**Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**
**Managing Director’s Office and Office of Children and Families**
**Resource Requests and Community Needs Report**
for Nonprofit Sector working on the Frontlines of Pandemic
**Bi-Weekly Report # 2 4/15/2020**

## Summary Report

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>Eva Gladstein, Deputy Managing Director Health and Human Services and Cynthia Figueroa, Deputy Mayor for Children and Families</th>
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### Key Updates & Forecasting Future Issues:

- Total confirmed Philadelphia COVID-19 cases is 7,441 and deaths are 222 as of 4/15/20. Even though the increases in daily case counts are stabilizing, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health (PDPH) is analyzing if it is receiving complete reporting of case counts from laboratories, so there should be caution. PDPH has followed up with laboratories to assure reporting of cases is complete. Additionally, there is a delay in reporting from laboratories in results.

- Hospitalization data indicates that the City is not past the worst of what is occurring as the COVID-19 virus is circulating and residents are ill. There are delays between case testing, case results, hospitalization, and unfortunately death. There were 778 hospitalizations in Philadelphia as of 4/15/20, so we expect there to be increased hospitalizations and deaths before we begin to see declines.

- The City is committed to improving analysis of data by race, and PDPH analyzes this health problem by race and ethnicity. PDPH is using creative approaches to identify race data for cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. The City is also doing outreach in communities of color. See [HERE](#) for data analysis.

- City submitted a letter to Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi and PA Delegation on 4/10/20 outlining a request for additional funding from the CARES Act and any future “stimulus” bills. See [HERE](#).

- Temple University’s Liacouras Center is operational as a temporary surge medical facility, with the capacity to begin limited patient intake later this week.

- The Holiday Inn Express continues to operate as a quarantine site as of 3/30/2020, currently has 40 occupants. The City reached agreements with two other hotels for quarantine and isolation space for first responders, they are, Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott in Center City, and the Marriott Springhill Suites at the Philadelphia International Airport.

- Federal unemployment compensation benefits provided by the CARES Act are now being implemented in PA, see [HERE](#) for eligibility. However, there are delays in opening up application process for independent contractors, self-employed and gig workers; still two weeks away so these workers need emergency help.

## Priority: Food Access

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>Deputy Mayor Figueroa, Deputy Managing Director Joanna Ortero Cruz and Charlotte Castle, Managing Director’s Office</th>
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**Key Updates:**

- The City and PCA launched 23 senior meal sites for grab and go meals providing 5-7 meals per week. Seniors should call ahead to reserve meals, details [HERE](#).
- The City is also working with PCA to advance a contract with Uber Eats to support any additional senior meal delivery capacity that cannot be met by PCA.
- The City now has 42 food distribution sites, plus 80 student meal sites which can be found [HERE](#). So far these sites have given out 55,799 boxes of food and over one million student meals.
- School District’s 49 student meal distribution sites are fully operational providing meals every Monday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. See [HERE](#).
- City-run warehouse became operational 3/28/2020 and is managed by the Managing Director’s Office of Community Services and the Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP)
- The City has partnered with “Step Up to the Plate,” a coalition of non-profit organizations including Broad Street Ministry, Project HOME, Prevention Point and Muslims Serve, to expand meals for the unsheltered population. Two sites, one in Center City and one in Kensington, are operating and providing “grab and go” meals to several hundred people at a time. The meals are paired with sanitation resources (handwashing stations and public restrooms), and participants are screened for health issues and connected to other vital services.

**Resource Requests and Community Needs:**

- Nonprofits serving immigrant communities have expressed concerns with food access to immigrant communities, specifically undocumented individuals. The nonprofits have requested City support. It would be helpful for funders to consider supporting more immigrant serving groups especially the undocumented population who are cautious about accessing City services.
- To date we have had 509 volunteers contributing to the success of the warehouse to date, but we need 150-200 daily to staff the warehouse. Volunteer opportunities [HERE](#)
- Community distribution sites for meals and providers will need resources to continue distribution. In addition to the youth meals and general distribution site there is a need to ensure there are resources for single serve and single packaged meals for outdoor meals for the homeless community.

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**Priority: Homeless and Shelter**

**Prepared by:** Azucena Ugarte, Health and Human Services

**Key Updates:**

- Outdoor feeding at Center City started on 4/14/20 and at Kensington on 4/15/20. This is the result of a collaboration between providers (Project Home, Prevention Point, Broad Street Ministry, Muslims Serve) and City departments.
- The quarantine site at the Holiday Inn has been activated. The quarantine facility is a non-medical facility available for individuals who have tested positive, or are symptomatic and awaiting test results, and who are not able to quarantine in their own residence. As of 4/14, 33 individuals had been at the quarantine site.
- City is finalizing a location to operate a low barrier drop-in center to provide basic services, and opportunities for social distancing, for the unsheltered population in Kensington.
- PDPH has provided on site technical assistance to shelters with COVID 19 cases.
**Resource Requests and Community Needs:**

- Funding for water to be distributed at Kensington outdoor feeding program
- Financial support for domestic violence programs to provide relocation support to victims and survivors: Congreso’s Latina DV Program, Women Against Abuse, Lutheran Settlement House’s Bilingual DV Program, Women In Transition.
- Volunteers to support outdoor feeding operations at Kensington
- Financial support for community partners in outdoor feeding initiatives: Prevention Point, Broad Street Ministries, Muslims Serve, Project Home.
- Financial support to Bethesda/Our Brother’s Place (congregate care for 149 men)

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**Priority: Public Health and Behavioral Health**

**Prepared by:** Naomi Mirowitz, PDPH and Jill Bowen, DBHIDS

**Key Updates:**

- The Citizens Bank Park testing site is now closed due to withdrawal of federal support. Supplies will be redistributed to other operational sites.
- Testing at 500 South Broad Street through Dentrust continues daily.
- PDPH Health Center #3 in West Philadelphia are testing their health center patients.
- Outbreaks continue and are expanding in congregate settings. As of 4/14/20, 75 congregate settings are being investigated (estimated 36 are long-term care facilities and 8 are shelters).
- PDPH Health Centers are conducting patient visits via telehealth. The PDPH daily call center has received a total of 2,958 calls (467 providers, 2,491 public) since activation on 2/25/20.
- PDPH is working with healthcare partners to develop a strategy for rapid testing of COVID-19.
- Behavioral Health directing residents to telemedicine through the CBH Member Services Hotline 1-888-545-2600.
- DBHIDS Providers and staff are continuing to provide Behavioral Health support and resources, including a wide range of addiction and mental health supports, for individuals in the Quarantine site through telehealth.
- DBHIDS provided PDPH guidance regarding congregate settings and transportation to DBHIDS providers.
- DBHIDS is developing behavioral health wellness support for City and provider employees

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**Resource Requests and Community Needs:**

- Medicaid recipients covered in Stimulus Bill provisions for free testing. Medicaid law excludes some green card holders and DACA recipients so some immigrants (based on status) may be denied free coronavirus tests. City testing sites ask for, but do not require insurance or Medicaid cards but others may.
- Overall support for safety-net health care providers such as Federally Qualified Health Centers which are nonprofit organizations. Providers may need support in continuity of operations including staffing and remote access. Potential need to develop telehealth functionality, which could include IT-related requests. Keeping primary care functional helps assure hospital capacity is not overwhelmed.
- Continuity of access to opioid prevention and overdose services. As the public is instructed to shelter-in-place, there is concern of an increase in overdoses.
<table>
<thead>
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<th><strong>Key Updates:</strong></th>
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<td>• Immigrant communities are some of the most vulnerable in the city. Translating information put out by City agencies continues to be a priority in the top 5 languages spoken in the city beyond English, which are Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian and French</td>
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<td>• Community-based organizations serving immigrant populations that provide in-language case management, translation and referral services were largely left out of the first round of the COVID PHL fund.</td>
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<td>• Black immigrant communities are particularly vulnerable because they grapple with the impact of both racial disparities and impact of immigration history and status. Current data provided by PDPH is not disaggregated, so we do not know the specific impact on black immigrants vs. the African American population. Community leaders have expressed concern about racial equity and the disparate impact of COVID-19 on black communities.</td>
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<td>• Information needed: public health safety precautions, testing information, small business relief fund information, worker/unemployment compensation information, and resources for undocumented immigrants who will be left out of whatever relief packages comes from federal resources.</td>
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<td>• Hate crimes and bias incidents continue to affect Asian communities. While we encourage reporting to authorities, this is a difficult bridge to gap as members of the community historically do not always trust the police. The Mayor’s Commission on Asian American Affairs released a press statement to take a stand against hate, and also developed a video PSA. Members of the Asian community have been physically assaulted, verbally attacked and harassed, and generally feel unsafe to leave their homes.</td>
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Resource Requests and Community Needs:

- Cash assistance for immigrant populations not covered by the CARES Act is an increasing need and gaining traction among community-based organizations in Philadelphia and across the country. Several local nonprofits are leading a mutual aid effort to create a PA Immigrant Relief Fund in coordination with PA Immigration and Citizenship Coalition (PICC). Most organizations involved are in the Philadelphia region and include New Sanctuary Movement, CEIBA, Juntos, Nationalities Services Center, Afaho, Africom, Asian Americans United, VietLEAD and many more.
- Funding for community-based organizations serving immigrant populations that provide case management, translation, and referral services for existing City services or other mainstream organizations that do not have adequate culturally competent services available. These organizations are on the frontline of the COVID-19 response, and are often underfunded for the work that they do. They were left out of the first round of funding from the COVID PHL fund. Organizations that provide these services are: Asian Americans United, Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation, VietLEAD, Cambodian Association of Greater Philadelphia, SEAMAAC, African Family Health Organization (AFAHO), AFRICOM, African Community Alliance of North America (ACANA) and Al-Bustan Seeds of Culture (Arab-speaking population).
- Additional resources are needed to support the Asian community that are separate and unique from the rapid response funds. Resources are needed to respond to hate and violence in communities caused by the COVID backlash. PPD officers need to be trained and held accountable to adequately respond to bias incidents and hate crimes.

Early Childhood Education

Prepared by: Sean Perkins, Chief Early Childhood Education

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Key Updates:

- 85 providers will receive funding by the City’s small business relief program. Amounts range from $2,500-$25,000.
- The Office of Children and Families is developing a task force to consider how operations will be handled for reopening childcare centers
- The City has announced nine community sites where caregivers of infants can find free baby supplies—including diapers. See HERE for list of providers.
- National Week of the Young Child (#WOYC2020) is from April 13-17, and will be done virtually this year. Guided engagements and playful activities are being shared with parents/guardians to consider while at home.
- 44 Waivers granted to providers offering childcare to emergency/essential families. 37 centers are currently operating see HERE.
- 5 centers are licensed for 24 hour childcare support in the event a family has no childcare support and all adults are ill.
- The City’s Early Learning Resource Center is managing calls from emergency personnel to match them with available sites
- More funding is needed for the sector and donors can contribute through the Reinvestment Fund as part of the Philadelphia Emergency Fund for Stabilization of Early Education found HERE for early learning providers.
- PHLpreK providers will continue to receive funding through the remainder of the 2020 fiscal year.
### Resource Requests and Community Needs:
- Sector is going to yield a loss of providers due to private pay funding and other revenue streams being eliminated.
- Sites with waivers serving parents/guardians of emergency services need help with diapers, wipes, and soap.
- A telephone hotline for parents to call if undergoing emotional distress is needed.
- Guidelines for what is needed to reopen will be needed to alleviate concerns of families and staff.

### School District of Philadelphia

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>Donna Frisby-Greenwood, Fund for the School District</th>
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<td>Planning and logistics for technology distributed to SDP students by week of 4/13/2020 underway in the Emergency Operations Center to collect roughly 40,000 existing Chromebooks and received 50,000 new chrome books.</td>
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<td>Youth/Student meal sites located in 49 District schools and 25 Charter Schools Mondays and Thursdays with each child receiving six meals. Six PHA community centers are also distributing meals. First week of this new distribution method distributed over 220,000</td>
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### Priority: Workforce Needs

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<th>Prepared by:</th>
<th>Catie Wolfgang, Office of Workforce Development and Patricia Blumenauer, Philadelphia Works</th>
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<td>Support with personnel /volunteers to support distribution of technology. Volunteer opportunities managed through the City <a href="#">HERE</a>.</td>
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<td>To support the School District and the City’s Food Program, Philadelphia Works (PWI) has developed a Transitional Jobs Program that will enable Philadelphia Works to pay 100% of the wages for 400 workers to assist in these two projects. The Food Distribution project also needs 200 workers.</td>
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### Key Updates:

- 32,524 Philadelphians applied for unemployment benefits in the month of March. This number does not include self-employed, gig workers and independent contractors who will soon be able to apply (end April).
- Philadelphia Works has developed a Transitional Jobs Program, paying 100% of the wages for 200-250 workers to assist in citywide food distribution and to support the School District’s efforts to inventory and distribute over 100,000 pieces of computer equipment so students can participate in distance learning. Provides a wage to individuals who need it most. Each person will be paid $13.25/hour (minimum on City contracts) for at least 30 hours a week.
- While Philadelphia’s 4 PACareerLink Centers are closed, staff continue to connect with job seekers and employers. Staff are available to answer questions via the toll-free line (833-750-5627) or by email at info@pacareerlinkphl.org. PWI has created a new webpage (https://www.pacareerlinkphl.org/covid19/) for employers to list current openings (mostly food and product delivery).
- Philadelphia Works is creating digital content that will be housed on the PA CareerLink website to support job search and skill-building during this time. Expected launch is the week of 4/20 with additional content being added as it is developed.

### Resource Requests and Community Needs:

- Current funding does not allow for stipends or payment towards basic needs for individuals who are receiving unemployment compensation. Philanthropic support to provide rental assistance, food access, transportation assistance, etc., to laid-off workers who have chosen to participate in training programs during this time would be beneficial.
- In order to access virtual services for individuals in the workforce system, philanthropic support to purchase laptops or chrome books for individuals who are unable to afford these resources would be helpful.
- Workforce programs that engage vulnerable Philadelphians will need support to ensure they are able to both maintain critical contact through the immediate crisis and extend the length of programming originally budgeted to ensure participants can remain enrolled until they are able to build intended skills and credentials. Having these resources secured in advance will allow programs to plan appropriately, and to address the fears and anxiety of participants who might otherwise disengage.