



CHILDREN OF PUTNAM COUNTY AND COVID-19: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE COALITION ACTIONS

APRIL 28TH, 2020

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Social Services, & the Youth Bureau

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COVID-19

- PCDOH Responsibilities
- Physical vs Emotional Risk
- Intellectual Support
- Food Insecurity
- Health Disparities

The Putnam County Department of Health (PCDOH) prepares for and responds to the needs that arise from public health emergencies. PCDOH maintains strong community collaboration to ensure children and their families have the necessary support and services before, during and after times of uncertainty and crisis.



PCDOH RESPONSIBILITIES:

- PREVENTION, PREPARATION AND INITIAL RESPONSE:
 - Prepare for and respond to public health emergencies through collaboration with and guidance from state and federal agencies.
 - Work together with local partners to ensure the safety of community members, essential workers and health care providers.
- IMPACT REDUCTION AND MITIGATION:
 - Contact tracing
 - Testing
- RECOVERY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION: Recovery planning began in the initial response period and continues to evolve as we learn more about COVID-19 and the short and long term implications of both the disease itself and the mitigation measures put in place. The recovery phase focuses on the socio-economic challenges that arise as a result of the disease itself as well as the mitigation efforts. PCDOH's recovery phase implementation efforts for COVID-19 are developed through a local collaborative effort and informed by New York State Department of Health and the CDC.

1009

Lab-confirmed Positives
as of 4/27/2020

- IMPACT REDUCTION AND MITIGATION:
 - CONTACT TRACING
 - Testing without a state site



COMMUNICATION & COLLABORATION:

DIRECT LINES OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PCDOH LIAISONS AND:

- PUTNAM HOSPITAL CENTER
- PUTNAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT
- TOWN SUPERVISORS/LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES
- SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS
- SCHOOL NURSES
- PARTNER AGENCIES
- RESIDENTS

Physical Risk vs Emotional Risk

DEMANDS > RESOURCES
STRESS

DEMANDS = RESOURCES
CHALLENGE

While many children may be less at risk for serious physical complications from this virus, they may be more vulnerable to the emotional impacts of this pandemic.¹

At this time, many if not all families are experiencing never before seen challenges. Research has shown that when individuals have the resources they need, they do not perceive these demanding situations as threatening. Instead, the demands are perceived as a challenge. Challenges, even difficult ones, are capable of promoting growth and fostering pride and resilience.²

School-aged children are uniquely positioned to help adults discover or accept new or digital ways of connecting. And likewise, adults can support and encourage healthy connections-- both technology/web based and not.

¹https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/policy_brief_on_covid_impact_on_children_16_april_2020.pdf

²<https://www.apa.org/pi/health-disparities/resources/stress-report.pdf>

Data:

According to the CDC (as of April 1, 2020):

- In the United States, 2% of confirmed cases of COVID-19 were among persons aged <18 years.

According to NYSDOH (as of April 26, 2020):

Fatalities by Age Group		
Age Group	Fatality Count	%
Grand Total	16,966	100.0%
0 to 9	2	0.0%
10 to 19	7	0.1%
20 to 29	60	0.4%

- There is insufficient research regarding the risk of underlying conditions for pediatric patients.

Cloth Face Coverings:

Face coverings should be worn in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated **or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.**



Intellectual Support

Family member or friend diagnosed with COVID-19. Child may ask, "Will they die?"

An opportunity to discuss:

- Family values surrounding death
- Science and where to find trusted information
- Emotions regarding loss and grief unrelated to this person's diagnosis

Create space and time to answer questions and provide accurate and age appropriate information. Without trustworthy information, imagination can take over, and often can worsen the emotional trauma.

Try practicing an evidence-based approach to answering questions about difficult topics:

SCENARIO:

Child asks a question that makes you glad your back was turned.

1. Take a deep breath. Listen to your child and use this time to check your values and your level of understanding as well.
2. Show support for their curiosity and casually ask for context:
What a great question. What made you think of that?
3. Buy yourself time and space to assess their level of understanding. Return the question:
What do you think the answer is?
4. Use their answer (even "I don't know" is an answer) as a chance to inform your response. If you also don't know—say that. Perhaps you can learn something together.

If you take the learning path, be sure to refer to trusted resources and share how you identify those trusted resources.

Food Insecurity

Families previously challenged with food insecurity will continue to need access to food, and many families that have NEVER before dealt with food insecurity are now facing these challenges.

Food insecurity:

In Putnam, we have seen a spike in the number of families in need of food. 14,000 lbs of food each Thursday will be going to 600 families, but more families need food than are receiving it.



Free Emergency Food

Available for Pick up
or Delivery in Putnam

Thursday
April 30, 2020

Putnam County's Donald B. Smith Campus,
110 Old Route 6, Carmel, NY 10512

**Putnam County
Residents Only**

Delivery Available
for Seniors or
Immune-Compromised
Individuals

**RE-REGISTRATION
IS REQUIRED**

For more information
or to register,
call 211 or visit
uwwp.org/food

Brought to you in partnership by



Food Availability in Putnam

- Weekly Food Pick-Up (delivery available) every Thursday
- Helping Our Neighbors in Need
Food Drive Week
May 11 – May 16

To Be Announced:

- Town specific drop off days and locations and food pantries benefitting from the drive
- Specific items needed

For more information, call 211 or
visit <https://www.uwwp.org/fooddrive>

We are all in this together.

Health Disparities



The pandemic could bring a shift in thinking toward valuing all people regardless of background, economics, or what's on the surface. We know now more than ever that every member of our society is important. It may force us to come up with new ways, including technology, to connect everyone with the things they need, from food, education, and work, to worship, social connection, and entertainment. COVID-19 has also pushed us to ensure that more people have their basic needs met, [because] it has now become a matter of life or death.

Karen Kruse Thomas, PhD, Historian

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

<https://www.jhsph.edu/covid-19/articles/how-health-disparities-are-shaping-the-impact-of-covid-19.html>

Health Disparities

THE IMPACT OF PERSISTENT HEALTH DISPARITIES DURING COVID-19:

Healthcare providers, families and data will tell you that Black and Latino patients have a higher incidence of certain comorbidities. *This higher incidence is largely because of structural and socio-economic factors.*

These same comorbidities are contributing to the incidence of serious and even fatal cases of COVID-19.

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2020/04/18/835563340/whos-hit-hardest-by-covid-19-why-obesity-stress-and-race-all-matter>

Fatalities by Race/Ethnicity <small>Data is preliminary. With 98% reporting, below is the breakdown for NYS excluding NYC. With 63% reporting, below is the breakdown for NYC as provided by NYCDOHMH.</small>			<small>Click to see NYS excl. NYC age-adjusted rate</small>
Race/Ethnicity	NYC	NYS Excl. NYC	
Hispanic	34% (29% of population)	14% (12% of population)	
Black	28% (22% of population)	18% (9% of population)	
White	27% (32% of population)	60% (74% of population)	
Asian	7% (14% of population)	4% (4% of population)	
Other	4% (3% of population)	4% (1% of population)	

Existing health disparities are becoming even more apparent with COVID-19. In-person office visits bring their own set of hurdles, from time off from work to transportation. The rising use of telemedicine also creates disparities among communities with less access to technology and wifi.

Racial and ethnic disparities were noted in preliminary data released by NYSDOH, showing about 18% of novel coronavirus deaths in New York (excluding New York City) were among black people, who make up only 9% of the population in NYS.

These preliminary numbers show that this virus mirrors existing health disparities.

Health Insurance Access

<https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/>

Loss of employer sponsored health coverage after the loss of a job, or loss of benefits leaves people without adequate coverage. New Yorkers without health insurance can apply through NY State of Health through May 15, 2020. Must apply within 60 days of losing coverage.

If you lost your job or health coverage, or are uninsured, we have you covered



Enroll Today



Individuals & Families

You and your family have many low cost, quality health insurance options available through the Individual Marketplace.

You can quickly compare health plan options and apply for assistance that could lower the cost of your health coverage. You may also qualify for health care coverage from Medicaid or Child Health Plus through the Marketplace. Anyone can apply here.

GET STARTED

Get In-Person Help

Compare Plans and Estimate Cost

Search by Health Plan, Provider, or Facility

If you have lost work, SNAP can help you buy the food you need.



SNAP provides monthly benefits to spend at local grocery stores. **You can get and use SNAP while keeping a safe distance from other people:**

- Everything you need to do to apply for and receive benefits can be done by phone or online—no need to visit a local social service office.
- Use SNAP to purchase food at local grocery stores.
- Shop for food online using SNAP benefits and have groceries delivered or picked up.
 - Amazon.com—*available statewide*
 - Walmart and ShopRite—*available in some zip codes (see their websites)*

Help is available:

If you need help applying for SNAP, call or email a Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) Coordinator. NOEP Coordinators tell you if you may be eligible for SNAP, answer your questions, and help you complete and submit your application. It is free and confidential.

Apply for SNAP online at www.MyBenefits.ny.gov or contact your local NOEP Coordinator:



**Catholic Charities Community Services
Putnam County**
NOEP Phone (917) 275-5459
erika.ramirez@archny.org

Si ha perdido su trabajo, SNAP puede ayudarle a comprar los alimentos que necesita.



SNAP otorga beneficios mensuales para gastar en tiendas de alimentos locales. **Puede obtener y usar SNAP mientras mantiene una distancia segura con otras personas:**

- Puede hacer todo lo que necesita para solicitar y recibir beneficios por teléfono o en línea; no es necesario que vaya a una oficina de servicios sociales local.
- Use SNAP para comprar alimentos en tiendas de alimentos locales.
- Compre alimentos en línea utilizando los beneficios de SNAP y elija si desea recogerlos o que se los envíen a su domicilio.
 - Amazon.com — disponible en todo el estado
 - Walmart y ShopRite — disponibles para algunos códigos postales (consulte sus sitios web)

Hay ayuda disponible:

Si necesita ayuda para solicitar SNAP, llame o envíe un correo electrónico a su coordinador del programa Nutrition Outreach and Education (NOEP). Los coordinadores del NOEP le informan si usted puede reunir los requisitos para SNAP, le responden sus preguntas y le ayudan a completar y enviar su solicitud. Es gratuito y confidencial.

Solicite SNAP en línea en www.mybenefits.ny.gov o comuníquese con su coordinador local del programa NOEP:

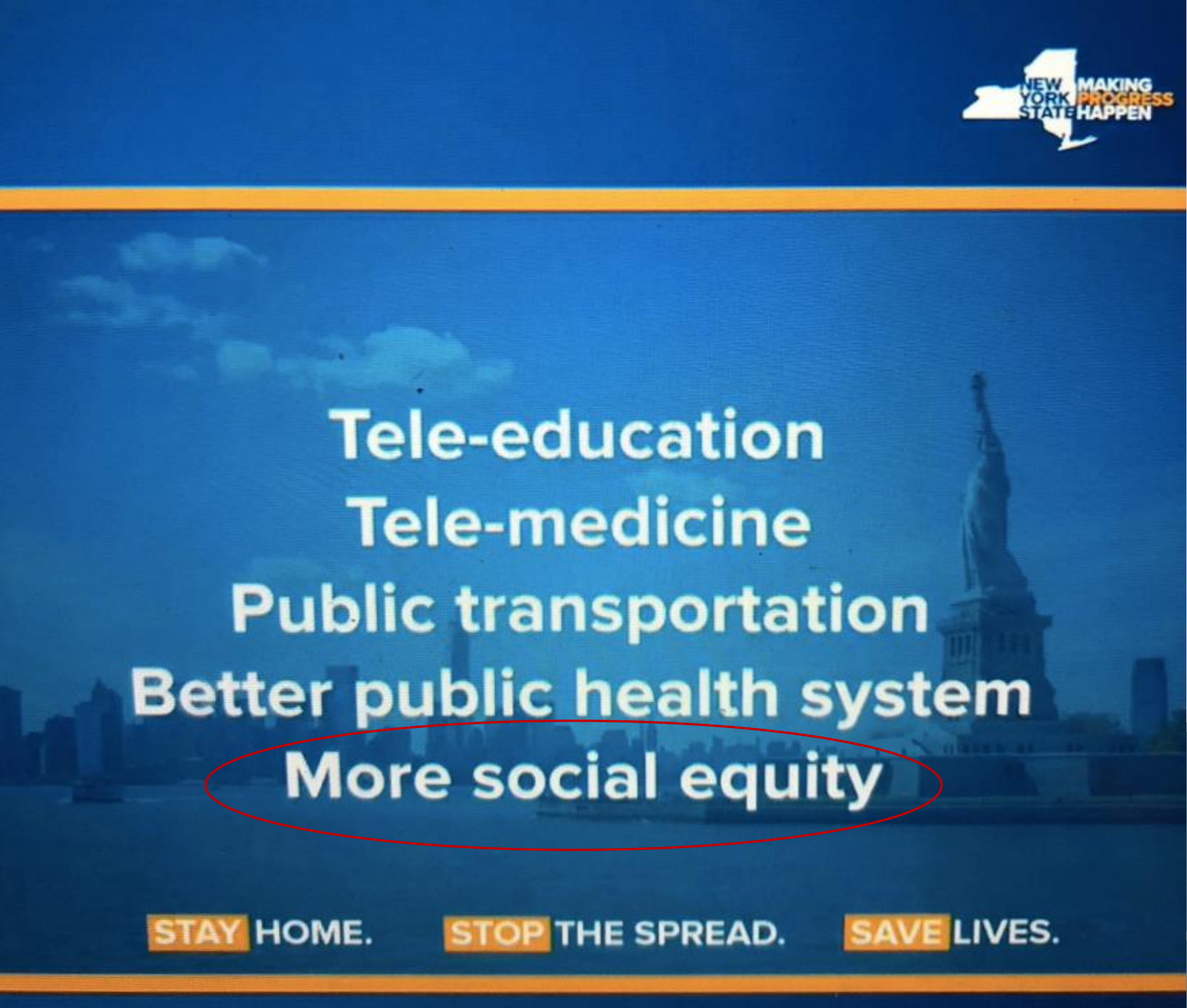


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Preparado por un proyecto de Hunger Solutions New York; financiado por NYSOTDA y USDA/FNS.
Esta institución es un proveedor que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades.

Next Steps

On April 27, 2020
Governor Cuomo
referred to areas where
we MUST focus our
improvement efforts.



Tele-education
Tele-medicine
Public transportation
Better public health system
More social equity

STAY HOME.

STOP THE SPREAD.

SAVE LIVES.

Thank You!

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