

Understanding the Superstorm Sandy Profiles: At-a-Glance

Superstorm Sandy Devastates New Jersey

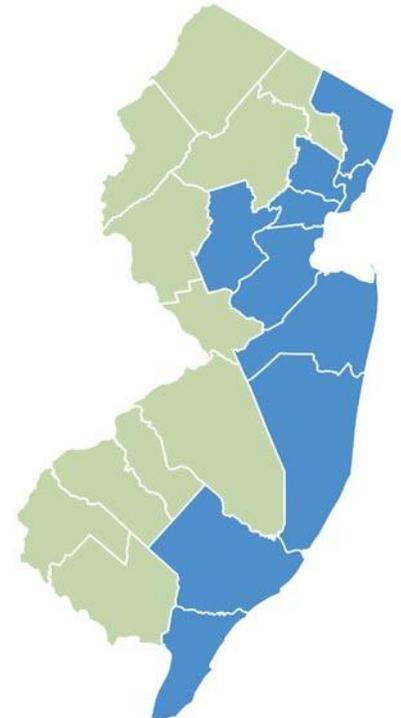
On October 29, 2012 Superstorm Sandy hit the Eastern Seaboard of New Jersey displacing thousands of residents and destroying homes and businesses.

The disaster placed more than 822,000 Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries at an elevated risk for behavioral health issues, especially those with pre-existing mental health conditions.

Project Framework

HQSI received funding from Medicare for a special innovations project designed to develop data profiles to assist 10 selected communities—within the 10 FEMA-declared disaster counties—form targeted, community-based approaches to:

- Increasing Medicare-covered depression screenings among at-risk beneficiaries residing in the 10 targeted communities
- Using behavioral health data to enhance each community's ability to coordinate behavioral health services during and after a disaster



What's in These Profiles?

Population demographics and breakdown based on Medicare FFS claims data defines the population of interest

- County: Page 11; Community: Page 11

Observations on the widespread presence and occurrence of eight selected behavioral health conditions before and after Superstorm Sandy

- County: Page 18; Community: Page 13

Widespread presence of pre-existing conditions that may increase a beneficiary's risk for developing depression or proxy disorders

- County: Page 34; Community: Page 29

Utilization of both behavioral and non-behavioral health services to provide a more accurate representation of the care sought by beneficiaries with mental health conditions

- Outpatient Health Services – County: Pages 41 – 56; Community: Pages 35 – 48
- Inpatient Health Services – County: Pages 59 – 75; Community: Pages 49 – 62

Lists and maps of the major healthcare facilities that provide 90% of all health services to beneficiaries residing in their community

- Community: Page 63

How to Use These Profiles

- The Medicare depression screening data can help providers target areas with low utilization rates to increase individual screening
- The utilization of inpatient and outpatient health services data can inform communities to address behavioral health issues across the continuum of care
- The behavioral health conditions and risk factors for depression or proxy disorders data can help communities better prepare for treating behavioral health conditions through action planning (action plan samples and templates can be found at: <http://www.hqsi.org/index/Super-Storm-Sandy/Super-Storm-Sandy-Capacity-Building1.html>)

Where to Find the Profiles

All 10 county and community profiles are available on the HQSI website at: <http://www.hqsi.org/index/Super-Storm-Sandy/Super-Storm-Sandy-Profiles.html>