



TODAY

*With News You Can Use From
Every Child Succeeds*



Where Child Poverty Hits the Hardest

By Margaret Clark, Program Director

The Cincinnati Enquirer has been providing excellent, extensive coverage about the city's unacceptably high child poverty rate, which was highlighted in the latest U.S. Census Bureau estimates. However, what's missing from the coverage is a focus on the age group that is most affected.

A recent report from *Child Trends* (September 14, 2018) puts the spotlight where it belongs, finding that infants and toddlers represent the age group most likely to live in poverty. Nationally 19.9% of children birth through age two live in poverty, with significant disparities based on race and ethnicity: one in three black infants lives in poverty; one in four Hispanic infants; and one in nine white infants.

These data are all the more disturbing when we consider that, per an earlier report from *Child Trends*, disparities related to income are evident in child development outcomes as early as nine months of age and grow larger by 24 months.

What can we do to help?

- Continue our two-generation, evidence-based work during the critical first 1,000 days of life;
- Advocate for our families at the local, state and national levels;
- Continue to support the United Way with our financial gifts and by participating in the Family Centered Learning Collaborative.

The United Way's role

The census estimates reaffirm the United Way of Greater Cincinnati's decision to prioritize reducing poverty in the region. When you participate in the 21st Annual UWGC Campaign, which kicked off August 16, you can be part of this important endeavor. In addition, UWGC support is absolutely essential to ECS's program and operations. Please help UW reach its fundraising goal—united, we can!

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moms. It's not just the wealth of knowledge they provide to you about how to be a parent, but they supply you with resources if you ever need anything, and they're there to be your friend and make you feel comfortable. It's just a great experience for everyone."

-- ECS mom Faith, who is featured in a new video [on the ECS blog](#)

Swaddling Babies with Fleece and Love



This winter, 29 babies will be swaddled in cozy blankets made with love, thanks to an enthusiastic team of volunteers from Fifth Third Bank, including ECS treasurer and dedicated board member Jill Frondorf (pictured on the right). Many thanks!

ECS Receives Innovative Grant to Develop "Precision Home Visiting" Model

Every Child Succeeds has received an important grant from the Home Visiting Applied Research Collaborative (HARC) at Johns Hopkins University. HARC is leading the way in advocating for precision home visiting, the idea that home visiting can be even more responsive to the individual needs of families by tailoring services to support mothers and children in specific areas.

"This is the first grant awarded by HARC, and our selection reflects the national reputation that ECS has earned as a program that produces innovative and new approaches to home visiting," says **Robert Ammerman, PhD, ECS's scientific director**.

Building on the recent recognition that home visiting might be more effective if it is trauma informed, the project seeks to develop ways in which home visitors can better

support mothers with two or more adverse childhood experiences. The one-year project, called "Development of a Trauma-Informed Approach in Home Visiting," builds on over a decade of research in ECS demonstrating that mothers who have experienced trauma are more likely to have debilitating symptoms of depression and to be socially disconnected from others.

Dr. Ammerman and **Ted Folger, PhD, director of evaluation and epidemiology**, will direct the program in partnership with **Margaret Clark, program director**, and **Jenny Berndsen, senior specialist-program management**. The project's three parts include:

- Surveying home visiting programs around the country to determine current practices related to trauma and adversity.
- Interviewing home visitors from ECS and other home visiting programs about their perspectives and practices in supporting mothers who have experienced trauma.
- Developing a trauma-informed home visiting module addressing depression and social support that will be pilot tested with 10 mothers in ECS.

National Recognition for ECS

The National Home Visiting Resource Center (NHVRC) recently featured Every Child Succeeds in two very different ways. The first was by mentioning Moving Beyond Depression (MBD) in its brief titled "[Addressing Maternal Depression in the Context of Home Visiting: Opportunities and Challenges](#)." The document discusses why and how home visiting programs are poised to address maternal depression, and the implications for research and practice. MBD was one of three promising maternal depression interventions listed in the brief.

In addition, the [NHVRC website](#) features a video of our very own ECS home visitor April Krekeler (Pathways to Home). In it, April shares how she supports mothers with depression, from identification of symptoms through referral and treatment. Great job, April!

Program Notes

ECS will be well represented at the Eighth National Summit on Quality in Home Visiting Programs in January. Staff, including Judith VanGinkel, Robert Ammerman, Ted Folger and Margaret Clark, will present the following workshop presentations:

- "Promoting Co-Parenting in Home Visiting: The Family Foundations Program"
- "Home Visiting as a Population-Based Approach to the Social Determinants of Health and Well-Being - A Central Feature of the Comprehensive, Early Childhood, Community-Based System of Care, Mitigation and Prevention"
- "Patterns of Adverse Childhood Experiences Among Mothers in Home Visiting"

Mark your calendars for trauma-informed care training on Jan. 7 - 8, 2019! The foundational training, led by expert Mary U. Vicario, will help us kick off the new year on a great note.

ECS is thrilled to be partnering with LENA to implement its 13-week "LENA Home" curriculum with 30 families beginning in January. The curriculum adds an early-language focus to existing home visiting or parent education programs for children ages birth to three. It uses a "talk pedometer" to help parents and other caregivers increase interactive talk. Actionable reports provide home visitors with objective insights on home talk that can be used to inform and motivate parents and track progress toward increasing interaction. Learn more about LENA at LenaHome.org

Congratulations to the following ECS staffers celebrating anniversaries in

the last three months. We appreciate the good work you do!

- 19 years: Tricia Shaffer (PTW)
- 17 years: Beth Smith (PTW)
- 16 years: Tracy Buckler (STE)
- 15 years: Holly Shepherd (CHOC)
- 13 years: Beth Kaiser (STE)
- 11 years: Tracy Sander Greene (CHOC), Julie Massie (ECS), Judy Colon (YF)
- 9 years: Tina Jung (BC)
- 8 years: Amy Slone (PTW)
- 7 years: Nancy Gaddie (STE)
- 6 years: Ted Folger (ECS)
- 5 years: Jen Hall (BAPC), Joanne Dwyer (SMCS)
- 4 years: Maggie Deremo (CHOC), Laura Hershberger (ECS)
- 3 years: April Krekeler (PTW), Tara Randall (GCBH)
- 2 years: Taylor McKenzie, Latia Houston (PTW), Gina Hornback, Abby Johnson
- 1 year: Lacy Dickerson (ECS)

Farewell to Hilary Leyland and Melanie Hazlewood, LSW! Hilary will be staying home with her new baby, and Melanie has a new job as a patient advocate at Cincinnati Children's! Not to worry, we will keep referrals moving forward with the dedicated and capable Lacy Dickerson, who will be assisted by a temporary employee arriving soon.

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