

# Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Network (FSSRN) Overview



## Mission and Vision

### Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Network



NEW JERSEY



OREGON



NORTH  
CAROLINA



CALIFORNIA



MICHIGAN

#### MISSION

Our mission is to conduct rigorous policy-relevant research, developed in collaboration with practitioners and policymakers, to address socially structured inequalities and injustices that impact families with low incomes and improve their economic stability.

#### VISION

Our vision is a nation in which researchers, practitioners, and policymakers collaborate to apply rigorous, transparent research to practice and policy in order to promote economic stability and equitable growth.



## Program Partners

The goal of the FSSRN is to support mutually beneficial partnerships between social science scholars and state or local human services agencies. Grantees partner with one or more state or local human services agency responsible for administering benefits or programming to assist and support family self-sufficiency, including close coordination with the agency responsible for administering the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. These partnerships inform each grantee's research plan, development, and project execution.

## Overview

Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), the Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Research Network (the FSSRN) supports independent researchers working to enhance family self-sufficiency research at the state and local levels. The FSSRN promotes productive research partnerships between the social science scholars and state or local human services agencies, and fosters collaboration among the scholars as a group.



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## Research Network

The FSSRN is designed to be collaborative by nature. In addition to local partnerships with social services agencies, FSSRN grantees participate in a multidisciplinary learning community with one another and OPRE. Through expertly facilitated engagements, FSSRN grantees establish enduring relationships, effectively set priorities for their work together, and exchange research approaches and findings in productive ways. Grantees may also collaboratively create dissemination products or share findings through combined presentations and panel discussions at conferences and related events.



## The Grantees

The current cohort of FSSRN grants were awarded in January 2020 for a 60-month project period.

Grantee	Project Title	Program Partner
 <b>Yu-Ling Chang</b> , Assistant Professor, University of California, Berkeley, School of Social Welfare	Racial Equity in the TANF Service Delivery Path to Family Stability and Self-Sufficiency	California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
 <b>Anna Gassman-Pines</b> , Professor of Public Policy & Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy	Local Criminal Justice Reform Efforts: Effects on Employment, Self-Sufficiency, and Family Well-Being	Durham County Department of Social Services
 <b>Andrea Hetling</b> , Professor, Rutgers University, The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy	Family and Economic Stability: Examining TANF as a Supportive Program	New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development
 <b>Kristina Nikolova</b> , Assistant Professor, Wayne State University, School of Social Work	TANF Program and Policy Implementation in Michigan: Building State Capacity for Program Assessment to Promote Family Self-Sufficiency	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
 <b>David Rothwell</b> , Associate Professor, Oregon State University, College of Public Health, School of Social and Behavioral Health Sciences	Paid Family Leave and Family Self-Sufficiency: Evidence from Oregon	Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Employment Department, the Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative, and Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

For more information, please check out the [OPRE's FSSRN Grantees webpage](#).

The FSSRN is funded and supported by OPRE within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). OPRE is committed to supporting self-sufficiency research and fostering partnership and collaboration between researchers and practitioners; however, the research, findings, publications, and reports that come out of the FSSRN are those of the FSSRN grantees and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of OPRE, ACF, or HHS.