



Office of Children and Family Services

Status Report

Community-Based Prevention Programs

2020

Release Date: March 31, 2021

Healthy Families NY

<https://www.healthyfamiliesnewyork.org/>

Programs On Operating During a Pandemic:

“We’re seeing more family enrollment; families are saying, ‘we’re in a pandemic, I need more support.’”

“Being able to come through for them is helping them to build the initial trust, and us having the connections in the community to resources is a way we are building trust.”

Supporting Families Right From the Start

Healthy Families New York (HFNY) is an **evidence-based home visiting** program offering services to **expectant and new parents**, beginning weekly and decreasing over time, until the child starts school or Head Start. **HFNY** is open to first-time parents, as well as **parents with multiple children**, who are pregnant and/or have **at least one child less than 3 months old**.

HFNY is **relationship-based, trauma-informed, culturally humble, family centered, and strength-based**. Home visitors develop healthy relationships with families and **partner with parents** to support them in responding in a sensitive and in a nurturing manner to their young children through various program activities.

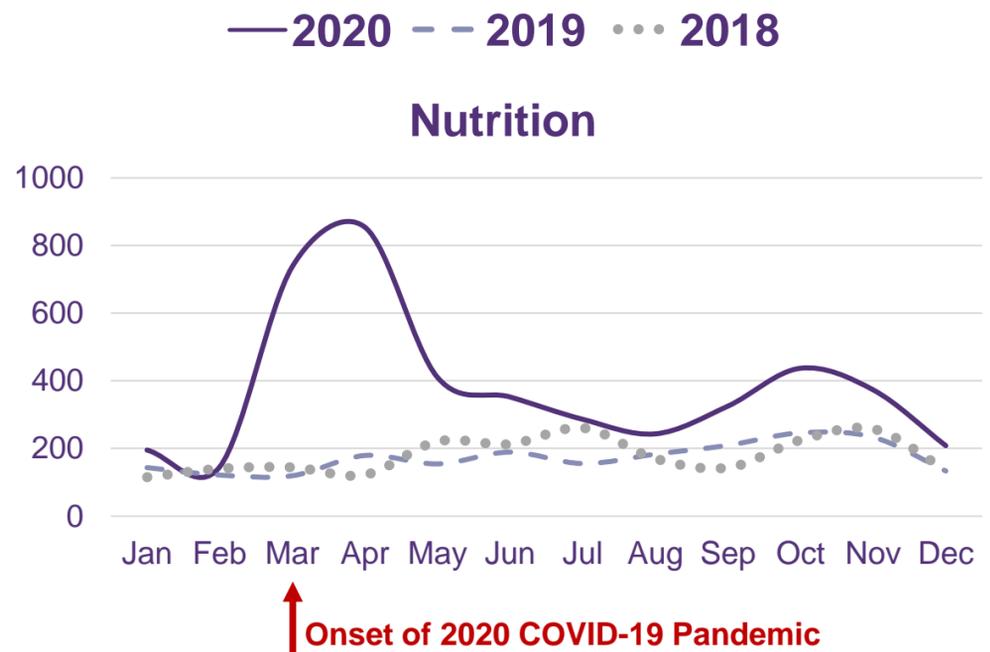
Total referrals spiked at the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, but otherwise remained relatively stable compared to previous years (2018 & 2019). However, the types of referrals given in 2020 were different (e.g., Nutrition, DSS/HRA, Family/Social Support, Counseling, Other Services, etc.) highlighting programs' ability to quickly pivot to meet the needs of the families they serve.

2020

Data from 2020

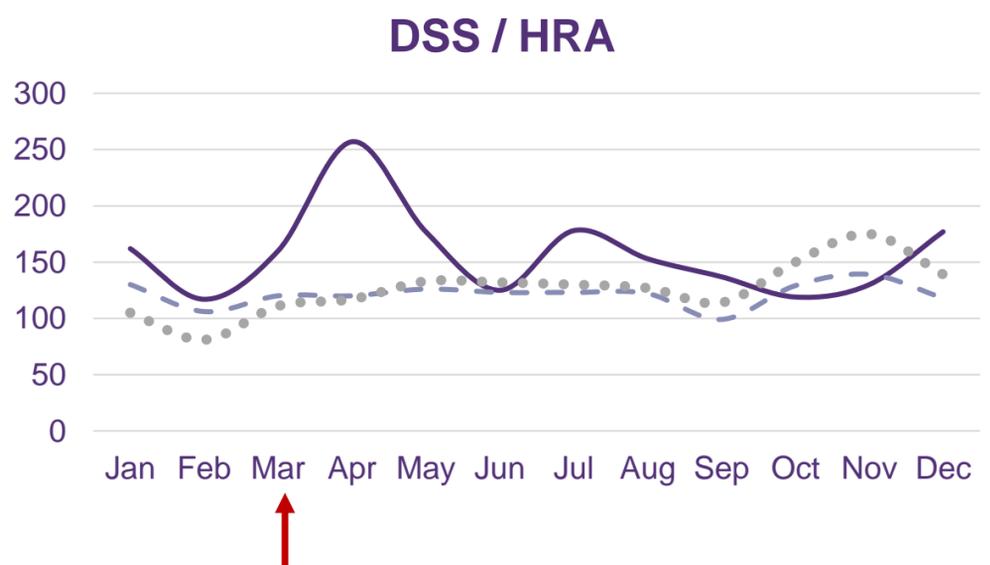
Nutrition

- Nutrition referrals saw the largest increase in 2020 of any HFNY referral category.
- Home Visitors worked to connect families to food resources as many jobs and income were impacted at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.



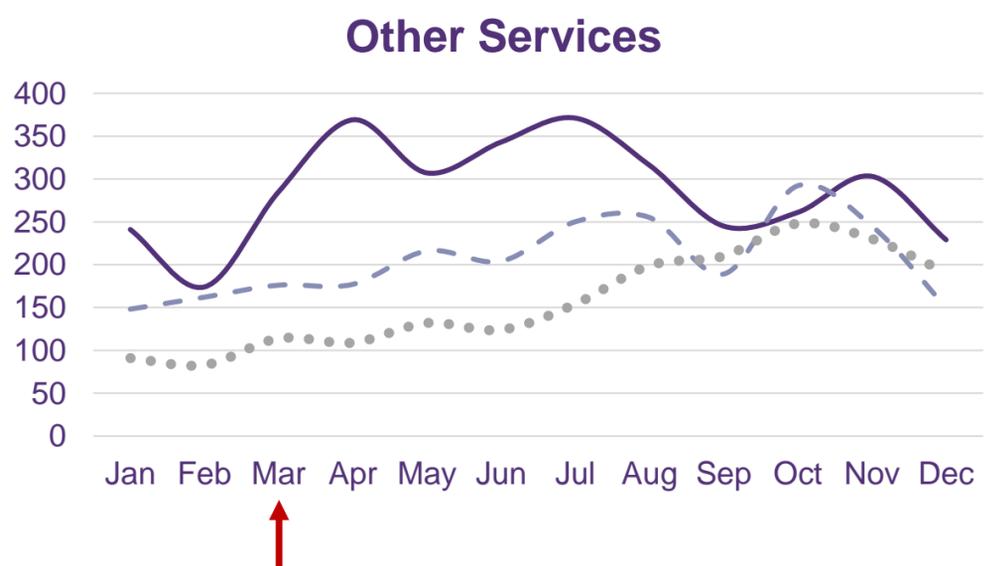
DSS / HRA

- At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic there was an increase in referrals to DSS / HRA .
- A closer look into these referrals revealed that a large portion of them were due to home visitors' work to connect families with the social services and COVID-19 PPE resources they needed.



Other Services

- The “catch-all” category of Other Services rose in total from March to August.
- “Other Services” includes Case Management, Developmental Disability, Immigration, Legal, Money Management, and Translation services.
- There is also a “write in” option for those services not capture in any of the other categories. This field most often reflects seasonal items.

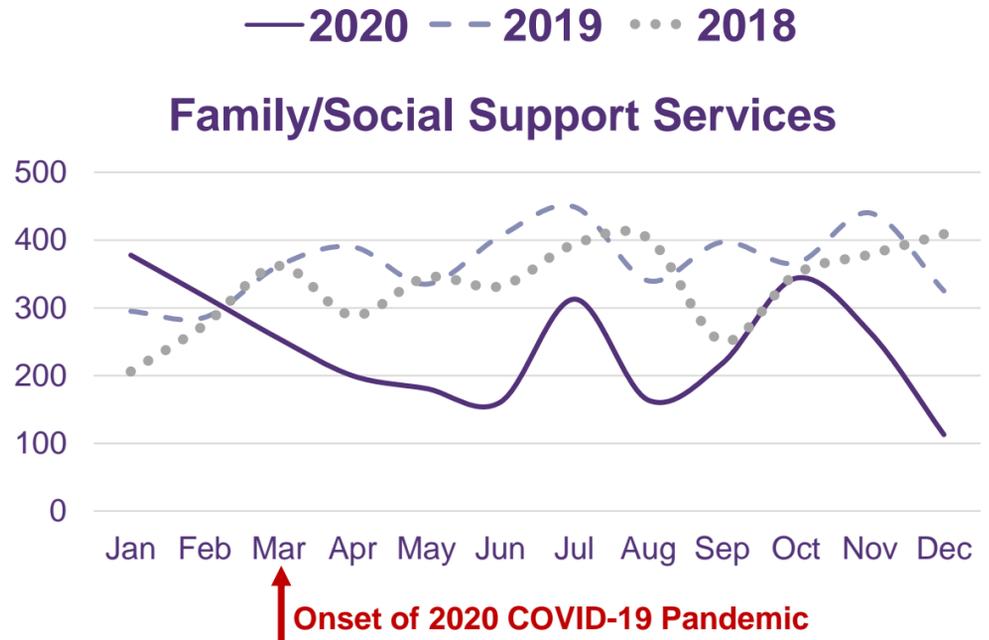


2020

Data from 2020

Family / Social Support Services

- Likely due to social distancing measures, Family/Social Support services decreased overall in 2020 as providing these in a virtual setting can be challenging.



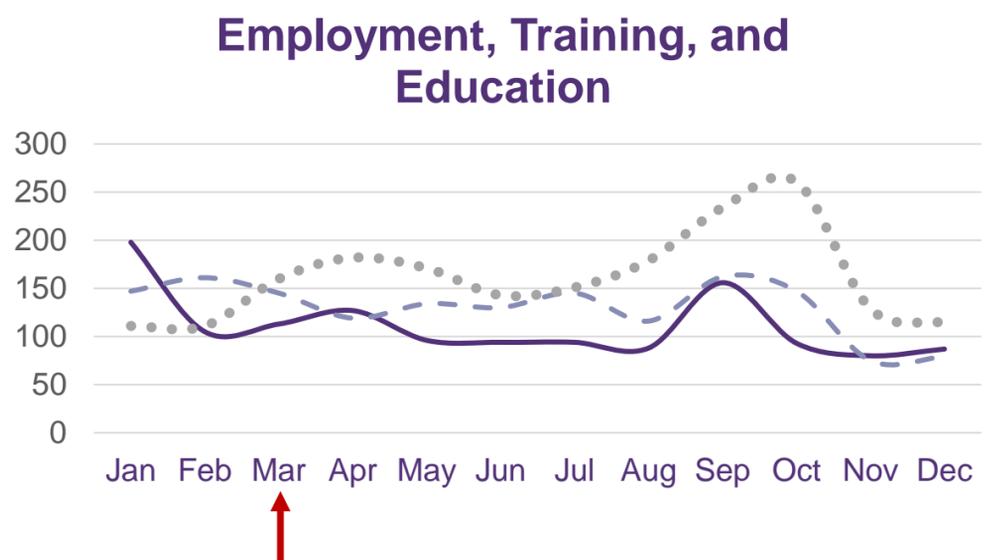
Counseling / Support Services

- Counseling / Support services referrals saw a slight decrease during 2020 compared to previous years, though Home Visitors were still able to connect families at a high rate.



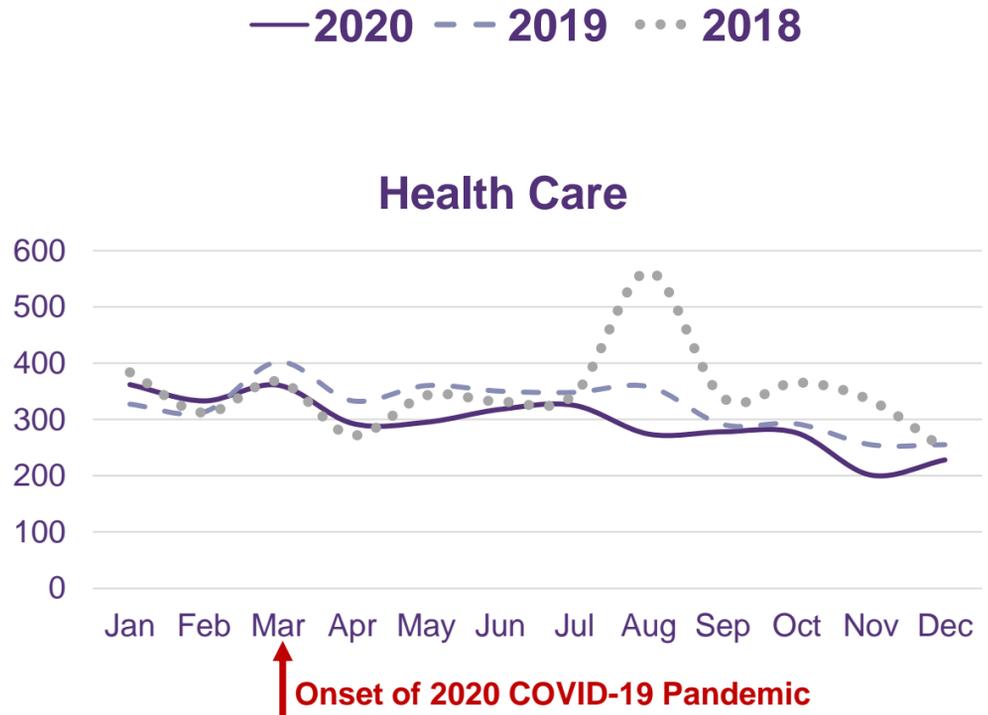
Employment, Training, and Education

- Employment, Training, and Education referrals held mostly steady in 2020 compared to 2019, though both years show a decrease compared to 2018.



Health Care

- Health care referrals were able to remain stable in 2020 compared to other years.
- We speculate that the 2018 bump in health care referrals was due to the Affordable Care Act being in jeopardy of repeal by the Trump Administration.



Concrete Services

- Concrete services remained relatively stable in 2020, except for missing the usual “back-to-school” bump in the fall, likely due to virtual schooling.

