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

- 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
  

- 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:
  o Support Homewood Children’s Village to help improve the lives of Homewood children: https://hcvpgh.org/
  o Sign-up to be a tutor and improve academic outcomes for Latino youth: https://www.latinocommunitycenter.org/volunteer
  o Become a mentor: https://www.mentoringpittsburgh.org/pages/become-a-mentor
  o 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:
  o 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
  o 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