Timeline Tuesday
Data Snapshot: Children in Poverty

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Data Overview
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Community Perspective Panelists
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25 YEARS OF COUNTING DELAWARE KIDS

CHILDREN IN POVERTY TIMELINE

RESEARCH
The poverty measure is established based on research indicating that families spend about one third of their income on food; this is updated for inflation annually but otherwise unchanged despite differences in the typical family’s budget.

TASK FORCE
Delaware’s Child Poverty Task Force is created by executive order with the goal of reducing the state’s child poverty rate in half within ten years.

RECESSION
Delaware feels impact of the Great Recession; while the recession officially lasted from December 2007 to June 2009, it takes many years for the economy to recover to pre-crisis levels of employment and output.

MEASURE POVERTY
The Supplemental Poverty Measure is created and data show that government interventions reduce economic hardship for children.

INVENTORY
Delaware Policy Inventory is created, detailing over 200 pieces of legislation enacted to address needs of Delaware children and families since 2009, when the child poverty task force released their recommendations.

CREATE PLAN
Delaware needs to create a comprehensive and integrated plan, backed by substantial and sustainable funding, that addresses the overall challenges of poverty for Delaware children and families.

1964  2007  2008  2011  2016  next
About 35,000 Delaware Children Were Living in Poverty Pre-Pandemic

Percent of children under 18 years in poverty, Delaware and Counties

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey
Percent of Children Living in Poverty in Wilmington

The Riverside Neighborhood has 70% of children living in poverty. The Eastside Neighborhood has 63% of children living in poverty.

The Changing Face of Delaware’s Children

Children 19 and Under by Race/Hispanic Origin, Delaware

Source: Delaware Population Consortium, Population Projection Series 2020.0
Poverty Among Delawareans by Race and Ethnicity

Racial Context

Poverty Rate among Delawareans by Race and Ethnicity, Five Year Average, 2015-2019

- White, non-Hispanic: 9.0%
- Black, non-Hispanic: 18.6%
- Asian, non-Hispanic: 10.9%
- Hispanic or Latino, of any race: 21.5%

Source: UD Center for Community Research & Service, 2021; data from the U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey
Child Food Insecurity Rate in U.S., DE, and Region

![Bar chart showing child food insecurity rates in U.S., DE, MD, NJ, and PA in 2018.]

- U.S.: 15.2%
- DE: 19.0%
- MD: 16.1%
- NJ: 11.3%
- PA: 15.1%

Children and Adult Participation in Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) in Delaware

Source: Delaware Health and Social Services
Positive Outcomes

The WIC Program is Correlated With Positive Outcomes for Mothers, Infants, and Children

Average Monthly WIC Program Participation, Delaware

Source: Delaware Division of Public Health, WIC Office
Unemployment of Parents in Delaware

Source: Delaware Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Unemployment Spiked to a High of 15.9% for Delaware in Response to Pandemic Related Business Closings

Percent Unemployed by Month, U.S. and Delaware

Source: Delaware Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Supplemental Poverty Measure

Includes:
- EITC, SNAP, TANF
- Housing subsidies
- Worker’s compensation, unemployment insurance
- School lunch, child support, general assistance
American Rescue Plan (March 2021)

In March, President Biden signed the **American Rescue Plan of 2021**, a $1.9 trillion economic stimulus package aimed to help the country’s economy return to pre-COVID strength.

- ARP’s expansions of the CTC is expected to substantially reduce child poverty by supplementing the earnings of families receiving the tax credit.
Policy Recommendations/Structural Change Ideas
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