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
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.
The Impact of COVID-19
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health Issues</th>
<th>Factors Influencing Health</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to health care</td>
<td>Immunizations and infectious diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to social services</td>
<td>Maternal, fetal, and infant health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Mental health and mental disorders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Abuse/Neglect</td>
<td>Oral health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Childcare</td>
<td>Poverty/Unemployment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crime/Safety</td>
<td>Racism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>Respiratory disease</td>
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<td>Domestic Violence</td>
<td>Sex Trafficking</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Social isolation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental - Clean Water/Air</td>
<td>Social Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise, nutrition, and weight</td>
<td>Substance Use</td>
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<td>Health equity</td>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<td>Healthcare Workforce</td>
<td>Water Safety</td>
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<td>Heart disease and stroke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Hunger/food insecurity</td>
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</tbody>
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### Results: Top Five Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Survey-Wide</th>
<th>Hillsborough</th>
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<th>Polk</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Priority</td>
<td>Mental health and mental disorders</td>
<td>Access to health care</td>
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<td>Access to health care</td>
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<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Priority</td>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>Hunger/Food Insecurity</td>
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<td>Hunger/Food Insecurity</td>
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<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Priority</td>
<td>Hunger/Food Insecurity</td>
<td>Poverty/Unemployment TIED</td>
<td>Substance Use</td>
<td>Hunger/Food Insecurity</td>
<td>Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Priority</td>
<td>Substance Use</td>
<td>Substance Use TIED</td>
<td>Hunger/Food Insecurity AND Poverty/Unemployment</td>
<td>Substance Use</td>
<td>Social Isolation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Priority Rank #1: Mental Health and Mental Disorders

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**Why?**
- Lacking services before COVID-19
- Resources are harder to use (AA, therapy)
- Stress levels at high levels
- Substance use often also mentioned

**Who?**
- Survey responses point to all demographics: young/old, moms with young kids, minority populations, etc.

**Are we ready?**
- Generally, no, but some hope for progress
- Need access to counselors and therapy
- Tele-therapy could help
- State not part of the solution right now
Priority Rank #2: Access to Health Care

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**Why?**
- Needed to get medications, treat cancers, manage chronic conditions
- Significant concern that job loss is going to impact health insurance status

**Who?**
- Communities of color
- Unemployed
- Migrant families
- Homeless

**Are we ready?**
- No
- Expand Medicaid
- Improve access to free clinics
- Work on handoffs from one community partner to the next
## Priority Rank #3: Housing

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### Why?
- 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

### Who?
- Low-income individuals
- African American and Latino communities
- Single moms

### Are we ready?
- Overall, no
- Need for temporary housing options
- Economic support to keep people in their homes
### Priority Rank #4: Hunger/Food Insecurity

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**Why?**
- Was an issue before; it has gotten worse
- Food pantries facing higher demand
- Increased poverty and unemployment are making situation more unstable

**Who?**
- Elderly
- Children
- Rural communities

**Are we ready?**
- 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

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<td>5th</td>
<td>4th – Tied</td>
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<td>5th</td>
<td>7th - Tied</td>
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### Why?
- On the rise
- Stress of the pandemic will contribute
- Deaths of despair
- Will contribute to domestic violence

### Who?
- Those who have previously struggled with substance use
- Prisoners re-entering society
- Moms balancing too many plates

### Are we ready?
- 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

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<td>4th – Tied</td>
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### Why?
- Basic needs overshadow chronic health issues
- Foundational need
- Will take time for the economy to recover

### Who?
- Working class people, especially in tourism and hospitality
- Migrant population
- The elderly
- Children
- “People without hope”

### Are we ready?
- 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

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## Priority Rank #7: Social Isolation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why?</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>Are we ready?</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| - Loneliness contributes to other issues  
- Can lead to domestic violence and other challenges | - Seniors  
- Migrant families | - 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  
University of Florida Pasco County Extension  
University of South Florida Area Health Education Center Program  
University of South Florida Morsani College of Medicine  
VISTE  
Westcare, Turning Point  
Wholesome Community Ministries  
YMCA of Greater St. Petersburg
Thank you to our COVID Survey Committee Members:

Alyssa Smith, DOH-Pasco
Clint Shouppe, BayCare/USF
Colleen Mangan, BayCare
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Grace Liggett, DOH-Hillsborough
Jenna Levine, DOH-Polk
Kimberly Williams, Advent Health
Lauren Springfield, LRH
Stephanie Arguello, Advent Health
Taylor Freeman, DOH-Polk
Questions??
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