Ontario County Climate Resource Centers

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Ontario County Public Health

Ontario County



Public Health

Ontario County Landscape



Photo Credit: Micah Mobley

Public Health

Statement of Need

Environmental Factors:

- Heat:
  - 116 days above 85°F in 2025
- Cold:
  - 120–140 days below 32°F annually
- Air Quality:
  - Ranks 22nd nationally for PM2.5 air quality vulnerability

Economic Factors:

- Housing Insecurity:
  - 300% increase since 2020
- ALICE Households
  - 11% of housing units have serious heating and cooling deficiencies.

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Project Objective

- Respond to climate challenges by expanding community partnerships
  - Develop libraries into **Climate Resource Centers**
    - Train library staff
    - Developing a clear activation
    - Developing a clear referral pathways to local health services, housing, and social support systems
    - Provide bus transportation to services/housing

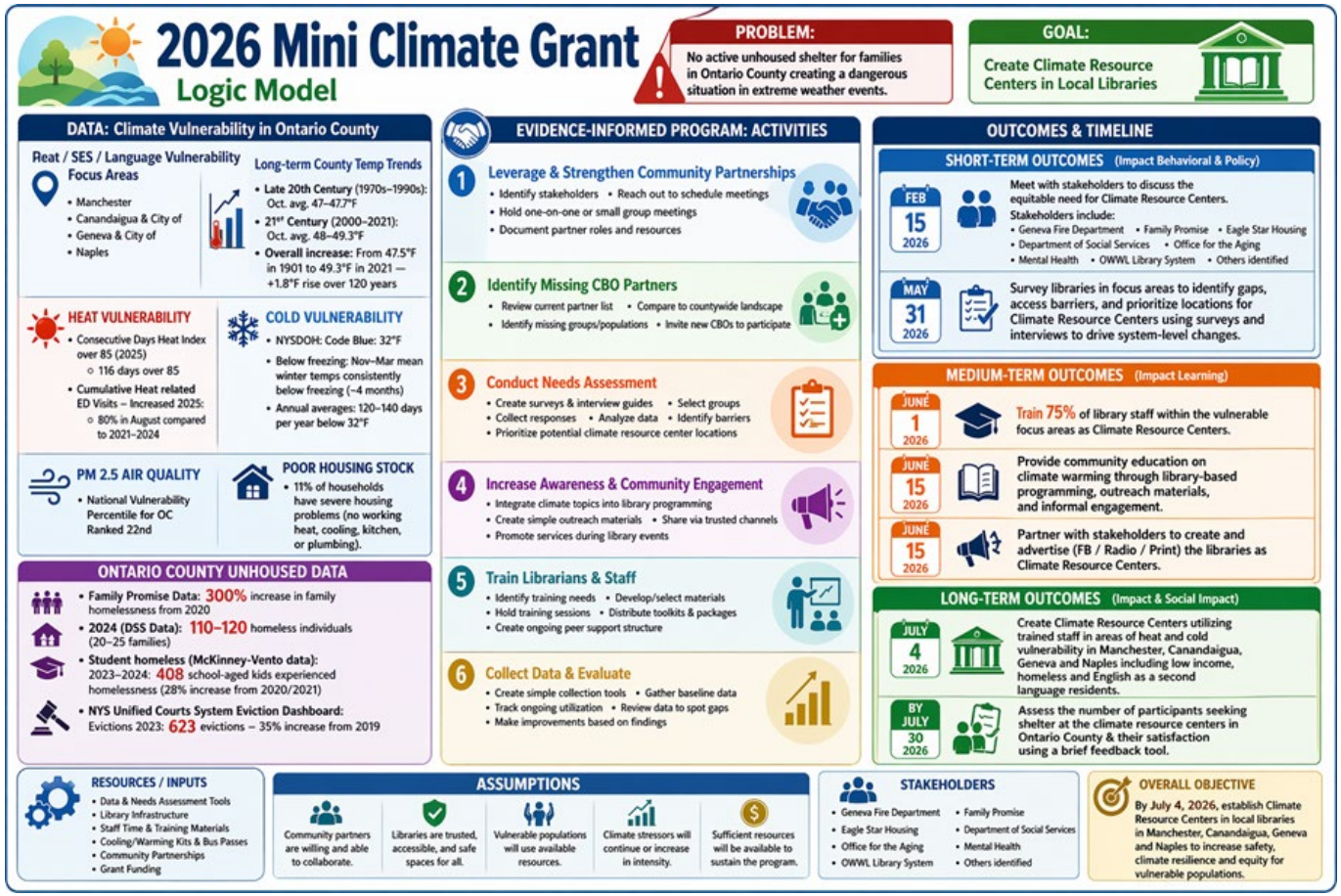
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Project Overview

- Target Audience:
  - People experiencing housing insecurity- low income families
  - Older adults on fixed incomes
  - Pregnant people
  - Unhoused residents

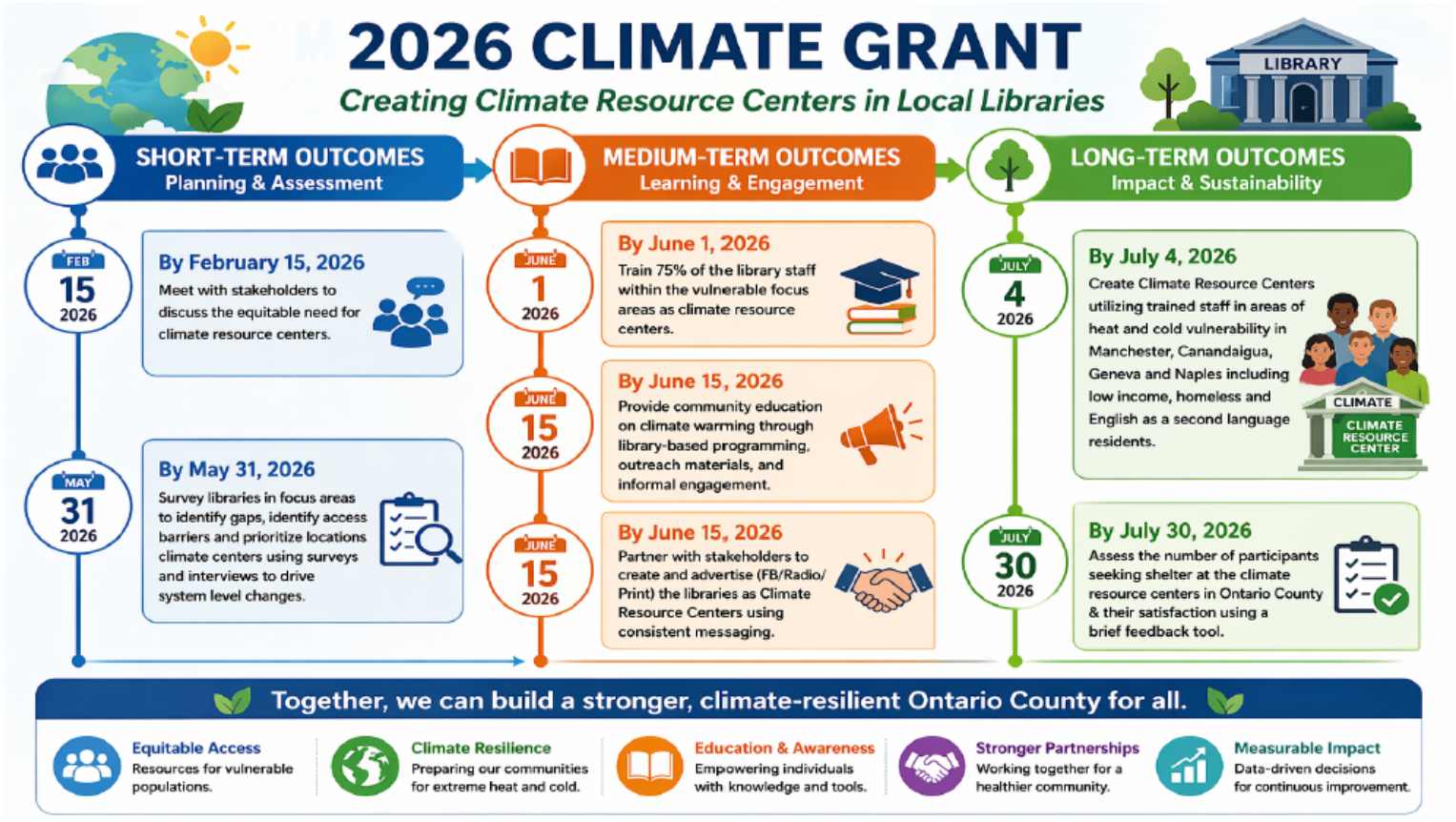
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Logic Model



AI Assisted image

Project Timeline & Objectives



AI assisted image

Collaboration

Planned Collaboration

- Manchester Library
- Canandaigua Library
- Geneva Library
- Naples Library
- Geneva Fire Department
- Ontario County DSS
- Office for the Aging
- Ontario County Mental Health
- Eagle Star
- Family Promise

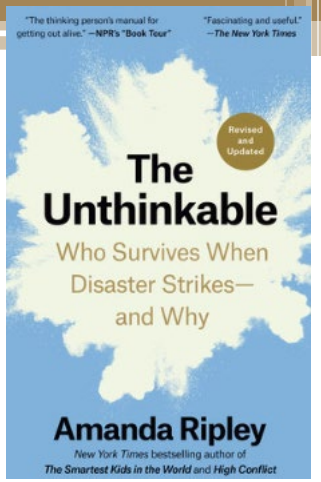
Additional Collaboration

- Bloomfield Library
- Bristol Library
- Clifton Springs Library
- Gorham Library
- Honeoye Public Library
- Red Jacket Community Library
- Victor-Farmington Library

Project Activities

- Short-Term Outcomes
  - Met with stakeholders, discuss need for equitable Climate resource Centers (February, 2026/ OC Leadership)
  - Met with OWWL Library Directors. Needs assessment, ID barriers & prioritize needs (May 6, 2026)

Project Activities



- Medium-term Outcomes
  - Train at least 75% of library staff on Manchester, Canandaigua, Geneva, Naples
    - Completed in-person and via YouTube in-services for all 11 libraries
  - Provide community education about climate and disasters
    - Book review for *The Unthinkable* by Amanda Ripley, (4/25/26)
  - Existing and newly identified stakeholders
    - Created and advertised Climate Resource Centers

Project Activities

- Long-term Outcomes
  - Create Climate Resource Centers utilizing trained staff in areas of heat and cold vulnerability in Manchester, Canandaigua, Geneva and Naples
    - Trained 100% of staff from 11 OC libraries
  - Assess the number of participants seeking shelter at the climate resource centers in Ontario County & their satisfaction using a brief feedback tool.

Budget

Item	Description	Cost
Educational Material		
Resource Toolkit	Copies needed to create the library resource education toolkit	In-kind
PowerPoint for Library Trainings	Staff time to create PowerPoint education visuals for libraries	In-kind
Translation of materials	Translation of materials to Spanish	In-kind
Social Media & Advertising		
Facebook boost	Facebook boosts targeted in vulnerable areas.	$200.00
Supplies		
Create and distribute cooling packages	Pre-packaged items with water, cold packs, electrolyte packets, cooling towels ($9.34-pack)	107 kits (approx. may be less after factoring in delivery) $1000.00
Create and distribute warming packages	Winter hats, handwarmers, socks, emergency blankets, and gloves ($10.45-pack)	95 kits (approx. final quantity dependent on shipping logistics) $1000.00
Water and Protein Bars	To be added to the packages	$200.00
Meetings		
Meeting venue	Webex and County Offices	In-kind
Incentives		
RTS Bus Pass	RTS bus pass to transport from the Climate Resource Center to emergency housing	$600.00
	Total Award	**$3,000**

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Library Director Meeting

Warming & Cooling Centers
for Library Directors

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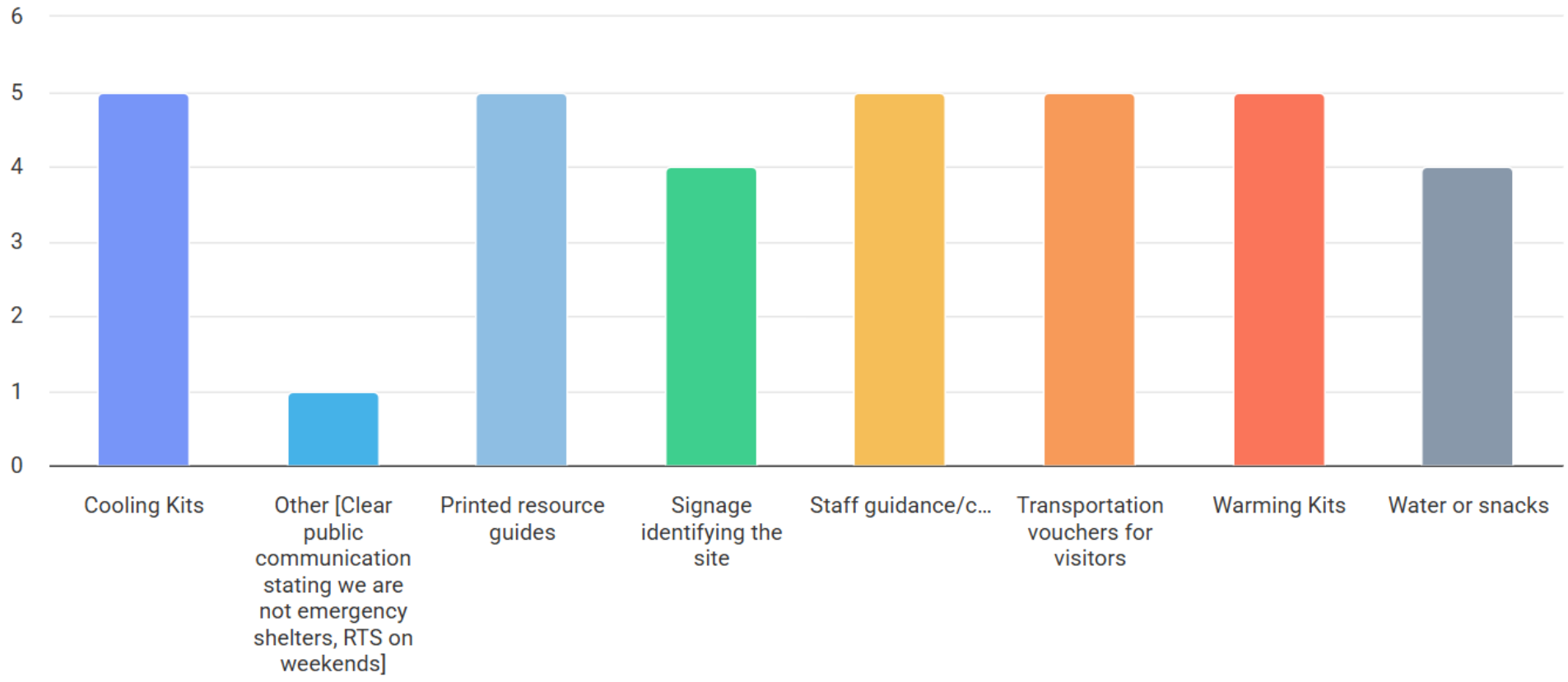
Accredited Health Department
PHAB
Advancing Public Health Performance
Public Health Accreditation Board

Public Health

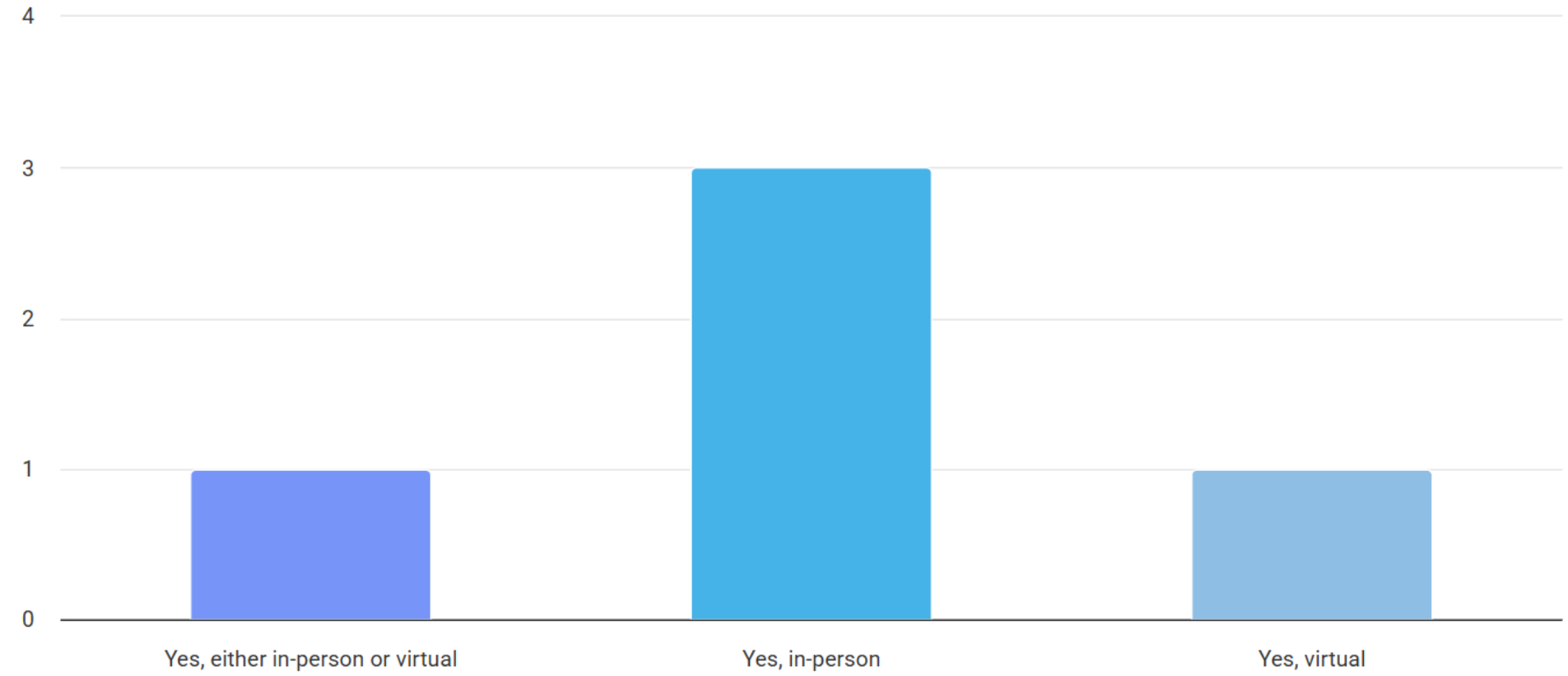
Needs Assessment

- Survey via Clear Impact at the Library Director meeting.
  - 5 responded out of 11
- Seasonal Cooling and Warming Support Policy
  - Created by the OWWL Directors
  - Signed by the Board of Trustees
- Training for library staff
  - List of resources needed
  - YouTube and in-person training needed

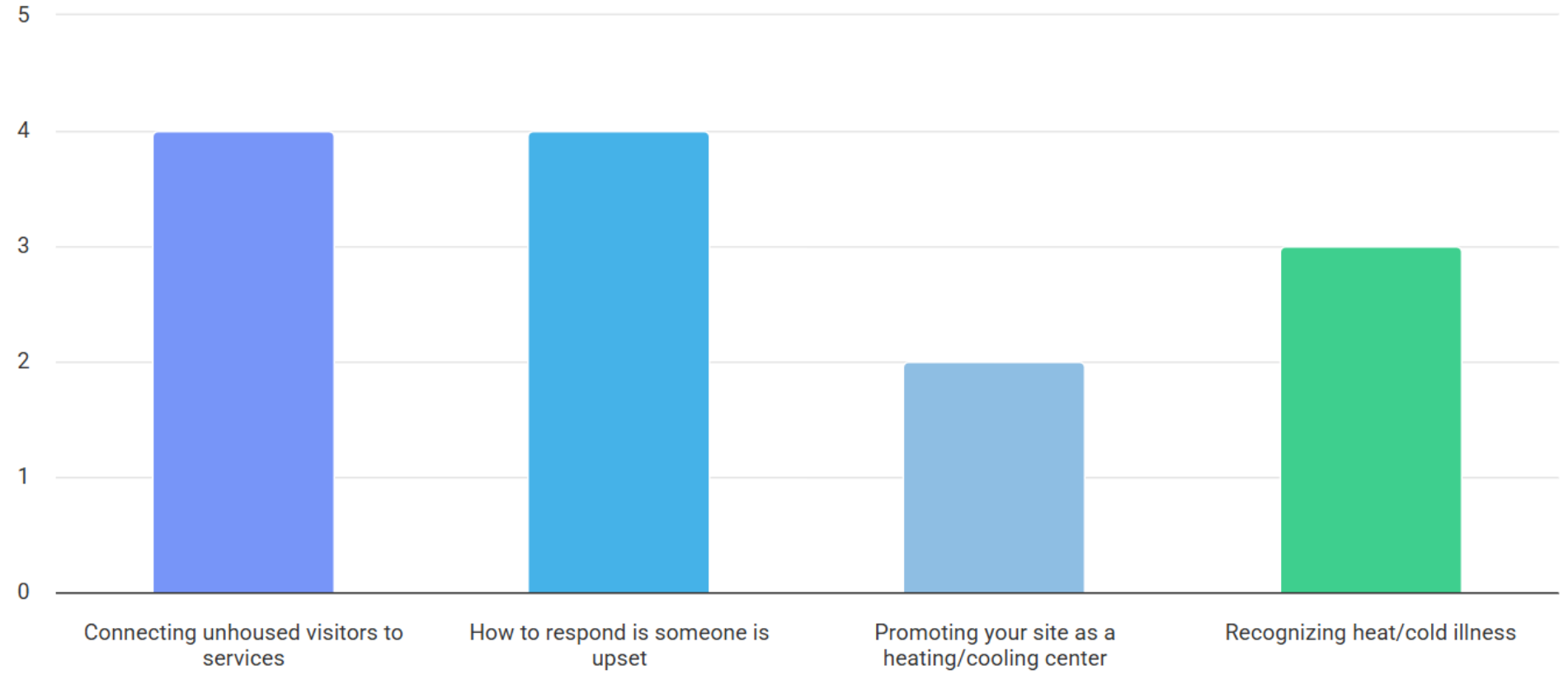
What do you need to be successful as a heating/cooling center? (Check all that apply)



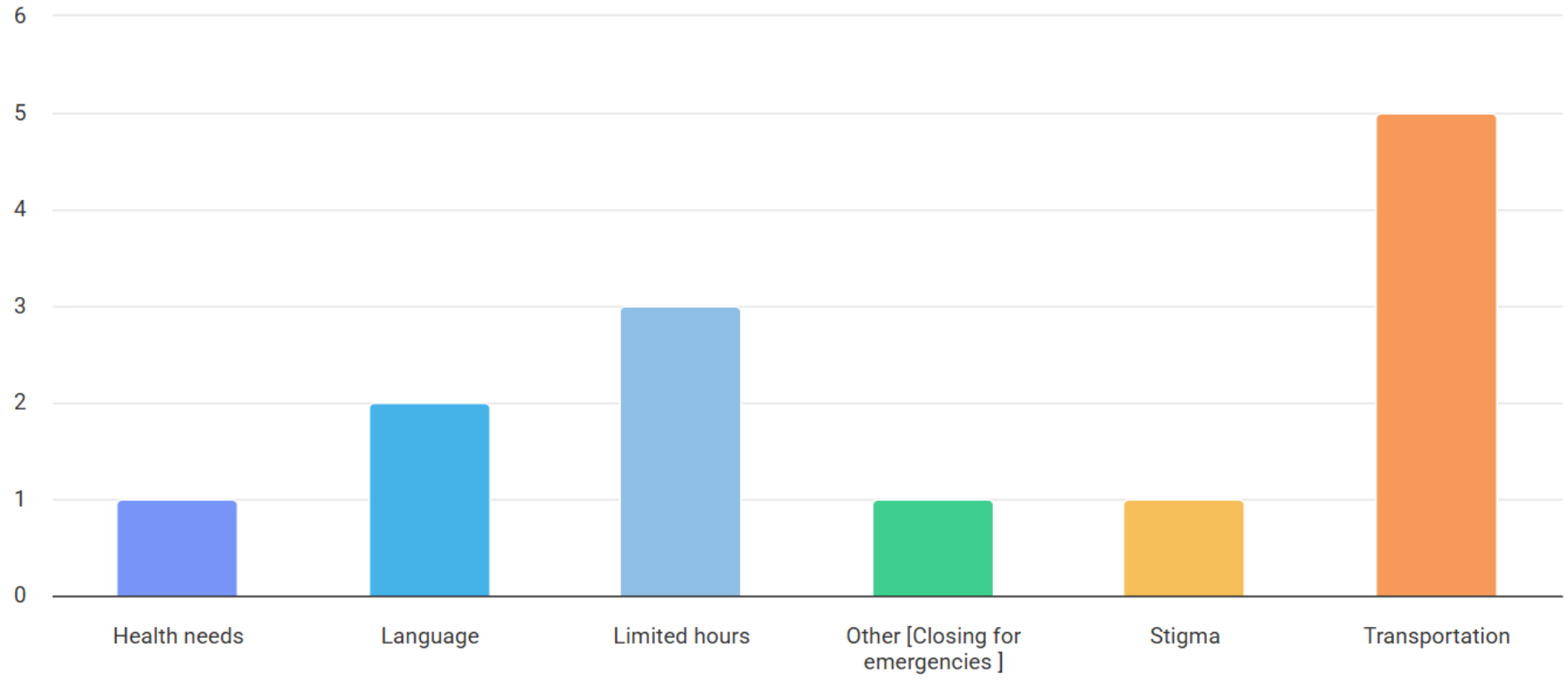
Would you like OCPH staff to deliver a training to your staff about being a heating/cooling center?



What topics would be most helpful to discuss in a staff training?



What challenges might make it hard for people to use a heating/cooling center? (Check all that apply)



Do you have suggestions for other locations that could serve as heating/cooling centers when you are closed?

- Fire departments
- Epic Zone
- Boys and Girls Club of Geneva
- YMCA
- Hospitals
- Churches

Do you have concerns about serving as a heating/cooling center?

- Clarity to public on expectations
- Communication of closing when unsafe for staff
- Not as long as it's during regular hours and there's not a winter emergency
- Space limits
- Staffing levels, no one is a social worker on staff, code of conduct policy, space restrictions.

Activation of Climate Resource Centers

Activation sequence:

1. Email Alert from NYSDOH
2. OCPH: Email Climate Resource Centers/Libraries
3. Internal library communication
4. Lawn signs up
5. Distribution of heating or cooling kits, water, granola as needed

Centers Activated

Heat:

- June 10 - June 13, 2026
- June 30 - July 4, 2026
- July 14 – July 17, 2026

Air Quality Health Advisory for PM2.5:

- July 15, 2026
- AQI: 101-150: Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

WARMING AND COOLING CENTER

THIS IS A WARM/COOL PLACE TO HANG OUT DURING EXTREME WEATHER.



Ask your librarian about local resources



Open during regular library hours as safety allows



Not a shelter, just for daytime relief

Please contact the library for hours.

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SUMMER COOL DOWN GRAB & GO POUCH KIT

SKU: K2099-E
MSRP: $14.40
List Price: $9.63

$9.63 / each

1 EA



WINTER WARM UP GRAB & GO KIT

SKU: K2096
MSRP: $15.97
List Price: $8.78

$8.78 / each

1 EA

Tangibles





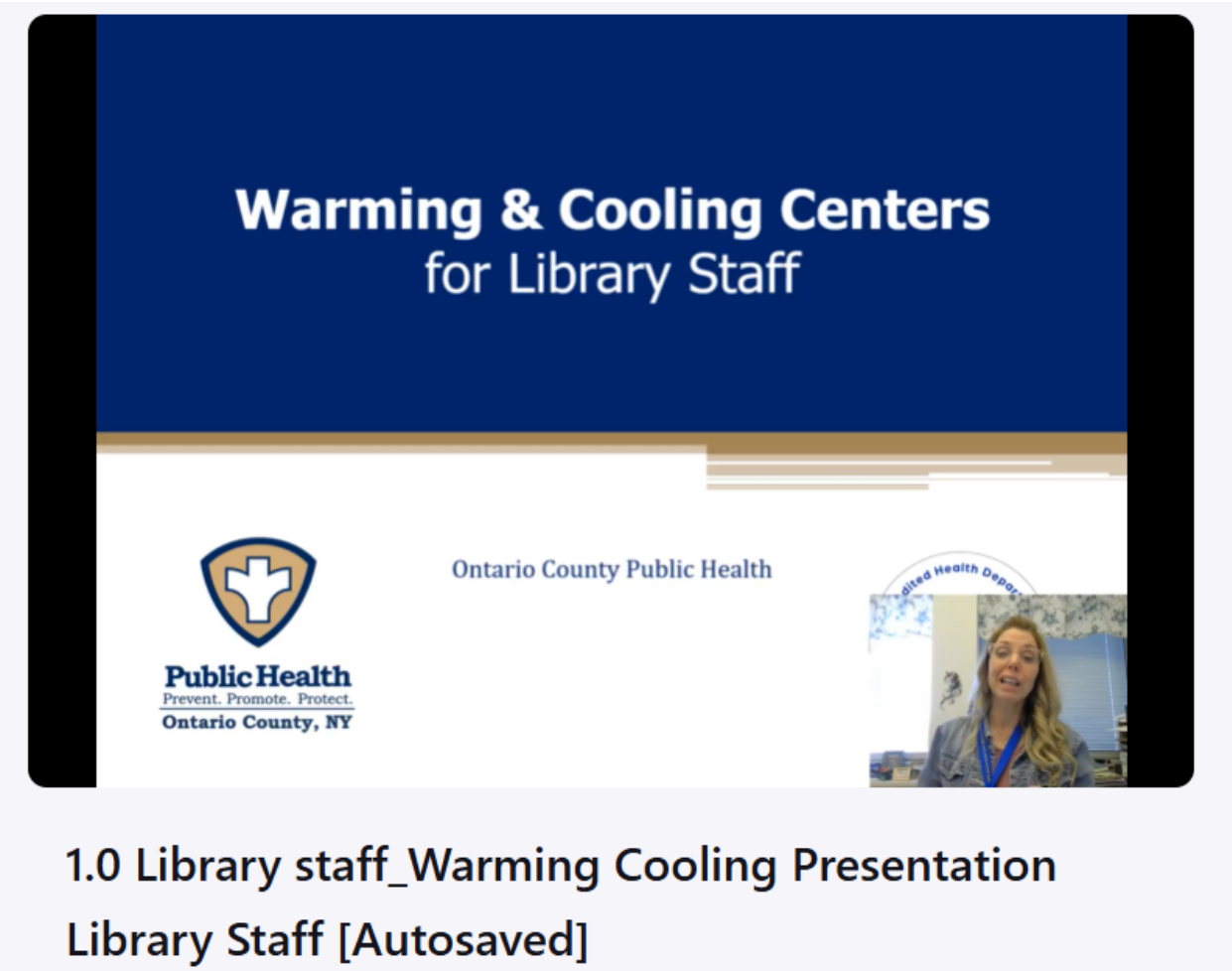


RTS Bus past for transportation to hotel

Images Created



YouTube



Library Staff Training for Climate Resource Centers

Social Media

11.2 K Followers
385.4 K Views



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ONTARIO COUNTY RESOURCES

Emergency Housing

Ontario County Department of Social Services (DSS)
Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
585-396-4060 (Canandaigua)
315-789-2841 (Geneva)
After hours: Call 9-1-1



Veterans can call DSS or Eagle Star Housing:
Call: 585-978-8123

Blessing Boxes

Geneva
- The Blessing Box - 54 Avenue E, Geneva

Canandaigua:
- Pay It Forward Food Pantry - 4518 NY 64, Canandaigua

Clifton Springs:
- Phelps Blessing Box - 4 Railroad Ave, Clifton Springs

Phelps:
- **United Church of Phelps -** 58 Main Street

Honeyoe:
- Free little Pantry - 8842 Main St. Honeoye

Victor:
- Grammy's Blessing Box - 298 High Street Victor

Food & Services

Call 211 or NY Connects (1-800-342-9871)
Food Distributions
Visit: Foodlink.org

4/27/26

Free Meal Sites

Geneva
- Community Lunch Program - First United Methodist Church, 340 South Main St | Mon-Fri 11:45-12:15
- Blueprint Geneva Community Kitchen - 143 Wadsworth St | Pay-what-you-can | Sun 2-4 PM
- Ronnie's Cedar Inn, Lenox Drive – Delivery in Geneva, must call 315-789-4385

Canandaigua:
- Gleaners Community Kitchen - 183 N Main St | Mon-Fri 10 AM-1 PM

Victor:
- Free Community Dinners - Presbyterian Church of Victor, 70 East Main St | 2nd, 3rd and 4th Saturdays of the month from 5-6:30 pm

65+ Meal Sites

Reservations required
Call 585-919-2773
(Office for the Aging)

Canandaigua
- Salvation Army, 110 Saltonstall St | Thu 11:30 AM

Clifton Springs
- SPA Apartments, 10 E Main St | Mon-Fri 4 PM

Geneva
- Elmcrest Manor, 19 Elm St | Tue & Thu 12:15 PM
- Lyceum Heights, 150 Lyceum St | Mon, Wed & Fri 11:45 AM

Gorham
- Fire Company, 4676 Kearney Rd | Wed 11:45 AM

Honeoye
- United Church of Christ, 8758 Main St | Tue & Thu 12 PM

Ionia
- United Methodist Church, 2120 Elton Rd | Tue 12:15 PM

Shortsville
- Fire Hall, 5 Sheldon St | Mon & Wed 12:15 PM

Social Media

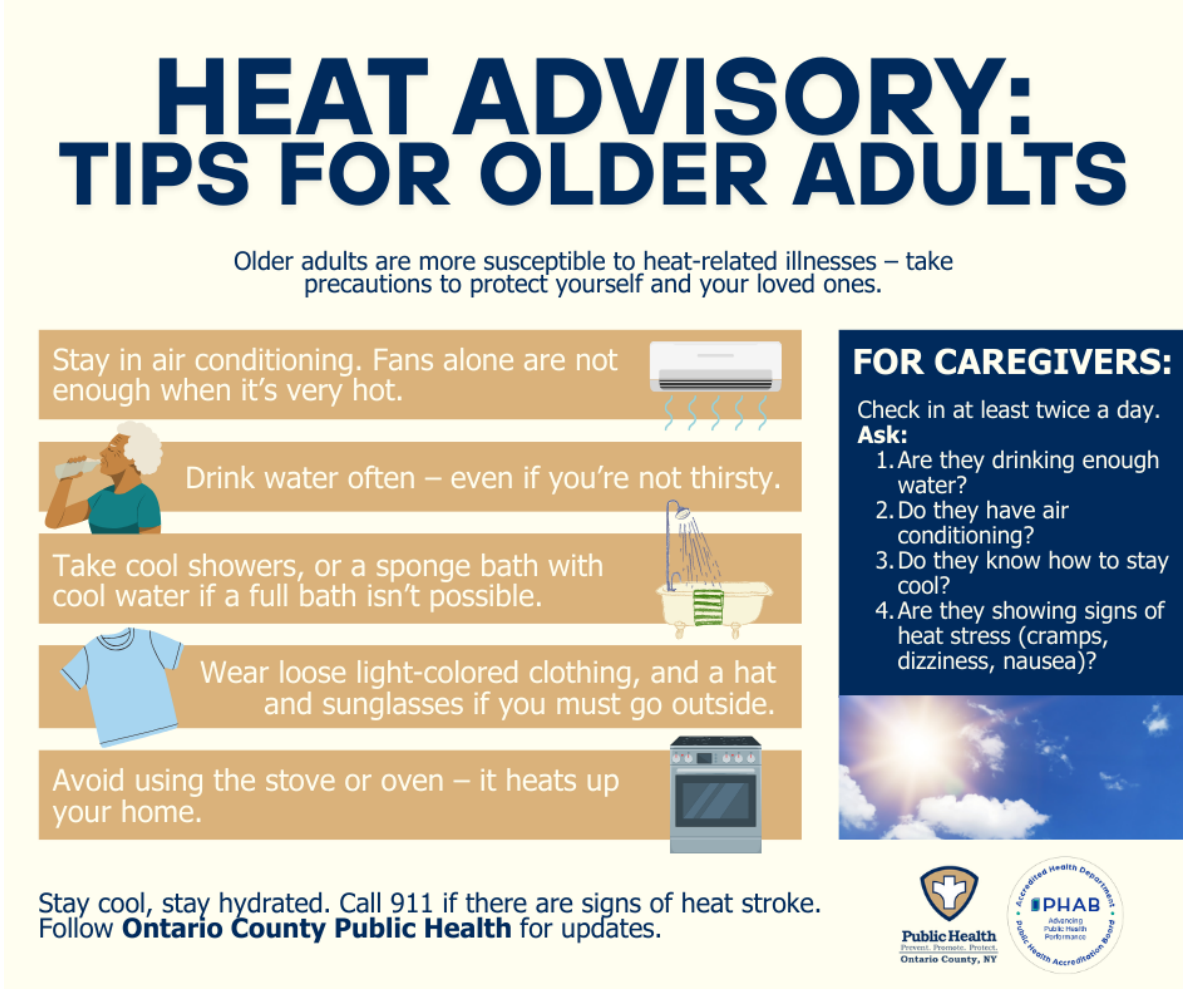
33,448 Post engagement views from paid advertisement



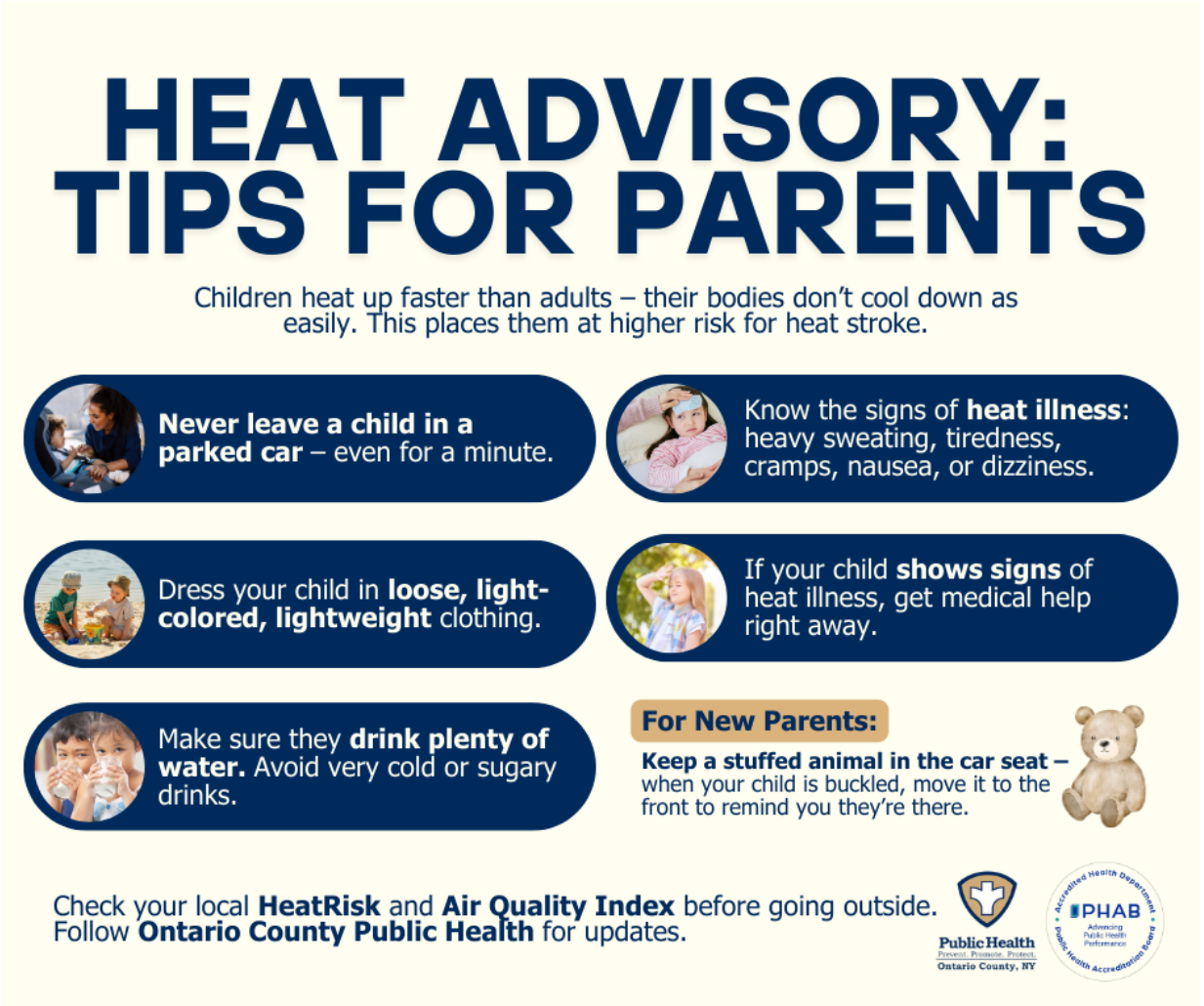
Social Media



Social Media



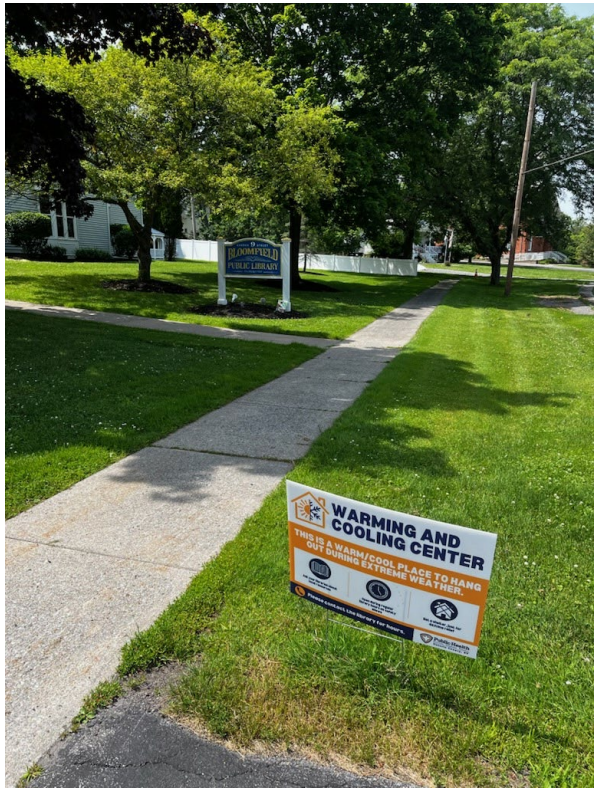
Social Media



Social Media



Images of Climate Resource Centers In-Kind Lawn Signs

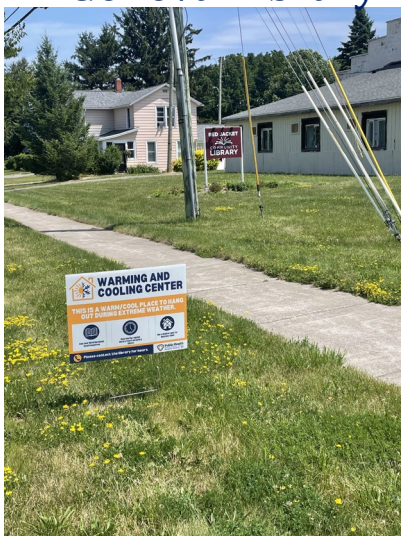


Bloomfield Library

Wood Library



Geneva Library





Red Jacket Library

Lessons Learned

- Utilization:
  - Average increased library traffic: 10%
  - Didn't expect to use them during air quality event so soon
  - RGE/NYSEG electric bills- pushed utilization
- Heating/Cooling Packets:
  - Not as advertised water vs juice
- Facebook:
  - Rejected post: "Climate"

Thank You

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