

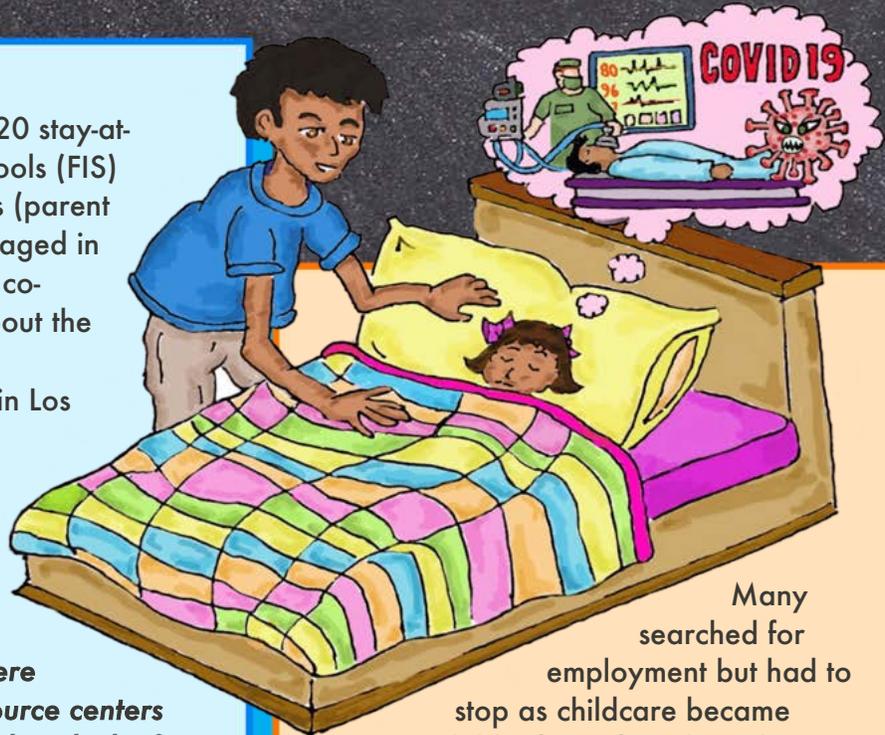
FAMILIES OF LOS ANGELES IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

SPRING 2020 SURVEY FINDINGS

At the start of the March 2020 stay-at-home order, Families In Schools (FIS) staff and six Parent Warriors (parent leaders who are deeply engaged in education advocacy efforts) co-created a survey to learn about the effects of the pandemic on vulnerable working families in Los Angeles. The survey results provide a snapshot of how L.A. families are adapting to home learning, coping with mental health, and securing basic needs. For example, **70% of families were aware of how to access resource centers but encountered barriers such as lack of transportation and long work hours.**

Most families we spoke to feared that if COVID-19 stay-at-home orders continued without extended financial support, they would lose their homes, cars, and community resources. Families are scrambling to balance multiple roles of caretaker/guardian, breadwinner, teacher/home educator, and healthcare provider.

The traumatic effect of COVID-19 has left families feeling helpless and worried over their financial futures.



Many searched for employment but had to stop as childcare became unavailable, fear of catching the virus grew, and job opportunities remained scarce.

While most families shared that students had the basic necessities they needed to succeed at school, some parents noted that their students lacked the proper tools and materials to keep up with the work. However, it was evident that certain children were benefitting from online learning due to thoughtful, prepared, and adaptable teachers; **their success demonstrates that strong teacher–student interactions can result in positive academic achievements.**

305 telephone interviews were conducted with Los Angeles families by six Families In Schools Parent Warriors.

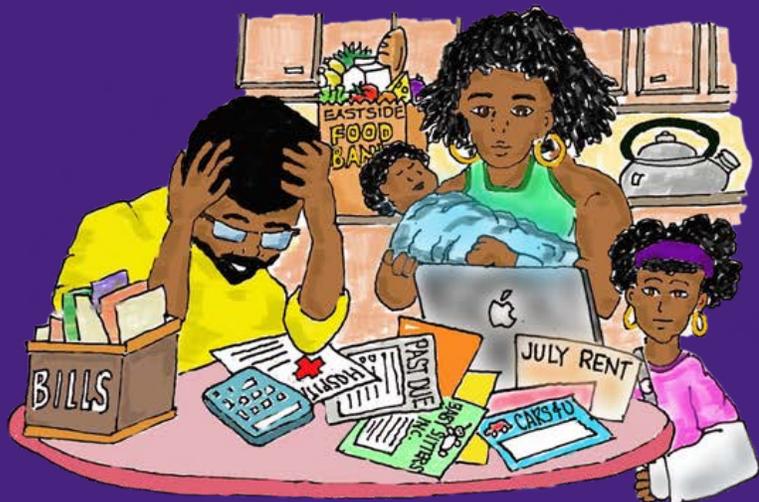


Parents reported that in eliminating the security and stability students experienced when regularly attending school, they faced erratic sleep patterns, social isolation, and heightened levels of anxiety, frustration, and anger.

70%
of families reported wage and/or job loss.

62%
of families have experienced increased stress and anxiety.

Families are split on whether online education will support or impair student learning.



“I’M AFRAID OF LOSING OUR HOME ESPECIALLY SINCE WE’VE BEEN HOMELESS BEFORE.”

– Unemployed mother of young children