



Glendale Strong Family Network

May 14, 2020, 1 – 2:30 PM

Zoom meeting

Attendees: 21 partners were in attendance.

Barrier Busters

- Immunization rates are dropping in Arizona’s children and across the U.S. Some families are confused as to whether pediatricians are open, while others are reluctant to bring children in due to fear of virus exposure.

Good News

The ECN North Phoenix team received funding for pop-up shade tents to use at Grab and Go meals sites in three school districts.

Partner Highlight

Dr. Janet Boberg, from the City of Glendale, shared in response to COVID-19, the “Glendale Helping Glendale” initiative is matching community organizations with resources to offer with community organizations in need of those resources. The purpose is to create one place where these connections can be made to provide seamless service during the pandemic.

If your organization has resources to offer or needs resources, please contact Dr. Janet Boberg at jboberg@glendaleaz.com and provide the following information:

1. Organization name
2. Organization contact person name, email and phone number
3. Type of resource your organization can provide
4. Type of resource your organization needs

Food Access and Needs Discussion

How are families with young children in Glendale accessing food right now?

- Schools
 - Grab and Go meals
 - GESD HUB Food Pantry
- SNAP and P-EBT
- Local Food Banks
 - Phoenix Rescue Mission Food Bank, a St. Mary’s Food Bank partner, offers fresh produce, meats, USDA foods, milk, eggs, and bread/bakery. They also have mobile pantries and community market on Saturdays.
 - Vineyard Food Bank serves families over a 2 hour period seven days a week and offer a drive through service. www.vineyardnorthphoenix.com
- Families use emergency assistance funds offered through organizations for utilities and using the dollars saved for food.

What traditional food pathways are working? Which ones are not? Why?

What's not

- Due to increase number of families being served at the food banks, there is less variety of food going out to families and community food pantries
- Food bank hours are same as work hours and harder to access for working families
- WIC – Families don't realize they may qualify for services for the following reasons:
 - WIC serves children up to age 5
 - WIC uses different income qualifications than other programs
 - WIC participation will not impact their long-term immigration status
- Transportation– disabled, children at home
- Fear of exposure to COVID
- GESD food pantry shuts down in June and Jul
- Case managers not able to give hands on support to refugee families to access food resources during COVID

Working

- While not the same variety, food pantries are still getting the same large amount of food from St. Mary's.
- Families are accessing the local food resources (e.g. HUB pantry, food banks)
- Phoenix Rescue Mission
 - Offers a community market open on weekends for working families.
 - Case managers can pick up for families when they are not able.
 - Drive up instead of in-person available
- CAP office uses the "all qualifying residents" language to lessen the fear of undocumented families accessing utility assistance.

What are the inequities and disparity gaps we are seeing in serving young children and their families?

- Single parent households
- Individuals/families without transportation
- Lack of social support (e.g. to watch kids while grocery shopping or going to food bank)
- Lack of awareness of resources. Families are more isolated from programs where they would normally learn about the community resources (e.g. schools, doctor offices). They are not seeing flyers that they normally would.
- Lack of technology. Many families do not have computers at home and/or don't have money for extra data cost on their phones.
- Families under age of 5 that are not connected to programs such as home visitors, school, FRCs or other services (AZIEP, DDD)
- Info available may not be in their first language (e.g. refugee families)
- Refugee families---challenges accessing resources due to not having the in-person connection with case managers
- Working families

Opportunities Identified for ECN Funding Application

Targeted Social Media Outreach

- Engage a social media consultant to target families with young children (0 to 5) in Glendale with focus on Spanish speaking and those not already engaged in early childhood programs to share messages about local food resources. GSFN partners would help with content development, more up to date resource info, as well as sharing about their programs.
- Social media platforms to use FB, Next Door, and Instagram

Follow Ups

- Aimee and Peggy to update ECN funding application with social media ask and submit to Advisory Group
- Aimee to reach out to Emily at PPP regarding their social media contractor

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 11, 2020, 1-2:30 PM, via Zoom