

THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED

DHS Provider Briefings

Thursday 10/29/20

Provider Briefings are held
weekly, on Thursdays.



Agenda

- Announcements/updates
- Legislative updates
- Health of the Housing and Homelessness Systems – Cynthia Shields
- Health metrics
- Program updates



PA's Health Insurance Marketplace – webinar

- Pennie, a state-based health insurance marketplace, is replacing the federal health exchange (healthcare.gov) for Pennsylvanians with open enrollment beginning Nov 1st.
- The Pittsburgh Business Group on Health is hosting a free webinar with Pennie's Executive Director on Tuesday, November 3rd from 12 to 1pm to discuss this transition and share about how you can help spread the word and support clients.
 - Link to register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0UKprJvHTuGR-B5T3nxmeg
- Pennsylvanians most impacted by the creation of Pennie are individuals and families who are:
 - covered by individual health plans through healthcare.gov and will now access coverage through Pennie;
 - without access to employer-sponsored coverage; and
 - uninsured.

Policy & Legislative Update

- The General Assembly has finished its regular legislative session without finalizing the allocation of the remaining \$1.3b in federal CARES Act funds. These decisions will be part of remaining budget negotiations that must be figured out by the end of November.
- The Allegheny County Elections Office has expanded hours for its office and the downstairs lobby for voters to return their completed ballot.
 - If a voter has made an error on their ballot, misplaced their security or declaration envelope, or has not received a ballot previously applied for, the Elections Office can reissue the ballot or provide a replacement envelope.
 - [Link](#) for hours and information on additional election offices.

Active Solicitations

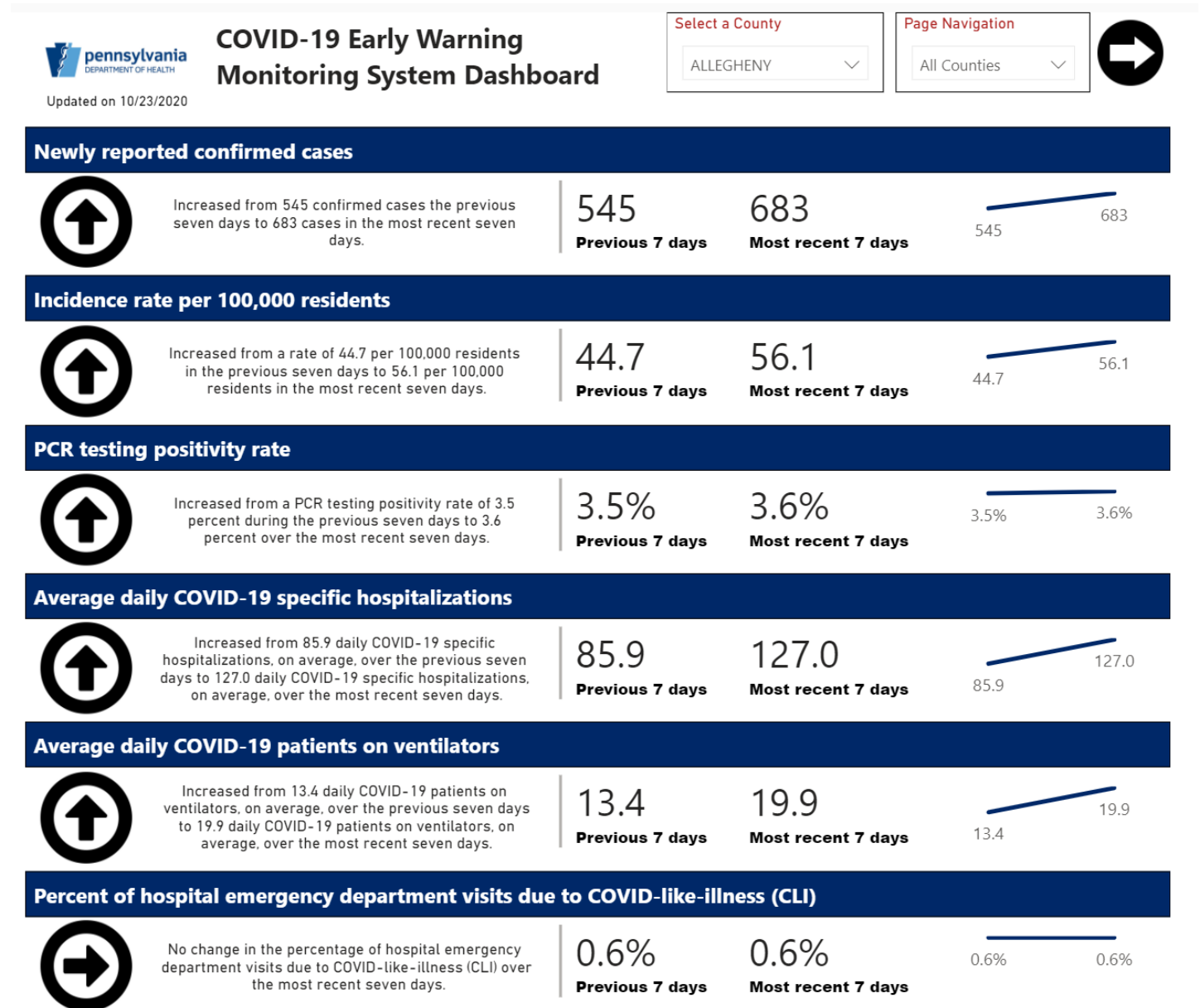
RFP for Additional Rapid Re-Housing Units for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)

- Will be live on Solicitations site at 6 p.m. today!
- Responses due Tuesday, November 24
- Non-mandatory pre-proposal conference via Teams on Tuesday, November 10 (details in RFP)

You can use the form on the [DHS Solicitations Page](#) to sign up to receive email notifications when we post new solicitations.

PA State Metrics

- Compares this week (October 16th to October 22nd) to previous week (October 9th to October 15th). Data is updated every Friday.
- All are increasing except ER visits (which is steady).
 - Average daily hospitalizations increased by 48% over the last week.
 - Patients on ventilators increased by 49% over the last week.

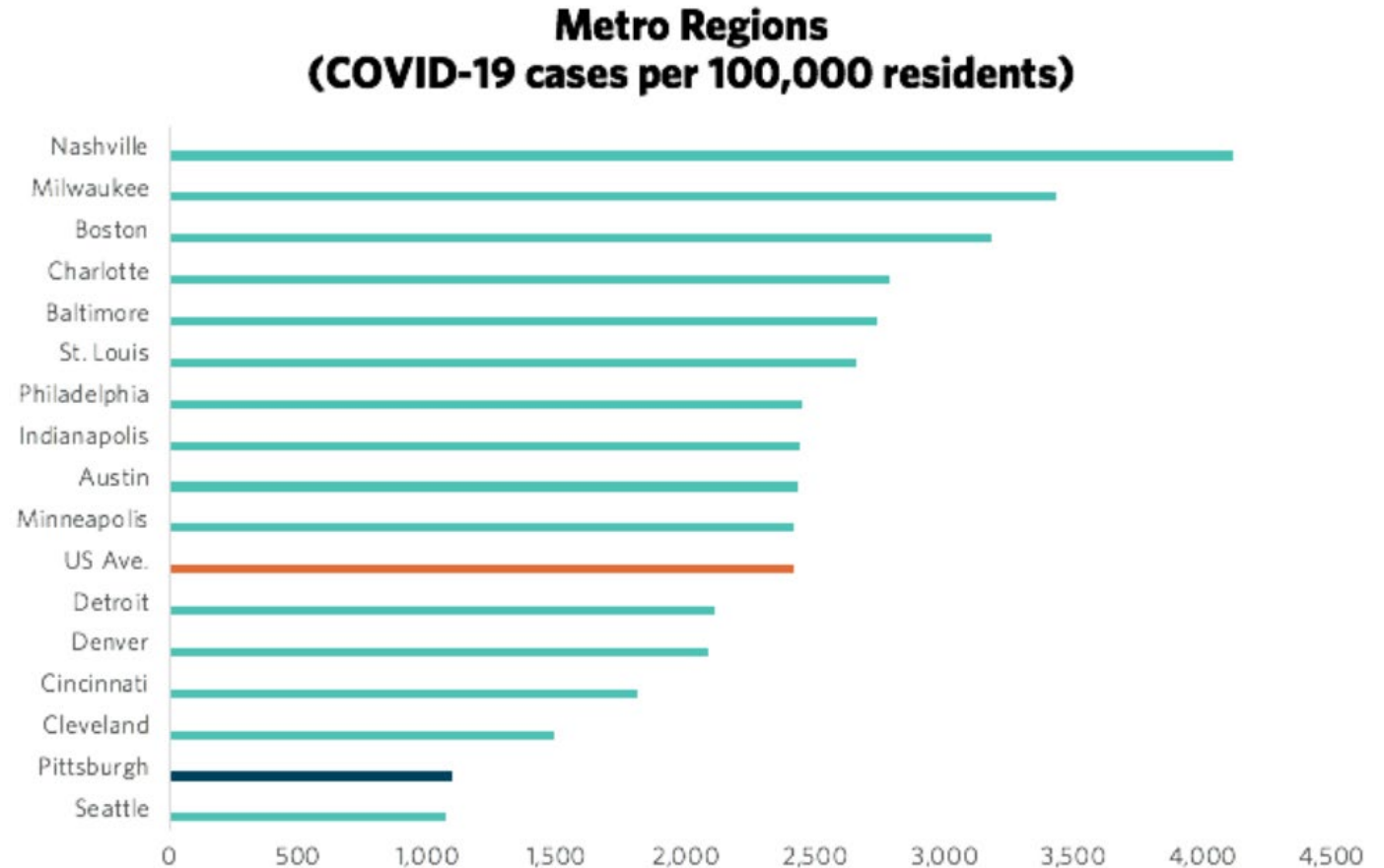


PA state's early warning system dashboard

(<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>).

Pittsburgh in comparison

- Pittsburgh Quarterly recently completed an analysis of COVID cases in Allegheny County compared to its identified 'benchmark regions' (regions that are comparable in size).
- Allegheny County had 1,097 COVID cases per 100,000 residents as of Oct. 15.
 - Only Seattle's King County had a lower rate among the 16 U.S. metropolitan areas Pittsburgh Today tracks as benchmark regions
- Milwaukee County and Davidson County, Tenn., home to Nashville were more than 3x higher than Allegheny.
- The U.S. average of 2,412 cases per 100,000 residents was more than 2x as high as Allegheny.



Case rates shown for region's principal city is rate for the county in which it resides. Rates as of Oct. 15, 2020

SOURCE: Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center

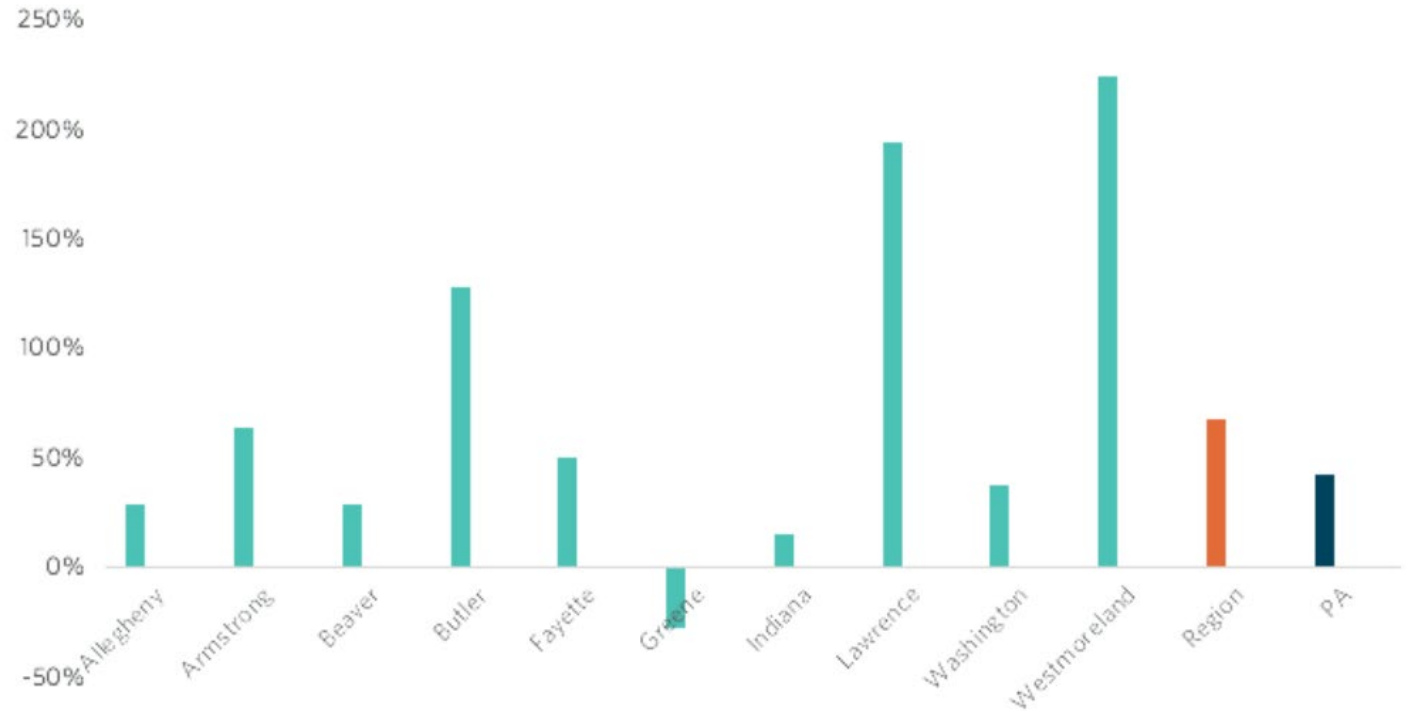
SOURCE: Fraser, Jeffrey. (October 27, 2020). "Local COVID cases are second lowest amongst benchmark cities" Pittsburgh Quarterly.

<https://pittsburghquarterly.com/articles/local-covid-cases-are-second-lowest-among-benchmark-regions/>

A regional look

- Recent weeks have seen a rise in cases in southwestern Pennsylvania.
- The southwestern counties saw an increase in COVID cases of nearly 68% from Oct. 1 through Oct. 15.
 - Pennsylvania experienced an increase of about 43 percent during this same period.
- Westmoreland County saw the largest increase at a 225% increase.
- Butler and Lawrence counties experienced an increase of 125%.
- Allegheny, Beaver and Indiana counties saw about 30% increases in new cases.
 - Greene County's rate of infection fell 28% in the first half of the month, the only county which saw a decrease during this period.

**Increase In New Cases—Local Counties
(COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents)**



Percent increase in new cases from Oct. 1 through Oct. 15.

SOURCE: Pennsylvania Department of Health

SOURCE: Fraser, Jeffrey. (October 27, 2020). "Local COVID cases are second lowest amongst benchmark cities" Pittsburgh Quarterly.

<https://pittsburghquarterly.com/articles/local-covid-cases-are-second-lowest-among-benchmark-regions/>

COVID-19 Test Site in McKeesport



McKeesport
COVID-19
Drive Thru Testing Site

**455 INDUSTRY ROAD
MCKEESPORT, PA 15132**

**Open 10 am to 4 pm
Monday through Friday**

Closed: Nov 3 (Election Day), Nov 11 (Veterans Day), Nov 26 (Thanksgiving) and Nov 27 (day after Thanksgiving)

- Address: 455 Industry Road, McKeesport
- New hours: open through November
- Free COVID-19 Testing for anyone over 3 years old.
- Testing by **Appointment Only**. Pre-register online or via phone at 412-209-2262. Same-day appointments available by phone only.
- This is a drive-thru site with self-administered tests. No prescription or referral needed.
- **If you are unable to drive, contact the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-856-2774 for additional options & resources.**
- Registration and testing information available at bit.ly/McKeesportCOVIDTestSite

COVID Alert PA



COVID Alert PA App

COVID Alert PA is the official mobile app by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) that uses the [Exposure Notification System \(ENS\)](#) provided by Apple and Google.



PA Department of Health – Health Advisory

Additional Factors to Determine Close Contacts of Persons with COVID-19

- The CDC updated its [definition](#) of close contact to “someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a **cumulative total** of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.”
- DOH recommends using 15 **consecutive** minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less as an operational definition for “close contact.” **However**, there are circumstances when someone should be considered a close contact of a case after being within 6 feet for fewer than 15 consecutive minutes.
- Additional factors when assessing close contacts include:
 - Being in extremely close proximity (e.g., face to face).
 - Having a prolonged exposure time.
 - The infected person exhibiting symptoms.
 - The infected person generating respiratory aerosols (e.g., coughing, singing, shouting).
 - The presence of environmental conditions (e.g., crowding, inadequate ventilation, or being indoors).
- If a patient is identified as being a close contact of a COVID-19 case, DOH strongly recommends that they be tested for SARS-CoV-2 at least 2-3 days after the exposure, regardless of the presence of symptoms.

Reminder: Order Supplies!

- There are still extensive protective supplies available at **no cost to you** through Global Links!
- Consider your needs for the remainder of the year and place your orders at the link below.
- Supplies available: Emergency facemasks, Full-face shields, Non-Contact Infrared Thermometers (Limit 2 per order), Hand Sanitizer (8oz and 64oz options), Clorox Clean-Up Disinfectant
- <https://www.tfaforms.com/4848830>

Image of emergency facemask



Limit of 2 per order



64 oz size



8 oz size



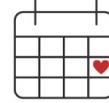
Image of full-face shield

FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS

FARMERS TO FAMILIES Food Distribution

Fresh grocery boxes for anyone in need!

Saturday, October 31
11am - 1pm



Drive up or walk up!



Angelina Way

McKees Rocks, PA 15136

(Behind Speedway at CSX Intermodal Drive)

November 7

Wilkinsburg

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Saturday, November 7 (11 a.m. - 1 p.m.) WHERE: Enter at 225 Penn Ave (Intersection of N Trenton and Penn Ave), Pittsburgh, PA 15221

MAKE A RESERVATION

November 9

Duquesne

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Monday, November 9 (3 p.m. - 5 p.m.) WHERE: Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank; 1 N Linden Street, Duquesne, PA 15110

MAKE A RESERVATION

November 10

Allegheny Valley

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Tuesday, November 10 (4 p.m. - 6 p.m.) WHERE: Pittsburgh Mills Galleria; 590 Pittsburgh Mills Blvd., Tarentum, PA 15084

MAKE A RESERVATION

November 23

Duquesne

WHAT: Drive-Up Food Distribution WHEN: Monday, November 23 (noon - 2 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/>

Tracking models of school delivery

- School's individual web site
- Allies for Children link:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TUD2p7md9so2Sx577hT7RrCZ8HXlnToqsdsjohUcY/edit#gid=2060028091>
- DHS will publish dashboard within the next couple of weeks



10/29/20

Health of the Housing & Homelessness System

Coordinated Entry calls

	Incoming Calls Received	Contacts (Includes: Phone calls, Outreach, Emails, Letters, and In Person Visits)
March 1, 2019 – October 31, 2019	22,316	27,120
March 1, 2020 – October 22, 2020	14,393 (-35.5%)	18,417 (-32.0%)

Average caller wait time: 1.5 minutes

Active Clients, Enrollments and Exits

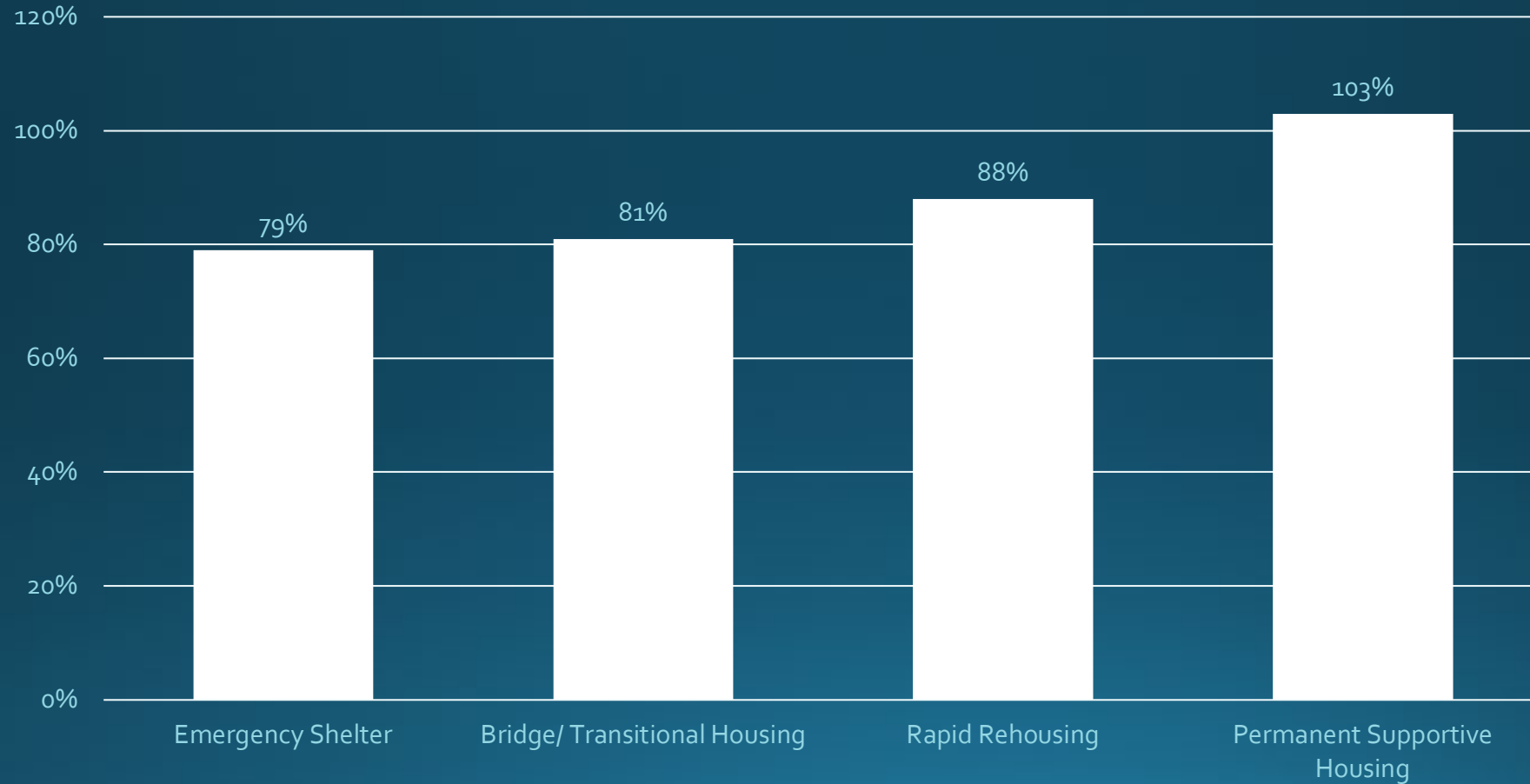
3/16/2019 to 10/15/2019 versus 3/16/2020 to 10/15/2020

Emergency Shelter	New Enrollments	Active Clients	Exits
2019	1164	1552	1235
2020	895	1241	953
	-23%	-20%	-22.8%
Bridge/Transitional	New Enrollments	Active Clients	Exits
2019	128	296	139
2020	103	269	116
	-19.5%	-9.1%	-16.5%
Rapid Rehousing	New Enrollments	Active Clients	Exits
2019	272	881	270
2020	237	838	261
	-12.9%	-4.9%	-3.3%
Permanent Supportive	New Enrollments	Active Clients	Exits
2019	299	2110	343
2020	181	2073	189
	-39.5%	-1.8%	-44.9%
Rental Assistance/Prevention*	New Enrollments	Active Clients	Exits
2019	862	969	831
2020	158	262	203
	-81.7%	-72.9%	-75.6%



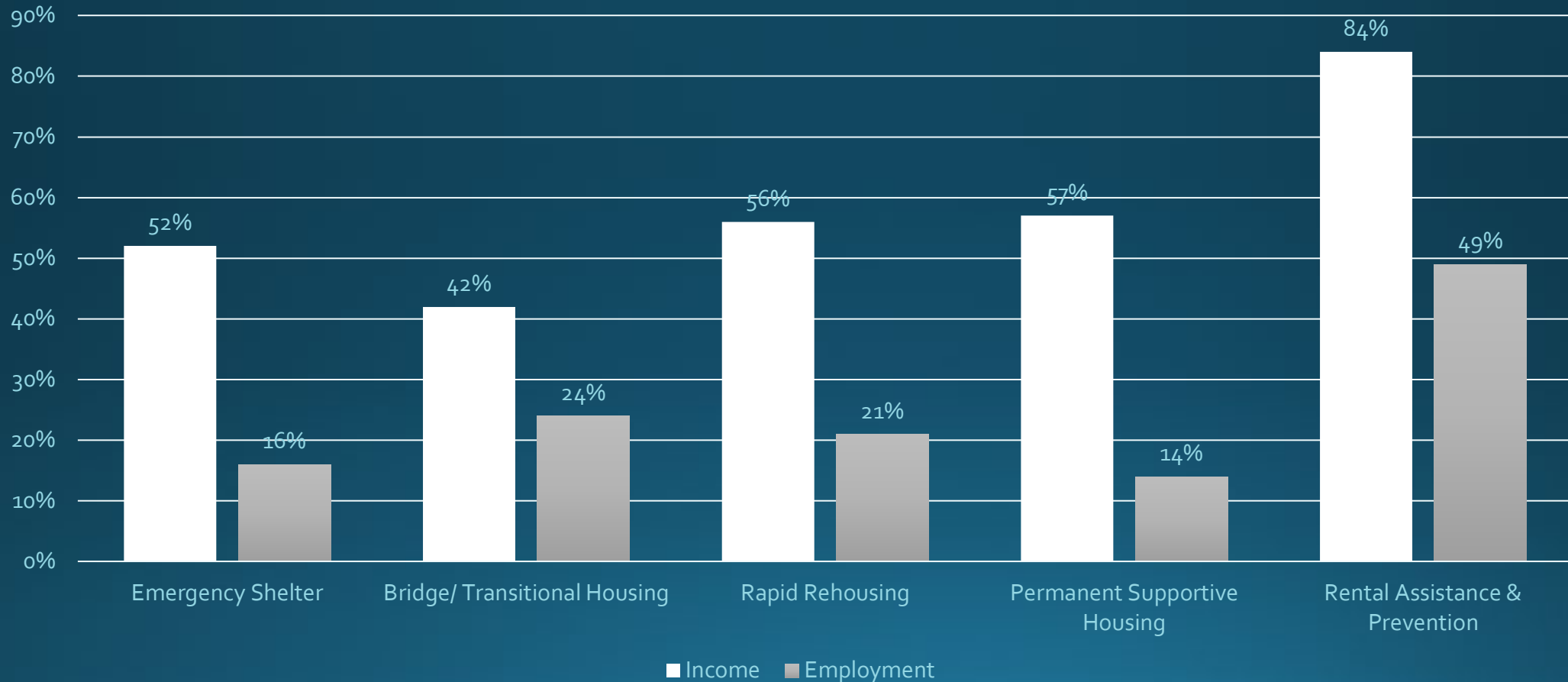
Program Level Performance : Utilization

3/16/2020 – 10/15/2020



Program Level Performance : Income* & Employment*

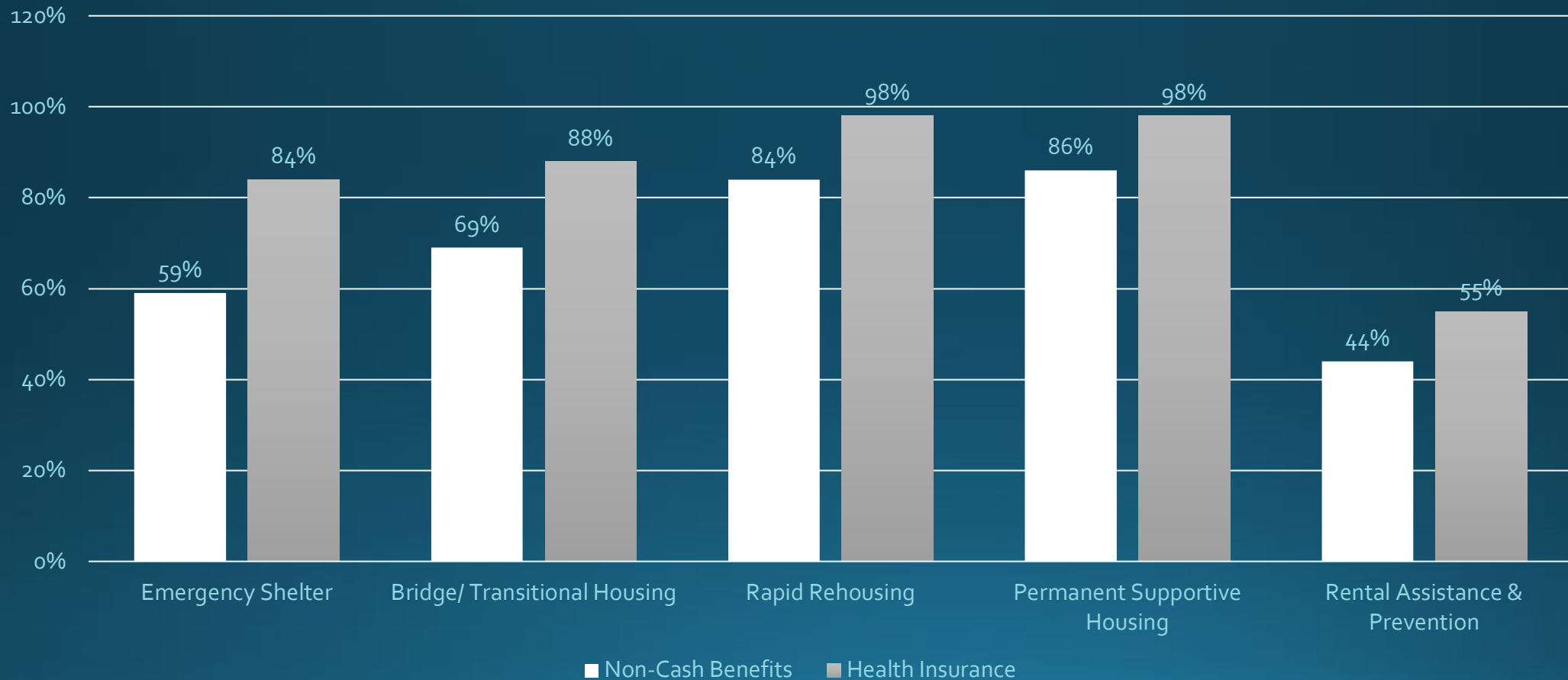
3/16/2020 – 10/15/2020



**Income and Employment are only calculated for individuals 18 and older.*

Program Level Performance : Non-Cash Benefits* & Health Insurance

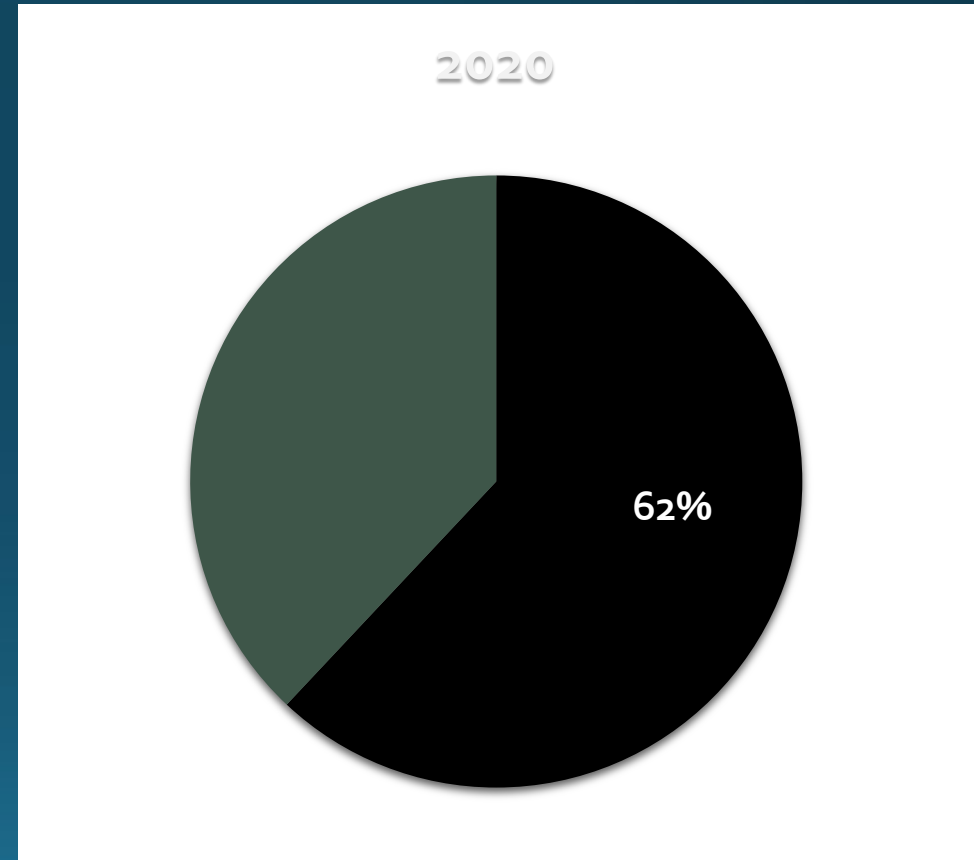
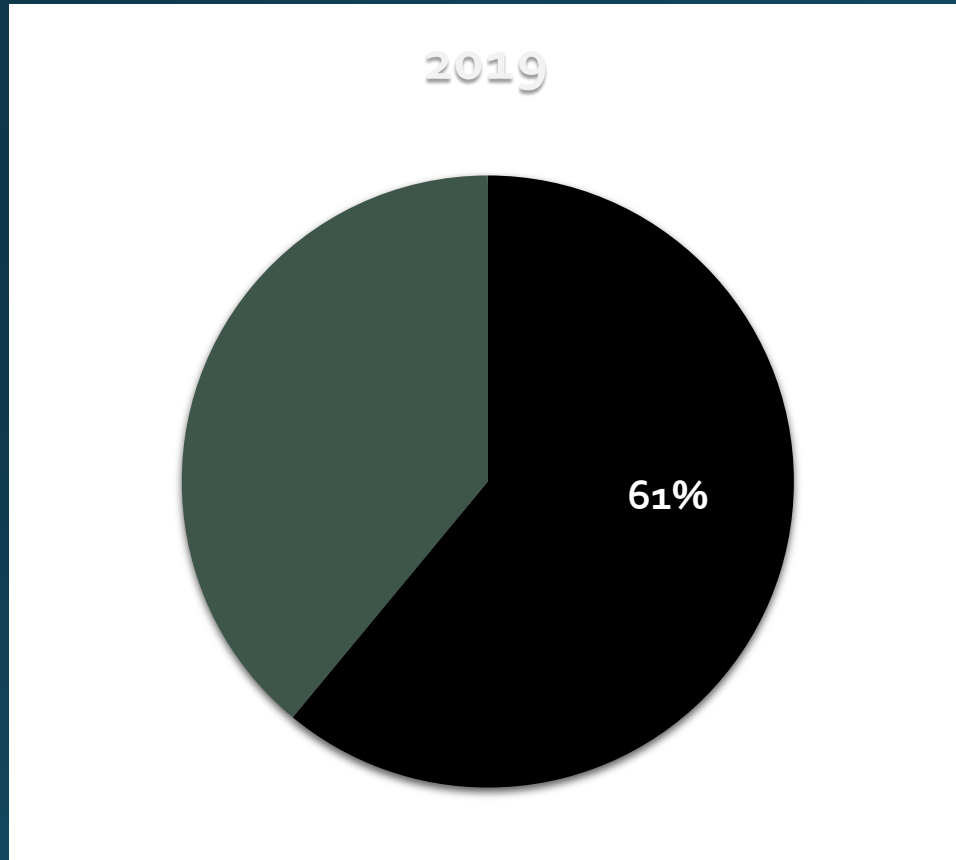
3/16/2020 – 10/15/2020



*Non-Cash Benefits are only calculated for individuals 18 and older.

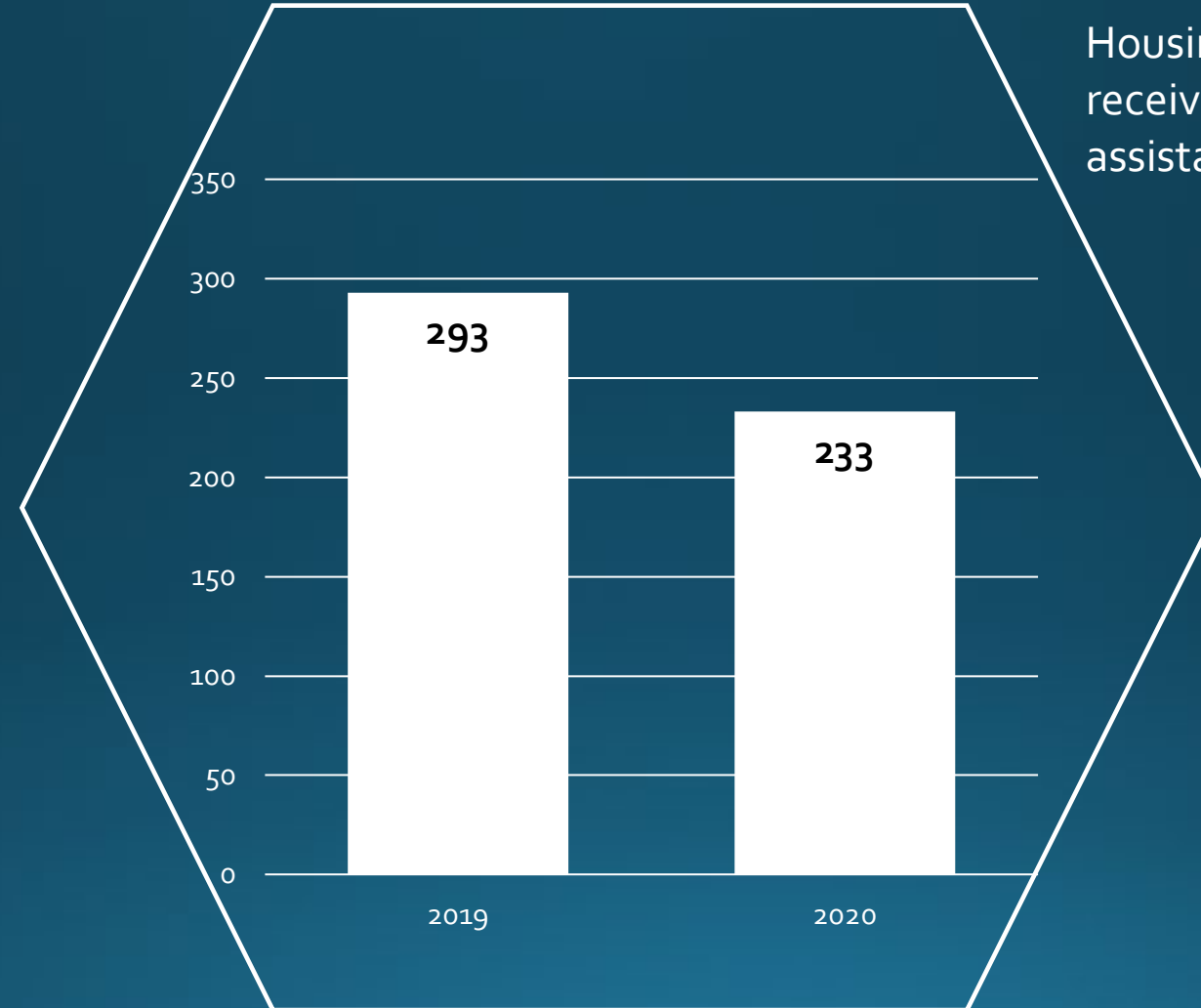
Exits to Permanent Housing

3/16/2019 to 10/15/2019 versus 3/16/2020 to 10/15/2020



Households Housed

3/16/2019 to 10/15/2019 versus 3/16/2020 to 10/15/2020



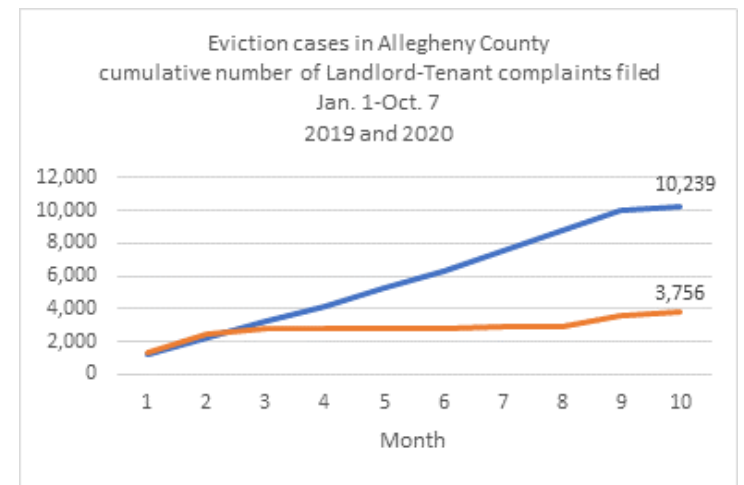
Housing Navigator Unit has received 310 requests for assistance housing clients

*households enrolled in bridge, rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing with a move-in date within the timeframe listed above

Landlord Mitigation Claims

Landlord Mitigation Claims	#	Amount
2019 (Jan-Dec)	14	\$28,636.20
2020 (Jan-Oct)	19	\$34,629.27

Postponed Evictions will
happen after Rental
Assistance programs end



COVID-19 Reports

3/16/2020 to 10/15/2020

	Number of Organizations reporting COVID incidents	Number of Incidents	Number of Positive Cases (as reported by the organization)	Number of Negative Cases (as reported by the organization)	Number of tests not returned (as reported by the organization)
Emergency Shelter	3	27	4	17	6
Bridge / Transitional Housing	1	10	6	3	1
Rapid Rehousing	2	2	0	0	2
Permanent Supportive Housing	5	13	7	2	4
Rental Assistance & Prevention	0	0	0	0	0
Total		52	17	22	13

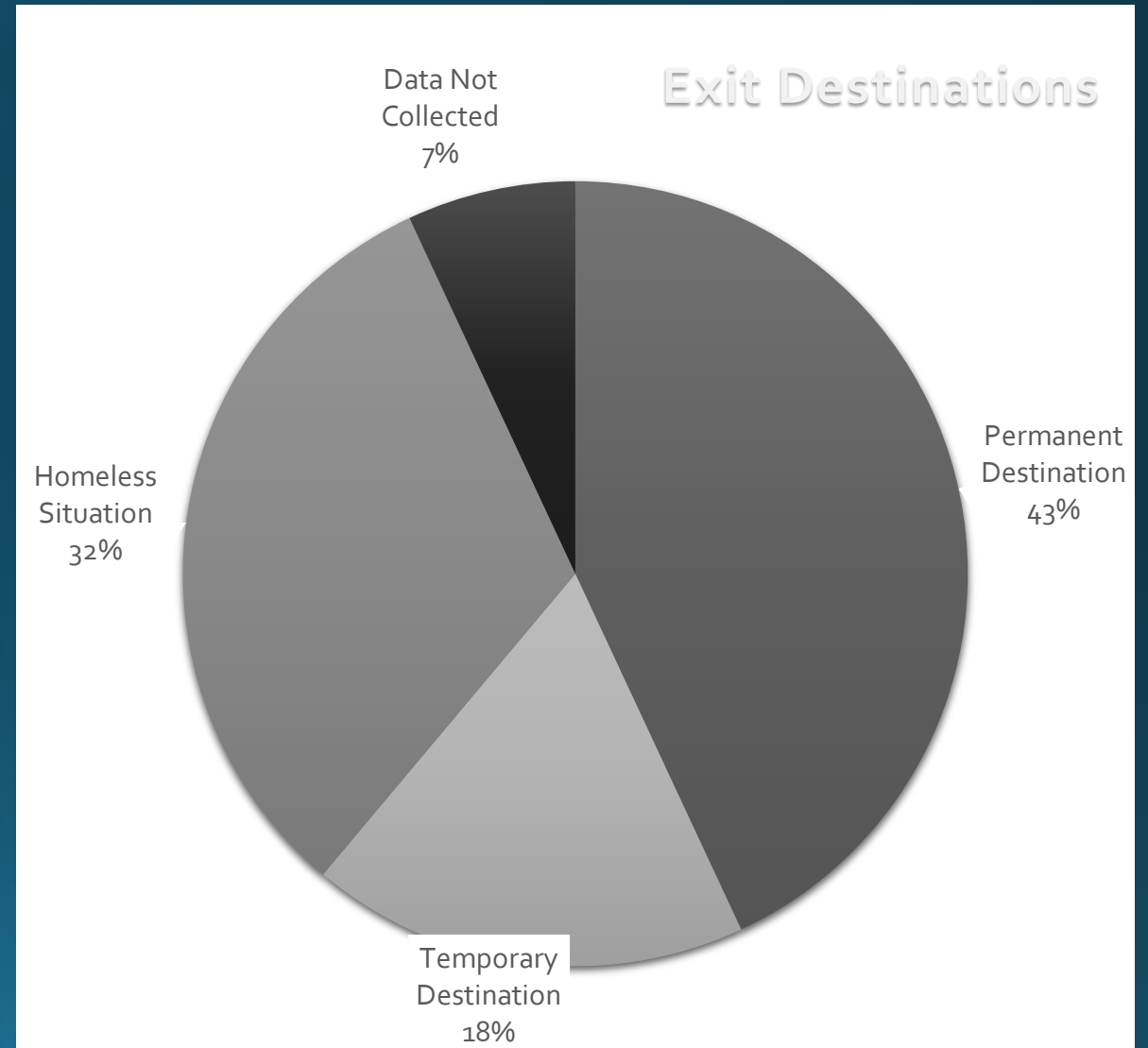
Safe Haven Hotel

161 Individuals Served

- 66 High-Risk
- 49 Isolation (Symptomatic or Positive)
- 46 Quarantine (Exposure)

72 Exited

- 31 – Permanent Destination
- 13 – Temporary Destination
- 23 – Homeless Situation
- 5 – Data Not Collected / Client Refused



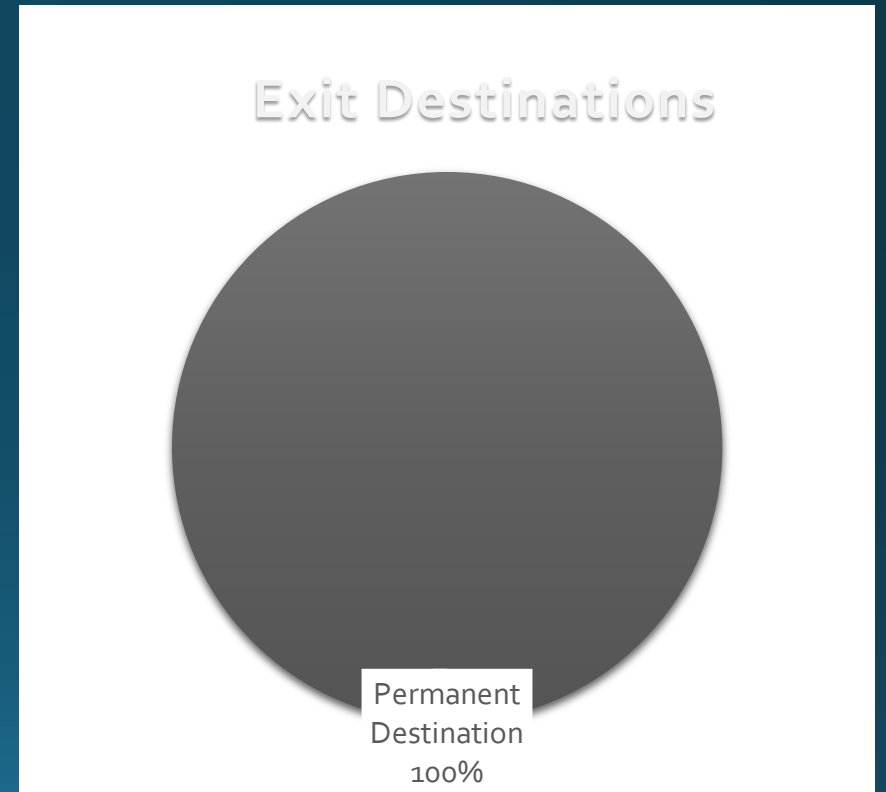
Family I&Q Space

7 families served

- 9 adults
- 20 children

5 families exited

- 5 – Permanent Destination
 - 1 – returned to family home
 - 1 – housing assistance through OCS
 - 2 – new rental
 - 1 – staying/living with family member





Winter Shelter

- November 15-March 15
- Smithfield United Church of Christ (men)/Shepherd's Heart (women)
- Overflow at Safe Haven

Other changes:

- Temperature and symptom check at entry
- Weapon scanner to replace wand and bag checks
- Individual meal service



Accommodations: Waivers

- **Disability Documentation for Supportive Housing**
- **Supportive Housing – Rapid Re-housing Monthly Case Management**
- **Housing Quality Standards (HQS) Initial Physical Inspection of Units**
- **HQS – Re-Inspection of Units**
- **One Year Lease Requirements**
- **Waiving the time limit on using rental assistance in rapid re-housing projects**
- **Homeless Definitions-Temporary Stays in Institutions of 90 days or less**
- **Third Party Documentation of Income**
- **Suitable Dwelling Size and Housing Quality Standards**
- **Fair Market Rent for Individual Units and Leasing Costs**
- **CoC Program Only: Coordinated Entry-Annual Ongoing Planning and Stakeholder Consultation**

Accommodations

Monitoring

- Implemented Risk Scale to determine appropriate level of program monitoring necessary
- Conducting virtual monitoring

Homeless Services & Supports Coordination

- Ensuring families with children in school have what they need to attend school (tablets, computers, hot spots)
- Working to quickly get families out of shelter and into permanent housing



Good News!

Partnership with Health Department and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)

- Direct connection between shelters and local FQHC
- Flu shot availability
- Telehealth Workstations on Wheels for each shelter

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

- Rapid Rehousing 2.0 RFP release

Unknowns

- PIT Count
- NOFA

***WE NEED
RESPITE
HOMES
ASAP!***



A Second Chance, Inc., in partnership with Allegheny County, is in need of loving, temporary respite homes to provide support for children ages 6-15.

**IF YOU CAN HELP A CHILD BY
OPENING YOUR HOME, PLEASE CALL
DAVIDA ALLEN AT 412-377-2511.**

Every child needs a loving home where they can thrive.

Home for the Holidays

Focus on youth in
Congregate care

Every child deserves
opportunity for visit and
connection

Gift cards, special
activities, treats

Increasing visitation centers

Community Empowerment Association

- On bus line
- Large open spaces
- Many classrooms
- Kitchen area
- Gym
- Connection to resources

Updated 10/29/20



15208

Homewood
Wilkinsburg

Community RESOURCES



Financial



Civic



Food



Legal



Young Children



Education



Housing



Faith



Medical



Family



Business Services



Arts & Entertainment



Fitness



Environmental



Digital



Wellness

Access this 15208, 15221 Community
Resource guide:

[edit 10 21-20 Zipcode Homewood Layout rd10.pdf](#)

updated 10/29/20

Key Contacts

- Provider questions for Allegheny County Health Department
 - 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
 - Contract inquiries: Kathy Heinz Kathy.Heinz@alleghenycounty.us
Laura Brigido 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.

