Addressing the Unique Needs of Immigrant and Limited-English-Proficient Communities During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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Members of immigrant communities and those with limited English proficiency (LEP) face many risks that make them more vulnerable to health and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In June 2020, PolicyLab and community partners distributed an online survey to Pennsylvania stakeholders working with these communities. The survey asked respondents to identify major needs and barriers faced by these communities during the pandemic, as well as their sources of strength and resilience, and to weigh in on possible solutions. The survey results are available in a white paper.

In this brief, we build off of the findings to offer the following recommendations to public health practitioners and policymakers. Taken together, these recommendations would serve to protect the health and well-being of immigrant/LEP communities, improve health care delivery in these communities and build a foundation to address future public health crises in an equitable manner.

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