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Oral Histories Help Document the Impact of COVID-19 on Cache Valley's Latinx Community

Virginia Hernandez
Utah State University

Jasmine Morales
Utah State University

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Jasmine Morales
Utah State University



Virginia Hernandez
Utah State University

Faculty Mentor
Dr. Crescencio López-González

Unique experiences during pandemic

The purpose of this investigation is to document the Latinx experience with COVID-19 in Cache Valley. For this research, we interviewed 12 Latinx families who explained in detail their perceived and conceived notions of COVID-19, and how they survived compounded social disadvantages such as fear of unemployment, inability to pay rent/mortgage, eviction, lack of safeguards in their jobs, worry about medical costs, isolation, and fear of deportation.

Finding shared themes

After the interviews, we identified five interconnected aspects that all families shared:

- 1) Fears and stigma about COVID-19;
- 2) Economic distress and how they received support from the community and government institutions;
- 3) Faith and community resiliency;
- 4) Mental health, addictions and fears;
- 5) Misinformation and beliefs ingrained in social norms.

Utah's critical community

Our findings suggest that during the pandemic, the Latinx community kept the economy from collapsing, sacrificing their health for their families and for this country. The community response saved many undocumented families from uncertainty and despair, helping families who otherwise would not have been able to receive any help or support.

Oral histories help document the impact of COVID-19 on Cache Valley's Latinx community

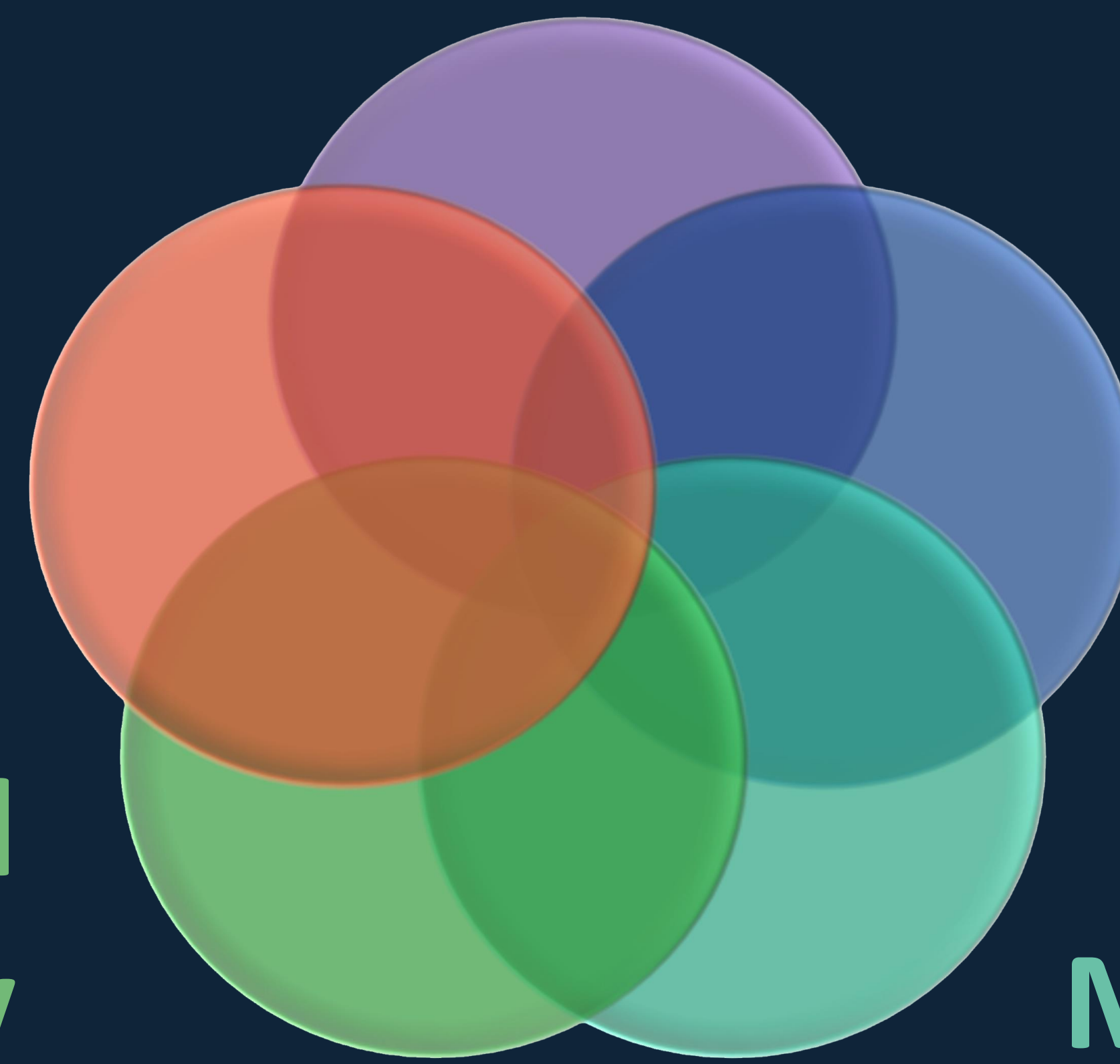
Economic distress

Fear and stigma

Mental health, addictions, and fears

Faith and community resiliency

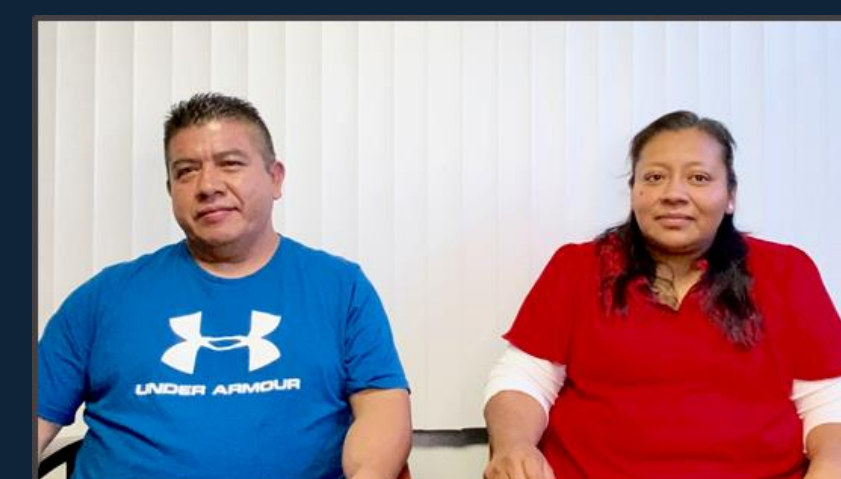
Misinformation and beliefs



Reyes Family



Delgado Family



Ceron Family



Fuentes Family



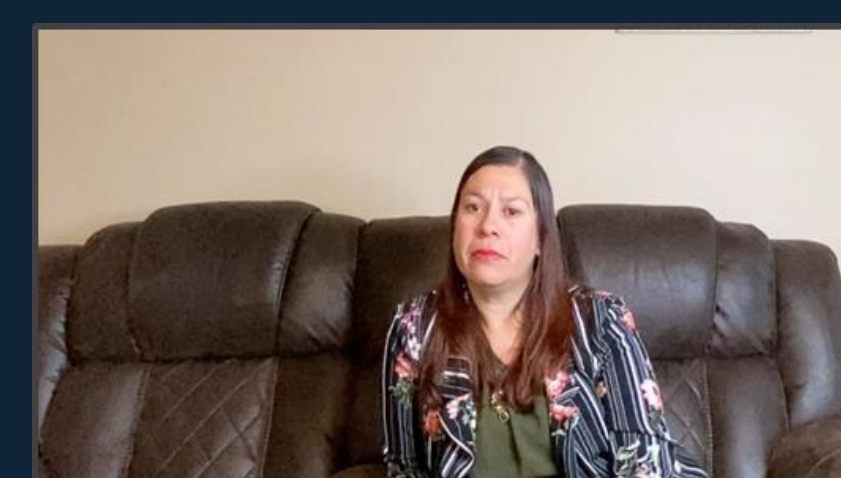
Meza Family



Segura Family



Morales' Family



Avila Family



Hernandez Family



Nava Family



Hernández Family

"If God is with you, who is against you? And that has stayed with me from my faith. Those are the moments that one must make it our own and the faith is shown."



Ceron Family

"I started cleaning in February 2020, I didn't have many clients. The few I had are elderly, they said "as a precaution right now it will be better. So at that time I didn't have much work."



Avila Family

"I think that since the majority of Latinos were affected, they probably said: "they don't take care of themselves, they don't take precautions." Most may have thought it was the people's fault, but we have to be realistic."



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