Children's Hospital of Philadelphia PolicyLab

Assessing Child Abuse Hotline Inquiries in the Wake of COVID-19: Answering the Call

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Experts are concerned about increasing child distress and maltreatment alongside decreasing exposure to mandated child abuse reporters, such as teachers, during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hotlines may serve as alternate means to identify family violence and support at-risk children. This study assessed the volume of calls and texts to a national child abuse hotline during the pandemic compared with the prior year.

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