Understanding & Overcoming Influences of Poverty on Children and Families

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Michael and Gabriel’s Story
Presentation Overview

- Family and Child Poverty in the United States
- Individual and Structural Determinants of Poverty
- The Cycle of Poverty in Families
- Indicators of Child Well-Being
- The Consequences of Poverty on Child and Family Well-Being
- Fostering Resilience in Children and Families
2014 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Federally facilitated marketplaces will use the 2014 guidelines to determine eligibility for Medicaid and CHIP (this is effective February 10, 2014).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Household Size</th>
<th>100%</th>
<th>133%</th>
<th>150%</th>
<th>200%</th>
<th>250%</th>
<th>300%</th>
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Extracted verbatim from familiesusa.org
Facts about Family Poverty in United States

- Families living between 100 and 200 percent of the federal poverty level are at risk for missing rent and bill payments, not having access to adequate childcare, running out of food, and having poor quality health care.

- Single parent families have a greater risk for experiencing economic hardship than two parent families.

- Lower levels of parental education contributes to lower incomes and poverty.
Families with Related Children That Are Below Poverty by Family Type

![Graph showing percent of families with related children below poverty by family type over years 2009 to 2013.](image)

**FAMILIES WITH RELATED CHILDREN THAT ARE BELOW POVERTY BY FAMILY TYPE: ALL (PERCENT)**

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation
Facts about Child Poverty

Children growing up in poverty are placed at risk for experiencing poor development outcomes.

Health Care and Nutrition
- Many children suffer from food insecurity
- Greater risk for experiencing poor health outcomes

Education
- Children have poorer educational, cognitive and social emotional outcomes.
- Limited access to high quality education

Exploitation
- Greater risk for experiencing abuse and neglect
- Greater risk for being exposed to and victims of violence
Children in Poverty (100 percent poverty)³
Children Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty

Children Living in Areas of Concentrated Poverty (Number)

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation
Individual and Structural Determinants of Poverty\textsuperscript{5,7}

**Individual Determinants**
- Limited Education
- Fewer Financial Resources
- Fewer Social Resources
- Poorer Health
- Greater Exposure to Stress
- Limited Income

**Structural Determinants**
- Limited Access to Quality Health Care
- Poorer Neighborhoods
- Limited Access to High Quality Education
- Limited Access to High Paying Jobs
- Insufficient Housing
- Higher Exposure to Community Violence
The Cycle of Poverty in Families

Poverty

Family Circumstances

Child Well-Being
Indicators of Child Well-Being

Six dimensions affecting child well-being are:

- Material well-being
- Housing and environment
- Education
- Health
- Risk behaviors
- Quality of school life
Consequences of Poverty on Child and Family Well-Being

Poverty can be viewed as a toxic stressor.

- Exposure to ongoing stress - that can result from exposure to violence, limited access to economic resources, and instability within families and communities—all of which can effect child well-being.

- Families living in poverty tend to live in overcrowded neighborhoods, environments exposed to chemical toxins, communities with limited cultural, social and financial capital, and have a greater exposure to violence.
Consequences of Poverty on Child and Family Well-Being

- An accumulation of these factors can lead to poorer health outcomes for children and families.
“Resilience” involves the ability to do well in the face of adversity and trauma.

Resilience is not innate and can be fostered in children and families.
Helping to Foster Resilience

Individual Level
➢ It should be fostered at the individual level – working with children to develop problem solving skills, social competence, and confidence.

Family Level
➢ It should be fostered at the family level - working with families to develop warm and engaging relationships and social supports

Community Level
➢ It should be fostered at the community level - helping children and families develop supportive relationships with members of the larger community.
Supporting Family and Child Well-Being

Strong Communities

Strong Families

Thriving Children
References

3. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org