

# BARRIER BUSTERS EMERGENCY UNMET NEEDS FUND

## 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

### **Thank you to our funders:**

Washtenaw County, United Way of Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, Pittsfield Township, the Washtenaw County Community Action Board, the City of Ann Arbor, and the City of Ypsilanti.



OFFICE OF COMMUNITY &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

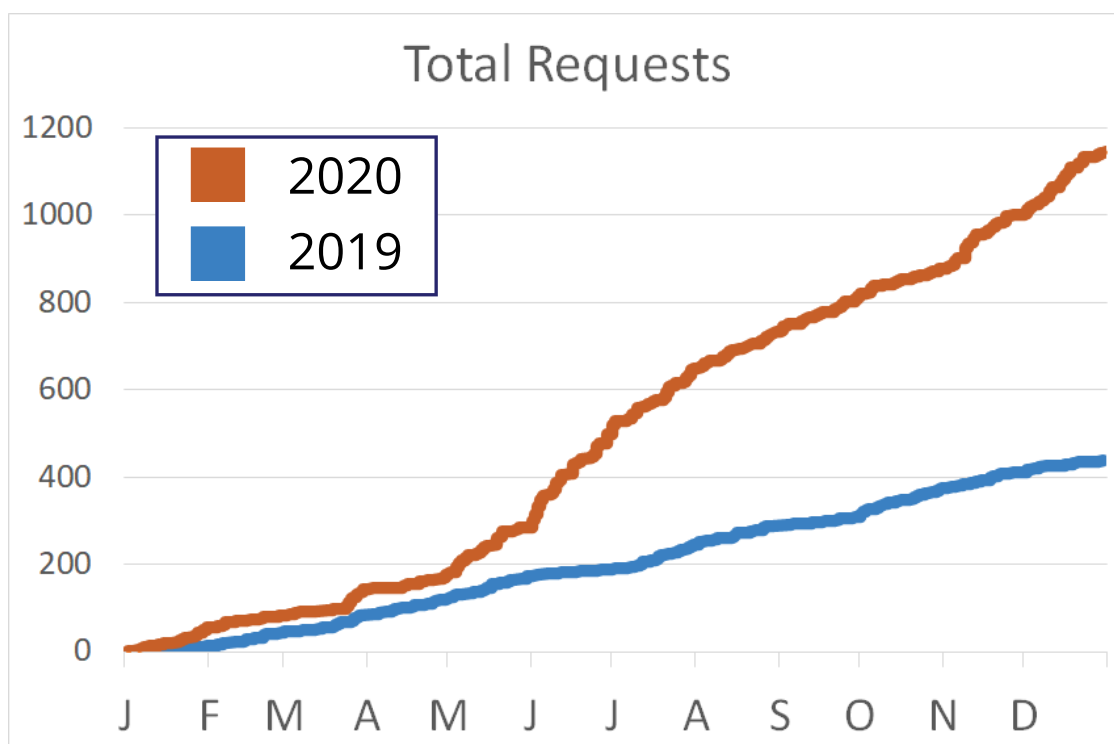
*Collaborative solutions for a promising future*

# OVERVIEW

Barrier Busters is a group of 100+ social service providers committed to improving services and responding to emergencies for Washtenaw County residents in need. Member agencies have access to the "Barrier Busters Emergency Unmet Needs" Fund - public and private funds that provide social workers, case managers, and other direct service providers access to emergency assistance funds for clients. This fund provides agencies an efficient way to prevent evictions\* and utility shut-offs; and assist with other emergency costs that threaten residents' housing and financial stability. This initiative and fund are coordinated by the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED).

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, OCED worked to increase and expand the capacity of Barrier Busters, welcoming new partners with strong community connections to the network. Additional funding was also secured from partners including Washtenaw County, the Washtenaw County Community Action Board, United Way of Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation, Pittsfield Township, the City of Ann Arbor, and the City of Ypsilanti. We also received 23 contributions from individual donors through our partnership with Michigan Community Action

Given the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, need in the community increased greatly in 2020 as compared to 2019 (See Below). This report details how the "Barrier Busters Emergency Unmet Needs" was used to respond to individual crisis during the greater health crisis of COVID-19.



\*Washtenaw County launched a new Eviction Diversion and Prevention Program in partnership with Housing Access for Washtenaw County and Legal Services of South Central Michigan in late summer. Individuals in need of rental assistance were largely diverted to that program, changing the nature of Barrier Buster requests in the final quarter of the year.

# BY THE NUMBERS

**1145**

Total Requests  
Funded  
*(262% Increase)*

**\$739,742**

Total Assistance  
Provided  
*(305% Increase)*

## HIGHLIGHTS

**4X**

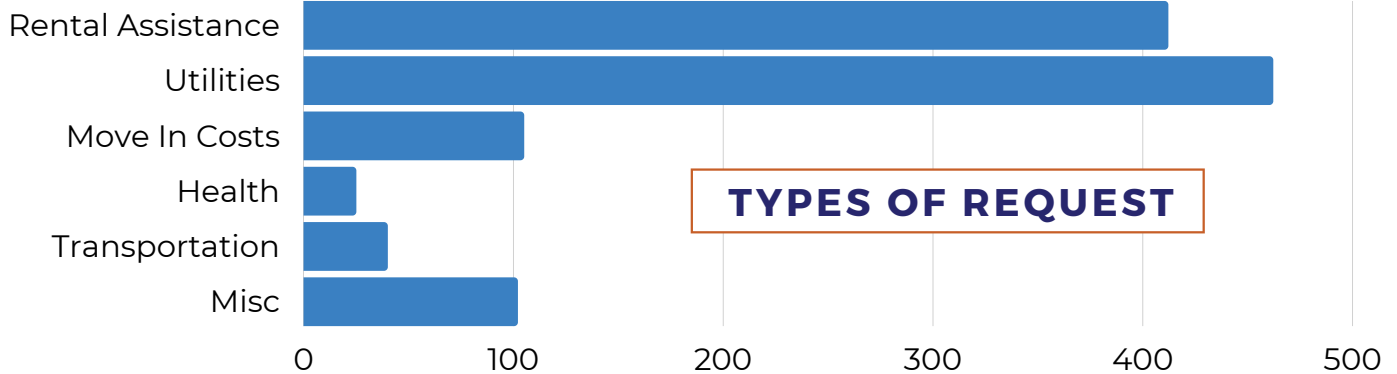
increase in the proportion of requests assisting immigrant households

**44%**

increase in requests assisting households with children

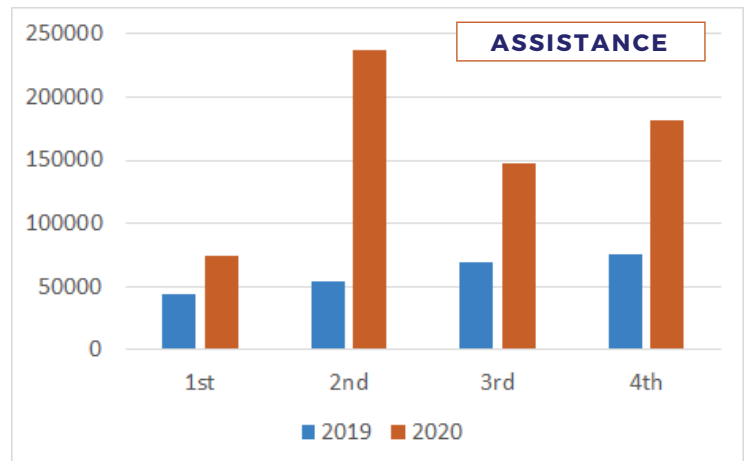
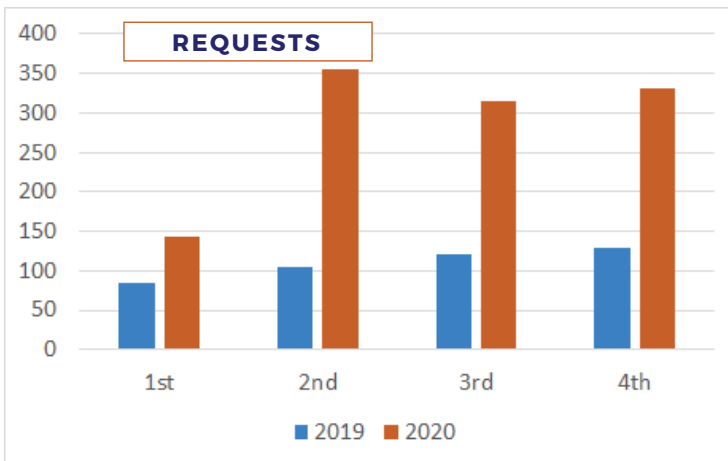
**June 19**

By June 19th, the total number of request from 2019 had been surpassed



## TYPES OF REQUEST

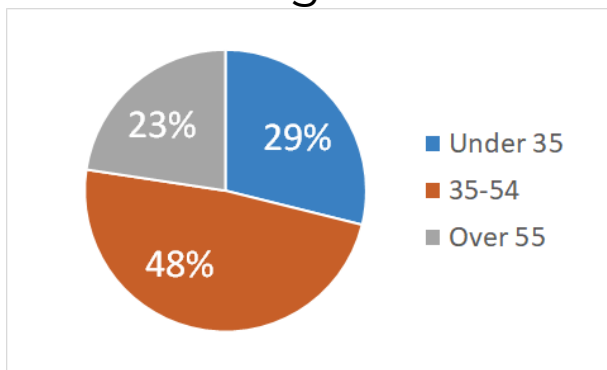
### Breakdown by Quarter



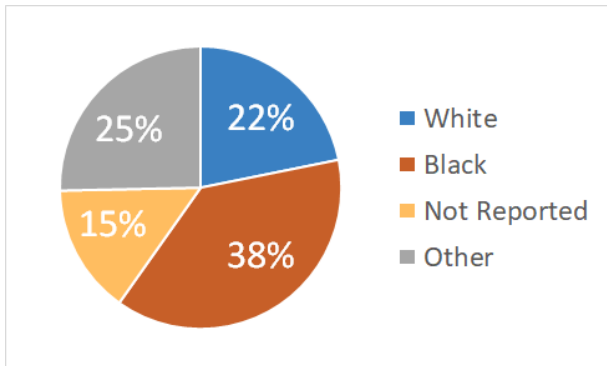
# WHO WE SERVED

## DEMOGRAPHICS

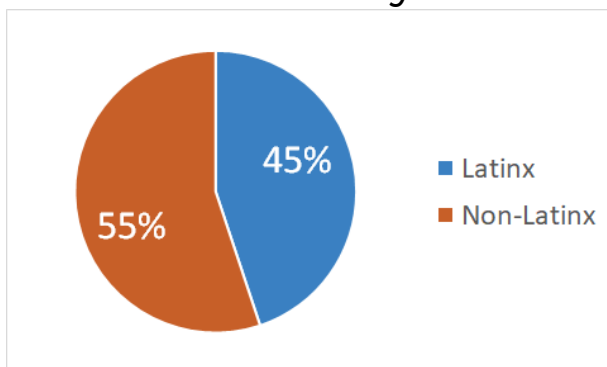
Age



Race



Ethnicity

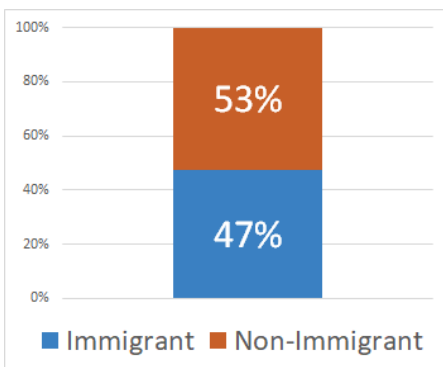
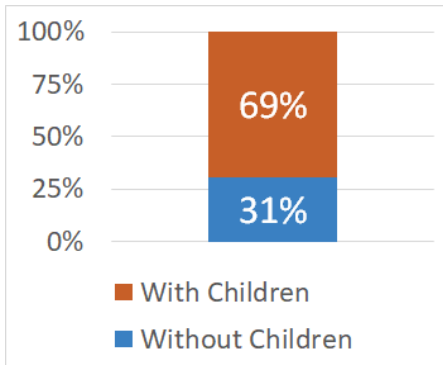


**1145**

Total Requests  
Funded

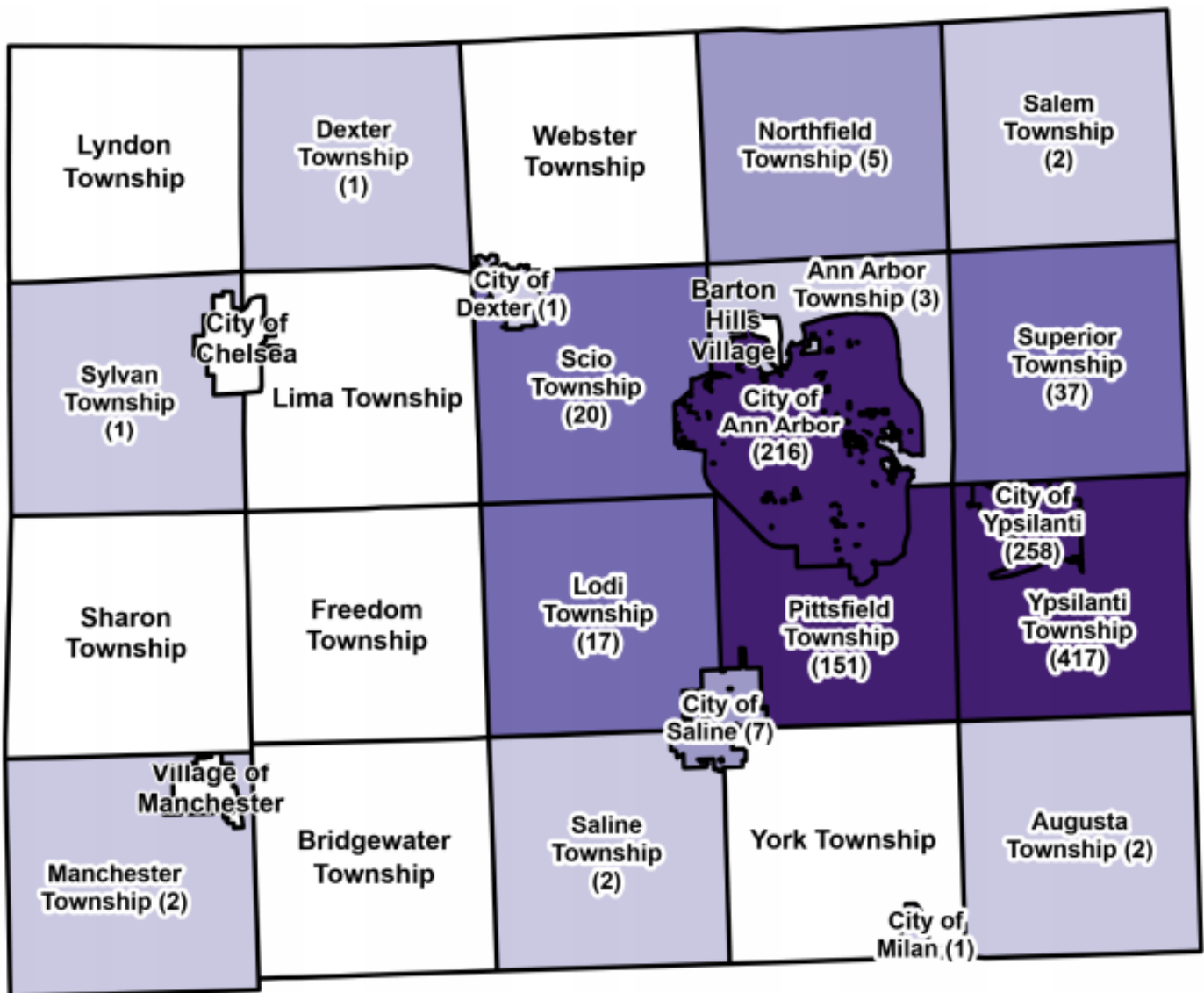
**\$739,742**

Total Assistance  
Provided



# WHERE WE SERVED

## GIS MAP OF REQUESTS





# CITY OF ANN ARBOR REPORT

**216**

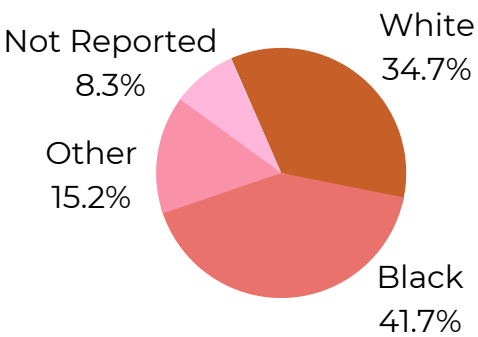
Total Requests Funded  
*18.9% of Countywide Requests*

**\$142,034**

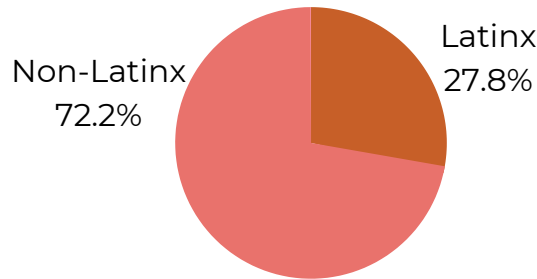
Total Assistance Provided  
*19.2% of Countywide Funds*

## Demographics

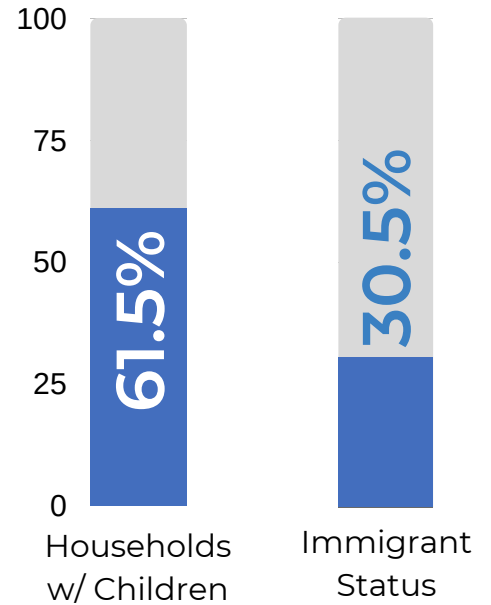
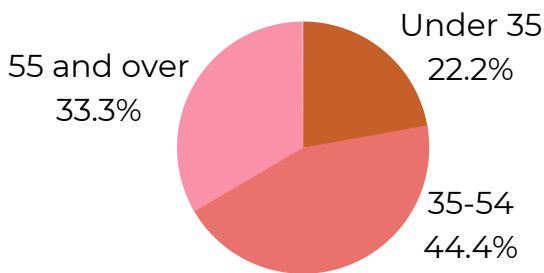
### Race



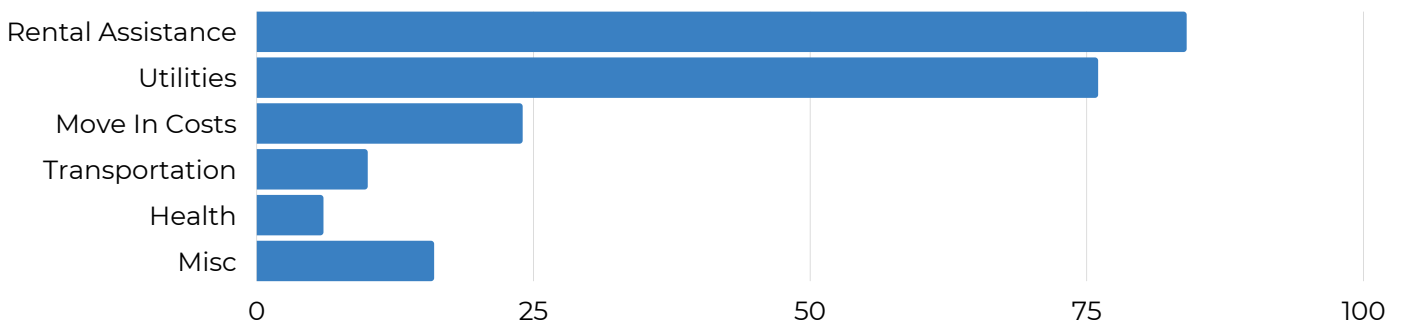
### Ethnicity



### Age



## Covid-19 Requests





# CITY OF YPSILANTI REPORT

## 258

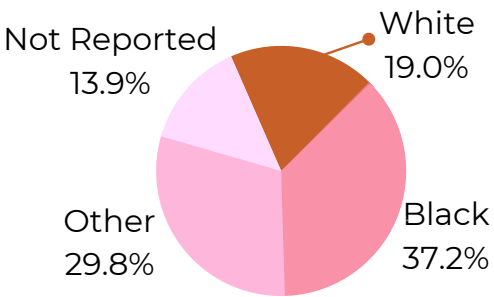
Total Requests Funded  
*22.5% of Countywide Requests*

## \$161,320

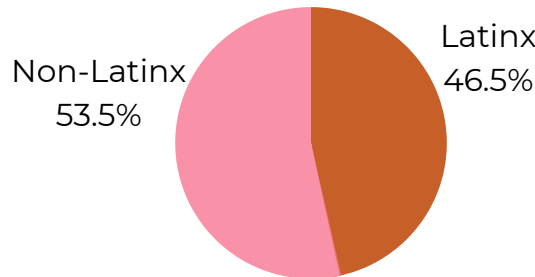
Total Assistance Provided  
*21.8% of Countywide Funds*

## Demographics

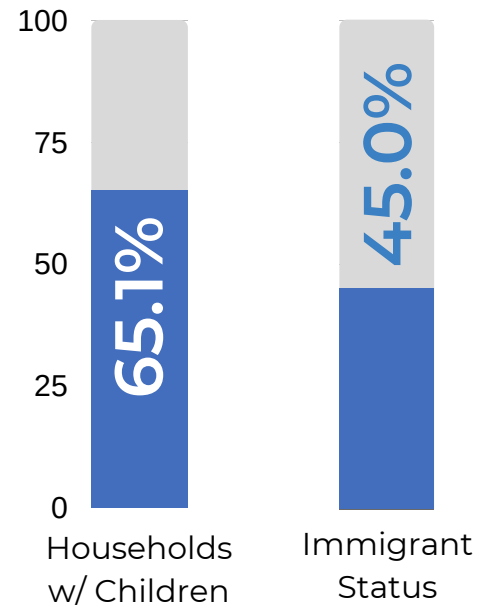
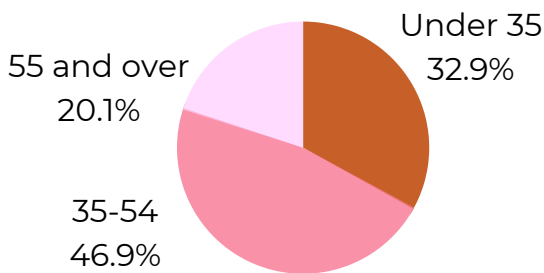
### Race



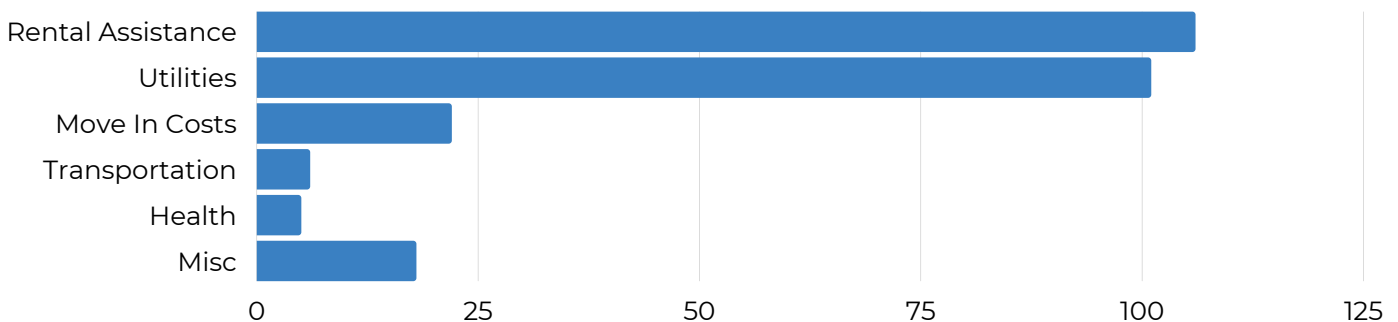
### Ethnicity



### Age



## Covid-19 Requests





# PITTSFIELD TOWNSHIP REPORT

## 151

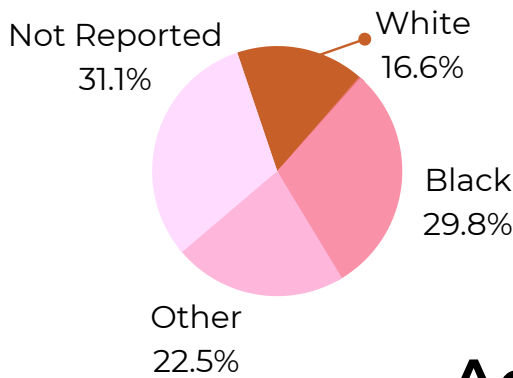
Total Requests Funded  
13.2% of Countywide Requests

## \$94,661

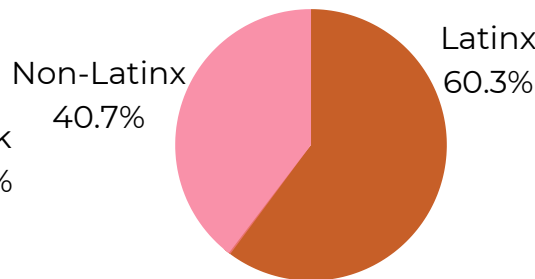
Total Assistance Provided  
12.8% of Countywide Funds

## Demographics

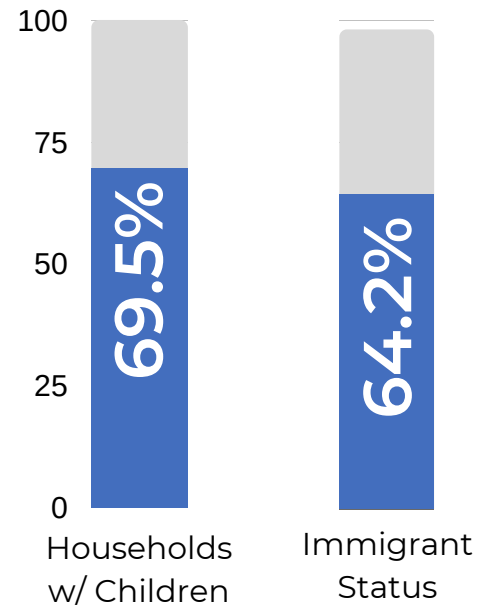
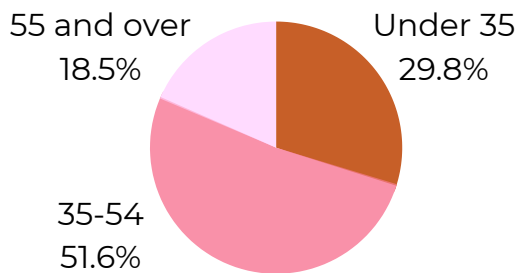
### Race



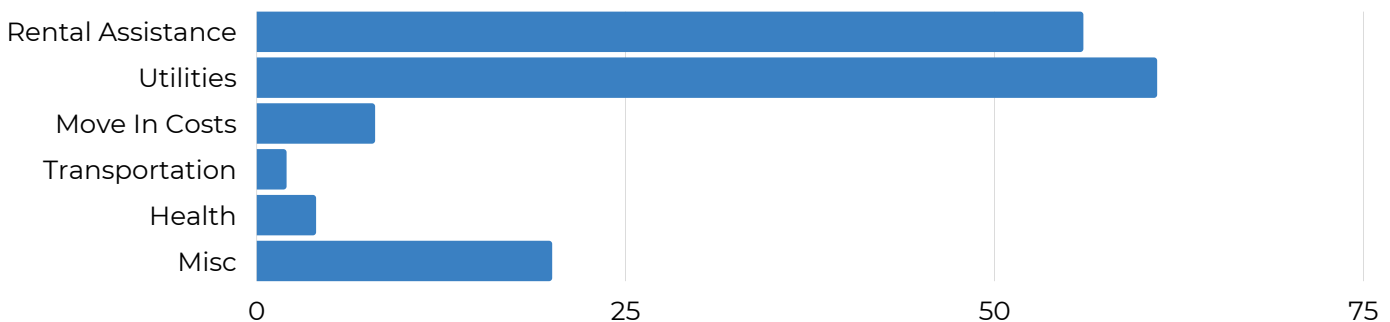
### Ethnicity



### Age



## Covid-19 Requests







# YPSILANTI TOWNSHIP REPORT

## 417

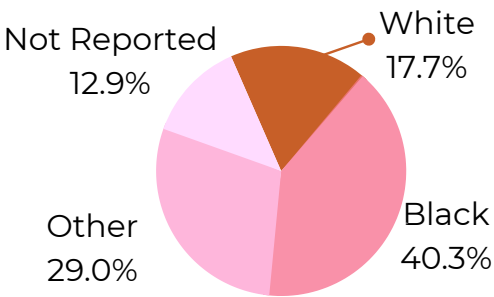
Total Requests Funded  
*36.4% of Countywide Requests*

## \$268,074

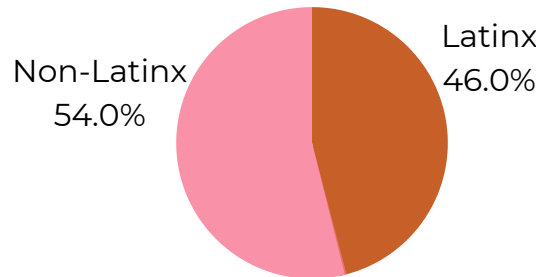
Total Assistance Provided  
*35.8% of Countywide Funds*

## Demographics

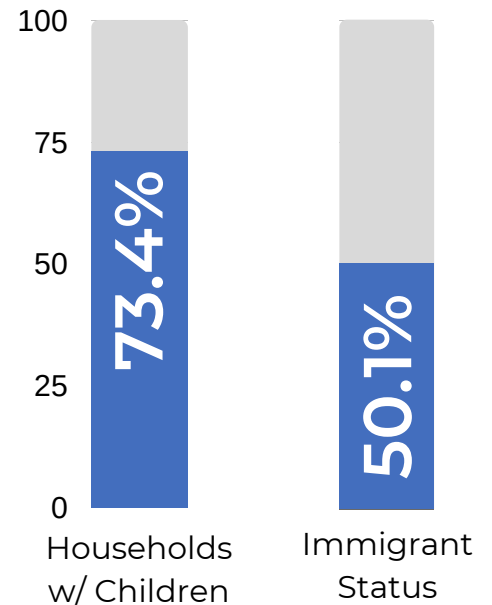
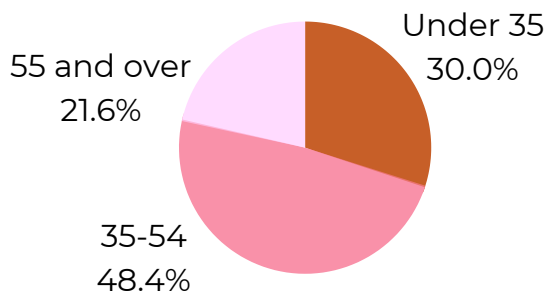
### Race



### Ethnicity



### Age



## Covid-19 Requests

