MAKING THE CONNECTION

Economic Stability and Child Welfare

CFL 10th Annual Sister Mary Geraldine Symposium
Presentation by: Jennifer March, CCC Executive Director
Citizens’ Committee for Children

• Since 1944, Citizens' Committee for Children of New York, Inc. (CCC) has convened, informed, and mobilized New Yorkers to make the city a better place for children.

• CCC has spent the last seven decades developing and refining an approach to child advocacy that is fact-based.
CCC's mission is to ensure that every New York child is healthy, housed, educated, and safe.
Keeping Track of New York City’s Children
What does Keeping Track data reveal about households/communities in which child welfare involvement is greatest?

* How might this inform child welfare interventions & services?
CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT INDICATION RATES

CHILD POVERTY

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**CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT INDICATION RATES**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGEND</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26.3 to 39.1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15.5 to 24.1</td>
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<td>10.0 to 13.5</td>
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<td>6.5 to 9.4</td>
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<td>1.8 to 5.4</td>
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**CHILD POVERTY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGEND</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>33.9% to 43.1%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>25.0% to 31.3%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>18.2% to 24.1%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12.6% to 16.9%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.2% to 11.8%</td>
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Risks to NYC’s Children

• The problems children face are interrelated. Risks have a cumulative negative effect on child well-being:
  
  o The presence of **ONE** risk has negligible effects on well-being
  
  o **TWO** or **THREE** risks increase the chance of damaging outcomes by **FOUR**
  
  o **FOUR** or **MORE** risks increase the chance of damaging outcomes by **TEN**
CONCENTRATION OF RISKS TO CHILD WELL-BEING

18 indicators grouped within 6 domains of well-being

ECONOMIC SECURITY
• Child Poverty Rate
• Median Income for Families with Children
• Parental Employment Instability

YOUTH
• Teen Birth Rate
• Teen Idleness
• Youth Unemployment

HEALTH
• Infant Mortality Rate
• Low Birth Weight Babies
• Children without Health Insurance

EDUCATION
• Early Education Enrollment
• EMS Reading and Math Test Pass Rate
• High School Graduation Rate

FAMILY & COMMUNITY
• Children in Single-Parent Families
• Adult Educational Attainment
• Violent Felony Rate

HOUSING
• Rent Burden
• Rental Overcrowding
• Families Entering Homeless Shelters
DEMOGRAPHICS OF CONCOURSE/HIGHBRIDGE (BX04)

Total Population - 141,467

Population by Race/Ethnicity:
- White: 64.1%
- Asian: 30.5%
- Black: 2.5%
- Latino: 1.4%

Child Population - 40,690

Children by Head of Household:
- Single Mother: 31.7%
- Married Couple: 44.5%
- Single Father: 7.9%
- Grandparents: 6.6%
CONCOURSE/HIGHBRIDGE (BX04)

Economic Conditions

• **Over 1 in 3** residents live in **poverty** (37.3%)
• **Nearly 1 in 2 children** live in **poverty** (45.7%)
• **Median income** for families with children is **$27,000**
• **More than 1 in 2** of households with children receive **SNAP benefits**
• **More than 1 in 10** job-seekers is **unemployed**
• **More than 1 in 3** adults have less than a **high school** education
CON COURSE/HIGHBRIDGE (BX04)

Housing
- Nearly **2 in 5** renters **spend over half their income on rent** (37.6%)
- Over **2 in 5** residents rate their neighborhood conditions as fair to poor (45.9%)
- Nearly **1 in 6** renter households are **overcrowded** (15.6%)
- **5.3 families** entered the **shelter** system per 1,000 households in 2012*

*That is **more than 250 families entering shelter in one year.**
CONCOURSE/HIGHBRIDGE (BX04)

Education
• Over 50% (2,300) 3 & 4-year-olds are not enrolled in preschool
• Only 17% (Less than 1 in 7) of 3rd - 8th graders are meeting Reading test standards
• Only 16% (1 in 6) 3rd - 8th graders are meeting Math test standards
• Just over 12.1% (1 in 10) students did not finish high school
Health

- **Infant Mortality** Rate is 5.5 per 1,000 births
- **Nearly 1 in 10** babies are born low birthweight (9.4%)
- **More than 1 in 8** expectant mothers received no or late prenatal care (13.6%)
- **Over 2,000** children are uninsured (5%)
- **9.3 children** under 15 years are hospitalized for asthma per 1,000 children.
How might the Child Welfare System advance a more holistic approach to interventions – to both address child safety and improve overall family stability and well-being?
Increase collaboration and coordination across agencies, systems & services to promote and achieve:

- Immediate Financial Stability
- Social, Emotional & Physical Health
- Economic Mobility
• **Immediate Financial Stability**
  - Access to benefits such as public assistance, WIC, SNAP & housing subsidies, Medicaid/health insurance, etc

• **Social, Emotional & Physical Health**
  - Child care, pre-k, after-school and summer programming
  - Breakfast and lunch in schools, afternoon snack in after-school & summer meals programs
  - Place-based services in schools & communities that provide health & mental health care as well as support positive family relationships & peer relationships

• **Economic Mobility**
  - Educational & career development opportunities for adults
  - Summer employment opportunities for teens & young adults
  - Savings & debt management assistance
  - Tax filing & EITC/CCTC benefits
Conditions/Opportunities Exist to Support a More Holistic Approach…

- **Financial Stability**
  - Access to Entitlements
  - Reform of WEP & Workforce Learning
  - Affordable Housing & Rent Subsidies

- **Health & Well-being**
  - Child Care & UPK
  - After-school & Summer Camps
  - School & Summer Meals
  - Place-based Health & Mental Health Services
  - Summer Youth Employment Program

- **Economic Mobility**
  - Workers’ Cooperatives
  - Workforce COLA’s/Parity
  - EITC/CCTC/Minimum Wage
  - Savings/Debt Reduction Efforts

…*There is a Need for Advocacy!*
Know the Facts, Share the Facts, Be Part of the Solution

- Stay up-to-date on the latest information from CCC by signing on to our e-action network: [http://www.cccnewyork.org/](http://www.cccnewyork.org/)
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @CCCNewYork
- Explore the data in CCC’s presentation and many other indicators related to the well-being of children on Keeping Track Online at [http://data.cccnewyork.org](http://data.cccnewyork.org)