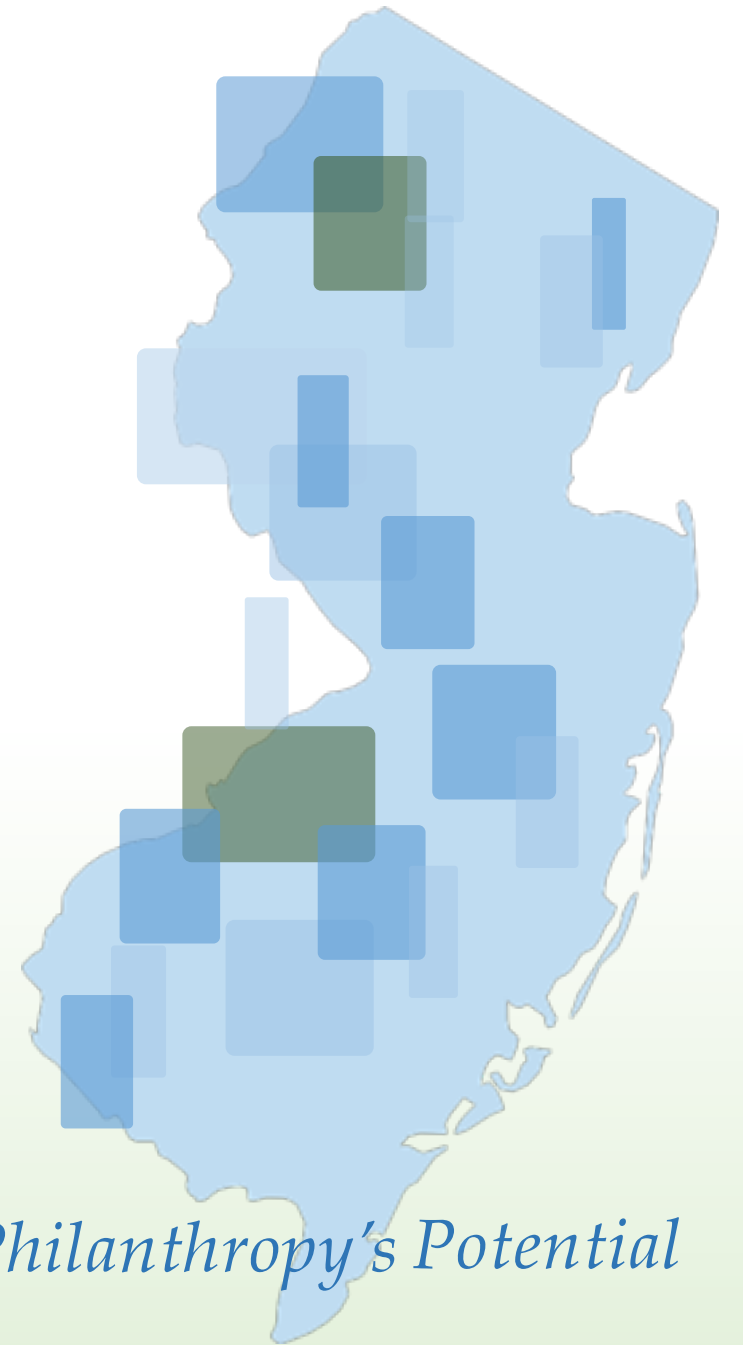


COVID-19 Funders Briefing

Series II: Advancing Immigrant Justice During the Pandemic

November 9, 2020



Harnessing Philanthropy's Potential

Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
 - Maria Vizcarrondo, President and CEO, CNJG
- How Philanthropy Can Advance Immigrant Justice During COVID
 - Abel Rodríguez, Director, Center on Immigration and Assistant Professor of Religion, Law, and Social Justice, Cabrini University
- Supporting New Jersey Immigrant Communities
 - Sara Cullinane, Director, Make the Road New Jersey
- Q & A

Please submit questions using the Q & A feature at the bottom of your screen.

COVID-19 Briefing: A National Look at Advancing Immigrant Justice During the Pandemic

Abel Rodríguez
Director, Center on Immigration
Asst. Professor of Religion, Law, and Social Justice
Cabrini University

Employment and Healthcare

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

- Larger households
- Excessive stress
 - Socioeconomic status, food insecurity, trauma, racism, poor social support
- **The need to work**
 - Work in essential occupations
- Lack of access to preventive medicine
 - Obesity, diabetes, hypertension
- **Lack of access to health care**
- **Lack of access to aid**



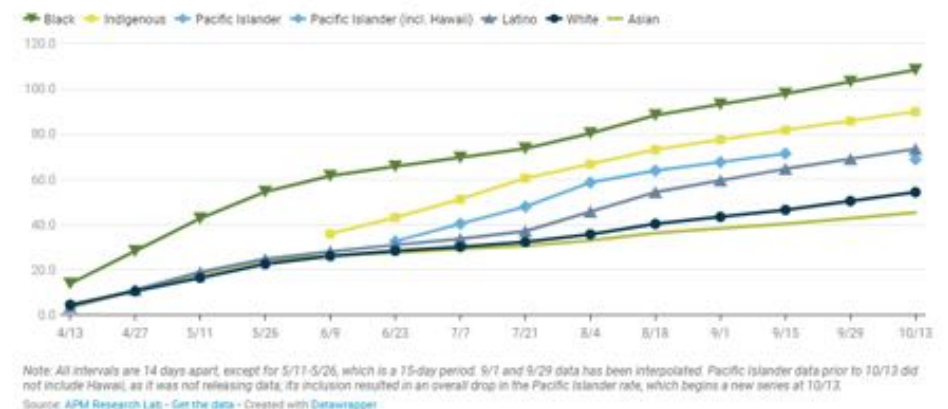
OVER REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN ESSENTIAL OCCUPATIONS

COVID-19 Deaths by Race/Ethnicity:

- **1 in 920 Black Americans has died** (or 108.4 deaths per 100,000)
- **1 in 1,360 Latino Americans has died** (or 73.5 deaths per 100,000)
- **1 in 1,840 White Americans has died** (or 54.4 deaths per 100,000)
- **1 in 2,200 Asian Americans has died** (or 45.4 deaths per 100,000)

Black & Indigenous Americans experience highest death tolls from COVID-19

Cumulative actual COVID-19 mortality rates per 100,000, by race and ethnicity, April 13-Oct. 13, 2020



OVER REPRESENTATION OF IMMIGRANT WORKERS IN ESSENTIAL OCCUPATIONS

- **Immigrant Population:** 44.8 million (13.7%)
 - **Healthcare/Public Health:** Physicians (29%), home health aides (38%), surgeons, nurses.
(Face heightened risk of exposure)
 - **Food and Agriculture:** Critical retail (i.e. grocery stores, pharmacies), farmworkers, and food processing.
(Food processing plants became epicenter of infections)
 - **Transportation and Logistics:** Truck drivers, bus drivers, dispatchers, towing and recovery services.
 - **Public Works and Infrastructure Support Services:** Construction workers, electricians, plumbers, landscapers etc.



Reuters/Mike Blake

Workers in Industries Vital to the COVID-19 Response, 2018

	All Workers	Foreign-Born Workers	
		Number	Share
Health Care and Social Services	18,721,000	3,099,000	17%
Essential Retail and Wholesale: Groceries, pharmacies, and gas stations	5,196,000	924,000	18%
Manufacturing: Food, medicine, soap/cleaning agents	2,703,000	695,000	26%
Transportation: Truck, rail, and water	2,228,000	385,000	17%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	1,957,000	536,000	27%
Transportation: Bus, metro, and taxi drivers	1,110,000	380,000	34%
Postal Service	690,000	93,000	13%
Scientific Research and Development	671,000	146,000	22%
Total Workers in Industries Vital to the COVID-19 Response	33,277,000	6,259,000	19%
Total Civilian Workforce	155,716,000	27,124,000	17%

Source: Migration Policy Institute (MPI) tabulations of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 American Community Survey (ACS), accessed March 19, 2020, through Steven Ruggles, Sarah Flood, Ronald Goeken, Josiah Groves, Erin Meyer, Jose Pallas, and Matthew Sobek, "IPUMS USA: Version 10.0 [dataset]."

IMMIGRANTS WORK IN INDUSTRIES HARDEST HIT BY COVID's ECONOMIC IMPACT

IMMIGRANTS REPRESENT 20% OF WORKERS IN THE HARDEST HIT INDUSTRIES

- **Accommodation and Food Services:** Waiters, Chefs, Head Cooks, Cooks, Food Service Managers, Cashiers, Food Preparation Workers, Maids, and Housekeepers.
- **Nonessential Retail**
- **Personal Services and Private Households**
- **Building Services**

Workers in Industries Facing Major Layoffs Due to the COVID-19 Economic Downturn, 2018

	All Workers	Foreign-Born Workers	
		Number	Share
Accommodation and Food Services	11,494,000	2,536,000	22%
Nonessential Retail	7,221,000	1,048,000	15%
Personal Services and Private Households	3,758,000	1,112,000	30%
Arts and Entertainment	3,436,000	418,000	12%
Building Services	1,527,000	584,000	38%
Nonessential Transportation: Air Travel, Sightseeing, Couriers, Messengers	1,525,000	240,000	16%
Travel Assistance	331,000	63,000	19%
Total in Industries Facing Major Layoffs	29,291,000	6,000,000	20%
Total Civilian Workforce	155,716,000	27,124,000	17%

Note: Nonessential retail includes clothing, shoe, jewelry, sporting goods, book, department, office supply, and other stores that have largely been closed as part of the response to COVID-19.

Source: MPI tabulation of the U.S. Census Bureau's 2018 ACS accessed on March 19, 2020 through IPUMS.

****Many immigrants are excluded from receiving unemployment benefits because they must be work-authorized at the time they file for Unemployment Insurance.**

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

- Provision of the **Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)** allowed states to use their **Medicaid** programs to provide free testing and treatment for COVID-19 to uninsured persons.
- The **FFCRA**, the **CARES Act**, and the **Paycheck Protection Act** did not alter **Medicaid** eligibility for immigrants; therefore, many immigrants remain excluded under this option.
 - Ineligible individuals include DACA and TPS holders, LPRs with status for less than five years, and undocumented people.
- Noncitizens are **disproportionately uninsured** because of lack of employer coverage in the **informal sector**, and ineligibility because of **immigration status**.
 - Uninsured - USC: 9%, Doc: 23%, Undoc: 45%
 - Confusion and fear over policies like **public charge** are likely to limit use of health services and benefits that families are eligible for, such as nutrition assistance (Pandemic EBT).

Challenges to accessing testing sites and health care centers:

- Physical access
- Language barriers
- Identification requirements
- Fear of Immigration Enforcement: Health Care Centers not deemed “sensitive location”



[Source: NILC Access to Health Care for Immigrants and Their Families](#)

IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE BEEN LARGELY LEFT OUT OF THE FEDERAL POLICY RESPONSE

Workers must have SSN and be work authorized to collect economic impact payments or unemployment benefits (including PUA).

CARES ACT Recovery Rebate (Federal Stimulus Payments):

- Immigrants who file with an Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) **do not qualify** (except if a spouse is in the Armed Forces).
- Excludes anyone filing jointly with an ITIN filer, even if that person is a U.S. citizen or green-card holder with a SSN. Thus, in families where even one member files using an ITIN, the entire family is rendered ineligible.
- **15.4 million** excluded from the stimulus payments: 9.9 million unauthorized immigrants, along with 3.7 million children and 1.7 million spouses who are either U.S. citizens or green card holders.

Unemployment Benefits:

- Immigrants generally must be work-authorized and have a SSN to collect or unemployment benefits (including **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance**).
- UI is an earned benefit, not a public benefit.



Photo by Chip Somodevilla/Getty Images

Law, Policy, and Enforcement

Enforcement Conditions

- Camps at southern border
- Court closures – increased backlogs
- Deportations continue to countries with strained healthcare systems
- Detention and family detention continue despite positive cases



Detention

Enforcement Trends and Data

The Numbers: 18,099 individuals in detention (as of October 23, 2020)

- 54,607 individuals tested for COVID-19 (as of October 23, 2020)
- 6,922 individuals in ICE custody COVID-19 positive (since February 2020)
- 490 individuals were in custody and in isolation/monitoring (as of October 28, 2020)
- 19 new cases confirmed at Aurora
- 39 deaths since 2017—substandard care contributed

Detention Challenges

- Lack of COVID safety measures, lack of soap
- Lack of legal representation, lack of KYRs
- Due process concerns, hearings via VTC
- Substandard medical care, necessary medications unavailable
- Etc.

Challenges of Supervision or Accountability

- Temporarily suspended social visitation
- Limiting in-person legal visitation
- Facility tours are suspended until further notice



Deportation Enforcement Trends and Data



- DHS expelled unaccompanied children >13,000 times since CDC order went into effect
- Single minors from countries other than Mexico have been expelled into Mexico >200 times
- Increase in number of deportation flights to Haiti (60 ventilators for 11 million) and Guatemala (15% of cases) - concerns about spreading COVID-19 there
 - 70 of 76 passengers on Guatemala deportation flight tested positive (92%)
 - 331 people tested positive in 6-month period
- <https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/map>

Moving Forward

EXPECTATIONS UNDER THE NEW ADMINISTRATION

Return to Obama-Biden Immigration Policies:

- Restore asylum policies and procedures (MPP, metering, AG)
 - Restore refugee admissions
 - Reverse family separation at border, border wall construction
 - Rescind travel bans
 - Restore increased aid to CA
 - Reversal of Public Charge Rule
 - Review TPS/DED
 - Reinstate DACA
 - Renew efforts for reform for Dreamers
 - Reinstate Enforcement Priorities
 - Restore wait times
-
- Commit to CIR
 - Continue (Family) Detention (including asylum seekers)
 - Continue Mass Deportation/Family Separation
 - Continued Border Enforcement

<https://joebiden.com/immigration/>



Our Work in COVID

➤ Education

- Know Your Rights
- Workshops
- Invited Speakers

➤ Advocacy

- End Family Detention
- DREAM Act/CIR
- Foreign Aid
- Driver's Licenses for All

➤ Immigration Legal Services

- Consultations
- Legal Representation

➤ Research to Influence Policy



Thank you!

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Immigrants in New Jersey under COVID



Sara Cullinane
Make the Road NJ

Make the Road New Jersey

- Builds the power of immigrant and working class communities of color to achieve respect through community organizing, the provision of high quality legal services, education and policy innovation.
- Founded in November 2014, MRNJ serves 15,000 immigrant families annually from Elizabeth and Passaic and our satellite clinic and organizing hub in Perth Amboy.





Undocumented Immigrants in New Jersey under COVID

- Nearly half million undocumented immigrants: overrepresented in essential workforce *and* in industries hardest hit by COVID:
 - About 200,000 essential workers are undocumented immigrants in NJ—second highest rate of any state in the country
 - 120,096 undocumented immigrants (or 1:4 working age) work in industries hardest hit by COVID-19 in NJ
 - About 225,000 US citizens live with an undocumented family member in NJ, including 128,000 US citizen kids, who have been left behind by aid
- No statistics on immigration status of individuals with COVID, but Black and Latinx people overrepresented in positive cases and deaths.

COVIDAid in New Jersey

- Immigrants without lawful status, DACA recipients, green card holders who have had a green card for less than 5 years are ineligible for public health insurance, SNAP and safety net assistance (TANF, GA) in NJ.
- Undocumented immigrants are ineligible for Unemployment Insurance (despite having paid \$1 billion into the system over past ten years in NJ!) and pandemic UI.
- COVID testing is available to all, regardless of status, and NJ has barred hospitals, clinics and testing sites from charging co-pays.

Surveys of Undocumented Immigrants



Essential and Excluded:

A Survey of Immigrants in New Jersey under COVID-19

April 23, 2020



6 MONTHS LATER: Still Essential, Still Excluded

*A Report Based on Surveys of Immigrants in New Jersey
During the COVID-19 Pandemic*



September 14, 2020

Survey, cont'd

🦋 Devastating economic insecurity: 81% live in a household where 1 or more members lost their job. B/c of their status, they were ineligible for aid

🍲 Inability to pay for basic necessities: 85.3% were worried about being able to pay for food for themselves/their families

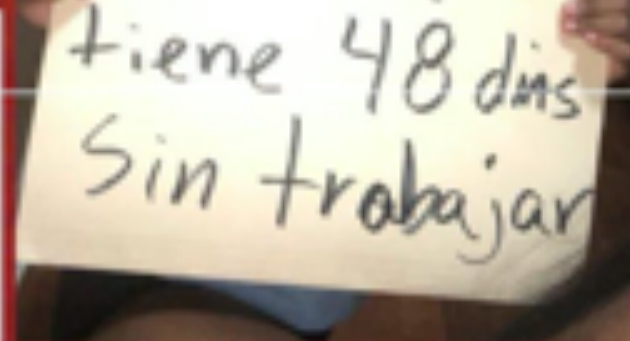
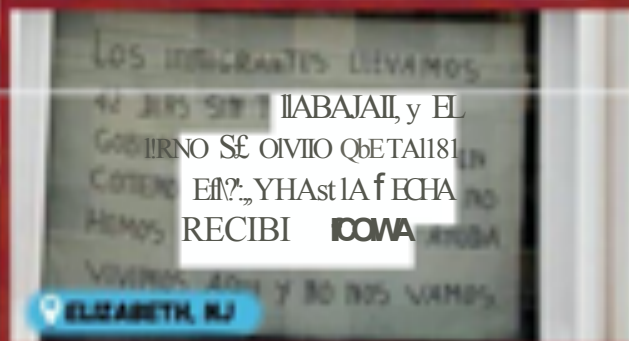
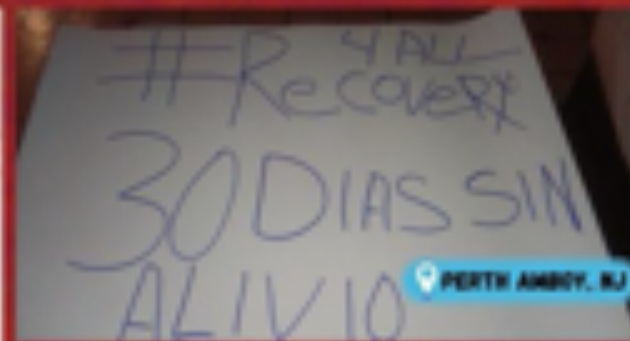
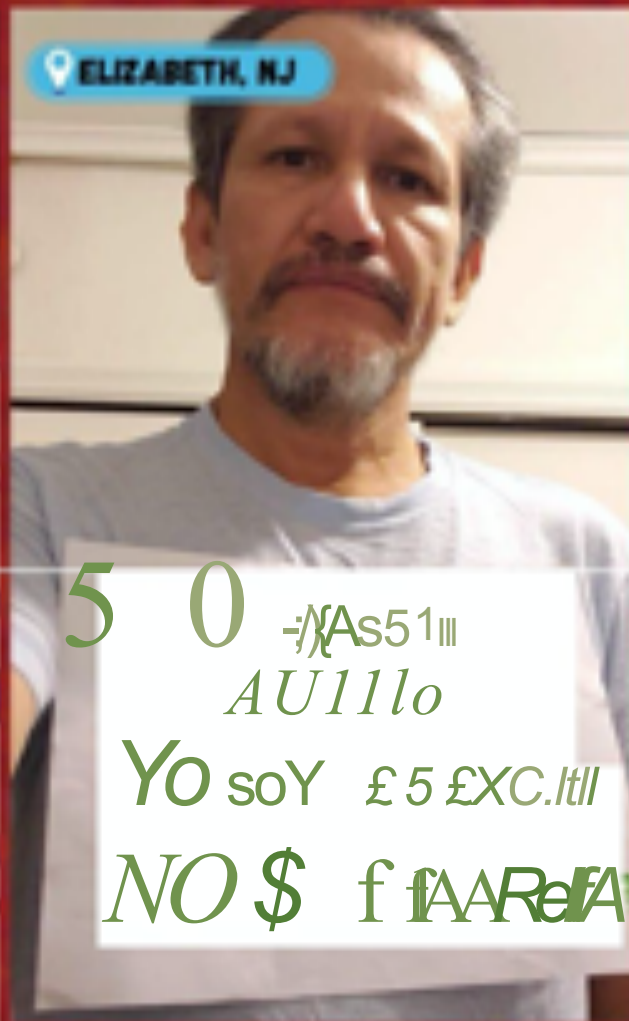
🏠 Housing: Disturbingly, 1 in 8 tenants experienced harassment at the hand of their landlord during the pandemic

⚠️ Frontline Workers Lack Safety: An alarmingly high number of respondents -- two in three that have worked throughout the pandemic -- reported feeling unsafe at work.

OurCOVIDResponse

- COVID website *en espanol*: <https://www.maketheroadnj.org/coronavirus>
- COVID Virtual Legal Clinic: aided 290 in housing, employment and access to benefits
- Spanish language hotline served more than 700 individuals in the first 6 months of pandemic
- Trained 25,000 in Know Your Rights - access to care, employment rights, housing - daily livestreams
- Health Care Navigation and Enrollment: assistance obtaining testing, navigating health care system and enrolling in ACA
- Mutual aid: distribution of more than \$280,000 in gift cards; more than 100 food deliveries to sick community members
- This Fall: launching support groups - - resilience, bereavement

Recovery for All



PERTH AMBOY, NJ

DLD

Canva

$d\}ij$

#RECOVERY

4ALL

I HAVE 6 WEEKS
WITHOUT WORK
AND I DON'T KNOW
HOW TO PAY THE
RENT. HELP PLEASE
DON'T DISCRIMINATE
US. RECOVERY

PERTH AMBOY, NJ

ELIZABETH, NJ

In this house
We have gone 59
days without relief
#Recovery4AM

En Esta Casa Ya
No Tenemos Sin Alivio
#Recovery4AM
Keep The Post

PASSAIC, NJ

PERTH AMBOY, NJ

Llevo 45
Dias Sin Trabajo

325

f

40
Dias
Sin Alivio
#Recovery4AM

PERTH AMBOY, NJ

JALEA
SUDADOS
PASTELERIA
PESCADO A LA
MACHO
PESCADO FRITO
CHICHARRONE

APPLY ONLINE!

45 dias
Sin Alivio
#Recovery4AM

607

ELIZABETH, NJ

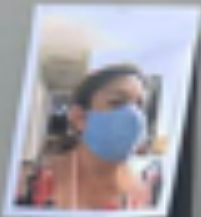
En Esta Casa
Ya No Tenemos Sin Alivio
#Recovery4AM
Keep The Post

PASSAIC, NJ

THE NEWJERSEY



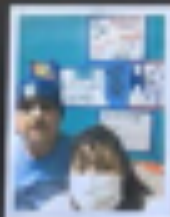
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Don't leave
immigrants
behind!



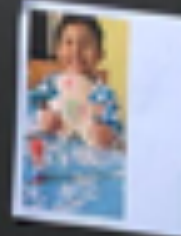
53 days
without relief
#Recovery4ALL



50 Days
without relief
Don't leave
immigrants
behind!
#RECOVERY4ALL



#Eunthaland
Excluded
Don't leave
immigrants
behind!
#RECOVERY4ALL



Don't leave
immigrants
behind!
#RECOVERY4ALL



50
Days without
relief





THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PRESS



Opinion

Unauthorized immigrants are the forgotten heroes. So treat them as such | Editorial

Updated Jul 19, 2020 | Posted Jul 19, 2020



Executive Order 192

Imposes mandatory health and safety protocols at all employers in NJ to help guard against the continuing spread of COVID-19.

These mandates apply to all employers who require or permit any employee to be physically present at a worksite.

Included among the protocols are mandatory social distancing, the requirement that all employees, customers, or visitors who enter the worksite wear masks and providing breaks for employees “for repeated handwashing throughout the workday.”

Enforceable by NJDOL and NJDOH

\$400,000 in training for frontline workers

Occupational Licenses for All



Immigrant Inclusion in Tax Rebate

\$500 tax rebate for middle class families will be available to ITIN filers next year.

Continued Priorities

- Access to cash aid/income replacement
- Expanding testing, contact tracing in immigrant communities
- Workplace safety enforcement
- Legal Services and rent relief for tenants
- Mental health resources
- Staff support - secondary trauma training



Thankyou!

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Thank You!

Please take the survey e-mailed to you after
this briefing

Our next COVID-19 Funders Briefing will be held on
Monday, November 23 from 4 – 5 pm

www.cnjg.org/events

