

THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED

COVID-19

Briefing for providers Monday 5/11/20

**Reminder: Provider Briefings shifting
to Monday and Thursday**



Agenda

- Communications
- Health Update
- Supply Updates
- Client Laptop Requests
- Legislative/Policy Updates
- Update on Family Strengthening Survey
- Plans to Maintain Essential Services



How we communicate

- Monday/Thursday provider calls
- Work groups on essential services
- Updates
at: <http://dhstraumaresourcelibrary.alleghenycounty.us/covid-19-information-for-dhs-providers/>
- Ask questions at: DHS-COVID19Planning@alleghenycounty.us



COVID-19 Communications and Planning

The Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS) is committed to sharing timely and accurate information so that our providers may plan to address the spread of COVID-19. We continue to monitor new developments and will provide guidance as the situation evolves.

Join our daily call

We will be hosting a call for DHS providers to discuss rapidly changing information and planning. Providers who would like to participate can do so using the following:

Call-In Line for the Mon-Wed-Fri Briefing

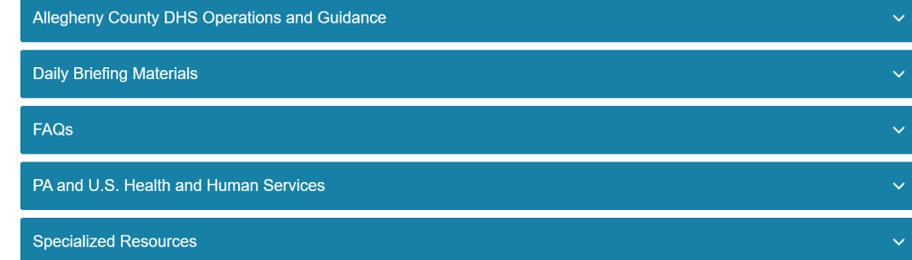
[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 4:30 pm EST
+1-267-368-7515 (Toll)
Conference ID: 253 994 565#

[Local numbers](#) [Learn more about Teams](#)

For those who cannot make the call, we will post presentation materials and video recordings of the calls.

Information related to specific program areas can be found using the Program Areas dropdown menu at the [top of the page](#).



Share your ideas



How can we make the system better?

Our County has a human services delivery system for people of all ages and stages in their lives ...

[Answer](#)



What matters most?

We're working on a plan for using human services funds wisely during July 2020-June 2021 and want to establish goals ...

[Answer](#)



Is remote help working for you?

Many people who used to go into an office for an appointment now call-in through a computer or phone ...

[Answer](#)

Neighborland page is up!

- For providers, clients, public, DHS staff
- Please invite clients to participate
- When it asks for sign in, click “Participate Anonymously” if you’d rather not sign in

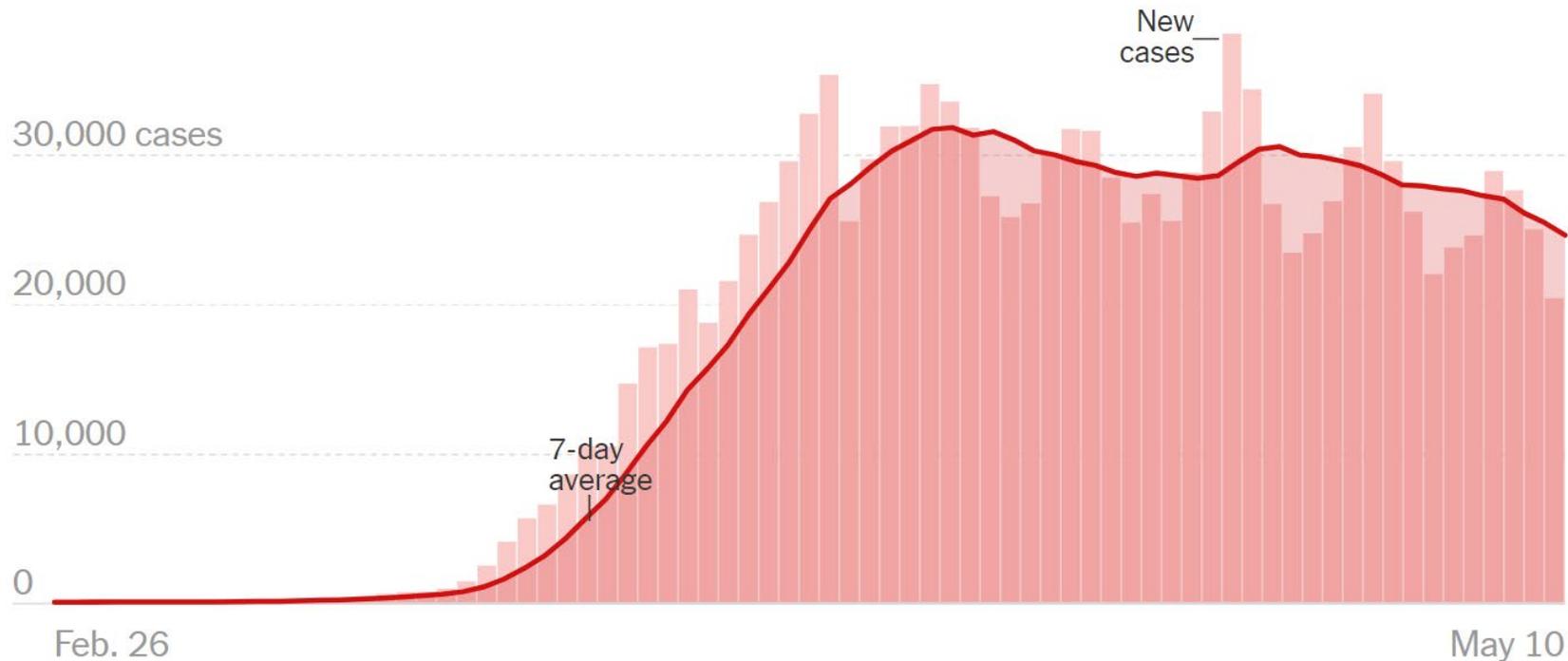
neighborland.com/allegHENYcounty

Updated 5/7/20

Health update

- *Allegheny County*: 1,511 total cases; 274 hospitalizations; 123 deaths
- *Pennsylvania*: 56,611 total cases; 3,707 deaths
- *U.S.*: 4,097,600+ cases; 282,636 deaths

New reported cases by day in the United States

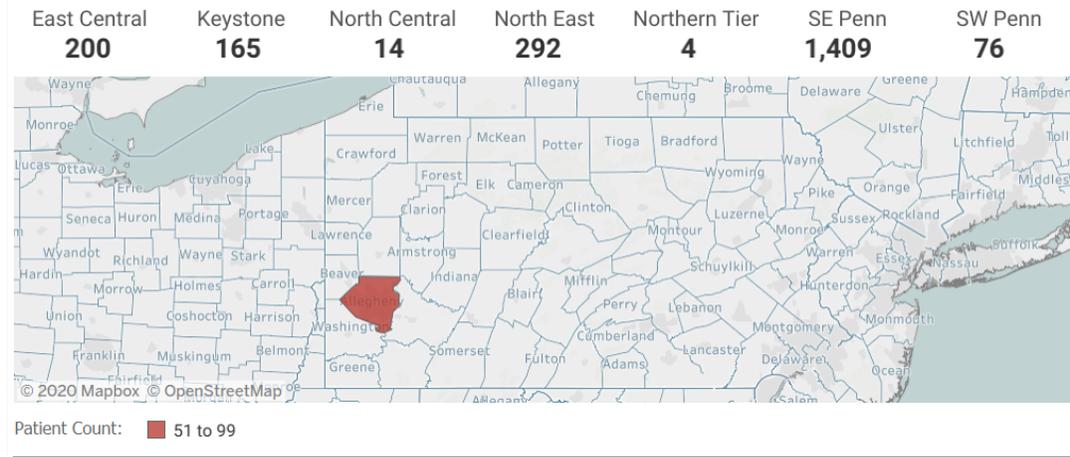


Health update

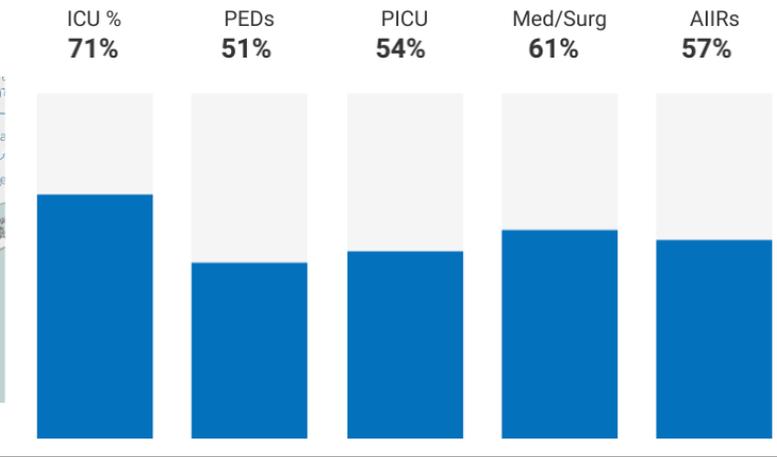
EEI Dashboard - 5/11/2020 9:00 AM Region: (All) County: Allegheny Info

COVID-19 Inpatients	COVID-19 Patients on ECMO	COVID-19 Patients on Ventilators	Ventilator Utilization
58	3	21	22.6%

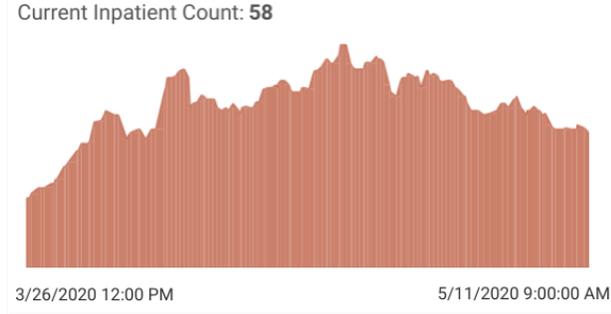
COVID-19 Inpatients by County and Region



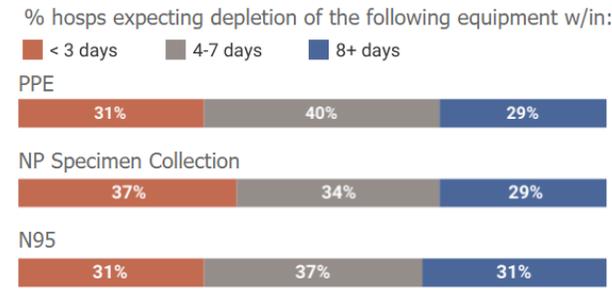
Bed Utilization



Confirmed COVID-19 Inpatients



Supply Depletion Forecast



Potential Shortages

% of hospitals anticipating a shortage of:

N95: 63%	PAPRs Filters: 57%
PAPRs Hoods: 57%	PAPRs: 57%
Gown: 63%	Eye Protection: 63%
Facial Masks: 63%	Cleaning Supplies: 63%

I understand and agree that my commitment to keeping confidential any and all information which I have now or will have in the future as a result of my access to KC-HIMS continues after my participation as an authorized user ends. I consent to the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement and intend to be legally bound hereby.

Supply Updates



GLOBAL LINKS
Sharing Surplus. Saving Lives.

- Since DHS partnered with Global Links, we have jointly distributed:
 - Over 12,000 N95 protective masks
 - 35,000 emergency surgical masks
 - Over 3,000 full face shields
 - Neal
- Still difficult to obtain hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, N95 & surgical masks, and size M, L, and XL gloves.
- DHS completed a distribution to 46 providers today at the Human Services Building (pictures to the right).
- Continue to submit supply requests through Global Links at <https://www.tfaforms.com/4813339>.



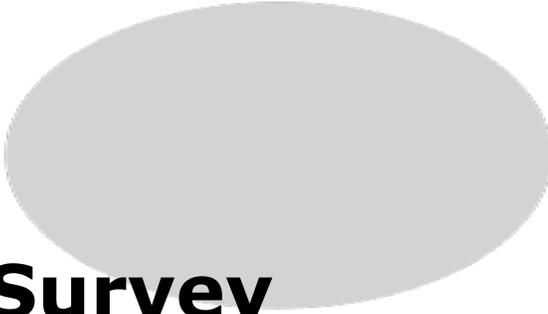
DHS COVID-19 Client Laptop Requests

- We plan to distribute more than 200 Chromebooks later this week and have more on the way!
- Each request is validated for need and prioritized.
- You will be contacted from DHS-Covid19Supplies@allegHENYcounty.us with pickup details if your request is approved.
- The link to submit a request is: <https://bit.ly/DHSCoVID19Form>



Policy and legislative – Federal, State, Local

- 5th Federal stimulus bill: Negotiations still ongoing between Congress and White House on additional state and local stimulus.
 - House expected to release a bill this week, formalizing Democrat's priorities and establishing a marker.
- PA Budget discussions continue under partisan rancor over reopening.
 - General Assembly Republicans threaten to sue Wolf administration to gain access to business closure waiver process after Wolf ignores subpoena.
 - Gov. Wolf held a forceful press conference today threatening to withhold stimulus funds from counties that defy phased reopening orders, calling lawmakers "cowards" who encourage businesses to violate orders.
- City of Pittsburgh Police offer free masks at police stations.
 - Free face masks have been placed inside newspaper boxes at the front of all six Pittsburgh Police zone stations as well as two substations.



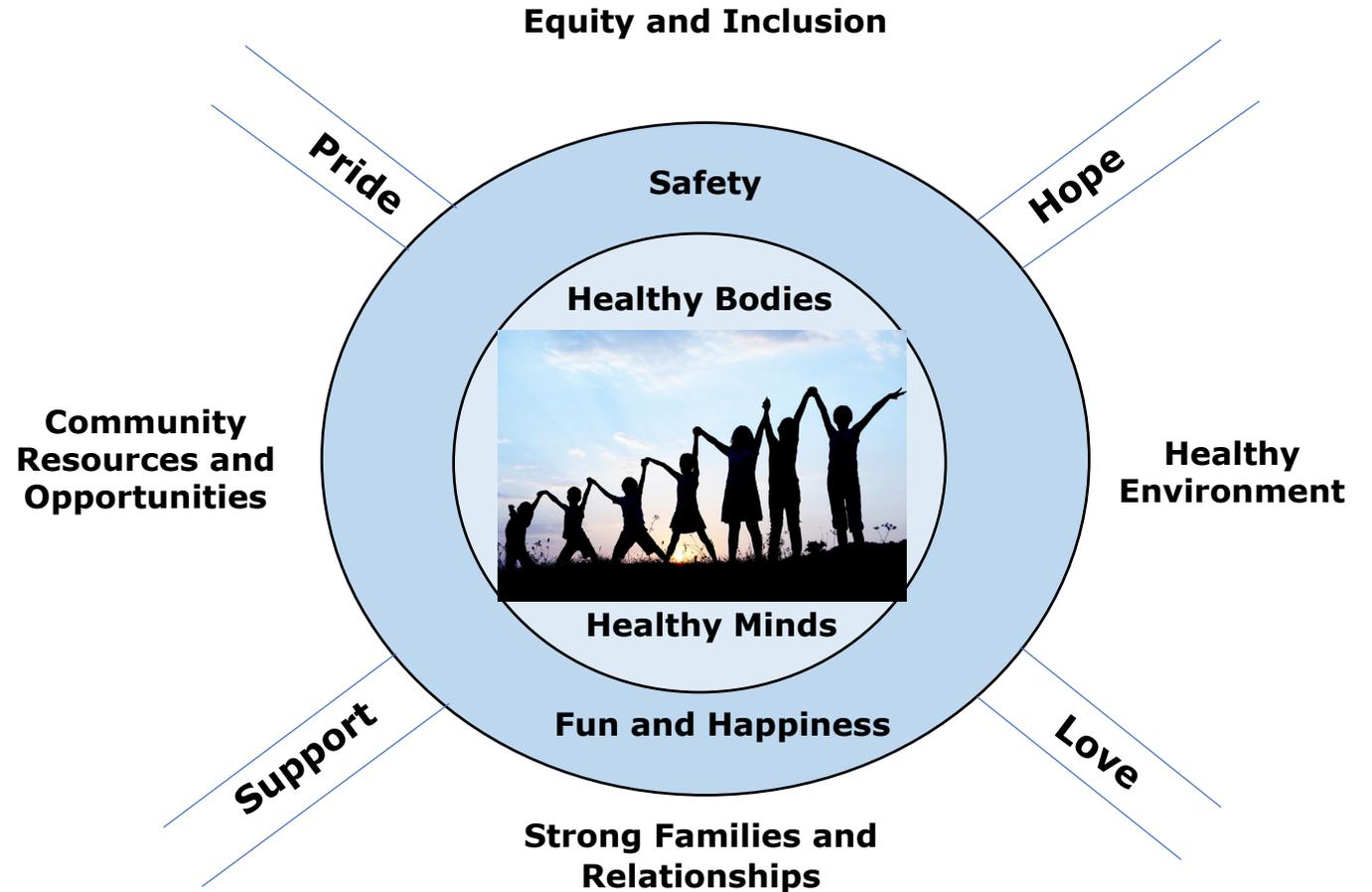
TPS Family Strengths Survey

May 5, 2020



Overview

- Rationale
- Methods
- Results
- Dissemination
- Can our work help you?

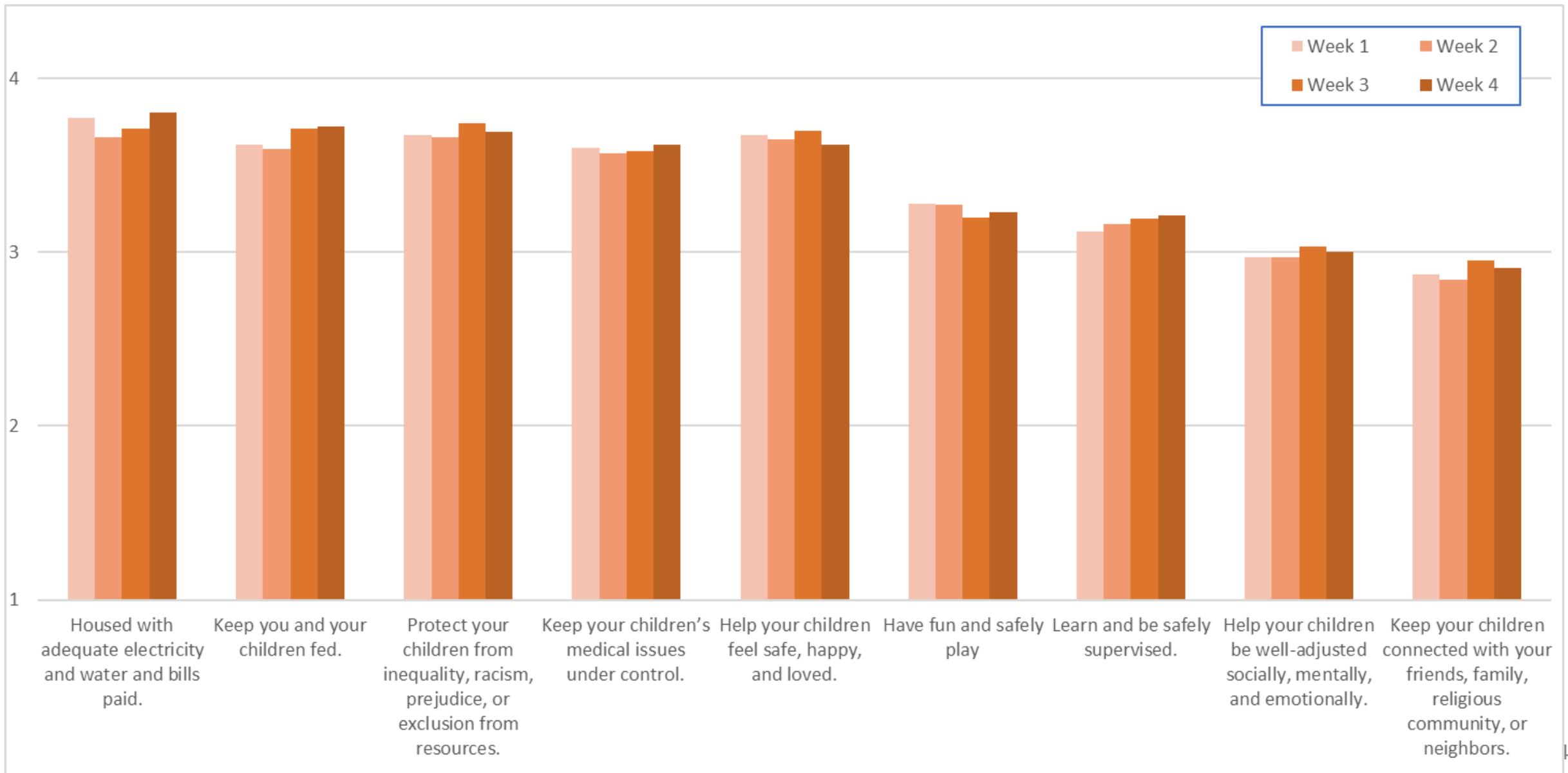


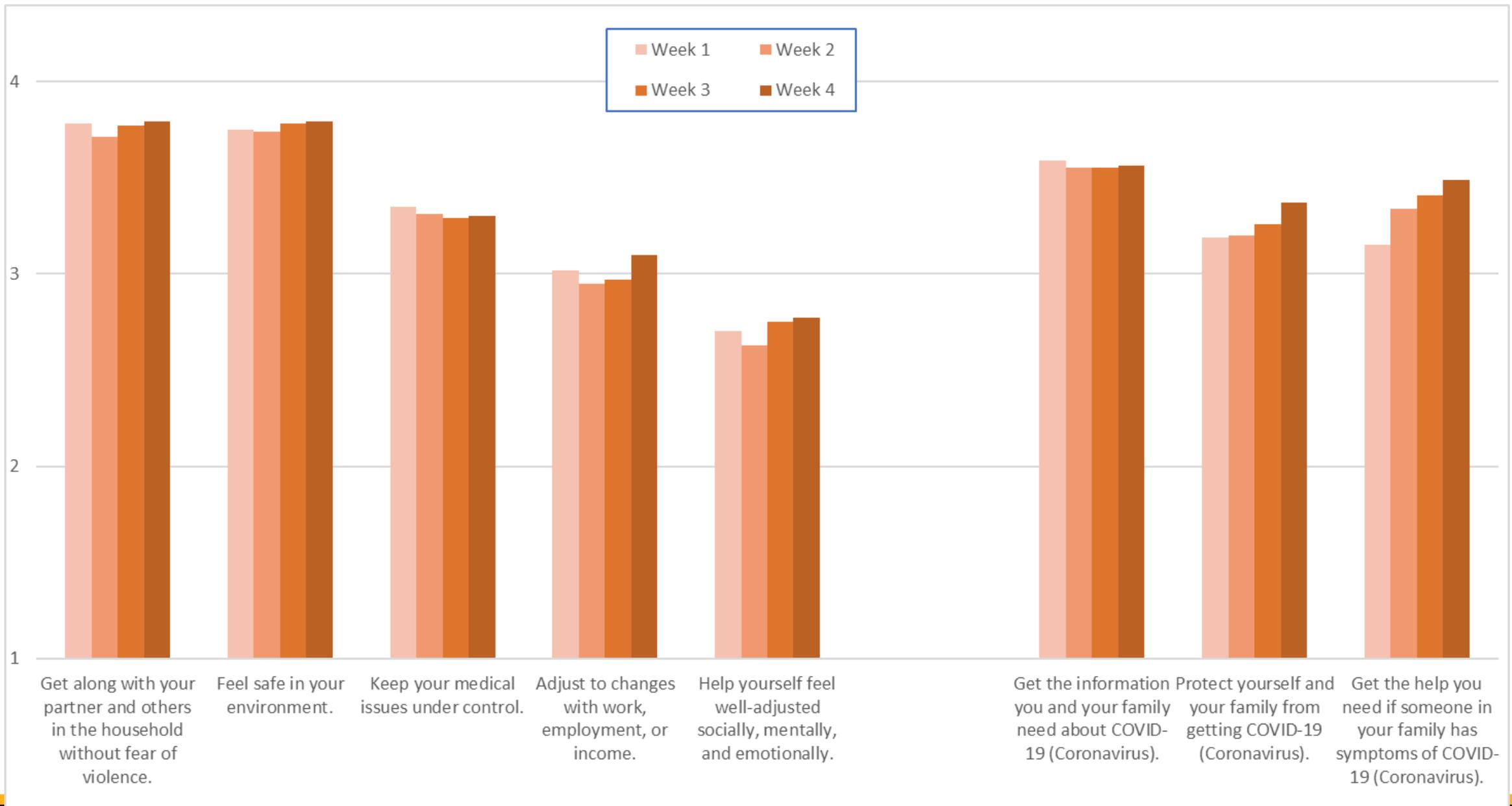
Rationale

- To understand evolving experiences of families with children in Western PA during COVID-19
 - Strength-based questions informed by prior community concept mapping
 - Weekly survey to identify evolving and emerging unmet needs
 - Commitment to weekly analysis and reports
 - Weekly results reviewed with partners to discuss resources and gaps

Approach

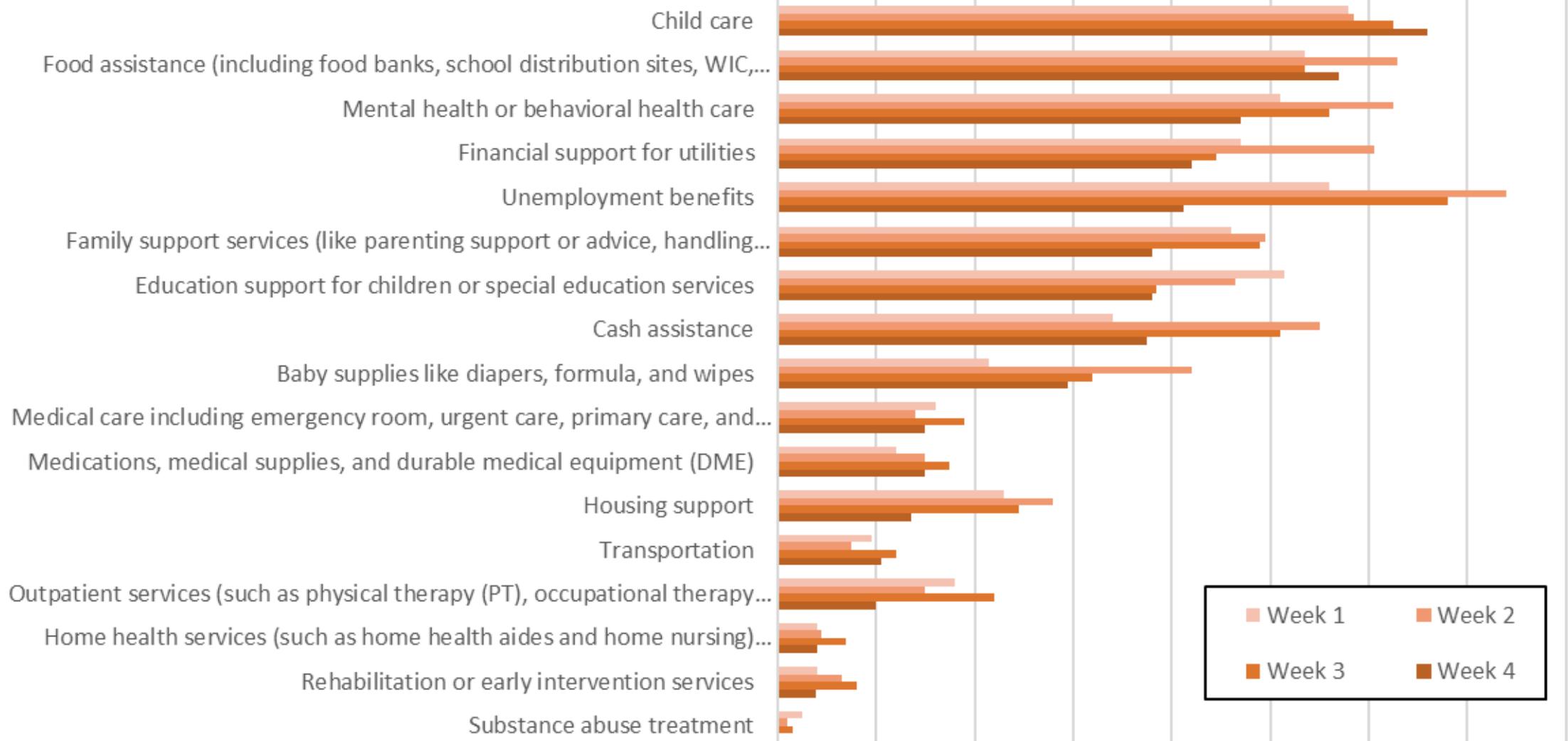
- Survey posted weekly (week 3 ongoing currently)
- <https://www.pediatrics.pitt.edu/family-strengths-survey>
 - Also: tinyurl.com/412family
 - Available in Spanish on website and English/Spanish by phone **(412) 692-8026**
- Eligibility: >18yo, children in household, in Western PA
- 6 minute survey, anonymous
- At end of survey, option to enter contact information for
 - Chance for five \$100 gift cards weekly
 - Email/text reminder for next week's survey

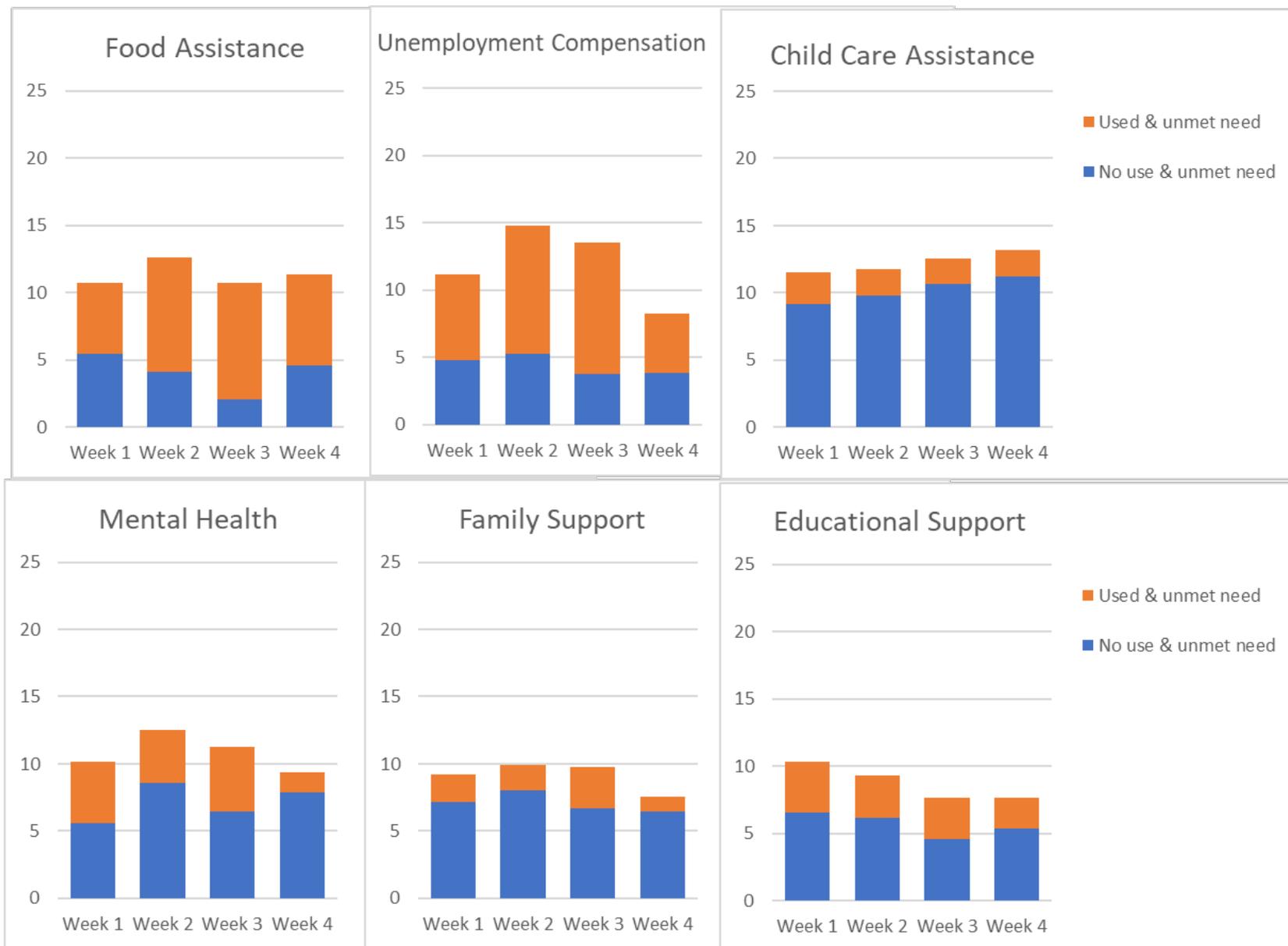




Percent of respondents needing more of each resource by week

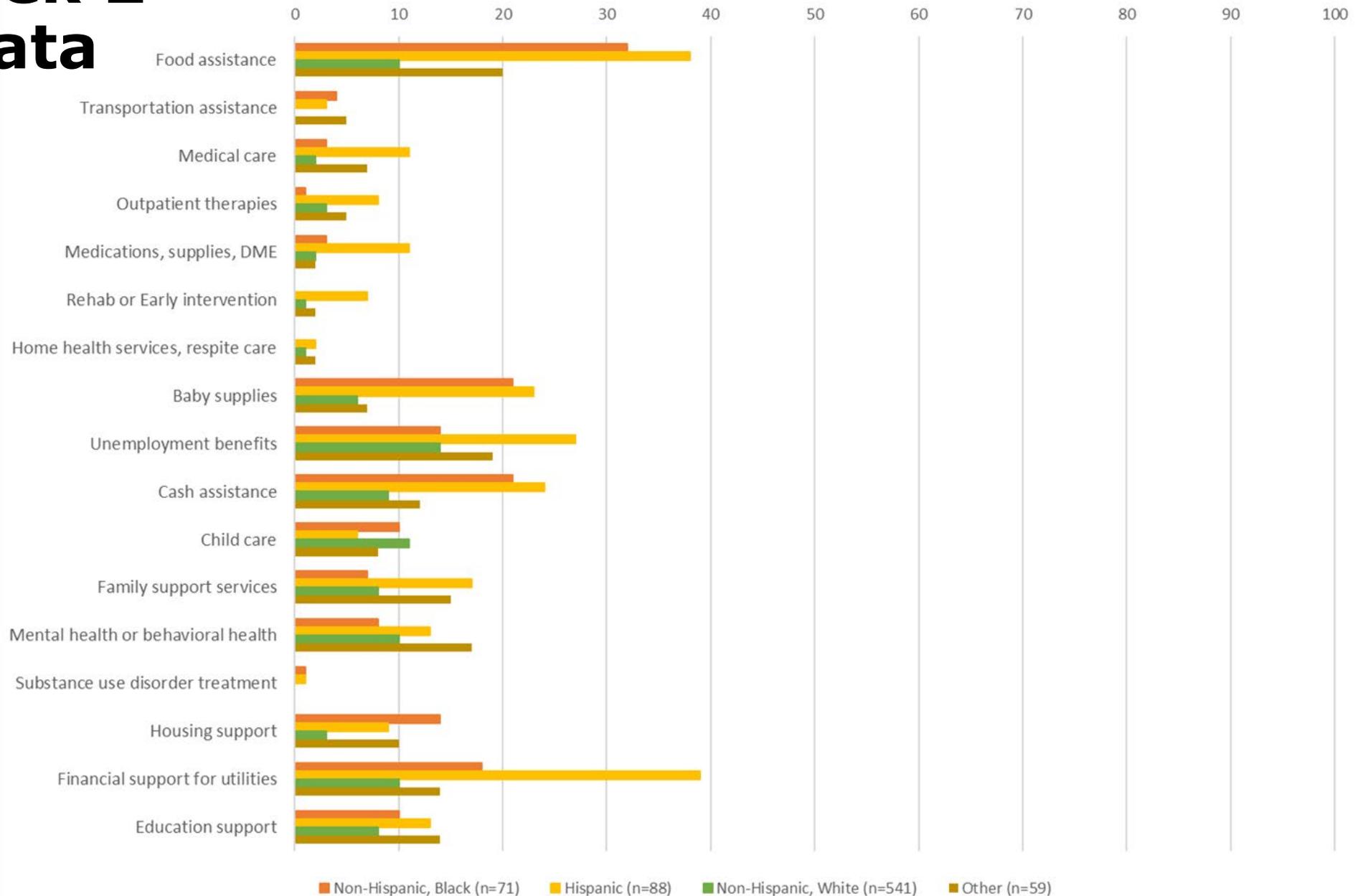
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16



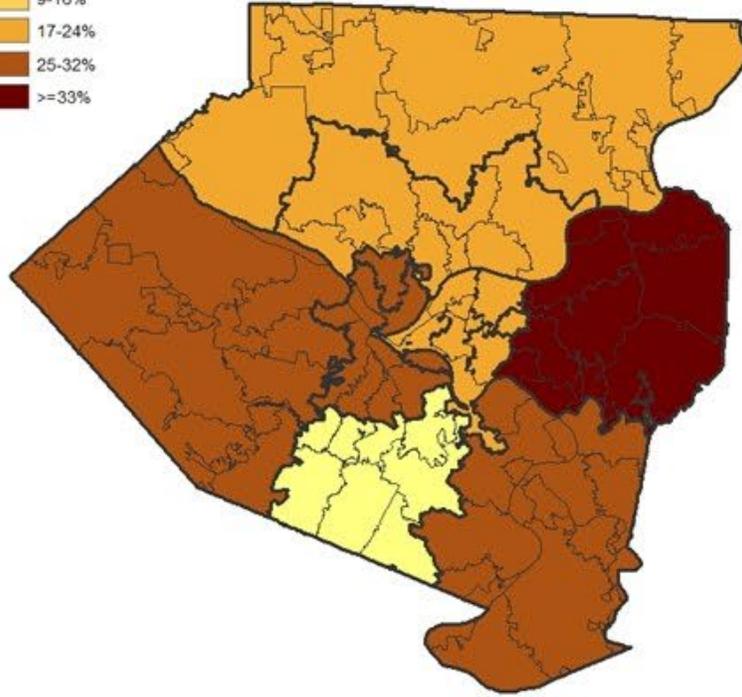
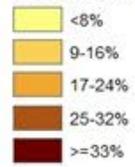


Week 2 Data

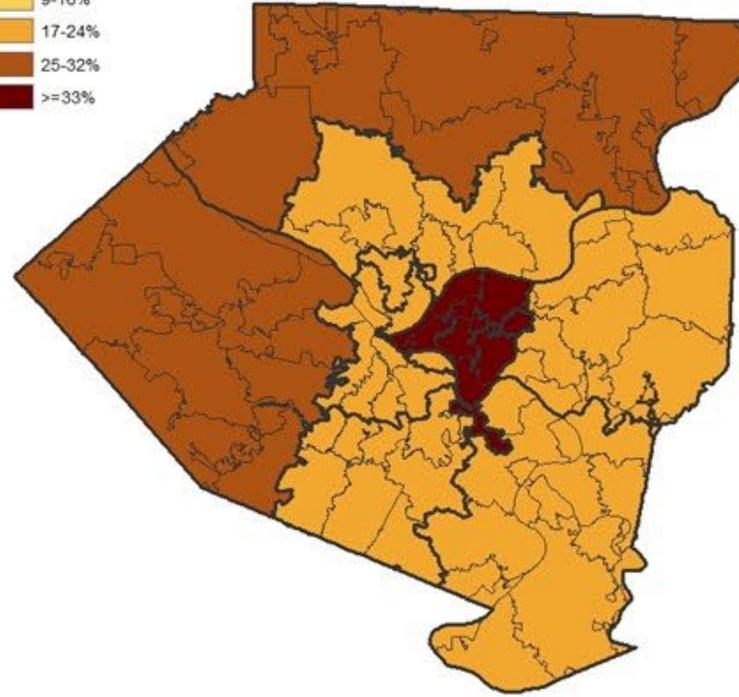
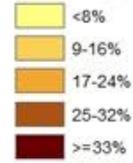
Percent of respondents in need of additional resources
by race/ethnicity.



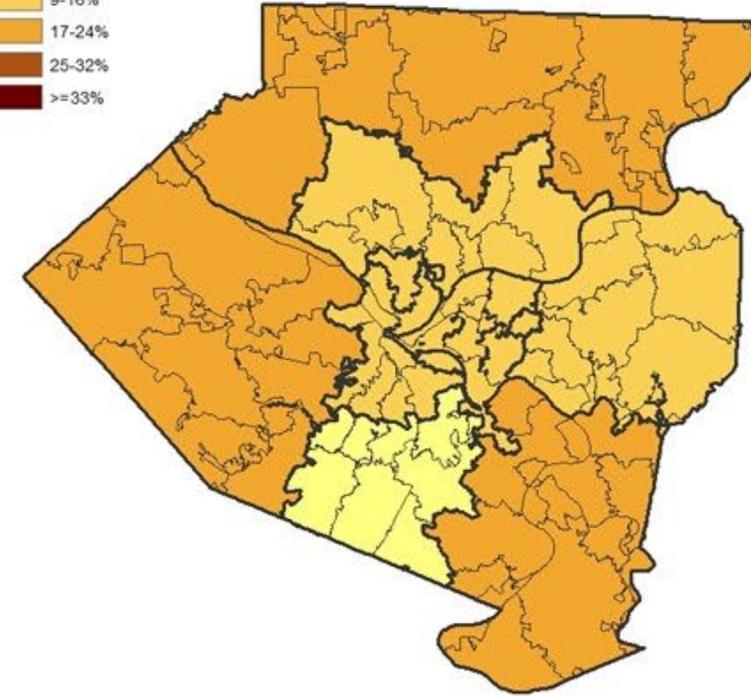
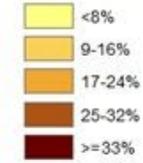
Percentage of respondents with material needs



Percentage of respondents with unmet family support/educational/child care needs



Percentage of respondents with health needs



Legend: Week 4 results of family strengths survey, weighted percentages.

Unmet health needs include need for more medical care, outpatient services, medications, supplies, DME, rehabilitation services, home health, mental health, or substance use treatment.

Unmet material needs include need for more food assistance, transportation assistance, baby supplies, unemployment compensations, cash assistance, housing assistance, or utility assistance.

Unmet need for family support/educational services include unmet need for family support, childcare, or educational support.

Week 4 Data

Write-ins

- Food access
 - Financial, financial+transportation (SNAP/WIC), transportation(+kids)
- Unemployment application
 - Delays in process+uncertainty with process
- Mental health
 - Children & parents
- Child care
 - Balancing work+school+childcare; anticipating return to work without childcare

Dissemination

- Overall results posted weekly
<https://www.pediatrics.pitt.edu/weekly-results>
- Reports shared with partner organizations
- Meeting with community organizations, social service organizations, employers
 - Improve survey questions & reporting
 - Identify resources to add to growing resource list:
<https://www.pediatrics.pitt.edu/family-strengths-survey-resource-list>
 - Identifying gaps & opportunities to better meet family needs

Accessing Food During COVID-19: Experiences of Families with Young Children Findings from the Family Strengths Research Study

Food for Families with Young Children: Many families face challenges safely getting the food they need during COVID-19. In particular, single parent families with young children struggle with getting food because they must bring their children along. Food pick up or delivery services are often not available or too expensive for families. Families with food assistance benefits (such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or food stamps) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) still face challenges with food availability, transportation, and limited hours.



How are Families with Young Children Doing in Western PA?

Based on the [Family Strengths Survey](#), increasing numbers of families are using food assistance programs more than they did pre-pandemic:

- Over **20%** of families have used food assistance programs at a higher rate than before COVID-19.
- Over **10%** of families report needing more help from food assistance programs than they are receiving.

Families describe the challenges of accessing food that is available: "I need help with food and I had to work and have no means of getting to food banks when I get off at 5pm. I have 4 kids in the house." Families also struggle with getting food with their food assistance benefits due to restrictions: "It is difficult to be a single, working from home mom... I have found that it is very hard to be able to get our WIC benefits. You have to go into the store to purchase WIC which I don't want to do with the kids... I wore both kids into the store so they couldn't touch anything. I wanted to get all of our benefits for the month so that we wouldn't have to go back. I found that there were many WIC items that were unavailable, especially the bread."

These Great Programs Can Help:

PA 211 Southwest is a resource hotline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Trained Resource Navigators can refer individuals to appropriate food resources via phone, text, or chat. Call 2-1-1, text your zipcode to 898-211, or webchat at pa211sw.org.



The Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank has a COVID Conierge Hotline to assist individuals with accessing food benefits, food distribution sites, and home delivery. The hotline can be reached at 412-460-FOOD, extension 655. Additional food access resources are available at the Food Bank's website: <https://www.pittsburghfoodbank.org/get-help>



About this Study: The Family Strengths Study is a weekly survey of parents or expecting parents in Western PA. The study is a collaboration between UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP), University of Pittsburgh (Pitt), United Way, and the Allegheny County Health Department and Department of Human Services. This survey is part of the Pittsburgh Study and made possible through support from the CHP Foundation, Pitt Department of Pediatrics, The Grable Foundation, and The Shear Family Foundation. For more information, visit <https://www.pediatrics.pitt.edu/family-strengths-survey>



Who do I contact for more information?

For more information please contact: Family Strengths Survey team at FGHstudy@pitt.edu.

Pregnancy and Newborn Care During COVID-19: Findings from the Family Strengths Research Study

Pregnancy and Newborn Care: Expecting parents and babies have unique needs during COVID-19. New parents face challenges getting baby supplies (such as formula, diapers, and wipes) and accessing prenatal and infant care. In addition, access to maternal and child care varies by neighborhood, racial and ethnic group, and income. Unfortunately, inequalities in care have continued through the COVID-19 pandemic.



How are Families Needing Pregnancy and Newborn Care Doing in Western PA?

Based on [The Family Strengths Survey](#), among parents and caregivers who were currently pregnant or had children less than two years old, **one in four** indicated needing food assistance and nearly **30%** indicated needing baby supplies.

Among neighborhoods with high rates of early premature birth (babies born before 34 weeks):

- Parents/expecting parents reported needing food assistance and baby supplies **two times more** than neighborhoods with low rates of early premature birth.
- Parents/expecting parents reported needing cash assistance **three times more** than neighborhoods with low rates of early premature birth.

Families describe challenges of getting maternity and newborn care: "Cannot get in person birthing classes. Also, would like breastfeeding classes and have not been able to secure those yet either. Wanted to get a doula for the birth, but...I fear if my husband will even be allowed in the room let alone a 2nd support person."

"We have a newborn...so I've been thinking a lot about how hard it is to not have visitors or helpers. He's a month old and has met literally only us (his two parents) and medical providers (when he was born and his pediatrician). I am stressed about not having our parents here to help and spend time with him."

Healthy Start Can Help Support Healthy Pregnancies and Births During COVID-19. [Healthy Start](#) is offering virtual doula services to help increase birth support:

- Two prenatal virtual visits, labor and delivery support, a virtual postpartum visit, and phone calls;
- Expecting parents will receive a tablet to use in the hospital throughout labor;
- For families without another support person, in-person doula support will be offered on a case-by-case basis (with personal protective equipment).

For more information, visit www.healthystart.com, call or text 412-224-7040, or e-mail dhorsley@hsipgh.org



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Parent/Caregiver Mental Health Needs During COVID-19: Findings from the Family Strengths Research Study

Parent/Caregiver Mental Health Needs During COVID-19:

Pandemics and natural disasters can lead to increases in mental health problems, such as anxiety, depression, and substance abuse. COVID-19 has caused job loss, illness, financial strain, and lost childcare, placing a lot of stress on families. At the same time, physical distancing has decreased access to social supports and mental health resources important for managing these stressors.



How are Families in Western PA Coping with Their Mental Health Needs?

The [Family Strengths Survey](#) of parents and caregivers found that:

- **Less than 20%** of parents and caregivers felt they could care for their own mental, social, and emotional well-being as much as they would like.
- 13% of parents reported using more mental health/behavioral health services than usual during the pandemic and 9% reported needing additional mental health services than they are receiving.

Parents and caregivers must address their own mental health needs while caring for their children:

- "I'm struggling with mental health issues while trying to be strong for my daughter."
- "Last week I caught myself ready to have three panic attacks. I haven't suffered from a panic attack in well over a year."
- "I feel uncertain, scattered, unfocused. I know my daughter is feeling my unease. It's hard sleeping. I wake up multiple times in the night. I think it's the stress of everything."

These Programs Can Help Parents and Caregivers Meet Their Mental Health Needs:

Contacting your doctor is a great option. Your doctor can help care for many behavioral and mental health concerns and can connect you with a therapist or psychiatrist if needed. You can get treatment and services at home through video and phone calls right now (see back of sheet for potential locations).



EMBRACE Pittsburgh champions mental strength throughout the Pittsburgh region. EMBRACE provides online educational opportunities for Pittsburghers to learn and practice self-care, reduce daily stress, and be mindful, empathetic, and accepting of yourself and others: <https://www.embracepittsburgh.org/resources/>

Steel Smiling bridges the gap between Black people and mental health support through education, advocacy, and awareness. They're working to expose every Black adult in Pittsburgh to a positive mental health experience that improves their Quality of Life by 2030. Their program Beams to Bridges provides paid weekly mental health training and wellness sessions for Black adults throughout our city. As a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic, they are sharing free sessions on social media (@SteelSmilingPGH) through their Digital Mental Health and Wellness Video Series. Every Wednesday in May, a Black mental health or wellness practitioner will facilitate an experience on topics such as stress management, mindfulness, and emotional regulation.



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Family Strengths Survey team at FGHstudy@pitt.edu

How can we help each other?

- Please share link, encourage participation
 - tinyurl.com/412family
 - Clients, patients
 - Staff, colleagues
 - Friends, family
 - Parenting groups on social media, etc
- Let us know what data might help you care for your patients more comprehensively
 - We're swapping out questions week to week to address pressing concerns
 - We're creating custom reports for different groups

New questions this week: Child Care

- In the last week, who watched your children? (Please check all that apply)
- Over the last week, how often were you comfortable with how your child(ren) were watched?
- If it were available, when would you next send your child(ren) to a group childcare, camp, or community care setting?
- What safety measures would you want to see to be comfortable with group childcare, camp, or community care settings? (Check all that apply)

Team

CHP/Pitt TPS team at work on this project

- Elizabeth Miller, Michael Silva, Marcela Souza, Lisa Ripper, Barbara Fuhrman, Namita Dwarakanath, Sejal Mistry, Judy Navratil, Anna Ettinger and more

Partner organizations

- United Way, ACHD, DHS, UrbanKind, WPRDC and more

Questions, ideas, comments, requests:

Kristin.Ray@chp.edu @KRayHSR / @PittCHATTER



Family Center Locations

Braddock

849 Braddock Ave., 15104 | 412-273-4610

Carnegie

820 Capital Dr., 15106 | 412-275-3395

Clairton

734 Miller Ave., 15025 | 412-233-3813

Duquesne

One Library Place, 15110 | 412-469-9870

East Allegheny

200 Westinghouse Ave., 15148 | 412-829-6171

East Hills

2320 East Hills Dr., 15221 | 412-727-2640

East Liberty

6435 Frankstown Ave. Suite 201, 15206
412-661-8751

Hazelwood

5006 Second Ave., 15207 | 412-904-2005

Hazelwood Latino

5450 Second Ave., 15207 | 412-325-8111

Highlands

415 E. Fourth Ave., 15084 | 724-224-9006

Hill District

1835 Centre Ave., Ste. 230, 15219
412-363-1702 x1423

Hilltop

1630 Arlington Ave., 15210 | 412-432-1635

Homewood Brushton

7219 Kelly St., 15208 | 412-727-6649

Lawrenceville

5235 Butler St., 15201 | 412-784-8683

Lincoln Park

7300 Ridgeview Ave., 15235 | 412-661-1057

Family Center Locations Continued

McKees Rocks

420 Chartiers Ave., 15136 | 412-331-1685

McKeesport

339 Fifth Ave., 15132 | 412-672-6970

Northside

3113 Brighton Rd., 15212 | 412-766-3860

Northview Heights

437 Mount Pleasant Rd., 15212 | 412-323-1020

Penn Hills

10 Duff Rd., 15235 | 412-894-9222

Rankin

230 Third St., 15104 | 412-271-3408

Sto-Rox

618 Russellwood Ave., 15136 | 412-771-7166

Steel Valley

302-306 E. Eighth Ave., 15120 | 412-461-8019

Turtle Creek

208 Penn Plaza Shopping Center, 15145
412-823-2060

Wilkinsburg

400 Kelly Ave., 15221 | 412-371-5934
807 Wallace Ave. Suite 205, 15221
412-871-7948

Essential Services

1. Food for Seniors
2. Aging Services – elder abuse investigations, in-home services, etc
3. Food for broader community
4. Childcare for essential employees, including first responders
5. Services for people experiencing homelessness and/or in supportive housing
6. Behavioral Health: Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol, Transportation and Early Intervention
7. Child welfare critical services, hotline, investigations, group care
8. Intellectual Disabilities and Autism services

DHS' Covid-19 & 'Reopening' Guidance – Guide to DHS Content

	A	B	C	D
Safety Measure/TOPIC	All providers (direct care and residential)	Additional Nuance Supplied for 24/7	DHS wide - Staff & Workplace	Additional Nuance for DHS Direct Care
Policies re client interactions				
1 Changes in practice to minimize face-to-face				
2 Masking – requirements as to clients				
3 Masking – deny service if no mask				
4 Screening clients for Covid-like-symptoms				
5 Protocols for serving positive & exposed client				
6 Protocols for reporting positive & exposed client				
7 Strategies to Support Clients during pandemic				
Personnel policies				
8 Working remotely where feasible				
9 Posting safety protocols and expectations				
10 Masking - employee requirements				
11 Temperature and symptom screening (employees)				
12 Symptoms triggering requirement to stay at home				
13 Reporting positive & exposed cases to DHS (-ees)				
14 If exposed or sick, when okay to return to work				
15 If exposed, must telework for 14 days of self-Q				
16 Identifying and notifying exposed employees				
17 Offering paid time off to sick employees				
Changes to the workspace & workspace monitoring				
18 Social distancing enforced in workplace				
19 Protocols for when workspace exposed				
20 Provide masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant				
21 50% occupancy limit				
22 Prohibit non-essential visitors				
23 Communicate safety protocols to staff				
24 Provide personnel to enforce safety measures				

DHS staff circulating new draft guidance to provider advisory group THIS WEEK for review and comment

Essential Service Status Snapshot

Essential Service	Overall Service Capability Ability to serve those in need	Staffing Are there enough people to deliver service?	Supplies Does service have necessary supplies?	Service Locations Are there safe places to deliver service	Funding Does service have enough funds?
		[Staffing Rating Guidelines]	[Supplies Rating Guidelines]	[Service Locations Rating Guidelines]	[Funding Rating Guidelines]
Food: for Seniors	At Risk	At Risk	Unstable	Stable	Stable
Aging Services - Elder abuse investigations, In-home services & other critical aging services	Stable	Stable	At Risk	Stable	Stable
Food: for Broader Community	At Risk	At Risk	Unstable	At Risk	Stable
Childcare for essential employees, including first responders	At Risk	Stable	Unstable	Stable	At Risk
Services for people experiencing homelessness or in supportive housing	At Risk	At Risk	Unstable	Stable	Stable
Behavioral health: acute, crisis and residential care	At Risk	At Risk	Unstable	At Risk	At Risk
Early Intervention	Stable	Stable	Unstable	Stable	At Risk
Transportation to essential medical and social services	At Risk	At Risk	Unstable	At Risk	Stable
Child welfare critical services, hotline, investigations, required visits, group care	At Risk	Stable	Unstable	Unstable	Stable
Intellectual Disabilities and Autism services	Stable	Stable	Unstable	Stable	Stable

Food: for Seniors

No Updates 5/4/20

Essential Service:		Food for Seniors		Overall Service Capability:		At Risk
Staffing:	At Risk	Level 2 Agencies invoke their own COOP plan	Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4 20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need	
Notes: <p>-AAA has received a shipment of over 800 FEMA shelf stable meals and are putting together a plan for a rolling distribution to identified sites.</p> <p>-Between FEMA and the AAA food providers there have been over 3,000 shelf stable meals ordered to be distributed.</p> <p>-Due to the increase in HDM referrals ACCESS is now assisting with deliveries for Northern Area Multiservice Center in the Tarentum area.</p> <p>-HDM providers have transitioned to 2 day per week delivery in order to maximize delivery and minimize social contact. Planning is underway to move to a 1 day per week delivery where possible.</p>						
Service Locations:	Stable	Level 1 100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need	Funding:	Stable	Level 1 Normal funding available	
Notes: <p>-Current system has reached a plateau and is doing well.</p> <p>-Preparing for increases.</p>			Notes:			

Elder abuse investigations, In-home services & other critical aging services

No Updates 5/4/20

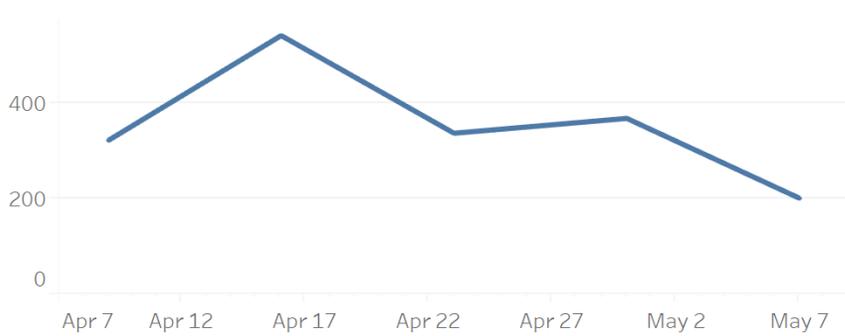
Essential Service:		Elder abuse investigations, In-home services & other critical aging services		Overall Service Capability:		Stable	
Staffing:		Level 1 Stable Agencies staff their own services, or have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level		Supplies:		Level 3 At Risk 40 - 59% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need	
Notes:				Notes:			
-Care Managers are completing consumer contacts and assessments by telephone rather than in-home visits to reduce the spread of Covid-19 -Per state direction, OPTIONS has developed internal processes to track Covid-19 specific services in the statewide SAMS/Wellsky database -In-Home services network is serving all consumers for Personal Care & Home Support -Personal Emergency Response Systems providers are offering modified, "contact free" install processes				-Available protective supplies (masks, gloves and sanitizer) have all been distributed to PS provider agencies and Options RN's.			
Service Locations:		Level 1 Stable 100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need		Funding:		Level 1 Stable Normal funding available	
Notes:				Notes:			

Food: For Broader Community

Essential Service:	Food for Broader Community			Overall Service Capability:	At Risk
Staffing:	At Risk	Level 2 Agencies invoke their own COOP plan	Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4 20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need
Notes: -Overall, Food Bank, 412 Food Rescue, School Districts, Food Pantries, Community Groups getting food out to community -As demand and need increases, focus is on: -Developing mechanisms to get food closer to people (more distribution sites, transportation) -Contingency planning for sites that must close (additional food prep sites) -Meeting additional demand (additional food supply to Food Bank and pantries) -Processes for families in quarantine or other "last resort" situations (in their own home or in facility) (quick solutions)					
Service Locations:	At Risk	Level 2 100% coverage to the public from either normal or alternative Service Locations	Funding:	Stable	Level 1 Normal funding available
Notes: see above			Notes: see above		

Weekly Counts from Pittsburgh Food Bank

People coming to Food Bank

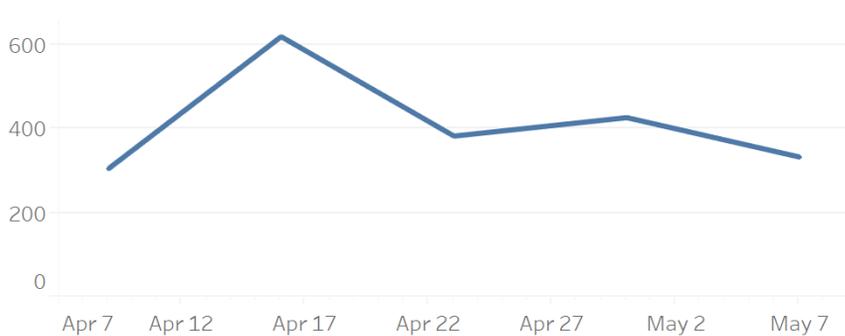


Unique times are leading to innovation and new partners. Closures in the **Senior Boxes** program are being picked up in the new **Doorstep Delivery** program and through **Covid Community Partners** (44 temporary partnerships).

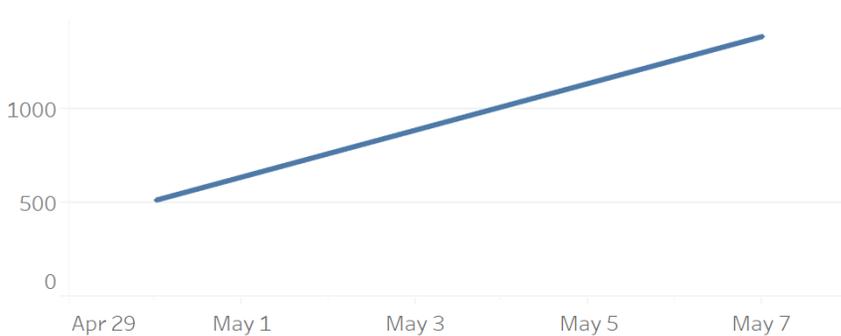
The **Summer Food Service Program** is operating while schools are out of session.

81% of **Pantries** are operating at normal capacity with a recent increase in those with expanded hours.

Covid Concierge Calls



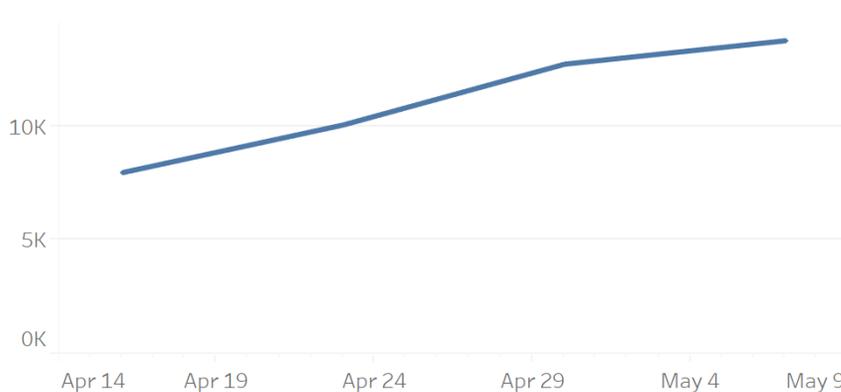
COVID Community Delivery Boxes



Mass (Car) Distributions



Summer Food



- **Doorstep Delivery launched last week!**
 - 25 lb box of shelf stable food to recipient's door
 - For most vulnerable households, complements other mechanisms for food
 - For info, call the Food Bank at 412-460-3663 extension 655 or visit pittsburghfoodbank.org/gethelp

P-EBT benefits approved in PA!!

PA's Pandemic-EBT program will help families who lost school meals



- Students who receive free or reduced price meals are eligible to receive \$5.70 per missed day of school.
- The benefit will come on an EBT (electronic benefits transfer) card that will be mailed to the address your school has on file.
- If you receive SNAP (Food Stamps) or TANF cash assistance, the benefit will be deposited onto your current EBT card.
- If you need to apply for school meals, your school may have an application or you can apply at compass.state.pa.us

as of May 7, 2020

<https://www.justharvest.org/faq-about-pandemic-ebt-in-pennsylvania/>

Supporting Babies in the 'Burgh

Critical Baby Supplies Distribution Day

Date: Tuesday, May 19

Location: Gallery on Penn

5935 Penn Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Time: 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



Registration is Required!

<https://babiesintheburgh.eventbrite.com>

Beverly's Birthdays is working to further understand baby supply needs in our region, and they are asking parents/caregivers of babies/toddlers to complete this survey. They will be randomly selecting winners who will receive a \$100 gift card for completion.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bevsbaby>

**If you need baby supply support, you must register for this event.
Register at babiesintheburgh.eventbrite.com or call 724-590-5106.**

Food Access Coordination and Resources

<http://dhstraumaresourcelibrary.alleghenycounty.us/covid-19-information-for-dhs-providers/food-supplies/>

- Food Map, FAQs and more!

Food Access Call

Tuesdays at 3:30

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[+1 267-368-7515](#) United States, Philadelphia (Toll)

Conference ID: 287 284 875#

Childcare for essential employees, including first responders

Essential Service:	Childcare for essential employees, including first responders		Overall Service Capability:	At Risk
Staffing:	Stable	<p>Level 1</p> <p>Agencies staff their own services, or have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level</p>	Supplies:	<p>Level 4</p> <p>20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need</p>
Notes: "staffing" for essential childcare presumably includes a huge network of relative/neighbor and other natural support caregivers. Traditional childcare staff supply is stable (with so many centers closed, several staff not currently employed)			Notes: Providers seeking gloves and cleaning supplies	
Service Locations:	Stable	<p>Level 1</p> <p>100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need</p>	Funding:	<p>Level 2</p> <p>Concerns over short-term funds to cover operations - cash flow issues arising</p>
Notes: Currently 70 centers open or preparing to reopen, ~220 open spots, many willing to reopen if demand exists			Notes: Local philanthropic community have made this a priority, state is continuing to make subsidy payments to providers, federal bill includes support for childcare, figuring out the logistics to get \$ to providers and families is the challenge	

Services for persons who are experiencing homelessness and/or are in supportive housing

Essential Service:		Services for people experiencing homelessness and/or in supportive housing		Overall Service Capability:		At Risk	
Staffing:	At Risk	Level 2		Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4	
		Agencies invoke their own COOP plan				20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need	
<p>Notes: Providers are functioning, with some staff performing virtual case management as needed. At risk staff at several agencies are working remotely, but some staff are calling off or not showing up. Staffing issues have not forced services to be closed at any providers, but the network is at risk.</p>				<p>Notes: Necessary cleaning supplies and protective equipment are in low supply, and masks are in very low supply. Providers are trying to secure supplies on their own, but also hoping DHS can provide.</p>			
Service Locations:	Stable	Level 1		Funding:	Stable	Level 1	
		100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need				Normal funding available	
<p>Notes: All shelter facilities are still open and are staffed. Shelters with vacancies are still accepting new clients. Isolation/quarantine hotel location is open.</p>				<p>Notes: There are currently no funding concerns for the homeless network; federal stimulus bill includes some additional funding for homeless services.</p>			

Services for persons who are experiencing homelessness and/or are in supportive housing

Family Quarantine/Isolation space:

- 2- and 3-bedroom apartments for families from the homeless system of CYF
- Contact Remy Harris (Remy.Harris@alleghenycounty.us)

Client Cell Phones

- First delivery arrived today, and they are now available
- Contact Gabe Krivosh (Gabriel.Krivosh@alleghenycounty.us) for more information

FQHC/Shelter Call

- This Friday
- Please reach out to Kate Holko (Kathryn.Holko@alleghenycounty.us) if you did not receive invitation

Services for persons who are experiencing homelessness and/or are in supportive housing

Homelessness Provider Network COVID-19 Working Group:

- Every Tuesday at 9:30 AM
- All homelessness service providers invited and encouraged to participate
- Call in information:
Phone number: 1-267-368-7515
Conference ID #: 883 836 652

Behavioral Health: Mental Health & Drug and Alcohol



Essential Service:		Behavioral health acute, crisis, and residential care			Overall Service Capability:		At Risk
Staffing:	At Risk	Level 3		Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4	
		Agencies notify ACDHS, who attempts to find staff across the network				20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those	
Notes: Calls to date with various service providers reports are that staff are resigning or calling off due to COVID reasons but, no disruption in services. We have received reports that providers have staff out sick who may or may not be going through testing at this time.				Notes: Gloves, antiseptic wipes, antibacterial soap, thermometers, etc. in short supply for providers. In the past few days more supply requests have come in. Reminding providers to follow the supply request process and to not call in for supply request			
Service Locations:	At Risk	Level 3		Funding:	At Risk	Level 2	
		60% - 100% coverage of the public, as some Service Locations have been forced to close				Concerns over short-term funds to cover operations - cash flow issues arising	
Notes: Broadened use of telehealth. Reminding providers to submit incident reports when they are updating policies/procedure to their facilities and services.				Notes: Recently approved APA is intended to provide some bridge payment for eligible services. Decrease volume in access impacting providers ability to draw down available funds.			

Mental Health Awareness Month

MHA Of Southwestern PA is highlighting *#Tools2Thrive*

- Mental Health Screening Tool
mhaswpa.org
- Downloadable Mental Health Toolkit
www.mhanational.org/mental-health-month

Topics to help you build your own set of *#Tools2Thrive*:

- [Recognizing and owning your feelings](#)
- [Finding the positive after loss](#)
- [Connecting with others](#)
- [Eliminating toxic influences](#)
- [Creating healthy routines](#)
- [Supporting others](#)



MAY IS MENTAL
HEALTH MONTH
2020



TOOLS 2 THRIVE

Be Kind to Your Mind

Tips to cope with stress during COVID-19



- 1 **PAUSE.** Breathe. Notice how you feel
- 2 **TAKE BREAKS** from COVID-19 content
- 3 **MAKE TIME** to sleep and exercise
- 4 **REACH OUT** and stay connected
- 5 **SEEK HELP** if overwhelmed or unsafe



[CDC Website](#)

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Transform Your Tobacco Cessation Practice with Telehealth

May 14 from 12 – 1:30 p.m. ET

Growing research from the CDC shows that tobacco users and individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions (such as lung cancer or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) are at a higher risk for severe complications from COVID-19.

As the use of telehealth expands across the country in response to COVID-19, delivering tobacco cessation services remotely while keeping apprised of recent [federal guidelines](#) is critical to ensure your most at-risk clients feel engaged and supported.

Join the [National Behavioral Health Network for Tobacco and Cancer Control](#), UCSF's Smoking Cessation Leadership Center (SCLC) and SAMHSA National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (CTFR), and the American Lung Association on **May 14 from 12 – 1:30 p.m. ET for [Transforming Your Tobacco Cessation Practice with Telehealth](#)**. Led by a diverse panel of tobacco cessation and telehealth care management experts, this webinar will explore ways to integrate best practices for telehealth services into your tobacco cessation efforts.

You will learn to:

- Identify important considerations in implementing and sustaining a telehealth program based on best practices for billing.
- Implement impactful telehealth innovations, platforms and models, based on case studies and lessons from the field.
- Identify and implement evidence-based strategies to engage behavioral health populations with high rates of tobacco use.

During this webinar, we are also pleased to release a complimentary resource guide to support behavioral health providers in the use of telehealth for providing tobacco cessation services.

[Registration Form](#)

Behavioral Health: Early Intervention No New Updates

Essential Service:		Early Intervention		Overall Service Capability:		Stable	
Staffing:	Stable	Level 1		Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4	
		Agencies staff their own services, or have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level				20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need	
Notes: Completely up and running with tele intervention services. Only services not approved for telehealth are social work and nursing.				Notes: In the past few days more supply requests have come in			
Service Locations:	Stable	Level 1		Funding:	At Risk	Level 2	
		100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need				Concerns over short-term funds to cover operations - cash flow issues arising	
Notes: All Infant/Toddler Early Intervention services have the approval to be delivered using tele-intervention, this includes Social Work and Nursing.				Notes: Providers have been greatly impacted by the loss of revenue			

Transportation to essential medical and social services

No New Updates

Essential Service:		Transportation to essential medical and social services		Overall Service Capability:		At Risk	
Staffing:	At Risk	Level 2		Supplies:	Unstable	Level 4	
		Agencies invoke their own COOP plan				20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those	
Notes: Traveler's Aide has reduced office operations as of Friday 3/30/2020 in order to implement health and safety protocols for their staff. Lyft and Uber rides arranged through Traveler's Aide has been suspended at this time. ACCESS is able to accommodate all MATP transports at this time.				Notes: We are anticipating state MATP guidelines in the near future which may impact PPE requests by providers			
Service Locations:	At Risk	Level 3		Funding:	Stable	Level 1	
		60% - 100% coverage of the public, as some Service Locations have been forced to close				Normal funding available	
Notes: MATP has issued guidances for providers and riders.				Notes:			

Transportation to essential medical and social services

- State MATP issues a revised guidance for [MATP agencies](#) and [MATP Consumers](#)
- The May 8 guidance to MATP providers includes additional safety precautions including the use of masks or face coverings for both consumers and drivers given a COVID-19 status (confirmed, presumed, etc)
- The May 8 guidance for consumers includes the mileage increase from \$0.12 per mile to \$0.25, plus parking & tolls during the emergency declaration
- Consumers must verify that they are registered with their MATP program, and if not-will need to fill out the necessary paperwork to register



Essential Service:	Child welfare critical services, hotline, investigations, required visits, group care		Overall Service Capability:	At Risk
Staffing:	Stable	Level 1 Agencies staff their own services, or have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level	Supplies:	Unstable Level 4 20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need
Notes: Agencies can staff their own services. Some have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level			Notes: Providers report needing hand sanitizer, bacterial wipes, disposable thermometers service locations CYF is able to deliver supplies to essential first responders, but supply is limited.	
Service Locations:	Unstable	Level 4 30 - 59% coverage of the public, as some Service Locations have been forced to close	Funding:	Stable Level 1 Normal funding available
Notes: Several provider agencies have been forced to close to comply with Governor's orders			Notes: Normal funding available. Providers compensating staff with combat pay and exploring ways to incentivize staff	

Child welfare critical services: Local plans & next steps

Social Media Outreach

Be A Lifeline



Allegheny County Department of Human Services

May 4 at 8:53 AM · 🌐

Many of us are struggling with social distancing, but it can be exceptionally challenging for older adults, people who live alone, those with health issues, and even new parents. Taking just a few minutes to call, leave a handwritten note, or have a short visit (from a safe distance) with your neighbors can brighten their day – and will also brighten yours.



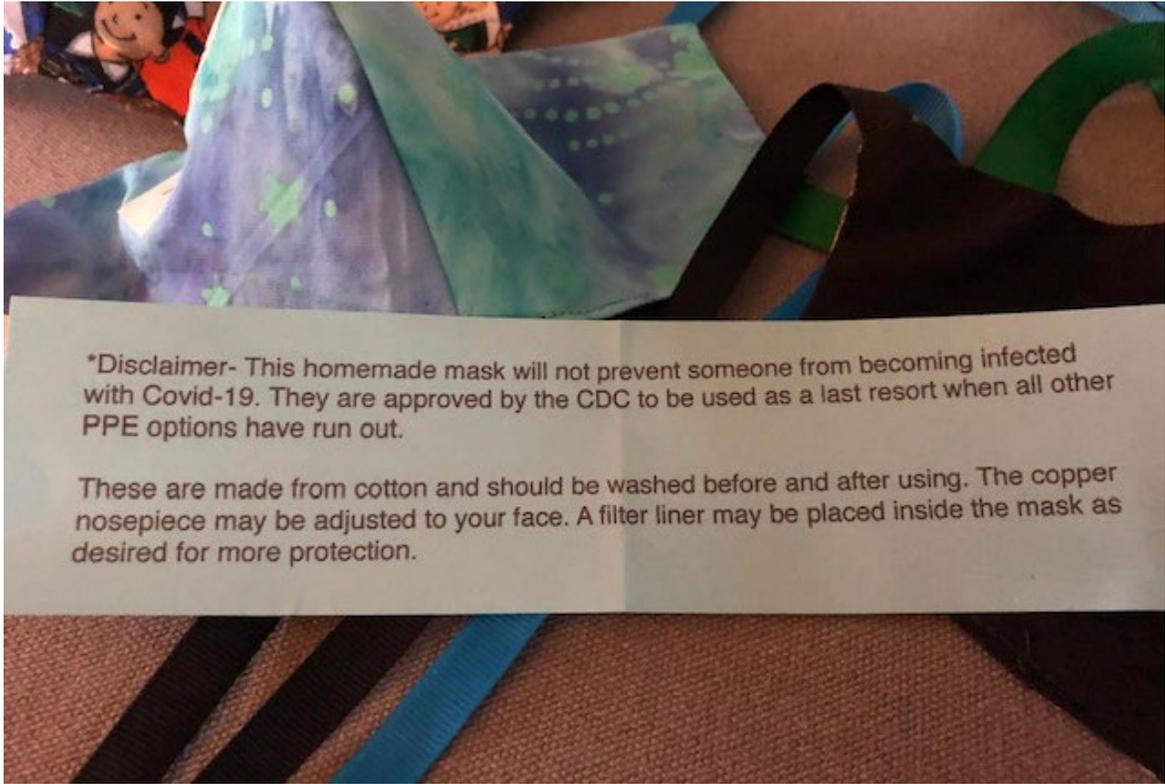
👍❤️ 590

17 Comments 142 Shares

👍 Like

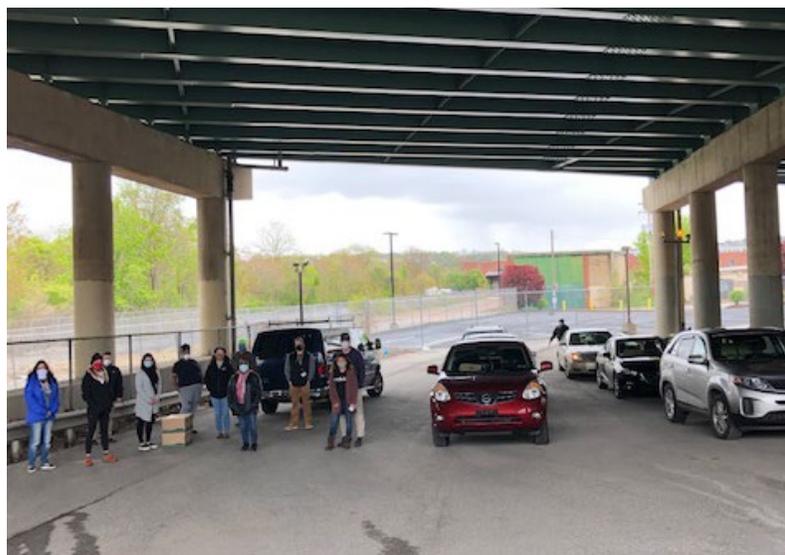
💬 Comment

➦ Share



Almost 500 face mask for
Children and Families

Community Facebook Group
"Just" a Mt. Lebanon Housewife



"Just" A Mt. Lebanon Housewife

- Raised over \$14,536
- 14 meals for Family Promise
- \$650 Cash donation to SHIM
- 90 meals to Meals on Wheels
- 125 meals to Jubilee Soup Kitchen
- Also provided lunch or dinner to Women's Center & Shelter, Bethlehem Haven, Sojourner House, Ronald McDonald House, Pittsburgh Project and Hearth

Intellectual Disabilities and Autism services:

Essential Service:	Intellectual Disabilities and Autism services		Overall Service Capability:	Stable
Staffing:	Stable	Level 1 Agencies staff their own services, or have invoked contingency plans that have brought staffing to an adequate level	Supplies:	Unstable Level 4 20 - 39% of necessary supplies are available for the essential service to be safely and adequately delivered to those in need
Notes: We continue to reach out to agencies weekly. Provider agencies are getting a lot of information but seem to be keeping up service delivery in light of COVID. We have confirmed providers have and are implementing COVID response plans when necessary.			Notes: Providers are reporting that they are submitting supply requests to any and all resources provided and getting some response although quantity is still not near what is needed.	
Service Locations:	Stable	Level 1 100% coverage to the public from normal Service Locations, which are open and fully operational to the public and those in need	Funding:	Stable Level 1 Normal funding available
Notes: Providers have relocation plans in place but so far, everyone is at their normal service location. Providers are aware of resources available and reporting requirements.			Notes:	

Intellectual Disabilities and Autism services: Current Activities

- **COVID-19 Update with Deputy Secretary Ahrens**
<https://www.myodp.org/mod/page/view.php?id=26881>
- **ODP Announcement 20-055** Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-2021 Renewal Guidance
- **ODP Announcement 20-052** HCBS in Counties Designated by the Governor as Yellow Phase
- Continue to follow local information and directives, along with PA Department of Health and the State Office of Developmental Programs. Links to COVID-19 updates can be found on MyODP.org,
<https://www.myodp.org/mod/page/view.php?id=26808>

5/11/2020

From the California DD Council

Self-advocates giving critical COVID information

- [Episode 1: How to Stay Healthy](#)
- [Episode 2: What Should I Do If I Think I'm Sick?](#)
- [Episode 3: What I Should Do If I Get Sick](#)
- [Episode 4: What To Do If a Caregiver or a Family Member Gets Sick](#)
-
- [Episodio 1 - Cómo mantenerse saludable](#)
- [Episodio 2 - Lo que debo hacer si creo que estoy enfermo:](#)
- [Episodio 3 - Lo que debo hacer si estoy enfermo](#)
- [Episodio 4 - Lo que debo hacer si mi familiar o persona que me cuida se enferma](#)

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.



COVID-19 Equity Advisory Committee

- **Reduce the Spread** – Assist with getting critical information/resources to the county’s most vulnerable.
- **Reopening the County** – Provide guidance on how we can put equity at the center of our reopening strategy
- **Future Preparation** –What needs to be in place for future public health crises?

First Meeting: Friday, May 15th

Confirmed Committee Members

Rev. Paul Abernathy	Neighborhood Resilience Project
Dr. Jamil Bey	UrbanKind
Earl Buford	Partner4Work
Dr. Diego Chaves-Gnecco, MD, MPH, FAAP	Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh / SALUD PARA NIÑOS
Dr. Patricia Documet	University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health
Dr. Kathi Elliott	Gwen’s Girls / Black Girls Equity Alliance
Dr. Tiffany Gary-Webb	University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health
Dr. Jerome Gloster	Alma Illery Medical Center
Rev. Brenda J. Gregg	Project Destiny
Kevin L. Jenkins	Manchester Bidwell Corporation
Majestic Lane	City of Pittsburgh Office of Equity and Inclusion
Dr. Sharon McDaniel	A Second Chance, Inc.
Michelle McMurray	The Pittsburgh Foundation
Dr. Dara Mendez	University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health
Sarah Rosso	Hugh Lane Wellness Foundation
Monica Ruiz	Casa San Jose
Julie Strickland-Gilliard	Western PA Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Rev. Dr. John Wallace	University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work / Bible Center Church

Listening Session Summary and FAQ

<http://dhstraumaresourcelibrary.alleghenycounty.us/covid-19-information-for-dhs-providers/>

Please note: Information related to specific program areas can be found using the menu at the top of the page.

- Allegheny County DHS Operations and Guidance
- Daily Briefing Materials
- FAQs
- PA and U.S. Government Agency Resources
- Specialized Resources

Equity and Inclusion

Allegheny County DHS Equity and Inclusion Community Listening Sessions (May 4, 2020)

- FAQs
- Summary of the Sessions

Casa San Jose - Latino Resources and Welcome Center

Cultural Orientation Resource Exchange (CORE) Resettlement Support Center

- Resettling to the United States During the COVID-10 Pandemic Fact Sheet
- COVID-19 Understanding Guidance and Rules Fact Sheet

Immigrant Services and Connectors

Resources for Non-English Speakers

Arabic

- COVID-19 Statement
- Food Access FAQs

Chinese



Recruitment Platform *for*
Essential Health and Human Service Workers

Spread the word!

Where candidates can submit their credentials and indicate their interests and experience:

https://bit.ly/SWPA_HHSjobs

How providers can register to gain access to the platform for their organization:

https://bit.ly/SWPA_HHSprovider