

Understanding the Community Health Impact of COVID-19

Our Purpose:

Improve health by leading regional, outcome-driven health initiatives that have been prioritized through community health assessments.

All4HealthFL Collaborative



About the Survey

In 2019, the county health departments and health systems came together to partner on a single Community Health Needs Assessment for the Tampa Bay region. Those organizations, now united as All4HealthFL Collaborative, came together under the belief that the important health challenges our community faced were best assessed and addressed as one. The work of the Collaborative culminated in a set of priorities that are guiding the community health initiatives of organizations across Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties.

While implementation of our community benefit plans was already underway, the Collaborative understood all too well the tremendous impact COVID-19 had on our communities. It was important to take a moment and understand how the ground shifted in terms of community health needs because of the ongoing pandemic.

With that in mind, a short survey was developed in 2020 asking how COVID-19 brought to light new issues or reinforced existing issues facing the health needs of the community. This report provides a brief overview of the survey results.

Why a Key Informant Survey?

The purpose of a key informant survey is to collect information from a wide range of people who have first-hand knowledge about the community. These community experts can provide insight on the nature of problems and give recommendations for solutions.

Survey Details

Timeframe

- Survey available June 29, 2020 through August 7, 2020

Total responses, including by county

- 85 responses*
 - Hillsborough County – 37 responses
 - Pasco County – 35 responses
 - Pinellas County – 32 responses
 - Polk County – 36 responses

*Some respondents represented multiple counties

Top 5 health issues identified across the four counties

- Mental health and mental health disorders
- Access to health care
- Housing
- Hunger & food insecurity
- Substance use

Understanding the Range of Issues Considered:

The survey asked respondents to select from this list of both health issues, and issues that influence health, ranking the top concerns they are seeing within the populations they represent or serve.

Access to health care
Access to social services
Cancer
Child Abuse/Neglect
Childcare
Crime/Safety
Diabetes
Domestic Violence
Education
Environmental - Clean Water/Air
Exercise, nutrition, and weight
Health equity
Healthcare Workforce
Heart disease and stroke
Housing
Hunger/food insecurity

Immunizations and infectious diseases
Maternal, fetal, and infant health
Mental health and mental disorders
Oral health
Poverty/Unemployment
Racism
Respiratory disease
Sex Trafficking
Social isolation
Social Justice
Substance Use
Transportation
Water Safety

Results: Top Five Issues

	Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
1 st Priority	Mental health and mental disorders	Access to health care	Mental health and mental disorders	Access to health care	Mental health and mental disorders
2 nd Priority	Access to health care	Mental health and mental disorders	Access to health care	Mental health and mental disorders	Access to health care
3 rd Priority	Housing	Hunger/Food Insecurity	Housing	Housing	Hunger/Food Insecurity
4 th Priority	Hunger/Food Insecurity	Poverty/ Unemployment TIED	Substance Use	Hunger/Food Insecurity	Housing
5 th Priority	Substance Use	Substance Use TIED	Hunger/Food Insecurity AND Poverty/ Unemployment	Substance Use	Social Isolation

Priority Rank #1: Mental Health and Mental Disorders

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st
Why?	Who?	Are we ready?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lacking services before COVID-19 - Resources are harder to use (AA, therapy) - Stress levels at high levels - Substance use often also mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey responses point to all demographics: young/old, moms with young kids, minority populations, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generally, no, but some hope for progress - Need access to counsellors and therapy - Tele-therapy could help - State not part of the solution right now 		

Priority Rank #2: Access to Health Care

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st	2 nd

Why?	Who?	Are we ready?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Needed to get medications, treat cancers, manage chronic conditions - Significant concern that job loss is going to impact health insurance status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communities of color - Unemployed - Migrant families - Homeless 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No - Expand Medicaid - Improve access to free clinics - Work on handoffs from one community partner to the next

Priority Rank #3: Housing

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
3 rd	6 th	3 rd	3 rd	4 th

Why?	Who?	Are we ready?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Struggles to pay the rent will have a huge impact as evictions restart - Current stock of affordable housing is of low quality - We need more low-income housing options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low-income individuals - African American and Latino communities - Single moms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall, no - Need for temporary housing options - Economic support to keep people in their homes

Priority Rank #4: Hunger/Food Insecurity

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
4 th	3 rd	5 th – Tied	4 th	3 rd
Why?	Who?	Are we ready?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Was an issue before; it has gotten worse - Food pantries facing higher demand - Increased poverty and unemployment are making situation more unstable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elderly - Children - Rural communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More optimism about our ability to respond - Feeding Tampa Bay/United Way and numerous partners, including faith communities, working on this challenge - Need more support - Concerns about if orgs reliant on volunteers will be more challenged 		

Priority Rank #5: Substance Use

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
5 th	4 th – Tied	4 th	5 th	7 th - Tied
Why?	Who?	Are we ready?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On the rise - Stress of the pandemic will contribute - Deaths of despair - Will contribute to domestic violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Those who have previously struggled with substance use - Prisoners re-entering society - Moms balancing too many plates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are existing programs (ASAP, BayCare, Veterans' Support Line, Operation Par) but they need more resources - Expand MAT and education 		

Priority Rank #6: Poverty/Unemployment

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
6 th	4 th – Tied	5 th – Tied	6 th	6 th
Why?	Who?	Are we ready?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basic needs overshadow chronic health issues - Foundational need - Will take time for the economy to recover 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working class people, especially in tourism and hospitality - Migrant population - The elderly - Children - “People without hope” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilize Career Source for job training and placement - Childcare will be major challenge - Retrain those whose jobs won’t come back - Worried this is not solvable in the short term 		

Priority Rank #7: Social Isolation

Survey-Wide	Hillsborough	Pasco	Pinellas	Polk
7 th	8 th	19 th – Tied	9 th	5 th

Why?	Who?	Are we ready?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loneliness contributes to other issues - Can lead to domestic violence and other challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seniors - Migrant families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need to find volunteers to visit the elderly - Find outdoor activities that can be used to help address loneliness

Next Steps

As a Collaborative, All4HealthFL is working to address Behavioral Health by providing Mental Health First Aid Trainings across Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties. Behavioral Health encompasses mental health and substance use.

Both the Collaborative and our individual member organizations are utilizing the feedback received through this survey to better address the increasing needs within our communities. To find out more, visit our 'Tools and Resources' tab at www.all4healthfl.org

Thank you to participating organizations

Alliance for Healthy Communities Inc
Angels Care Center of Eloise
Bartow Community Redevelopment Agency
Bay Area Legal Services
BayCare Behavioral Health
BayCare Health System
BayCare, Winter Haven Hospital, Center for Behavioral Health
Business Enhancement Strategies, LLC
CARES
Central Florida Health Care
CFBHN
Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County
Coalition of Community Gardens, Inc.
Community Dental Clinic
Crisis Center of Tampa Bay
DACCO Behavioral Health, Inc
Daystar Life Center, Inc.
Drug Free America Foundation
East Coast Migrant Head Start Project
Florida Department of Health- Hillsborough
Florida Department of Health- Healthy Start
Florida Department of Health- Polk
Feeding Tampa Bay
Florida Voices for Health
Good Samaritan Health Clinic of Pasco, Inc.
HCPS - Adult & Career Services Center
Healthy Start Coalition of Hardee, Highlands & Polk Counties, Inc.
Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County, Inc.
Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas, Inc.

Heartland Core Wellness/ Drug Free Highlands
Heartland for Children
Hillsborough County Anti Drug Alliance - HCADA
Hillsborough County Health Care Services Department
Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital
Judeo Christian Health Clinic
Lakeland Polk Housing Corporation
Lakeside Pediatrics
Latino Coalition of Tampa Bay
LSF Health Systems
McGordon's Health & Wellness Center
NAMI Pasco
NAMI Pinellas County Florida
Nemours - Orlando, FL
Operation PAR, Inc
Palm Medical Centers
Pasco County Board of County Commission
Pasco Kids First
Pasco Sheriff's Office
PHELC
Pinellas County Government
Pinellas Juvenile Welfare Board
Polk County Board of County Commissioners
Polk County Housing and Neighborhood Development
Premier Community HealthCare
Public Defender's Office
REACHUP, Inc
Ready for Life, Inc.

Senior Connection Center
Senior Helpers
St Petersburg Free Clinic Health Center
Sunrise of Pasco County, Inc
Tampa Bay Healthcare Collaborative
Tampa Bay Network to End Hunger
Tampa Heights Junior Civic Association
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA
The Haley Center
The Outreach Clinic
Tri-County Human Services, Inc.
U.S. House of Representatives
UF/IFAS Extension Polk County
United Way of Central Florida, Success By 6
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Questions??

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