

TEXAS 2020-2022 NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR CSBG CARES ACT FUNDING

COVER PAGE AND CERTIFICATION

CSBG Eligible Entity: Webb County Community Action Agency

Primary Agency Contact Information:

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Was the Needs Assessment completed utilizing a subcontractor? Yes ___ No X

Certification of 2020-2021 of Needs Assessment

The undersigned hereby certifies that the needs assessment information submitted for CSBG CARES Act Funding is correct and has been authorized by the governing body of this organization. If not approved by the board, it will be presented to the board on July 27, 2020 for approval and at that time this certification page will be re-submitted to the Department.

Board Chair (printed name)

Board Chair (signature)

Date

Director (printed name)

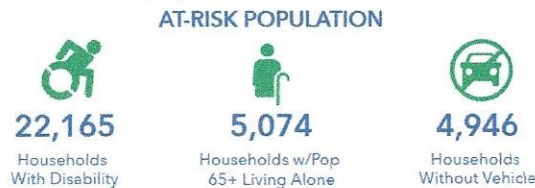
Director (signature)

Date

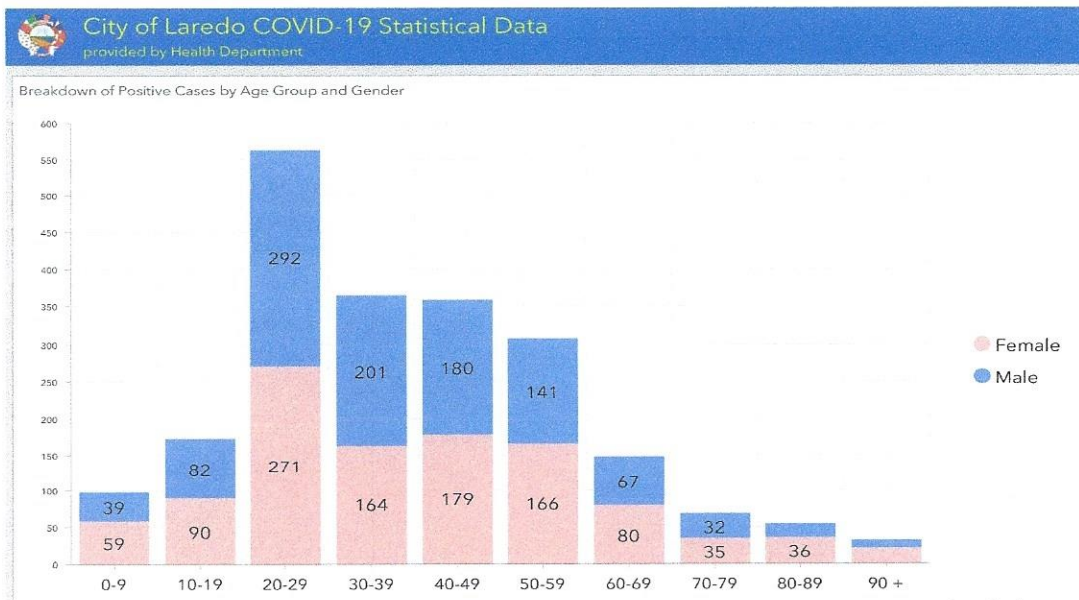
Submission Date: 07/09/20
Month/Day/Year

1. **Describe the area and individuals impacted by this COVID-19 pandemic.** Provide information and data (quantitative and qualitative) on the estimated number of persons and households impacted by this COVID-19 pandemic and on the impact of the pandemic to the families and the community by city and county. Types of information to include, but not be limited to, the following: city/cities, zip codes, description of the neighborhoods (e.g., primarily low-income, availability of public facilities and social service agencies, etc.), and demographic information on the households/individuals (e.g., income, racial make-up, indirect damage such as loss of job, education, housing etc.). Data and information gathered can include statistics, newspaper articles, news stories, surveys, interviews, data from 211 or other organization’s data on COVID-19 needs. Eligible entities will be required to maintain documentation for monitoring purposes.

Webb County Community Action Agency services the City of Laredo and rural areas within the Webb County. The county has a population of 272,053 to which 28% or 20,612 live below poverty level. Of the total Webb County population, the following fall under the at risk population for COVID-19:¹



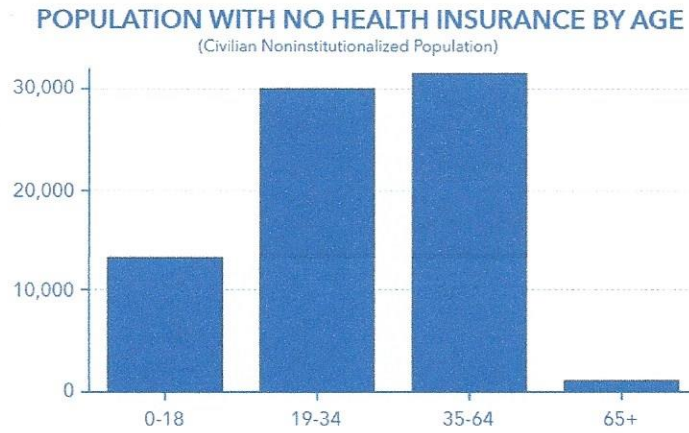
Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of disaster the State of Texas on March 13, 2020. Subsequently, March 16th marked the first positives case within the County of Webb. Thereafter, the City of Laredo and Webb County issue a disaster declaration. Later, a countywide ordinance is issued limiting gatherings of no more than ten. As of July 9, 2020, 2,163 individuals have tested positive for COVID-19 within the County of Webb; 36 of which have passed away. Of the positive cases within the community, the majority of the cases are males between the ages of 20-29.²



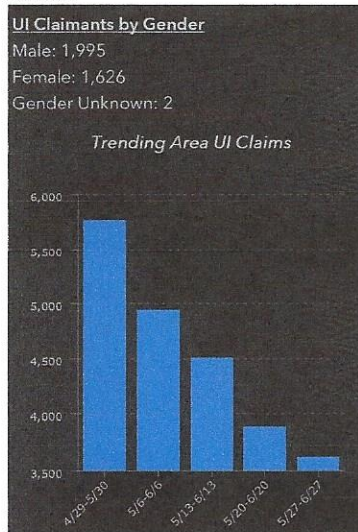
¹ <https://covid19.census.gov/>

² <https://www.cityoflaredo.com/coronavirus/index.html>

Currently, 117 individuals are hospitalized due to the virus. The dates does not provide how many of those hospitalized have insurance, however, 75,857 county residents are uninsured that is 28% of the county population.



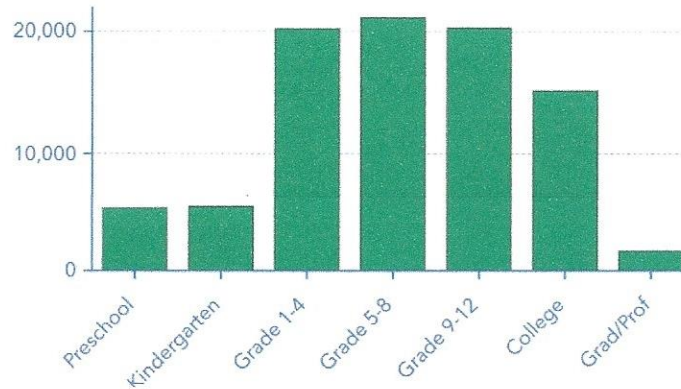
COVID-19 as nation-wide has affected the Webb County community. Individuals have lost their employment due to the virus and the closure of businesses. Many have moved to work remotely or have reduced the staffing. UI claimants increased within the month of March.³



³ <https://texasmapsonline.com/portal/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=e3e490c4196a45868610f65b72e9f303>

Schools within the county closed. Teachers and students continued with online classes. Those that did not have internet available were giving the option to pick up a learning packet from their assigned schools.⁴ Of the county population, 62.4% have access to internet at home.⁵

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT (AGE 3 AND OVER)



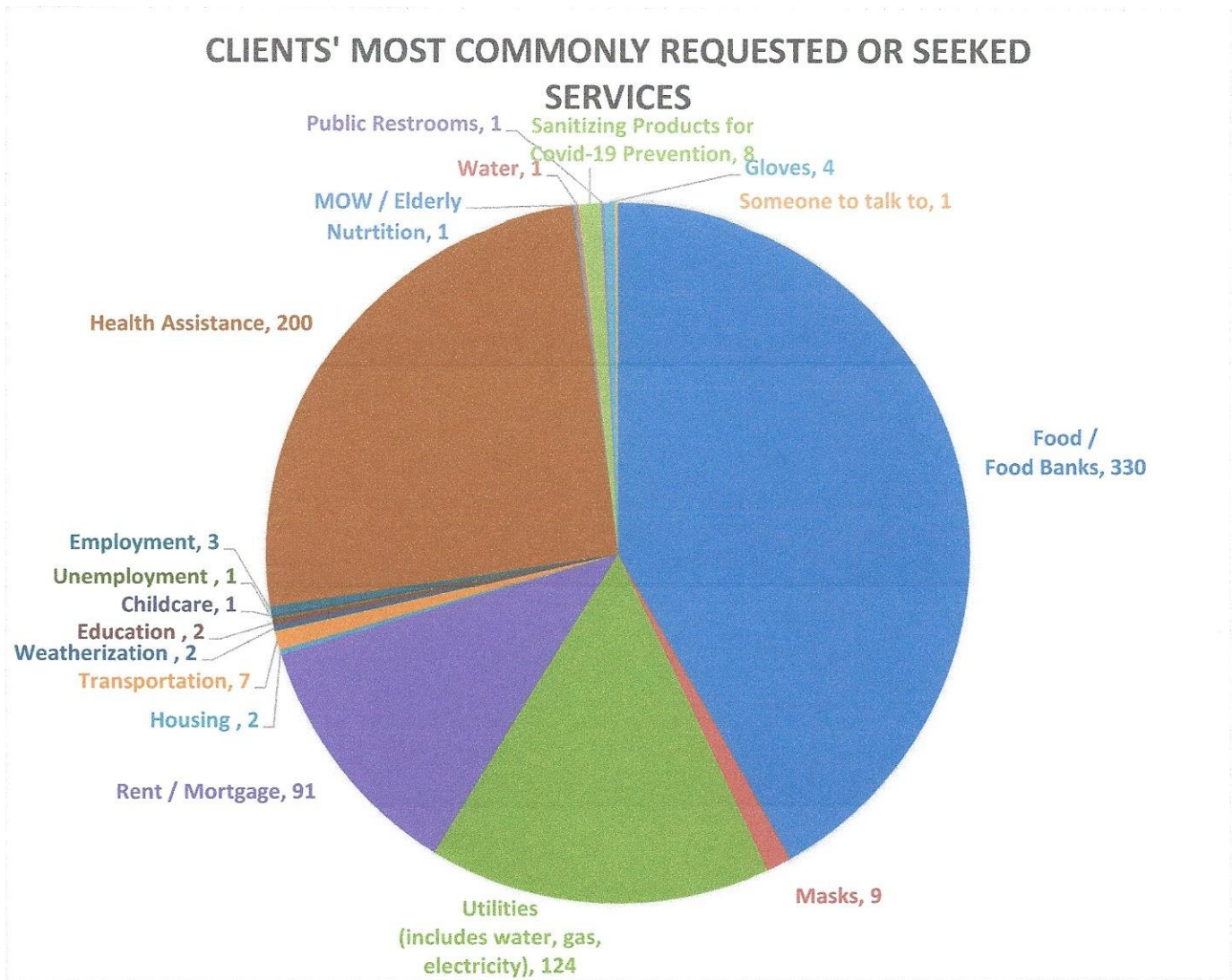
Webb County Community Action Agency conducted a survey among all staff of frequently requested services from the community (see next page). Additionally, Texas 2-1-1 provided the agency with a report of frequent resident calls for services. According to the information gathered, the top 10 needs of the community during COVID-19 are:

COVID-19 Top 10 Needs

Order	Service
1.	Food/Food Banks
2.	Health Assistance
3.	Utilities
4.	Rent/Mortgage
5.	Mask
6.	Sanitizing Products for Covid-19 Prevention
7.	Transportation
8.	Gloves
9.	Employment
10.	Weatherization/Education

⁴ <https://www.lmtonline.com/local/article/Officials-discuss-Laredo-coronavirus-lockdown-15142426.php>

⁵ <https://covid19.census.gov/>



- Describe any **gaps in services**, related to the identified needs. It may be helpful to reach out to churches, other social service providers/agencies, and city and county governments to gather this information. Organize your answer in terms of the cities and counties impacted if the gaps in services differ.

Covid-19 has impacted the availability of services available within the community. Some organizations are working remotely and others have temporarily closed their doors. Both food banks available within the county continue to provide services offering drive thru on marked dates. The City of Laredo assistance with water bills for households who have been economically affected by Covid-19. United way has released Emergency Food and Shelter funds under Phase 37 and Cares Act. The funds are being allocated under utility bills, rent, and food assistance. Additional assistance needed within the community requested by the residents, is assistance for sanitation products to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

3. Describe what **outreach** has been done or will be done to identify potentially eligible households/individuals that have been or continue to be impacted by this COVID-19 pandemic. Discuss which entities (schools, city government, non-profits, churches, etc.) will be contacted to do outreach and where outreach has or will occur. If intake has occurred during outreach, please provide information on the number of applications taken. Organize your answer in terms of the cities and counties impacted.

The agency recently went through procurement for a client tracking system, and within the selection, auto/text dialer was included in the purchase. The agency will use the new tool to notify the its current and past clients of the services available. For new clients, they agency will proceed with a press release and update social media available such as Facebook, Twitter, and agency website. We will continue to inform organizations within our community through the e-mail network group, and extend the outreach to Workforce Center and adult day cares. The agency will utilize the four lines of business under the agency to offer the services to the clients.

4. Describe the **need** for funds to assist persons impacted? Types of information to include, but not limited to:
 - a. an estimate of how many households and/or individuals still in need of assistance
 - b. the type of assistance these households need,

As stated previously, the needs must be as a result of COVID-19. If needs differ across your service area, organize your answer in terms of cities and counties impacted. Consider households who may have lost their job or have been temporarily unemployed for a period of time due to this pandemic. It may be helpful to reach out to churches, other social service providers/agencies, and county governments to gather this information.

With the increase of unemployed individuals, families are finding it difficult to keep up with household expenses. UI claims for the Webb County are at 3,623. The top 5 UI Claim Industries are:

1. Support activities for oil and gas operations
2. Freight transportation arrangement
3. Executive and legislative offices, combined
4. Temporary help services
5. Full-service restaurants

Households economically affected find themselves seeking assistance. Organizations find themselves trying to close the gaps in services. With the current pandemic, the area of Webb County has issued an order for all residents to wear a facemask when out in public and the low supplies of sanitizing products at stores, there is an increase of need with the community for protection again the virus.

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5. Identify the **top needs** determined from your Needs Assessment. Consider all the data (qualitative and quantitative) and information that was gathered in this process. If the plan is to not address one of the needs, provide a brief explanation as to why not in column five; such as lack of capacity/resources or that another organization is addressing the need.

Top Needs Identified	Currently addressing the need		Plan to address the need with CSBG CARES Act Funds		How will need be addressed with CSBG CARES Act Funds	If not addressing, explain why.
	Yes	No	Yes	No		
1. Food/Food Banks	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist eligible clients with meal package. If not eligible, client will be referred to available organizations.	
2. Health Assistance	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will refer clients to available programs offering the services.	
3. Utilities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist clients under utilities.	
4. Rent/Mortgage	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist client under rental assistance.	
5. Mask	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist eligible client with care packages including masks, gloves, and sanitizing products.	
6. Sanitizing Products for Covid-19 Prevention	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist eligible client with care packages including masks, gloves, and sanitizing products.	
7. Transportation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will refer clients to free bus transportation or provide the eligible clients with a fuel card	
8. Gloves	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist eligible client with care packages including masks, gloves, and sanitizing products.	
9. Employment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	WCCAA will assist clients under the Case Management program for employment seeking assistance and/or Skills Training,	
10. Weatherization/Education	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Referral/Training	

6. Describe the **plan to coordinate services and/or funding** with other organizations/entities (e.g., churches, local governments, schools, non-profits, etc.) to meet the needs of individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, describe any efforts that will be undertaken with coordinating partners to avoid duplication of services. Organize your answer in terms of the cities and counties impacted if they differ in coordination of services.

Our agency currently has an e-mail group of local organizations, where updates are given of program services available within our community. Additionally, the agency partakes in bi-weekly webcalls with other organizations within the community where updates are given on changes and services. Clients are referred to other organizations for services that are not available through the agency but may be filled by another organization.

7. Describe how you plan to provide the proposed CSBG CARES services through your current **service delivery system** or through partner organizations or subcontractors. Organize your answers in terms of the cities and counties impacted if they differ.

Due to the pandemic, the agency has changed the application process. Currently, face-to-face contact is limited. All clients are encouraged to submit required documentation through e-mail, text to e-mail, or mail. For clients with technology limitations are able to drop-off documents at the offices. The agency has leased the client portal services under the client tracking system, where the client would be able to apply and upload documents online.

Webb County Residents will be kept up to date of services available through social media, press release, partnership collaborations, case management, and auto text/calling.