



Community Vital Signs Fellow: Evaluating COVID-19 Impact in San Bernardino County



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Introduction

Community Vital Signs Initiative (Vital Signs) is a community-wide initiative driven by San Bernardino County's community. This community health improvement framework aims to support the wellness element under the County-Wide Vision. Vital Signs is led by a Steering Committee, which is made up of key stakeholders who are the movers and shakers who can make upstream changes to address the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH). Vital signs applies the Mobilizing for Action Through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) Framework to address the four priority indicators: Education, Economic, Health and Wellness, and Safety.

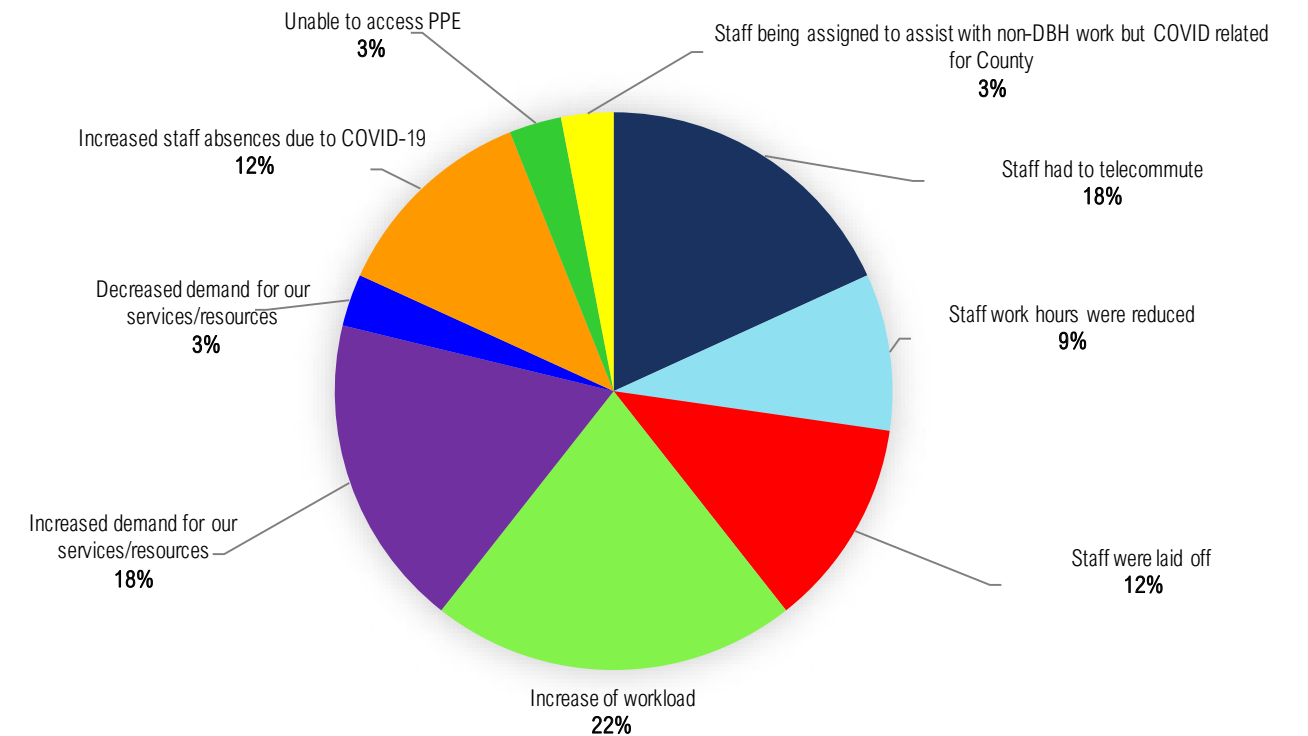


The unprecedented COVID-19 Pandemic challenged the San Bernardino community's resilience. As a result, this pandemic affected the four priority indicators that are vital to mitigate the SDOH. Therefore, Mr. Kevin Alvillar, Randall Lewis Health and Policy Fellow, created a Health Equity Assessment to understand the COVID-19 Pandemic impacts in San Bernardino County. On January 2021, Mr. Alvillar referenced the Collaborating Partnership Survey's critical features under the Bay Area Regional Health Inequity Initiative (BARHII) Toolkit and partner's surveys to understand the COVID-19 impact on the four priority indicators. The Vital Signs team send out this assessment to the Steering Committee on February 4, 2021. The results are vital to support the Steering Committee in strategically developing the actions needed to increase resiliency and support the County-Wide Vision's wellness element and help identify the new phase for the Transformation Plan.

Health Equity Assessment Summary

9 Steering Committee Members completed the survey.

COVID-19 Impact on Organizations



Three Inequities Identified by Community Partners During COVID-19

- Employment and Financial Insecurity
- Food and Shelter Insecurity
- Internet Connectivity issues

Three solutions to address the inequities

- Implement educational programs and support that is appropriate for the community
- Business financial funds to open safely
- Increase rate of COVID-19 vaccine to schools and most impacted communities