

YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Center for Race and Gender Equity

# ACTION CONVERSATIONS ON RACE

November 18th, 2020

## Racial Gaps in Education During COVID-19

### PANELISTS

- Hillary Boyzo-Magno, Future of Latino Youth of Pittsburgh (F.L.Y.) and Junior at Pittsburgh Science and Technology Academy  
<https://casasanjose.org/programs/f-l-y-pittsburgh-the-future-of-latino-youth-in-pittsburgh/>
- Mary Eddins, Education Policy Research Fellow, Research for Action  
<https://www.researchforaction.org/>
- Larette McCoy, Family Advocate, Homewood Children's Village  
<https://hcvpgh.org/>

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION & RESOURCES

- Schools and families have both struggled to adapt technology for remote learning
  - Distributing and maintaining repairs on laptops is difficult
  - Many families lack access to reliable high-speed internet

#### Resources and Reading

- ✓ <https://www.publicsource.org/how-the-pandemic-is-exacerbating-the-digital-divide-in-allegheeny-county/>
- ✓ <https://8rri53pm0cs22jk3vvqna1ub-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/ACER-COVID-070820-final-release.pdf>
- The burden of remote learning on youth and their families is taking a toll and may be long-lasting
  - Parents/guardians try to balance work and family/learning time. Older siblings are both students and tutors to younger children

## Resources and Reading

- ✓ <https://www.edutopia.org/article/covid-19s-impact-students-academic-and-mental-well-being>
- ✓ [Covid-19 and student learning in the United States: The hurt could last a lifetime.](#)

## TAKING ACTION

- Community members can empower students and narrow the racial learning gap through tutoring and mentoring, during COVID and after:
  - Support Homewood Children's Village to help improve the lives of Homewood children: <https://hcvpgh.org/>
  - Sign-up to be a tutor and improve academic outcomes for Latino youth: <https://www.latinocommunitycenter.org/volunteer>
  - Become a mentor: <https://www.mentoringpittsburgh.org/pages/become-a-mentor>
  - Help increase academic opportunity: <https://www.breakthroughpittsburgh.org/our-community/#volunteer>
- Schools can adapt new techniques and increase support for remote and home-based learning:
  - Culturally responsive actions:
    - ✓ <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/regions/midatlantic/app/Blog/Post/1031>
    - ✓ [Using culturally responsive practices to foster learning during school closures: Challenges and opportunities](#)
  - Best practices:
    - ✓ [Learning remotely in the age of Covid-19: Lessons from evidence and concerns for equity](#)
    - ✓ [Covid-19 & remote learning: How to make it work](#)