



WEBINAR SERIES

Children of Puerto Rico and COVID-19: At the Crossroads of Poverty and Disaster

**Session #2: Policy implications of COVID-19 on Puerto Rico's
Children, Youth, and their Families**

Wednesday April 15th, 2020, 1:00 - 2:30 PM ET

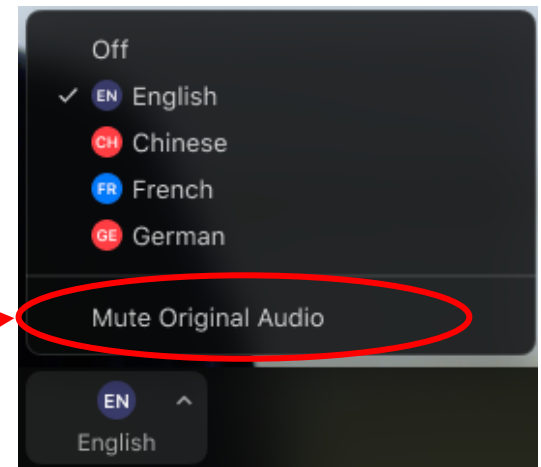


SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION

1. Introduction – **Spanish**
2. Bruce Lesley – **English**
3. Amanda Rivero – **Spanish**
4. Q&A – **Spanish & English**

Bottom menú in Zoom:

- ❖ Switch between the Original Language and the simultaneous Translation – Every time the presenter's language changes
- ❖ “Mute Original Audio”



OBJECTIVES

1. Raise awareness about the direct and indirect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children
2. Highlight what individuals and organizations in Puerto Rico can do and are already doing to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on children
3. Provide insight on public policy and practical implications for Puerto Rico
4. Direct listeners to resources for further information, guidance and assistance in dealing with the impacts of the pandemic on children.

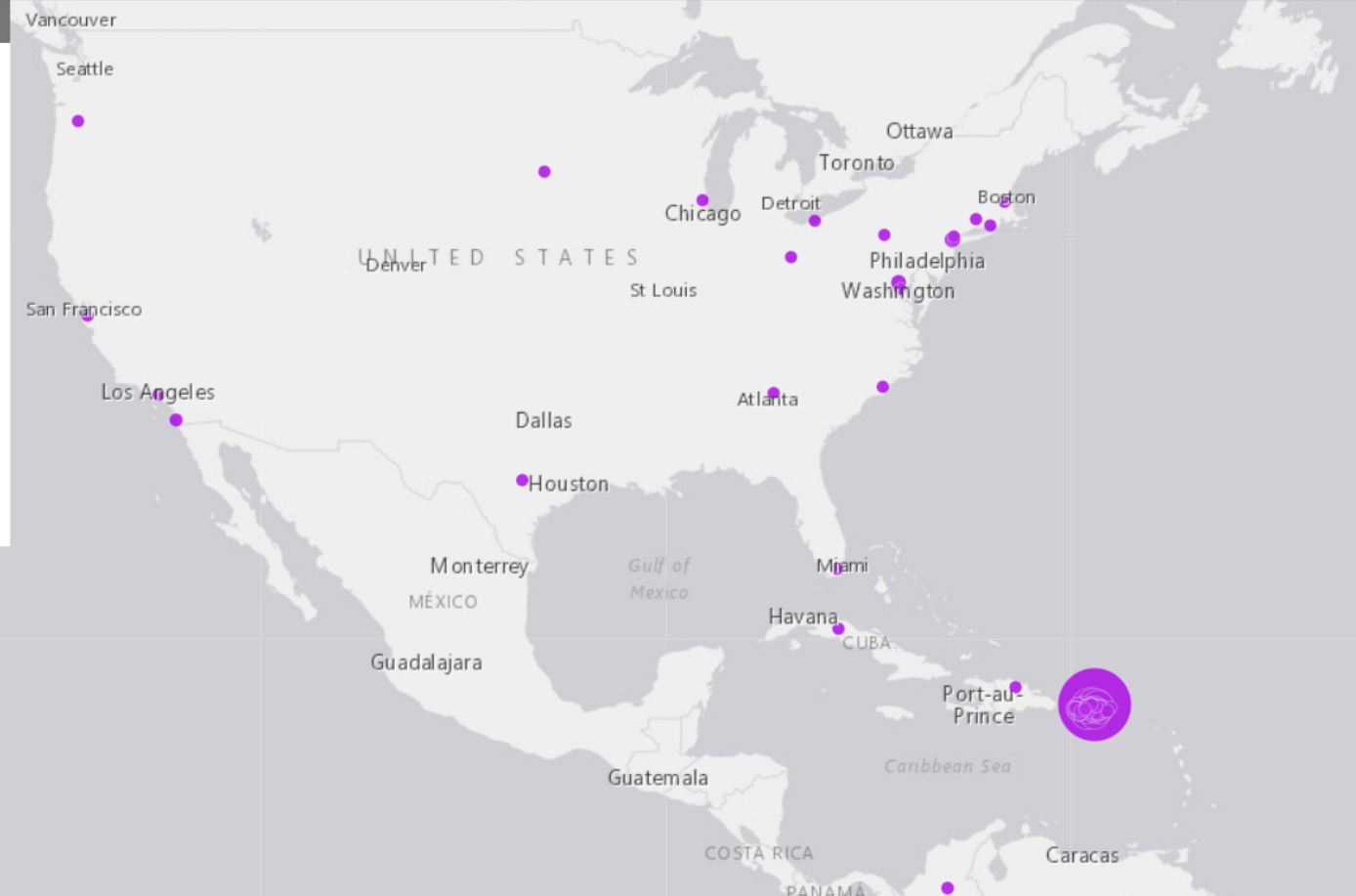
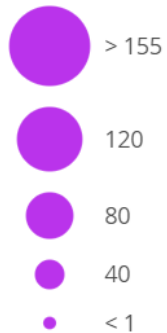
SESSION 1 (April 8th)

845 Attendees

LEGEND

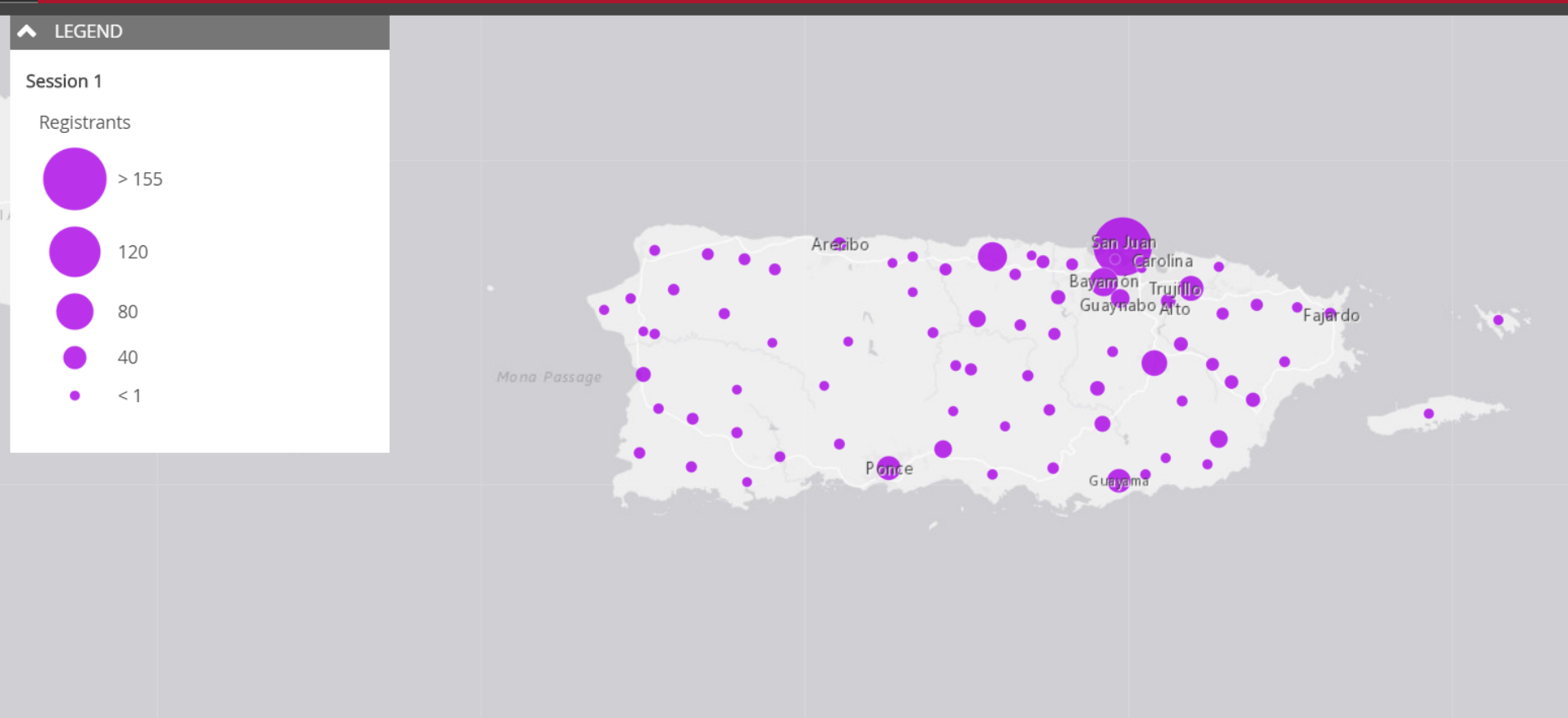
Session 1

Registrants



SESSION 1 (April 8th)

845 Attendees



TAKEAWAYS FROM SESSION 1

Jeff Schlegelmilch, NCDP

- There are many uncertainties surrounding COVID-19. Information changes rapidly.
- We do know that it spreads very easily and has serious outcomes.
- Following the hygiene and social distancing recommendations is very important
 - It gives us time to develop vaccines
 - Keeps the number of infected people below the capacity of the health system
- We know that it does not affect children directly as seriously as other age groups
- There are two disasters, one public health and one economic
- The economic consequences are already being experienced, and will probably continue to worsen
- Vulnerable populations are more at risk of being negatively affected
- We should strive for physical distancing as supposed to social distancing → maintaining and strengthening social bonds is very important for children and families

Recommendations / Conclusions:

- Listen to the needs of communities and keep them in federal and local public policy conversations to make sure their needs are addressed
- Special attention to supporting community organizations, such as food banks and organizations that provide direct services to vulnerable populations on a daily basis



TAKEAWAYS FROM SESSION 1

Amanda Rivero, IDJ

- Child poverty in PR is very high - 57% of children below the poverty line, 39% in extreme poverty, and 71% of children below or near the poverty line
- IDJ: Annual cost of child poverty for PR \$ 4.4 billion USD (www.cuentonoscuesta.com)
- Lessons from Hurricane Maria: it has taken lot of poor families to recover
 - Three major vulnerabilities of children: economic vulnerability, food, education
 - Many vulnerable families will lose jobs/income
 - Many families will have difficulty buying food or medicine
 - Maria & earthquakes have already led to missing many days of school & Children in poverty cannot continue education from home
 - Educational gap will widen

Conclusions:

- After Maria and the earthquakes there is more capacity for coordination and will between agencies and entities that work with children
- Staying active in this conversation is critical for lobbying the government to meet needs of vulnerable children and families
 - IDJ will be pushing an agenda of public policy recommendations to pay special attention to the needs of children
- When priorities are justified from the economic viability of PR, more attention seems to be paid



SESSION 2

PUBLIC POLICY



Buce Lesley
President, First Focus



Amanda Rivera
Director, Instituto del Desarrollo
de la Juventud (IDJ)

WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

Zoom Q&A: Questions for
PANELISTS

Zoom Chat: Introductions, general
comments, general
questions

NEXT EVENTS

Session 1	Children & Pandemics: Understanding the Context of Puerto Rico	Wednesday April 8 1 PM ET
Session 2	Policy Implications of COVID-19 for Puerto Rico's Children, Youth and their Families	Wednesday April 15 1 PM ET
Session 3	Mitigating the Impacts of COVID-19 on Children in Puerto Rico: what individuals & organizations can do	Wednesday April 22 1 PM ET
Session 4	Supporting educational continuity (K-12) in limited resource context	Wednesday April 29 1 PM ET
Session 5	Strategies to address domestic violence and child abuse during remote learning, school closures, and compounding household economic stressors	Wednesday May 6 1 PM ET
Session 6	The mental health impacts of the pandemic on children, youth and families in a post-disaster environment	Wednesday May 13 1 PM ET

COVID-19 & CHILDREN RESOURCES

- **Resilient Children/Resilient Communities Initiative Home Page:** <https://ncdp.columbia.edu/microsite-page/resilient-children-resilient-communities/rcrc-home/>
- **Instituto del Desarrollo de la Juventud (IDJ) Website:** <http://juventudpr.org/>
 - Report "Los Efectos del Huracán María en la Niñez en Puerto Rico" (Spanish): <http://juventudpr.org/sobre-nosotros/biblioteca/?libroid=93277>
 - Report "Un futuro de pobreza infantil en Puerto Rico: cuánto nos cuesta y qué podemos hacer" (Spanish): <https://www.cuantonoscuesta.com/>
- **RCRC TOOLBOX:** <https://rcrctoolbox.org/>
 - "RCRC Toolbox COVID-19 Resource Catalogue": https://rcrctoolbox.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/RCRC-Toolbox_COVID19-menu_en.pdf
 - "Children and Coronavirus: A Guide for Families and Providers": <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/children-coronavirus-a-guide-for-families-providers/>
 - "Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) in a Time of COVID-19": <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/continuity-of-operations-planning-in-a-time-of-covid-19/>
- **National Center for Disaster Preparedness (NCDP) COVID-19 Resource Center:** https://bit.ly/ncdp_covid19
- **Puerto Rico Children and Youth Taskforce (PRCYTF) Website:** <https://www.prcytaskforce.org/>
- **First Focus' Fact Sheet: Aid to Children During Coronavirus Outbreak:** <https://firstfocus.org/blog/fact-sheet-coronavirus>

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on social media to know more about our work and upcoming events.

- **NCDP:**

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ncdpcu/>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/columbia_ncdp (@columbia_ncdp)

- **IDJ:**

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IDJ.PR>
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/idj_pr (@IDJ_PR)

- **Puerto Rico Children and Youth Taskforce (PRCYTF)**

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/prcytaskforce/>





RCRC TOOLBOX COVID-19 RESOURCES CATALOGUE

https://rcrctoolbox.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/RCRC-Toolbox_COVID19-menu_en.pdf

rcrc toolbox catalog COVID-19 RESOURCES

In partnership with community leaders, the Resilient Children/Resilient Communities (RCRC) Initiative builds child-focused community resilience to disasters by analyzing, recommending, and implementing procedures, training, and guidance. The RCRC Toolbox is an online library of resources developed through this Initiative, by and for people working to make our communities and our children more resilient to disasters.

The COVID-19 resources below have been selected from the broader RCRC Toolbox catalog to provide guidance to families, caregivers, and communities in the midst of the global pandemic.

 Child-Serving Organizations  Community Emergency Planners  Individuals & Families  Policymakers

Children and Coronavirus: A Guide for Families and Providers GUIDE

The COVID-19 pandemic has abruptly altered lives across the globe. This shock has not only disrupted the lives of parents, caregivers, and providers but also of the children in your care.

With sudden uncertainty and disruption of routines, a child's concern with the future of their environment may continue to grow. However, adults can be their greatest buffers to help absorb this shock. This tool was created to provide guidance around physical and emotional health, the use of technology, and communication strategies for families and providers working with children of all ages.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/children-coronavirus-a-guide-for-families-providers/>

Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) in a Time of COVID-19 WEBINAR

In response to COVID-19, many organizations have been thrust into response mode developing and implementing continuity of operations

policies and procedures on-the-fly. Watch this webinar, recorded on 3/19/2020, to receive a formal introduction to Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) specifically for child-serving and community-based organizations. The principles presented in this training can be applied to the current environment as well as for your formal planning process.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/continuity-of-operations-planning-in-a-time-of-covid-19/>

Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) Training Presentation, Guide, & Plan Templates TEMPLATE

This Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP) training package will help ensure that critical services, organizational functions, and programs remain operational or are restored as soon as possible after a disaster or emergent event. Utilize these tools to help your organization create or update your Continuity of Operations Plan. These materials are geared toward Community-based Human Service Organizations, and specifically those who serve children.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/coop-planning-tools/>

National Center for
Disaster Preparedness
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

215 WEST 125 STREET, 3RD FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10027
(646) 845 2300
RCRC@COLUMBIA.EDU
RCRCTOOLBOX.ORG

RCRC TOOLBOX CATALOG | COVID-19 1

rcrc toolbox catalog COVID-19 RESOURCES

cont'd

Helping Children and Caregivers Cope with Disasters TRAINING

Children cope differently with crises than adults and they need support from caregivers and the community-at-large. Getting children back to routine is an important element in promoting their healthy recovery. In this training, you will learn how trauma affects children, common reactions to crises, and best practices to facilitate their emotional recovery. Additionally, learn how to support caregivers in their own recovery by identifying types of stress, and stress coping techniques.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/helping-children-caregivers-cope-with-disasters/>

Common Stress Reactions Experienced by Children After a Disaster GUIDE

This guide details common stress reactions experienced by children (1 - 18 years) after

a disaster and coping strategies to use during their time of trauma.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/common-stress-reactions-experienced-by-children-after-a-disaster/>

Whole Community Inclusive Emergency and Disaster Management Webinar WEBINAR

Marcie Roth, from the World Institute on Disability (WID), delivered a live presentation to the Resilient Children / Resilient Communities Peer Assistance Network (PAN) on 1/30/2020. In this presentation Marcie presents the fundamentals of inclusive planning and why planning for the needs of children with disabilities, access, or functional needs before, during, and after disasters ultimately benefits the entire community and its ability to recover.

Resource link: <https://rcrctoolbox.org/toolbox/whole-community-inclusive-webinar/>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information, resources, and support, visit NCDP's [COVID-19 Global Pandemic](https://ncdp.columbia.edu/microsite-page/covid-19-global-pandemic) page. This microsite is designed to support and promote the dissemination of factual, evidence-based, up-to-date stories and information in order to combat widespread misinformation and confusion as well as provide thought leadership and best practices for a variety of audiences.

Access additional COVID-19 resources on child focused topics including:

- Talking to Children about COVID-19
- Supporting Children's Emotional and Physical Health
- Distance Learning and Staying Active at Home
- Child Protection & Gender-based Violence

NCDP COVID-19 Resource Center: <https://ncdp.columbia.edu/microsite-page/covid-19-global-pandemic>
RCRC Initiative: <https://ncdp.columbia.edu/rcrc> | RCRC Toolbox: <https://rcrctoolbox.org>

National Center for
Disaster Preparedness
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

215 WEST 125 STREET, 3RD FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10027
(646) 845 2300
RCRC@COLUMBIA.EDU
RCRCTOOLBOX.ORG

RCRC TOOLBOX CATALOG | COVID-19 2

Thank you!

Please send us your comments or suggestions to
afs2163@cumc.columbia.edu

