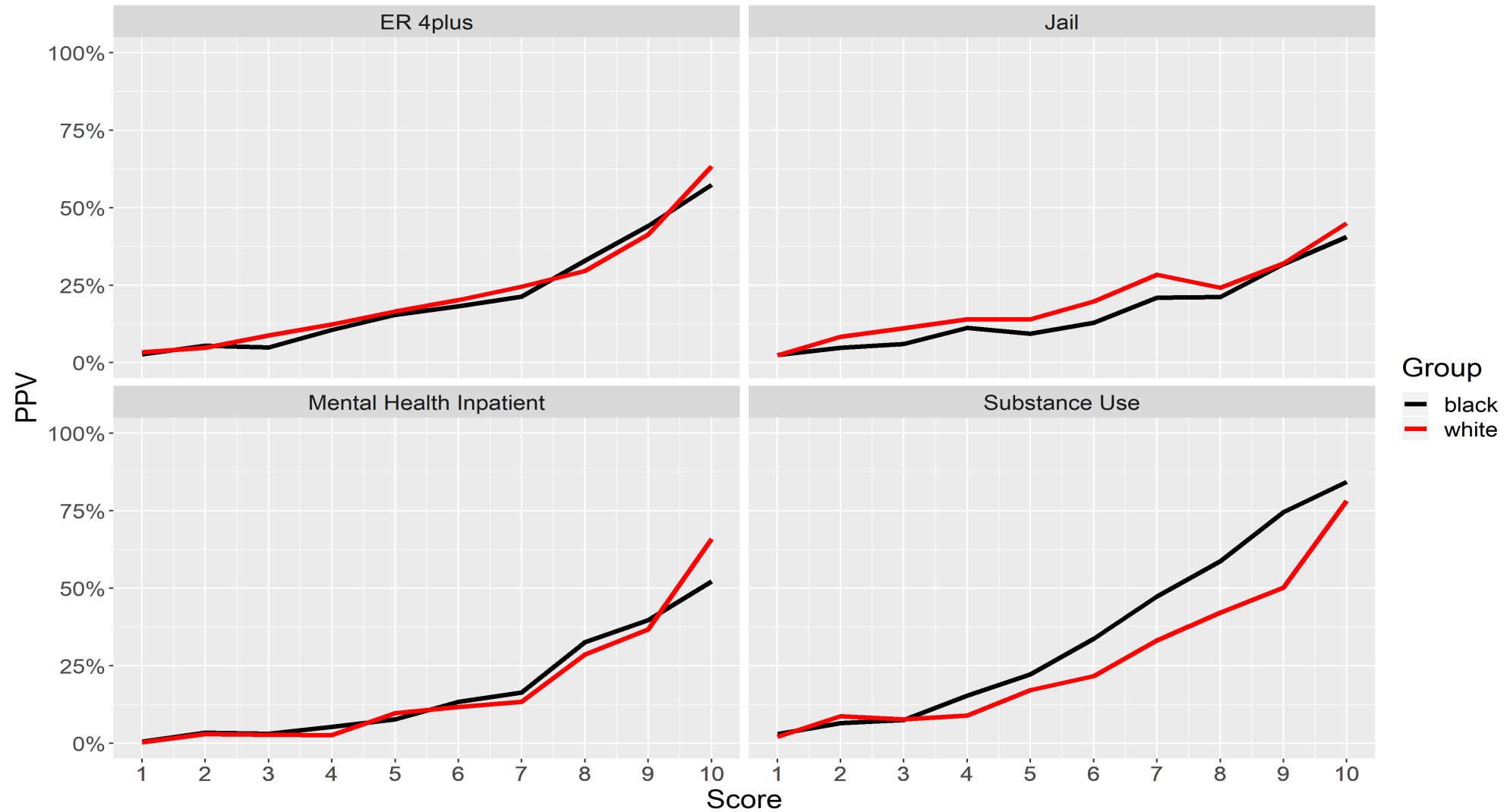
MODEL	PROXY HARM	PREVALANCE
Mental Health Inpatient Service	At least one inpatient mental health service in the following 12 months	16%
Jail Booking	At least one Allegheny County Jail booking in the following 12 months	17%
Emergency Room 4+ Visits	Four or more ER visits in the following 12 months	21%
EXTERNAL VALIDATION		
Mortality	Recorded in death data within 12 months	1.5%

# Rates of Outcomes for Future Harm by Combined PRM Model vs. Existing VI-SPDAT Score





# A Closer Look at Performance by Racial Subgroups

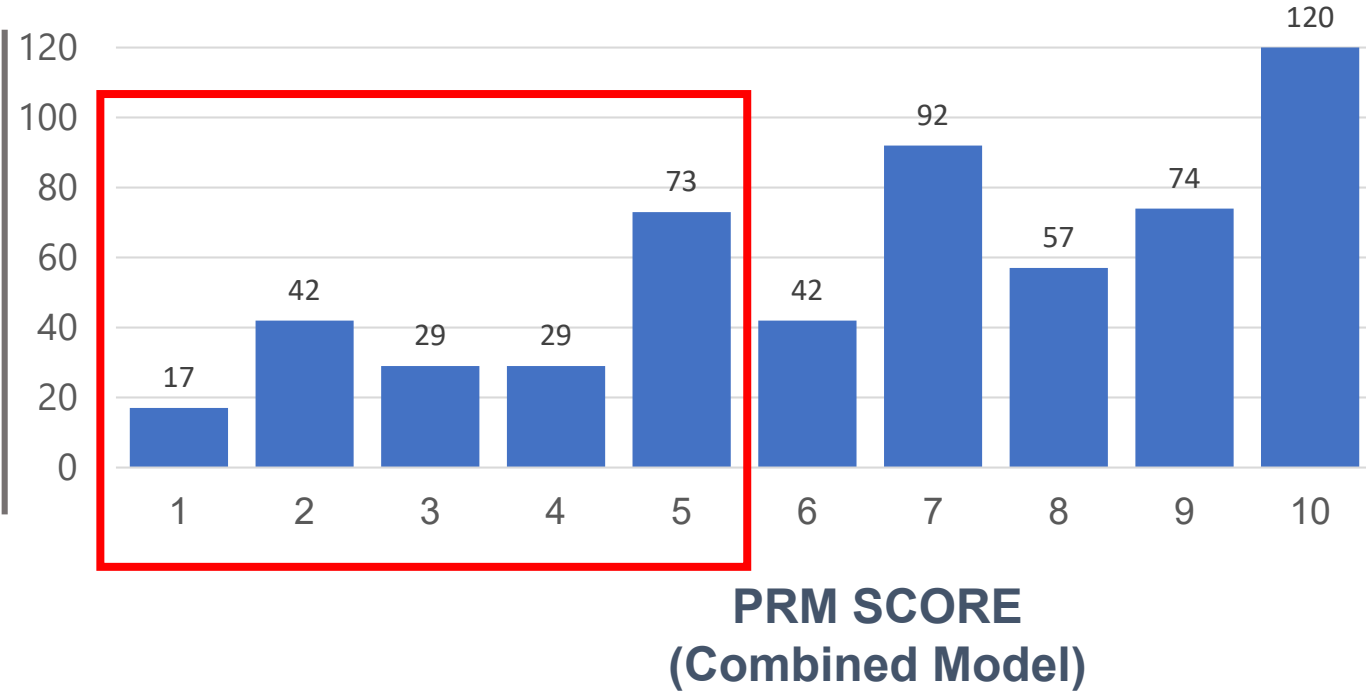


# Are we allocating Permanent Supportive Housing resources to the “right” people?

33% of permanent supportive housing beds are given to individuals with a PRM score of 5 or less

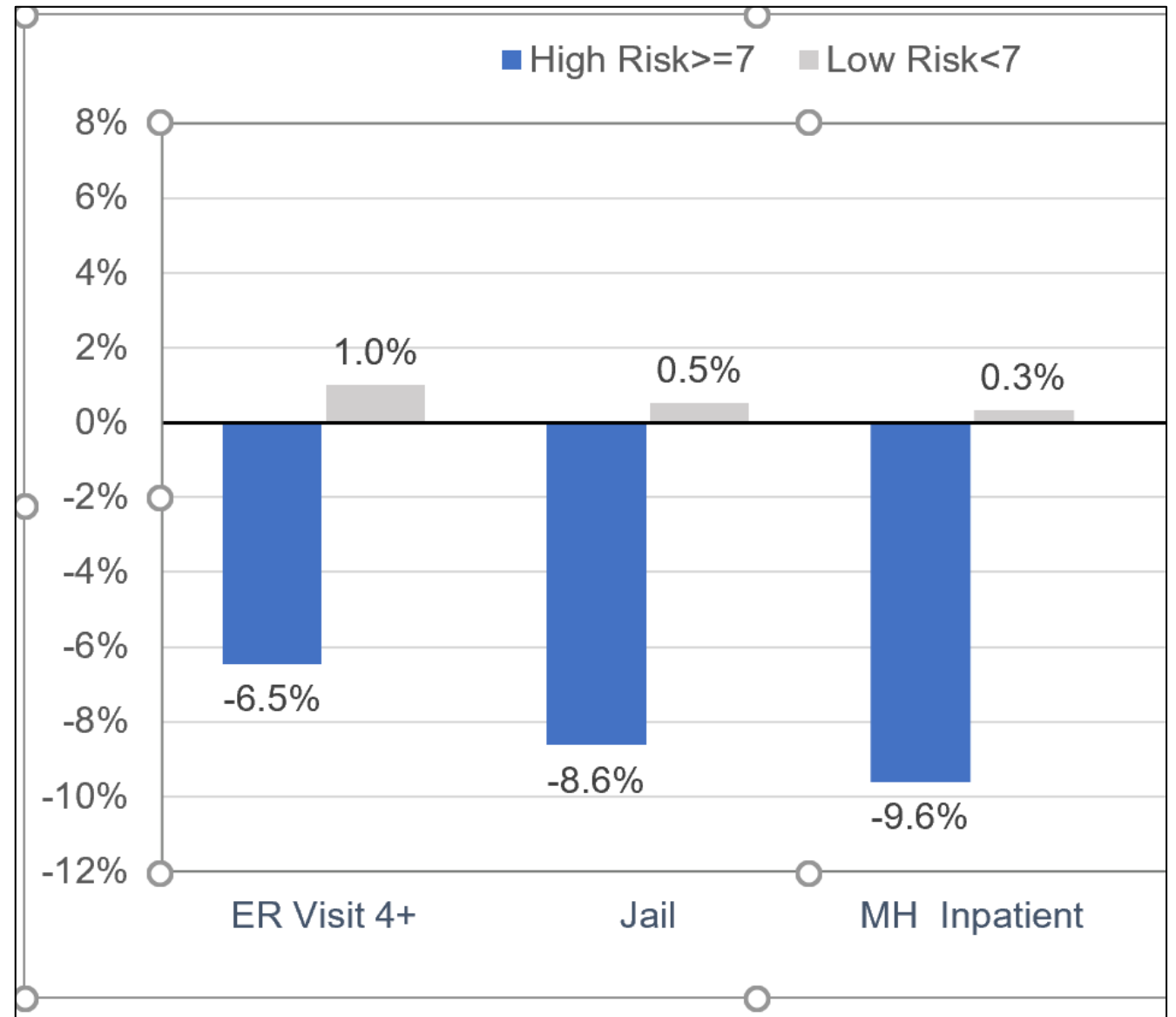


Permanent Supportive Housing (total individuals)



# Housing Works Better for Higher Risk Clients

- High Risk Groups who received PSH/RRH/Transitional had lower rates of harm
- Low Risk Groups who received PSH/RRH/Transitional had (slightly) higher rates of harm



# Previous Process



Connect with the Allegheny Link



Long assessment to determine risk



Prioritized waiting list



Referral to housing program



Connect with the Allegheny Link



Short assessment + risk calculated based on info already known



Prioritized waiting list



Referral to housing program

# Current AHA Process

# AHA Business Rules

- Order of priority
  - HUD Chronic Homelessness Status
  - Assessment Score
- Chronically Homeless population will continue to be prioritized above AHA score
  - Example: a chronically homeless person scoring 9 is prioritized above a non-chronically homeless person scoring 10
- Special populations will also continue to have access to dedicated units specific to the sub-population (domestic violence, youth, veterans).

# Allegheny Housing Assessment was implemented August 28, 2020

## Allegheny Link Service Coordinator Reactions:

- Shorter Assessment = Positive!
- Clients “seem less exhausted” at the end of the assessment = Positive!
- Clients “seem less frustrated” at the end of the calls leading to “a bit more positive” interactions around next steps = Positive!
- Wording of the questions relating to eligibility & alternative assessment can be “awkward to read,” but “better than before” = I’ll take it!

## Ongoing quality improvement on the Link side:

- Review of call times to see if they truly are shorter
- Follow up with staff & clients around interactions
- Address any inconsistencies or concerns with wording in the eligibility screening questions or alternative assessment questions

# Process Non-Negotiables

- Commitment to Implement
- Competitive Procurement
- Built in the Public Domain (we own the model etc.)
- Ethical Review
- Model Fairness & Discrimination Review
- Validation
- Stakeholder Input
- Community Engagement
- Willingness to Modify
- Evaluation
- Commitment to Improve
- Transparency

# Improving Prioritization of Housing Services: Implementation of the Allegheny Housing Assessment

By DHS - September 3, 2020

👁 28 🗨 0



## Select from the following documents to learn more about the AHA tool:

- Using Predictive Risk Modeling to Prioritize Services for People Experiencing Homelessness in Allegheny County: Methodology Report for the Allegheny Housing Assessment Tool
- Frequently asked questions about the implementation of the Allegheny Housing Assessment tool
- Summary of client feedback on the new housing prioritization process
- Independent ethical/data science review of the Allegheny Housing Assessment
- DHS's response to the ethical review



# Allegheny County Community Learning Hubs



Select Language

About Us Professional Development Advocacy Community Resources News & Events

## Community Learning Hubs

Safe places for kids during COVID-19.

Includes links to tools!

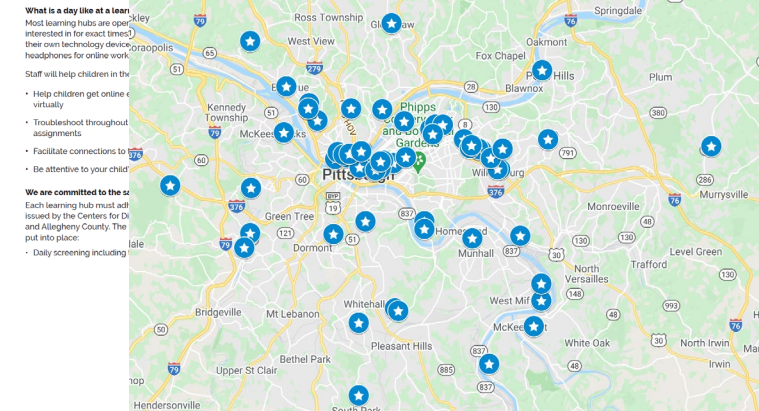


### Allegheny County Community Learning Hubs

Safe places for kids to go to do schoolwork and participate in enrichment activities during COVID-19.

**Why a Learning Hub?**  
Learning hubs are a great option for parents who need childcare when in-person school is not in session. Learning hub staff will help facilitate the virtual curriculum from your child's school district in the morning and conduct fun activities with them in the afternoon.

- Children will be grouped in pods of 10 or fewer and will spend the entire day with that pod
- Adequate spaces, desk and chairs are available to maintain physical distancing
- Children must wear their own mask at all times, except when eating or drinking



### What are Community Learning Hubs?

The Allegheny County Community Learning Hubs are a great option for parents who need child care when in-person school is not in session. A partnership between Allegheny County, Allegheny County Partners for Out-Of-School Time (APOST), and Trying Together, most Learning Hubs are open all day on weekdays, but parents should check with individual Hubs for exact times. Free Wi-Fi and

New easy-to-navigate site:

<https://tryingtogether.org/community-learning-hubs/>

# FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

September 4



WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Friday, September 4, 2020 (10 a.m. - 12 p.m.) WHERE: PPG Paints Arena Parking Lots; 1001 Fifth Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

[MAKE A RESERVATION](#)

September 9



WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Wednesday, September 9 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.) WHERE: (PNC Park) Red Lot 5A, 644 Reedsdale St., Pittsburgh PA 15212

[LEARN MORE](#)

September 14

Duquesne

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Monday, September 14 (5 p.m. - 7 p.m.) WHERE: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank; 1 N Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

[MAKE A RESERVATION](#)

<https://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/get-help/drive-up/>

# CSBG CARES Act Funds to Support Individual/Family Supports/Emergency Assistance Services

The CSBG CARES Act supplemental funds are being used to support eligible persons to meet basic and urgent needs that eligible persons are not able to meet on their own due to loss of income, reduced income, or insufficient income due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Services are available beginning September 4, 2020 by contacting and applying for assistance with one of these community agencies:

- **Allegheny Valley Association of Churches**, 724-226-0606 ext. 10
  - (Contact Beth Kendra, [beth@avac.org](mailto:beth@avac.org))
- **Human Services Center Corporation**, 412-436-9537
  - (Contact Ann Hudson, [ahudson@hcss-mvpc.org](mailto:ahudson@hcss-mvpc.org))
- **North Hills Community Outreach**, 412-408-3210
  - (Contact Stephanie Kobert, [sdkobert@nhco.org](mailto:sdkobert@nhco.org))
- **South Hills Interfaith Movement**, 412-854-9120 ext. 104
  - (Contact Elizabeth Henninger, [ehenninger@shimcares.org](mailto:ehenninger@shimcares.org))

# CSBG CARES Act Funds to Support Individual/Family Supports/Emergency Assistance Services

## Eligibility for assistance includes:

- Allegheny County resident outside City of Pittsburgh
- 18 years or age or older
- Eligible household income for assistance does not exceed 200% Federal Poverty Level for a 30-day period prior to the application.

## Assistance can be provided for:

- Rent or mortgage
- Utilities
- Transportation
- Home repairs
- Food
- Childcare
- Household supplies
- And other needs as identified by the individual/family

# WINTER SHELTER RECAP

- ❑ Opening November 15
- ❑ Site #1 located at Smithfield United Church of Christ, operated by Mercy/Operation Safety Net
- ❑ Site #2 in development

# HOMELESSNESS PROVIDER NETWORK CALLS

Every other Tuesday at 9:30 AM

- Next call is September 15th.

**Topic: Peer Support & psych rehab services - WPH**

All homelessness service providers invited and encouraged to participate

Call in information:

**Phone number: 1-267-368-7515**

**Conference ID #: 883 836 652**

\*There will be no call on September 1\*

## Ask a Navigator! Office Hours

Every Tuesday from 10:30-11:00AM

- +1 267-368-7515 United States, Philadelphia (Toll)
- Conference ID: 947 434 365#



COVID-19 CRISIS COUNSELING PROGRAM

GET CONNECTED WITH A  
**FREE** CRISIS COUNSELOR



 **CALL 1-855-284-2494**



*Do you feel...*

*Stressed?*

*Overwhelmed?*

*Alone?*

*Afraid?*

*Anxiety?*

*During these uncertain  
times, you are not alone.  
We are here to listen.*

**Please call our Pennsylvania Support and Referral Line**

**1-855-284-2494 TTY: 724-631-5600**

There are trained professionals available 24/7 ready to help you navigate these unprecedented challenges.

These services are FREE & CONFIDENTIAL.

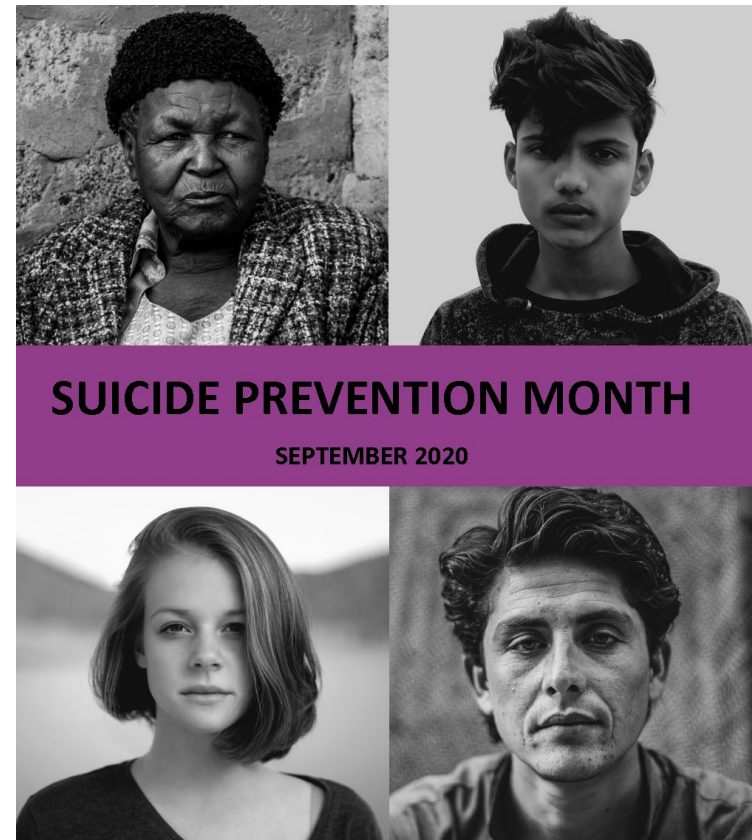
This publication was made possible by FEMA Grant Number 4506-DR-PA, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services.

# CRISIS COUNSELING MANAGEMENT

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# Suicide Prevention Month, September: Resources

This [resource guide](#) provides examples of activities that you can implement in your community to raise awareness of the importance of suicide prevention. This includes ideas for training, social media posts, virtual backgrounds, and more.



8/27/2020





# NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

- <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>
- 1-800-273-TALK (8255) for veterans press 1
- Provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals

- **The Trevor Project Lifeline**

- <https://www.thetrevorproject.org/>
- 1-866-488-7386
- TrevorText: Text START to 678-678
- Offers around the clock crisis intervention and suicide prevention lifeline for gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning young people, from ages 13 to 24.

- **National Organization for People of Color Against Suicide (NOPCAS)**

- [nopcas.org](http://nopcas.org)
- Provides training on recognizing the signs when someone is in a suicidal crisis.

- **Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC)**

- <http://www.sprc.org/>
- Federally supported resource center devoted to advancing the implementation of the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, including an extensive library of suicide prevention resources.

# 5th Annual Pittsburgh Recovery Walk – September 19th

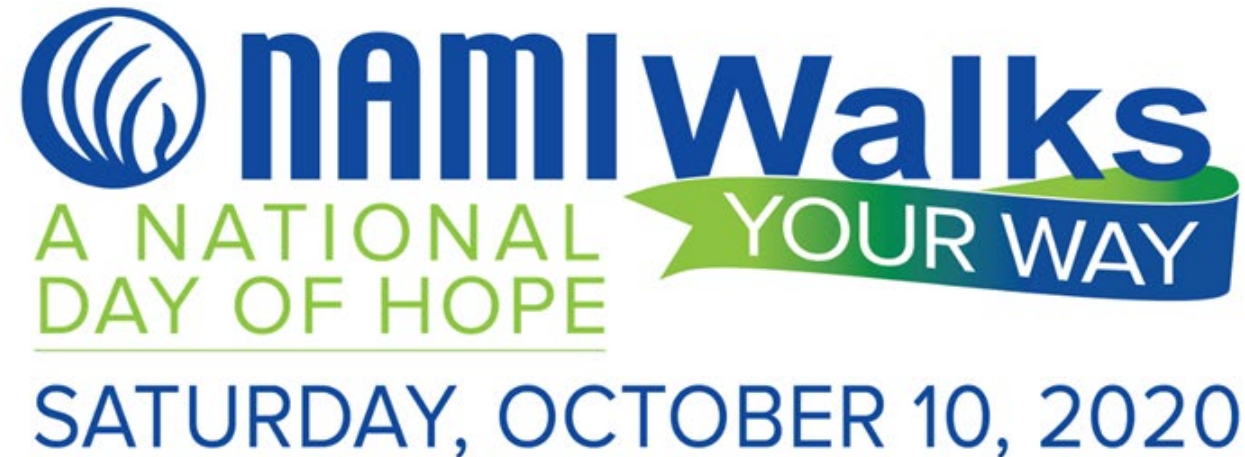
**To ensure safety, this year's walk will be semi-virtual**

- Register in advance to receive a t-shirt in the mail
- Walk anywhere on or before September 19 – wearing your Recovery Walk t-shirt
- Tag your photos and videos with #MyRoadPGH
- Tune in to our livestream on the evening of September 19 for photos and videos from the morning's walk, inspiring recovery speakers, our annual recovery award ceremony, and more!
- Register Here: <https://pghrecoverywalk.org/>

9/3/2020



# NAMI Walks: October 10th, 2020



virtual walk benefiting

**NAMI KEYSTONE PA**

Visit: <https://www.namikeystonepa.org/nami-events/namiwalks/>

Back to school!



EVERY  
SHINING  
SPOTLIGHT  
ON BLACK GIRL  
GREATNESS.

SEPTEMBER IS

# BLACK GIRLS EQUITY MONTH

IN PITTSBURGH AND ALLEGHENY COUNTY



## How to recognize the signs of child abuse and neglect

If you are worried about a child's safety, even if you are unsure, contact ChildLine to report your concerns.



800-932-0313

[PA's Child Welfare Portal](#)

- Normally, children and youth see numerous adults (teachers, bus drivers, therapists, relatives and neighbors) in the course of a day. These adults are able to notice injuries or changes in behavior that might indicate possible abuse or neglect.
- Due to COVID19 stay-at-home and social distancing requirements, that is no longer the case.
- An abused child may not be seen outside the home for weeks. In addition, this new environment puts increased stress on parents and caregivers, who are now required to be parent, teacher and social director for their children, 24 hours a day.
- This combination of isolation and extreme stress can create a dangerous situation for vulnerable children.
- It is more important than ever that adults who interact with families (in person or virtually) are vigilant in noticing and having conversations. Injuries should be reported immediately, changes in behavior on the part of the children and/or concerning behavior on the part of the adults caring for those children should as well.





**Has someone  
who is  
responsible  
for your care**

-  › shoved, hit, cut, burned or otherwise hurt you?
-  › screamed at you or made you feel worthless?
-  › touched you sexually?
-  › forced you to go without food or appropriate clothing?
-  › locked you out of your home?

All of these are **child abuse**. And even if it seems “normal” to you, **child abuse is against the law**; no one is allowed to abuse you or anyone younger than 18 years of age. If you’re being abused there are people ready to help.

#### Who to turn to for help

-  › Talk to a trusted teacher, doctor, guidance counselor or religious leader. Anyone who works with children is required by law to report suspected incidents of abuse.
-  › Or call the Child Abuse Hotline, which is staffed with professionals 24/7. You can call 412-473-2000 or 1-800-932-0313 to report abuse.

Schools can also help students know they have rights.

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# Student & Family Engagement

Here are some questions to think through:

- Have you had communications with the parents/guardians regarding remote learning?
- Does the family have access and tools needed to engage with remote learning?
- Are the parents/guardians still working outside the home?
- Do you have a safety concern regarding anyone in the home?
- Have you had concerns about the family before this time?
- Do they need connected to resources?
- Have you connected with the student already on non-school related topics?
- This might help you determine whether this is a safety issue or a disengagement issue.

Let students know you remain a supportive, caring adult in their lives:

- Check in regularly with students and/or caregivers.

Provide encouraging messages.

- Ask questions to engage children.

Ex: “Give me one word that describes how you feel today?”

“How is learning from home different from learning at school?”

Signs of concerns:

- If a child communicates they feel unsafe, you see a child in a dangerous environment, or you notice a significant change in a child’s mood/behavior.
- For students with technology/internet access: lack of virtual attendance or homework not completed over a long period of time.
- If you have had no contact at all with a family after many repeated phone calls/messages.

Make an extra effort with children who:

- Have a history of emotional, sexual, physical abuse or neglect, drug use, or discussed/attempted suicide.
- Are responsible for the care of other children or live in a highly stressful family situation with limited support systems.
- Require assistance due to physical, mental, behavioral, or medical disabilities or delays.



# Key Contacts

- Provider questions for Allegheny County Health Department
  - [DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us)
    - Use the subject field to indicate if your qq is about CYF, Aging, BH, CYF, ID, Community Services, or DHS operations (e.g., contracting, payment)
  - <https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment/index.aspx>
- Key DHS staff
  - Payment inquiries: Dan Evancho [Dan.Evancho@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:Dan.Evancho@alleghenycounty.us)
  - Contract inquiries: Kathy Heinz [Kathy.Heinz@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:Kathy.Heinz@alleghenycounty.us)  
Laura Brigido [Laura.Brigido@alleghenycounty.us](mailto:Laura.Brigido@alleghenycounty.us)
- United Way 2-1-1
  - For basic needs assistance or general COVID-19 inquiries call the 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774. Language services are available.

