

COVID-19: IMPACTS ON LOW INCOME FAMILIES

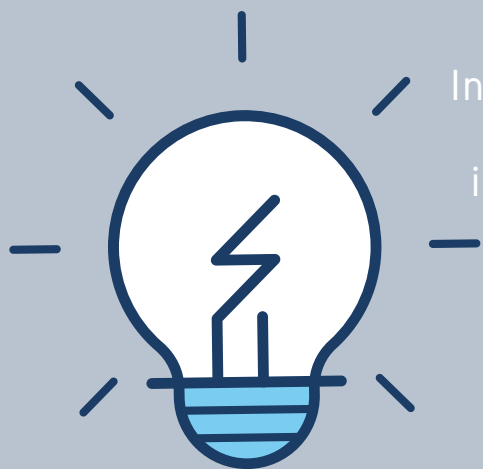
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BASIC NECESSITIES

Food, shelter, reliable transportation, childcare and healthcare are necessities that low income families struggle to secure during the current pandemic. In a recent survey on high risk families, food insecurity was the number one concern among all participants. Because of this concern, many individuals in these situations take on new or additional jobs to afford these necessities, causing them to take more time away from their families and children.



ONLINE SCHOOLING



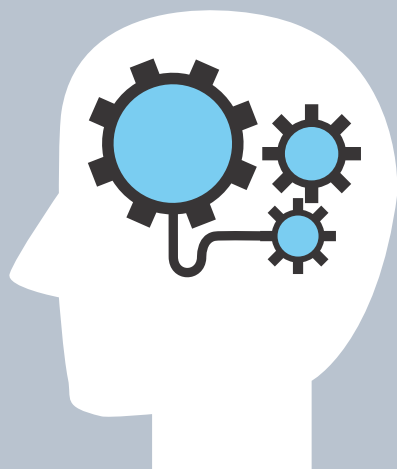
In a recent study, researchers found that the majority of low income families did not have access to internet. Without access to internet, online schooling at home can be even more difficult for children. Researchers also found that parent involvement is key to a young child's virtual academic success, however, parents in low income families dedicate more time working essential jobs than being home and assisting their children with their online schooling.

FINANCIAL INSTABILITY

Job insecurity and uncertainty is the main factor of financial instability among low income families during COVID-19. Children that are forced to attend school virtually are no longer eligible for school meals, and may go home to households with food insecurity due to financial instability.



MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY



Mental health and safety in low income families is especially prevalent during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The risks of maltreatment and abuse within families is more likely to occur because family members are confined to their homes and do not have third party resources like counselors, therapists or school readily available.