Finding and Using Data to Advocate Effectively for Children and Families

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Smart Start
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Young Children Need...

• Strong families with adequate income, time, flexibility, parenting information and support
• Access to health care (screening, medical home, health insurance)
• Quality early learning experiences
• Healthy and supportive communities
System of Services for Young Children

What Results Should a Comprehensive Early Childhood System Deliver?

- Comprehensive services that promote children’s physical, developmental, and mental health
- Nurturing relationships, safe environments, and enriching experiences that foster learning and development
- Resources, experiences, and relationships that strengthen families, engage them as leaders, and enhance their capacity to support children’s well being

Values and Principles
Optimally, a comprehensive early childhood system will:
- Reach all children and families, and as early as possible, with needed services and supports
- Genuinely include and effectively accommodate children with special needs
- Reflect and respect the strengths, needs, values, languages, cultures and communities of children and families
- Ensure stability and continuity of services along a continuum from prenatal into school entry and beyond
- Ease access for families and transitions for children
- Value parents as decision makers and leaders
- Catalyze and maximize investment and foster innovation

Key Questions

- Who are the young children in your state/community?
- Where are the children in child care and early education?
- What do children and families need to thrive?
- How can data paint a picture of child well-being in your state?
Who Are the Young Children in Your State/Community?
Many Young Children Are Poor or Low-Income...

Children Under Age 6 by Family Income, 2011

- **Poor (under 100% of poverty)**: 26%
- **Low-income (100-200% of poverty)**: 23%
- **Above 200% of poverty**: 51%

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty.
...And the Youngest Children Are Most Likely to be Poor

Children Living in Low-income and Poor Families in the U.S. by Age Group, 2009

- Birth - 2: 25% Poor, 48% Low-Income
- 3-5: 24% Poor, 48% Low-Income
- 6-11: 21% Poor, 44% Low-Income
- 12-17: 18% Poor, 40% Low-Income

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty.
Young Children Face Multiple Risk Factors for Unhealthy Development

Exposure to Multiple Risk Factors Among Young Children, 2011

- 0 risks: 34%
- 1-2 risks: 41%
- 3+ risks: 20%

These risks include: lives in poverty, with a single parent, in households where both parents have less than a high school education, in families with parents who do not speak English well or at all; and/or has parents with no paid employment.

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty.
Young Children Are Racially/Ethnically Diverse...

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty

Note: Percentages do not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.
...And Children of Color Are an Emerging Majority

Racial/Ethnic Disparities Endure Over Time

FCD Child Well-being Index (CWI)

Source: "Measuring Social Disparities" (2008) by Donald J. Hernandez and Suzanne Macartney; University at Albany, SUNY.
The Immigration Context

- Children of immigrants are the fastest growing segment of the child population.
  - One out of four young children in the U.S. has an immigrant parent.
  - One out of seven young children in the U.S. has at least one limited English parent (LEP) parent.
  - One out of three young children of immigrants lives in a linguistically isolated household.

- Children of immigrants face advantages and disadvantages.

Where Are the Children in Child Care and Early Education?
Many Young Children Are in Care...

Percent of Children with a Weekly Non-parental Care Arrangement, by Age

- Under 1 year: 42%
- 1-2 years: 53%
- 3-5 years: 73%

...For Significant Portions of Time...

Hours Spent in Non-parental Child Care by Children Under 5 with Employed Mothers

- No Hours in Care, 18%
- 1-14 Hours, 16%
- 15-34 Hours, 25%
- 35 or More Hours, 41%

Primary Child Care Arrangements for Children 0-5 With Employed Mothers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arrangement</th>
<th>Below 200% of Poverty</th>
<th>200% of Poverty and Above</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent Care/No Regular Arrangement</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center-Based Care</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Child Care</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relative Care</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanny/Babysitter</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Child Care is Expensive, Particularly for Poor Families

Monthly Child Care Expenditures of Families with Employed Mothers as a Percent of Household Income

Federal Programs Serve a Fraction of Eligible Children

• Head Start serves 42 percent of eligible preschoolers and about 4 percent of eligible infants and toddlers in Early Head Start.

• Child care subsidies serve 17 percent of eligible children.

Source: HS analysis by NWLC; CCDBG analysis by HHS.
Children in the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Program, by Age

Ages of Children Served in CCDBG, U.S.

- Under 1 year: 6%
- 1 year: 11%
- 2 years: 13%
- 3 years: 14%
- 4 years: 13%
- 5 years: 10%
- 6 to 13 years: 33%
- 0 to < 6 years: 67%

Source: CLASP analysis of HHS 2010 data
Children in Head Start, by Race/Ethnicity

Source: CLASP calculations, 2011 PIR data.
Note: Hispanics may identify as any race, so percentages do not add to 100%.
What Do Children and Families Need to Thrive?
System of Services for Young Children

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Children Need Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment

- Only five states met or exceeded AAP recommendations for seven well-child visits for a child birth to age 1.
- In 20 states, at least 80 percent of young children enrolled in Medicaid (ages 3-5) receive at least one developmental screening annually.

Source: National Center for Children in Poverty, May 2010
Children Need Access to a Medical Home

• The State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) and Medicaid together insure 1 in 4 children. (2009)
  ▪ 38 percent of young children with public insurance do not have a medical home.
  ▪ 17 percent of poor and low-income young children remain uninsured.

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation and National Center for Children in Poverty.
Families Living in Poverty Face a Range of Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Access Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parenting Education</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency/Crisis Intervention</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Education</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing Assistance</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Training</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CLASP analysis of 2010 PIR data.
Families Need to be Food Secure

• In December 2012, SNAP participation was the highest level ever (47.8 million children and adults).
  ▪ 1 in 7 people in U.S. receive SNAP.
  ▪ 7 in 10 people eligible for SNAP receive benefits.
• Nearly half (47 percent) of SNAP recipients are children.
  ▪ 1 in 4 children in U.S. receive SNAP.

Source: USDA and Food Research Action Center (FRAC).
Children Under 6: 22%

Children Under 18: 21%

No Children: 12%

Basic family budgets

- The amount needed for a family to pay for housing, food, health care, child care and other expenses is well over the federal poverty level.
  - The median basic family budget across the US was $48,778 in 2007.
  - The federal poverty level in 2007 was $20,650 for a family of four.

How Can Data Paint the Picture of Child Well-Being in Your State?
What Does It All Mean?
Tell Your Story

• What is the state of young children in your community?
• Where are the unmet needs and gaps in services (particular age groups, demographic groups, programs and services)?
• How are early childhood programs helping families connect to needed resources?
CLASP DataFinder

- [www.clasp.org/data](www.clasp.org/data)
  - Poverty
  - Young Child Demographics
    - Race, ethnicity, immigrant family status
  - Child Care spending/participation
  - Head Start/Early Head Start participation
  - TANF spending
CLASP In the States

- www.clasp.org/in_the_states/
- Find fact sheets on:
  - Head Start
  - Child Care assistance
  - TANF spending
  - Infant/toddler initiatives
Additional Resources

- **NCCP: Demographics Wizard**, create custom tables of national- and state-level statistics about low-income or poor children under the age of six. [www.nccp.org/tools/demographics/](http://www.nccp.org/tools/demographics/)

- **NCCP: Improving the Odds for Young Children** provides state-specific, regional, and national profiles that integrate data about an array of policies that affect early childhood development. [www.nccp.org/profiles/early_childhood.html](http://www.nccp.org/profiles/early_childhood.html)

- **Children in Newcomer and Native Families** presents a large number of indicators reflecting the characteristics of children from birth through age 17 in immigrant families by country or region of origin and in native-born families by race-ethnicity. [http://mumford.albany.edu/children/data_list_open.htm](http://mumford.albany.edu/children/data_list_open.htm)

- **FRAC’s Federal Food Programs State Profiles** include information on state demographics, poverty, food insecurity, participation in federal nutrition programs, and state economic security policies. [www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/federal_index.html](http://www.frac.org/html/federal_food_programs/federal_index.html)

- **NCSL State Early Care and Education Legislative Database** provides information on all proposed and enacted legislation covering early care and education including child care, prekindergarten, family support. [www.ncsl.org/programs/cyf/ECELD.cfm](http://www.ncsl.org/programs/cyf/ECELD.cfm)
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