An Exploratory Study: Implications of Immigration Enforcement Activities for the Well-Being of Children in Immigrant Families, 2012-2014

The Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE), in collaboration with the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), has initiated this project to explore current issues regarding how immigration enforcement activities, particularly detention and deportation policies, may be affecting the well-being of children in immigrant families, most of whom are U.S. citizen children. The study will look at the nexus between family health and social services programs and immigration enforcement activities by conducting a program and policy scan, including site visits, to determine the current concerns in the field related to these issues and documenting state or local program developments. In addition, the project will examine available administrative and survey data to explore these issues and will convene a meeting of federal and state officials to inform the Federal Government’s response to these issues. These activities will assist in determining whether additional federal guidance, technical assistance or research would be helpful to family services agencies addressing the consequences for children of immigration enforcement activities. The project is being conducted by the Urban Institute in partnership with the Migration Policy Institute.

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