

CAREGIVERS

& COVID-19

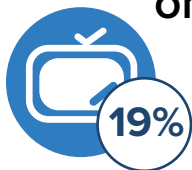
The Elizabeth Dole Foundation deployed a survey in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis to help determine the most pressing needs of the military and veteran caregiver community. These results help us quantify the impact of COVID and guide what support the Foundation and our partners provide in the weeks and months ahead.

56% of respondents report **lower caregiver effectiveness** as a result of the COVID-19 crisis...

77% of respondents indicate the COVID-19 crisis has a **negative impact on wounded warrior care recipients**

CAREGIVER NEEDS

Nearly **50%** of respondents indicated one or more **immediate needs**



Family recreational and social support



Delivery of groceries, medical supplies and other essentials



Keeping up a sense of community



Mental health support for WW or other family member

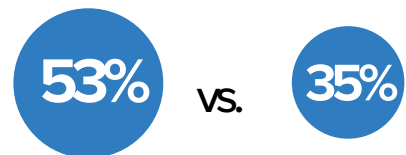


General financial assistance due to lack of income



CAREGIVERS WITH CHILDREN

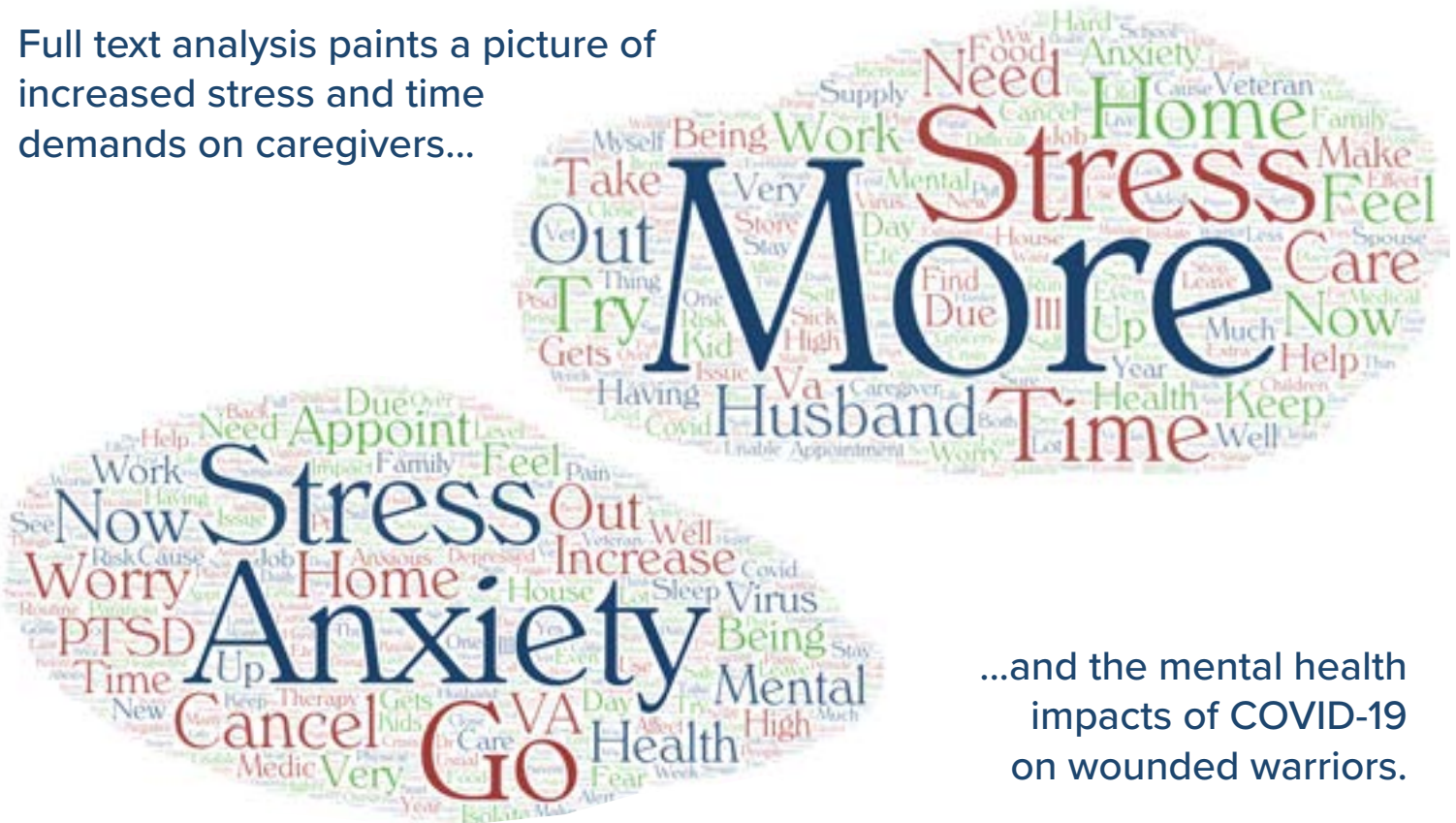
Caregiver households with children have more acute immediate needs, and the added challenge of caring for children during school closures



53% of households with children indicated they had immediate needs, as compared with 35% of households without children.

Caregivers everywhere are struggling

Full text analysis paints a picture of increased stress and time demands on caregivers...



...and the mental health impacts of COVID-19 on wounded warriors.

“With the increase of his **PTSD** and **TBI** symptoms, I’m having to focus mainly on him and trying to bring his **anxiety** and **stress** levels down. I’m not able to help with his independence training and working on things having to do with the rest of the family.”

“Everyone is more **stressed** out in the home. This leads to an **overwhelming burden** placed on my shoulders. As well, I have to hold it in and keep smiling, raising morale in the home, keeping my veteran and children happy and calm in this crisis.”

“He has usually been able to go outside the home to relieve emotional frustration and keep active. His **mental health** appointments were in person and his relationship to those providers has changed and is not as effective.”

“I usually do online ordering or shopping overnight. Now I cannot find online ordering time slots and having to shop frequently due to a combination of **shortages** and **limits** in place makes it really hard when you are the sole shopper with six people under your roof.

Responses suggest that, as a result of COVID-19, caregivers face even greater caregiving and household management responsibilities and wounded warriors face more struggles with mental health and isolation.