

OPRE 2015 Year In Review

Dear Colleagues,

As the end of the year approaches, I want to share some highlights of OPRE's work in 2015, and express my appreciation for our staff, contractors, and partners in that work. It is a privilege to work with so many talented people who are deeply committed to building and using evidence to improve social programs.

In 2015 we released close to 120 publications related to child welfare, child care, Head Start, Early Head Start, strengthening families, teen pregnancy prevention and youth development, home visiting, self-sufficiency, welfare and employment. Some of our 2015 publications include:

- We released the first-ever **Employment Strategies for Low-Income Adults Evidence Review**, to provide practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and the general public with a transparent and systematic assessment of the research evidence for effectiveness of programs designed to improve the employment-related outcomes of low-income adults.
- Our Behavioral Interventions to Advance Self-Sufficiency (BIAS) project released results related to **behavioral messaging to increase attendance at informational meetings** and **interventions to increase the collection of child support payments**.
- Our Family and Provider/Teacher Relationship Quality (FPTRQ) project released **new measures to assess the quality of the relationship between families and providers/teachers** of early care and education. The measures and related user's manuals quickly became some of the most frequently visited materials on our website.
- We released two reports analyzing **National Survey of Early Care and Education (NSECE)** data: **Prices Charged in Early Care and Education** and **Characteristics of Center-based Early Care and Education Programs**.
- We released multiple reports focused on fathers' experiences in human services programs such as the **Responsible Fatherhood program** and **Home Visiting programs**.

- HHS delivered a **Report to Congress** that presents the first findings from the **Mother and Infant Home Visiting Program Evaluation (MIHOPE)**. MIHOPE is a legislatively mandated national evaluation of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program.
- The **Mother and Infant Home Visiting Program Evaluation (MIHOPE) - Strong Start project** released its second **Annual Report**.
- We released two reports in a series on **Self-Regulation and Toxic Stress**. This series supports **ACF's focus on early childhood adversity**.
- We released **toolkits** to assist program administrators conducting opportunistic experiments in family self-sufficiency and stability programs.
- Our **Research Development Project on Human Service Needs of LGBT Populations** released materials identifying knowledge gaps and proposing research recommendations related to the human service needs of low-income and at-risk lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender populations.
- Our **Evaluation of Tribal Health Professions Opportunity Grants (HPOG)** released profiles and preliminary outcomes from the five HPOG tribal programs as well as a brief on **Higher Education & Workforce Development in Tribal Communities**.
- We released **an analysis** of the training experiences of TANF recipients in the HPOG program, including a summary of interim outcomes.
- We released **a description** of current subsidized employment programs across the country undergoing rigorous experimental evaluation
- We **reported** on promising approaches to coordinating employment services across programs funded under TANF and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.
- We released several reports based on the **Early Head Start Family and Child Experiences Survey (Baby FACES)**
- We released reports on the **use of data for continuous quality improvement in Head Start**, the **use of technology in Head Start**, and **teachers' use of assessment to individualize instruction**.
- We released reports on **youth transitioning out of foster care** and the **implementation of a teen pregnancy prevention program in rural Kentucky**.
- Our **Parents and Children Together (PACT) Evaluation** released reports describing lessons learned from healthy marriage programs and highlighting approaches to service delivery in responsible fatherhood programming.
- We continued to increase the reach of our work through our newsletter, **Facebook** and **Twitter**.

Thank you for your support and best wishes for the New Year.

Naomi Goldstein
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