



Hawai'i KIDS COUNT

E-Bulletin

November 2012 Issue

Center on the Family | University of Hawai'i at Mānoa-CTAHR

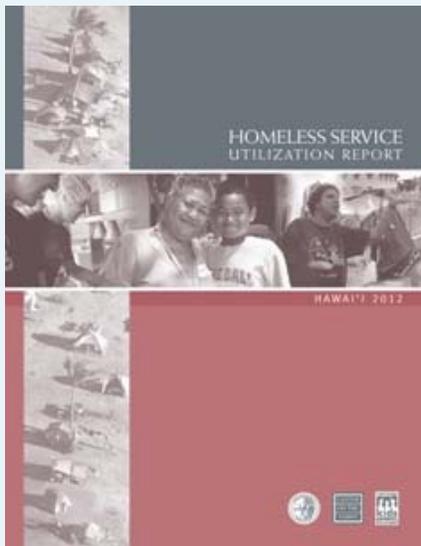
IN THIS ISSUE

Homeless Service Utilization Report: Hawai'i 2012

State Child Care Assistance Policies 2012

Grandparents Living With Grandchildren

HOMELESS SERVICE UTILIZATION REPORT: HAWAI'I 2012



The Center on the Family at UH Mānoa and the Homeless Programs Office of the Hawai'i State Department of Human Services have released the *Homeless Service Utilization Report: Hawai'i 2012*. The report provides the most current data on individuals and households who accessed homeless services and the state's overall service utilization in the 2012 fiscal year, based on agency-entered data in the Homeless Management and Information System (HMIS). The report includes information for both the Shelter Stipend Program (i.e., emergency and transitional shelter services) and Outreach Program from July 1, 2011, to June 30, 2012 (i.e., services to those living in a car or park or on a beach). It provides a demographic profile based on an unduplicated count of shelter and outreach program clients, a six-year trend of homeless service utilization, and an analysis of service utilization and outcomes of the Shelter and Outreach Programs. Highlights of the report pertaining to children and families include:

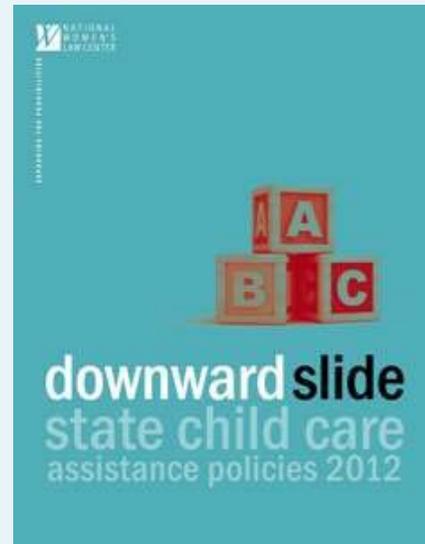
- Children under 18 comprised 25% of all homeless service users.
- Among the 9,261 households served, 28% were single-parent (17%) or two-parent (11%) households with children.
- Children under the age of 18 comprised over a third (34%) of the shelter program (emergency shelters and transitional shelters) client population, and 11% of the outreach program population.
- The average length of shelter service use in family groups varied by type of Shelter Program. For those accessing emergency shelter services as a family group, the average length of stay was about three months, and about a year for those families accessing transitional shelter services.

The report is available on the Center on the Family website at:

<http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/publications/brochures/HomelessServiceUtilization2012.pdf>.

STATE CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE POLICIES 2012

This annual report by the National Women's Law Center compares trends in child care assistance policies since 2001. Families who are struggling to meet their basic expenses rely on child care assistance so that they may participate in the workforce. The report finds that families in 27 states are worse off under one or more key child care policies in 2012 than in 2011, with only 17 states having families that are better off now than a year ago. This report focuses on the five policy areas which help to determine the affordability, accessibility, and quality of child care assistance that low-income families receive: 1) income eligibility limits, 2) waiting lists for assistance, 3) parent copayment levels, 4) reimbursement rates for providers, and 5) eligibility policies for parents searching for work. This was the second year in a row in which the situation worsened for families in more states than it improved. According to the report:



- Hawai'i is one of 14 states in which the income eligibility limit remained unchanged between 2011 and 2012, while 30 states increased the limit to adjust for inflation and seven states lowered the limit.
- Hawai'i is one of the 24 states that did not have a waiting list for all years reported (2001, 2011, and 2012), while other states had waiting lists or frozen intake (turning away eligible families without adding their names to a waiting list).
- Between 2001 and 2012, Hawai'i had the greatest increase in parent copayments as a percentage of family income. The parent copayments for a family of three in Hawai'i with an income at 150% of the poverty level (\$28,635) and one child in care increased \$367, or 15% of the family's income during the eleven year period.
- Hawai'i is one of the 16 states that allows parents to qualify for child care assistance while searching for a job.

The full report is available for download at:

http://www.nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/NWLC2012_StateChildCareAssistanceReport.pdf.

GRANDPARENTS LIVING WITH GRANDCHILDREN

Grandparents living with grandchildren is the focus of a recent Child Trends Research Brief, as increasing numbers of grandparents in the U.S. are living with and responsible for the care of grandchildren under the age of 18. A number of factors can be attributed to the increase, including an increase in the number of single-parent families, continued high rates of marriage dissolution, parents' incarceration, parental substance abuse, and economic hardship. The brief examines national- and state-level trends based on data from the Census Bureau's American Community Survey, presenting three-year estimates



for two periods: 2005 – 2007, and 2008 – 2010. By 2008 – 2010, about 700,000 more grandparents resided with their grandchildren than did so during the previous period. Of these grandparents, 40% were primarily responsible for the care of their grandchildren (same as previous time period). Poverty rose for this group to 20% from 14.5% in the previous period (compared to a 10% rise for all adults ages 35 and older from 9.4% in the previous period). Key findings for Hawai'i are as follows:

- Between the two periods examined, the percentage of grandparents in Hawai'i who shared residence with their grandchildren increased by 3.8%.
- By 2008 – 2010, about one-fifth (22%) of grandparents were responsible for meeting their grandchildren's basic needs, such as food, shelter, clothing, and child care, the lowest in the U.S.
- By 2008 – 2010, one-quarter (25%) of grandparents responsible for their grandchildren in Hawai'i reported speaking English less than "very well," a 53% increase from the previous time period and higher than the U.S. average of 14%.
- The share of responsible grandparents in Hawai'i living in poverty increased from 10% to 13% during the period examined, but remained lower than the national average of 20%.

The full report can be accessed at: http://www.childtrends.org/Files/Child_Trends-2012_10_01_RB_Grandparents.pdf.

SUBSCRIBING:

You may subscribe to this newsletter by sending an email to kcadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Subscribe to Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

UNSUBSCRIBING:

If we have reached you in error or if you would prefer not to hear from us in the future, send an email to kcadmin@hawaii.edu with the phrase "Unsubscribe Hawai'i KIDS COUNT E-Bulletin" in the subject field.

ARCHIVE OF E-BULLETINS:

PDF versions of our monthly e-bulletins are available at: <http://uhfamily.hawaii.edu/projects/kidscount/ebulletin.aspx>

Hawai'i KIDS COUNT is funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. We thank them for their support, and we acknowledge that the findings and conclusions presented in the E-Bulletin are those of the authors alone and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.

CENTER ON THE FAMILY

2515 Campus Road, Miller Hall 103, Honolulu, HI 96822

Phone: (808) 956-4132 | Fax: (808) 956-4147 | Email: cof@ctahr.hawaii.edu

Facebook Page URL: www.facebook.com/COFHawaii

