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Mission: To create new ideas and promote public policies that produce equal opportunities and



Letter from the Board Chair

Partnerships have been central to the Center for the Study of Social Policy's (CSSP's) work since its inception. At every point of system, policy and community change, these partnerships ensure the work being done is deliberate, authentic and sustainable. In 2011, CSSP continued to develop these relationships across federal, state and local levels.

CSSP's new and expanding work at the federal level – where the organization has deep roots – was especially notable last year. Today staff are simultaneously working with the U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, Health and Human Services and Housing and Urban Development, among others, as these agencies build programs and initiatives that revitalize neighborhoods and transform child welfare systems. Through this work, we have had an opportunity to continue sharing knowledge to help maximize the effectiveness of programs designed to improve outcomes for the vulnerable.

Growing relationships with state leaders has also led to new and exciting work for CSSP. The Strengthening Families National Network has continued to thrive, today encompassing more than 30 states incorporating the approach into multi-agency programs and state systems. And last year CSSP was contracted to help Illinois' and California's child welfare departments understand and address the reasons why some children remain in foster care for extended periods of time.

While work at the local level has always provided rich feedback and experiences, new work at the city/county level in Los Angeles is providing a whole new test site for what is possible on the ground. CSSP has been working with a range of public- and private-sector partners in Los Angeles to support work to create more responsive, family-centered and results-based systems of care and promote more comprehensive neighborhood revitalization.

The Board of Directors looks forward to working successfully with CSSP staff and these new partners to create better opportunities for children, youth, families and communities.



Carol Wilson Spigner, M.S.W., D.S.W

Associate Professor/Clinical Educator, University of Pennsylvania

better futures for all children and families, especially those most often left behind.



Letter from CSSP Directors

CSSP's commitment to equity is long-standing. Today, as CSSP enters its 30th year, our focus on policies and practices to produce equal opportunities and better outcomes for children, youth and families must be more visible and effective than ever before as disparities – between rich and poor and along racial and ethnic lines – grow to new levels.

We assess all of our work by its ultimate likelihood to help ensure that families are strong, children succeed and communities thrive. As a policy, research and technical assistance organization, CSSP cannot achieve those results directly. But we invest our time and resources in what we believe to be the most innovative and effective ways to change the odds for low-income children and families. Thus, in 2011:

- As part of the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink (with partners PolicyLink and the Harlem Children's Zone), CSSP provided technical assistance to 38 communities implementing the Promise Neighborhoods approach. These communities are creating “cradle to career” pipelines for children's success in neighborhoods where too few children read by third grade, graduate from high school or enter college. At the close of 2011, CSSP was pleased to be designated by the U.S. Department of Education as the Technical Assistance Resource Center for the federal Promise Neighborhoods initiative.
- With Los Angeles (LA) County's First 5 LA initiative's Best Start program, CSSP led a team of LA-based organizations and people to help 14 diverse and low-income communities work toward healthier births, fewer developmental delays for young children and successful entry into school.
- Through PolicyforResults.org, we continued to inform state legislators about policies that improve outcomes and reduce disparities in areas as wide-ranging as helping ex-offenders enter the workforce, increasing college completion rates and preventing childhood obesity.

- We expanded efforts to improve outcomes for children and families of color in the child welfare system. Staff conducted three new Institutional Analyses with local child welfare agencies to identify why bad outcomes for African American children and their families persist. With Child Trends, we developed a tool to collect and analyze data about disparate child welfare outcomes – with the goal of spurring action. And with AIR (formerly the American Institutes for Research), we launched new work to improve child welfare interventions for African American men and boys – a critical need for a group at far greater risk of incarceration, joblessness and low life expectancy.
- Given our conviction that achieving equity requires empowering parents and neighborhood residents, we continued to implement our Customer Satisfaction approach. Working with Consumers Union and other partners, we gave parents and neighbors the tools to advocate for and secure high-quality goods and services – whether groceries or child care or effective schools – that make a difference in their lives.

These examples, reaching across CSSP's public policy, system reform and community change efforts, reflect our commitment to test, document and share what works in creating equal opportunities and brighter futures for those most often left behind.

We thank all of CSSP's partners and funders for their support for and commitment to this work.



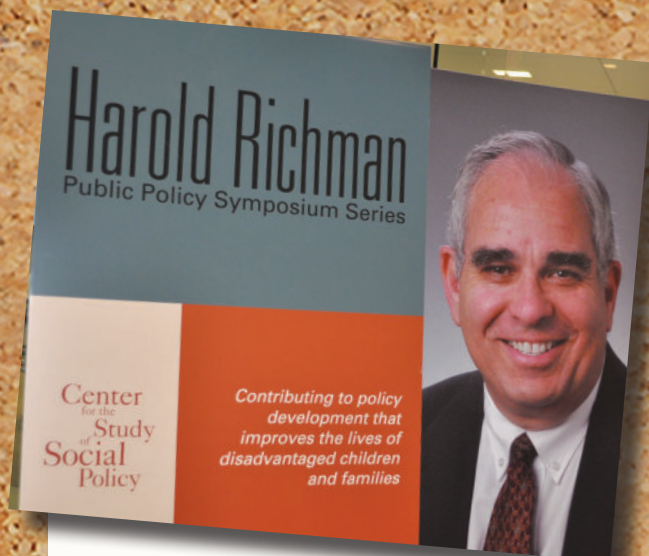
Frank Farrow



Judith Meltzer

“To map
out a course
of action
and follow
it to an end
requires
courage.”

~RALPH WALDO EMERSON



The goal of each forum in the series is to reflect principles that were important to Richman throughout his career, including:

- Making a difference by contributing to policy development that will improve the lives of disadvantaged children and families.
- Discussing with candor and civility important issues on which there are sharp differences of opinion, with the aim of promoting greater consensus.
- Bringing high academic standards to the discussion while emphasizing the realities of implementing ideas in communities and with partnerships of non-profit organizations and federal, state and local governments.
- Engaging young leaders and scholars in important policy issues, ensuring fresh perspectives and providing opportunities for leadership development.

Harold Richman

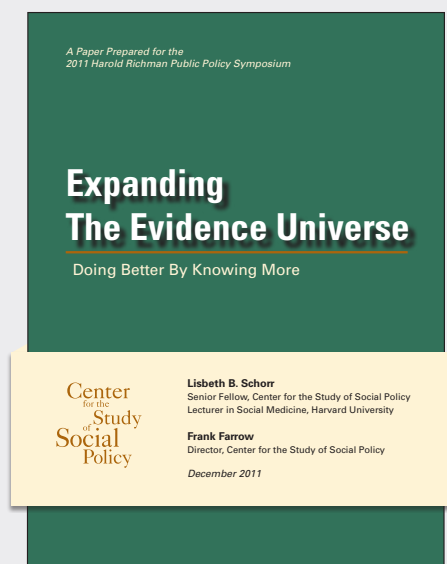
Public Policy Symposium

In July 2011, CSSP launched an annual series in recognition of the contributions CSSP Co-Founder Harold Richman made to the organization and to the field. With his friend and colleague, Tom Joe, Harold founded CSSP and served as chair of its board from 2000 until his death in August 2009. He was also the founding director of The Chapin Hall Center for Children. Throughout his life, Richman provided public policy leadership for the sake of vulnerable children.

The inaugural symposium was held in Washington, DC, and included the vigorous discussion of a paper co-authored by Lisbeth Schorr and Frank Farrow titled *Expanding the Evidence Universe: Doing Better by Knowing More*. The symposium featured panelists from academia, philanthropy, the federal government and community change initiatives. The final paper was widely distributed and cited in ongoing and

varied discussions around building a useful evidence base to improve outcomes for children, families and communities.

The 2011 event was made possible thanks to support from The Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation and Pastora Cafferty.





TOP:
Friends and family celebrate Harold Richman's work.
From L-R: James Gibson, Lisa Cylar Miller, Andrew Richman, Marlene Richman, Judith Meltzer, Frank Farrow, Kristin Beckmann and Robert Richman.

BOTTOM LEFT:
Keynote presenter and CSSP Senior Fellow Lisbeth (Lee) Schorr presents *Expanding the Evidence Universe*.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
Frank Farrow, CSSP Director, joins attendees as they watch a short clip of Harold sharing his passion in his own words.

This map is a quick snapshot of CSSP's work on the ground. Working with states and local communities across the country, CSSP is able to help put ideas into action. The highlighted states and communities reflect specific examples of ongoing initiatives CSSP leads with a number of other partners.

-  Race Equity: Closing the Gaps
-  A Protective and Promotive Factors Approach
-  Neighborhoods of Opportunity
-  Using Policy, Research and Experience to Drive Change



SALEM, OREGON: As part of the Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood, which CSSP manages, The Fostering Hope Initiative (FHI) is studying the effects of concentrating services and increasing engagement in high-poverty neighborhoods. The goal is to reduce child maltreatment rates by increasing both individual and community protective factors. FHI brings together a unique combination of parents and public and privately funded professional services, working together to build an enduring system of neighborhood-based supports for families.

IDAHO: Led by the Children's Trust Fund and in partnership with the Idaho Association for the Development of Young Children, Idaho has integrated the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework into its Quality Rating and Improvement System, professional development for early childhood programs and into all child abuse prevention funding. Through CSSP's AIM (Action, Implementation, Momentum) project, Idaho is focusing on increasing parent partnerships and working with law enforcement to use Strengthening Families as a framework in probation.

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA: Multiple aspects of CSSP's work are coming together in Los Angeles through leadership of the city-wide Neighborhood Revitalization Workgroup, intensive technical assistance for the Department of Children and Family Services, implementation of the Strengthening Families framework across all county departments that serve children and families and technical assistance for capacity building in First Five's 14 Best Start neighborhood collaboratives.

Pinpointing Solutions



BUFFALO, NEW YORK: This is one of the 38 communities CSSP assisted in planning a Promise Neighborhoods strategy, designed to ensure that *all* kids in particularly tough neighborhoods succeed in school and go on to earn a college degree. Four of these communities - including Buffalo - were awarded five-year, multi-million dollar grants to implement their plans.



NEW JERSEY: CSSP is the court-appointed monitor charged by the federal court to assess New Jersey's progress in achieving the outcomes of its child welfare system. With CSSP's assistance, New Jersey has, among other accomplishments, achieved demonstrable improvement since 2006 in child safety, serving children within their families and communities, promoting permanency, improving health and mental health outcomes for children and youth and training and stabilizing its workforce.



Race Equity: Closing the Gaps



Equity is central to the mission of CSSP. A key component of this is CSSP's journey to become an anti-racist organization. Also critical to that vision is building an understanding of – and working to address – inequities based on race, ethnicity, gender, sovereignty and socioeconomic status.

While all of CSSP's work encompasses this commitment, in 2011 several projects directly sought to reduce disparities and disproportionality in public systems.

- CSSP continued testing the Institutional Analysis approach for helping jurisdictions understand the organizational and structural contributors to poor outcomes for children and families of color in child welfare systems. In 2011, CSSP conducted Institutional Analyses in Fairfax County, Virginia; Monroe County, New York and Linn County, Iowa. Through these analyses, and the ones completed before them, common themes emerged that will guide future work. They include the dearth of quality legal representation for families; the lack of system accountability to the families

served by child welfare; the frequency of negative assumptions about family capacity and the conflicting understanding of what it means to take “reasonable efforts” to prevent placement or reunify a family.

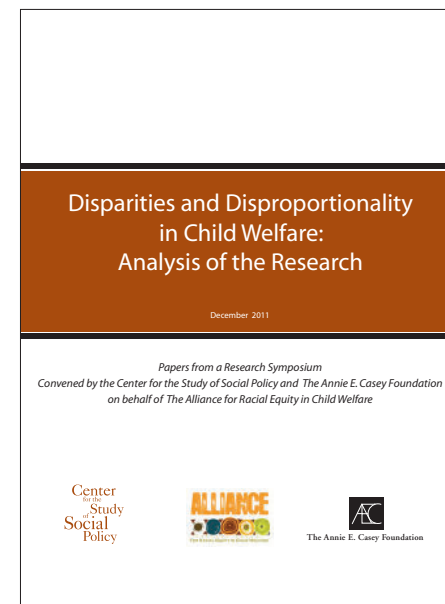
- Also last year, based on the previous year's Institutional Analysis, Fresno County's Department of Social Services continued to implement the report's recommendations. Action steps included developing provider contracts that mandate the location of visitation services in the communities where the majority of clients live, and agency-wide racial awareness and bias training. Fresno also established a Disproportionality Advisory Committee, composed of youth, parents, community partners, service providers and agency staff.
- With funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children, Youth and Families, CSSP began helping Illinois and California with efforts to promote permanency for children who have been in foster care for three years or longer. The California grant uses the Institutional

“ For a long time, this push for equity came draped in moral language – ‘we must invest equitably because it is the right thing to do.’ But economists and community leaders alike know that equity has become an economic imperative, as well as a moral one. ”

~ANGELA GLOVER BLACKWELL
 Founder and Chief Executive
 Officer, PolicyLink

Analysis approach to examine delays for African American children.

- The issue of racial disparities in outcomes and services for families and children of color has rightfully received substantial attention by policymakers, administrators, researchers, practitioners and advocates in recent years. It is sometimes challenging to sort through the many voices, opinions and interpretations that swirl around this topic. Last year, CSSP released *Disparities and Disproportionality in Child Welfare: Analysis of the Research*, the result of a 2010 symposium co-sponsored by The Annie E. Casey Foundation as part of the broader activities of the Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare. The symposium discussed the findings from a series of papers analyzing and reflecting on current research related to racial differences in child welfare services, treatment and outcomes. The compendium of papers from the symposium provided much-needed analysis of what is known from the research. This analysis will continue to be valuable to the many people working to



put in place strategies, programs, policies and continued research toward the goals of removing inequities by race, improving child welfare outcomes for children and families of color and, thus, contributing to good outcomes for all children and families requiring help from child welfare services.

- In the United States, black children are four times more likely to be involved in the child welfare system than white children.¹ In September 2011, CSSP co-hosted a meeting with the Substance

¹ See <http://www.childrensdefense.org/programs-campaigns/black-community-crusade-for-children-ii/bccc-assets/portrait-of-inequality.pdf>.

Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the American Institutes for Research (AIR) on “Improving Outcomes for African American Males in the Child Welfare System: The Importance of Effective Strategies and Interventions to Promote Social and Emotional Health.”

The goals of the meeting were to understand the characteristics of African American males (and their families) who are involved with the child welfare system, identify the major behavioral health challenges that impact their social and emotional well-being and identify the critical elements of those policies and practices that are considered effective with this population.

The meeting discussions produced the following major themes and recommendations:

- There is an urgent need for child welfare systems to understand and respond to the underlying complex causes and effects of psychological trauma in the life experiences of African American males.

- Policymakers and practitioners must hear more frequently from African American males with direct child welfare system involvement to more effectively add substance, specificity and urgency to changes needed in practice and policy.
- There is a need to expand the knowledge base about the organizational practice strategies and the range of interventions – from small community-based programs to evidence-based practices – that have demonstrated effectiveness in improving the social and emotional well-being of African American males.

Building on the success of this meeting, the Administration for Children, Youth and Families and SAMHSA committed to co-sponsoring with CSSP a follow-up meeting to learn more about the specific programs, initiatives and organizational practices that have demonstrated effectiveness with this specific population of children and their families.

A Protective and Promotive Factors Approach



During the last 10 years, CSSP has committed itself to helping public systems and communities focus on reducing risk factors that impede healthy development and elaborating protective and promotive factors that strengthen positive outcomes for children, youth and families.

CSSP's application of the protective factors approach is most often associated with the work of Strengthening Families™ on behalf of families of young children. In 2011, CSSP launched Youth Thrive™, a multi-year initiative that expands the framework to encompass the well-being of youth ages 11-24. Further expanding this framework, CSSP also began collaborative work with the Harvard Center on the Developing Child to ensure that neighborhood-level work such as Promise Neighborhoods or Best Start in Los Angeles fully includes a developmental approach to building protective and promotive factors that young families need to help their children avoid the negative consequences of trauma and toxic stress – and promote their optimal development.

- Last year, the Strengthening Families initiative continued to grow, buoyed by the

bi-annual national leadership summit, which took place in Crystal City, Virginia, right outside the nation's capital. The leadership summit was an exciting opportunity to share work that's happening around the country and to mobilize and coordinate the work ahead. The theme of the event "Through a New Lens: A Kaleidoscope of Opportunity," was a perfect way to illustrate that Strengthening Families offers a new alignment and multiple paths to support families.

While Strengthening Families continues to enjoy the tangible support of many national organizations and federal partners, in 2011 the Administration on Children, Youth and Families officially incorporated the Strengthening Families protective factors into several grant offerings. CSSP provided orientation to the new federal grantees under five new grants and is partnering with Connecticut under one grant. This official recognition will continue to provide

Strengthening Families Dashboard

A look at some highlights from 2011

- 15...** States using the Community and Parent Café models to promote parent-to-parent conversations around building protective factors
- 17...** States reporting the incorporation of protective factors into training for prevention providers and as the outcomes framework for local grantees – work led largely by the partnership with the state Children's Trust Funds
- 19...** States integrating Strengthening Families into their Quality Ratings and Improvement Systems
- 21...** States reporting that Strengthening Families is being integrated into home visiting policy and planning at the state or local levels

CENTER FOR THE STUDY
OF SOCIAL POLICY'S

strengthening families™
A PROTECTIVE FACTORS FRAMEWORK



“ A protective factor is something you can do, you can build as a family, or in a community, that will actually have the effect of making healthy child development stronger, of making families stronger. It therefore can almost act as an immunization, if you will, against child abuse and neglect. ”

~KENDREA DUNN
Executive Director
Prevent Child Abuse Colorado

new opportunities for incorporating a protective factors approach into child welfare systems.

Another new partnership that evolved in 2011 was with the American Academy of Pediatrics. The protective factors were reflected in their child maltreatment guidelines, with family strengthening and enhanced child development recommended in the October 2011 issue of *Pediatrics*.

- In Los Angeles County, California, action to implement the protective factors approach across multiple systems accelerated in 2011. An official “board letter” from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors directed the county’s CEO to institute a learning community designed to integrate the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework throughout the nine county agencies serving children and families so that their services can be more easily coordinated. CSSP is providing ongoing consultation to the county departments.

Protective factors were also integrated into the Department of Children and Family Services core practice model (developed in conjunction with the Probation and Mental Health Departments), into developing a more

YOUTH THRIVE™

PROTECTIVE & PROMOTIVE FACTORS FOR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT AND WELL-BEING

effective early childhood strategy through the agency and into future contracting for community-based organizations receiving more than \$50 million in funding.

- Youth Thrive was designed by CSSP to examine how all youth, with a particular focus on youth in foster care, can be supported in ways that advance healthy development and well-being and reduce negative life experiences. Based on an extensive scan of the research in positive youth development, resiliency, neuroscience, and the impact of trauma on brain development, Youth Thrive’s goal is to translate the research into policies and practices that will guide policymakers and practitioners. Specifically, Youth Thrive aims to:
 1. Give child welfare agencies and their partners a way to translate the federal mandate for child well-being into actions that will secure the healthy development of youth in foster care.
 2. Disseminate information to parents, caregivers, families and communities so they will better understand how they, in their respective roles, can prioritize



healthy development for young people to grow into successful, productive and caring members of society.

During 2012, CSSP will be partnering with a limited number of jurisdictions to apply the Youth Thrive protective and promotive factors to their work with youth in foster care.

- As part of this new adolescent-focused work, CSSP co-sponsored a symposium with the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative on brain development in the adolescent years. The event convened policymakers, academics, advocates and young adults to discuss findings from a report the initiative had completed:

The Adolescent Brain: New Research and Its Implications for Young People Transitioning from Care.

- Last year, CSSP began work to identify the policy, program and practice strategies that address the complex needs of pregnant and parenting teens in foster care. The materials developed to-date include *A Guide to Service Improvements for Pregnant and Parenting Youth in Foster Care*, designed to provide policy and program recommendations for state and local administrators and practitioners and *A Guide on Effective Programs, Curricula and Other Resources*, an organized and annotated list of best

LEFT:
Listening to the next generation share their stories at True Colors, Inc. in Hartford, Connecticut, as part of the Youth Thrive work.

RIGHT:
CSSP leadership celebrate the 2011 Strengthening Families Leadership Summit with Bryan Samuels, Commissioner of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families and Francie Zimmerman, former program officer for the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

practices, evidence-based and informed programs and training curricula for serving pregnant and parenting youth and their children. Next steps include selecting jurisdictions with which to work closely on this effort. The Pregnant and Parenting Youth in Foster Care initiative will incorporate the Protective Factors Framework into all of its work.



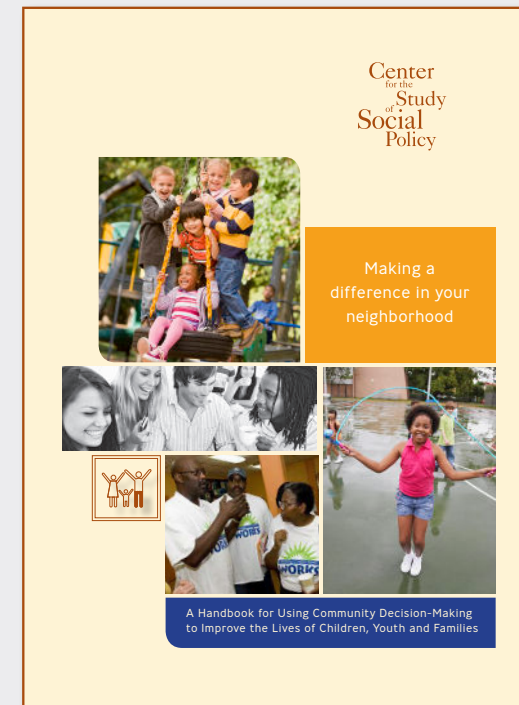
Neighborhoods of Opportunity

CSSP focuses its community change work on investing in tough neighborhoods and building local capacity to direct and lead the change residents desire. By focusing efforts on neighborhoods that are under-resourced, CSSP is having an impact on the well-being of the most vulnerable children, families and communities – which is core to its mission. The technical assistance CSSP has been called on to provide is rooted in the organization's history and leadership in helping communities deepen their capacity to relentlessly focus on results and resident leadership.

- A key part of any community change work is community engagement and resident leadership. Last year, CSSP created a new guide to help communities make decisions and establish organized and sustained processes for improving community results. *Making a Difference in Your Neighborhood: A Handbook for Using Community Decision-Making to Improve the Lives of Children, Youth and Families* builds on six local decision-making guides developed by CSSP in

2001. It provides tools, resources and success stories from around the country to help communities make real changes.

- In 2011, CSSP's work with Promise Neighborhoods continued, primarily through its role with the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink. CSSP helped design and manage the institute's overall technical assistance strategy and acted as a liaison to several Promise Neighborhoods communities as they worked on their planning phase, providing strategic assistance wherever possible. CSSP also developed a series of webinars for grantees on key planning topics. CSSP's expertise and effectiveness in helping Promise Neighborhoods communities develop the capacity they need to put all young people on a path to ensure college success was recognized at the end of 2011 with the award of a technical assistance contract from the U.S. Department of Education.





Children play at a Promise Neighborhoods site in San Antonio, Texas.

- At the end of 2011, CSSP was awarded a federal contract to help build capacity in neighborhoods that have historically struggled to attract and effectively use resources to improve results for families.

Through a cooperative agreement with the Department of Justice and its federal partners in the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative, CSSP will act as the Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator for the Building Neighborhood Capacity Program. CSSP and its partners, the National League of Cities, the Aspen Institute's Roundtable on Community Change, Living Cities and the Center for Community Peace, will help neighborhoods in two to three cities develop comprehensive revitalization plans and the capacity they need to successfully put those plans into action.

The Building Neighborhood Capacity Program will offer hands-on technical assistance as well as the development of an online resource center for any other



Building Neighborhood Capacity Program

Harlem Children's Zone's Geoffrey Canada, CSSP's Frank Farrow and PolicyLink's Judith Bell at a congressional briefing on the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink.

high-need neighborhoods. The work will continue to be developed in 2012.

- In Los Angeles County, California, several new bodies of community change work evolved and expanded in 2011. CSSP continued to provide staff support to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Revitalization Workgroup, a combination of public and private partners focused on integrating public and philanthropic investments, creating a platform to mobilize joint action and identifying strategies for building and leveraging existing federal and anticipated neighborhood revitalization initiative investments.

CSSP was also tapped by First 5 LA, a commission formed by California voters to invest tobacco tax revenue in programs for improving the lives of children ages 0-5, to provide training and assistance for First 5 LA's five-year, place-based Best Start strategy. Best Start is a collaborative approach to help parents and community leaders work together to build foundations for infants and young



children, making communities stronger and creating better outcomes for young children. CSSP is providing technical assistance to help the 14 Best Start partnerships develop infrastructure, skills and capacities to lead sustainable community partnerships for the next several years.

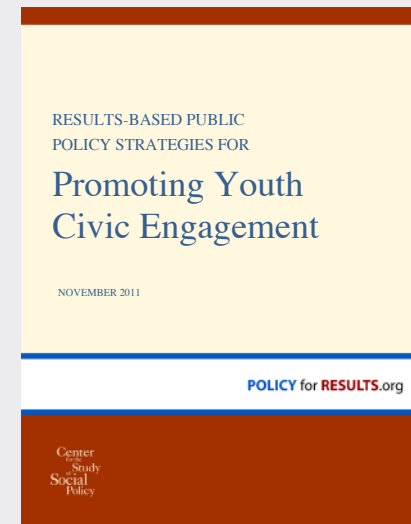
- CSSP continued its Customer Satisfaction work in 2011, building on work that was started with The Annie E. Casey Foundation's Atlanta civic site. CSSP

worked in three neighborhoods to establish a resident-led Customer Satisfaction Network to improve service quality, efficacy and equity in each neighborhood. Last year, work expanded around the three target areas: nutritional services, early care and neighborhood completeness. The Customer Satisfaction Network increased the number of residents who participated in consumer action research fivefold and launched a new network of local neighborhood providers who agreed to adopt a customer-focused approach.

Using Policy, Research and Experience to Drive Change



- The policy goals of CSSP are advanced through educating policymakers, advising the community and promoting research-informed policies that improve child and family well-being. Last year, CSSP developed research and recommendations that informed the Promoting Accountability and Excellence in Child Welfare Act of 2011, introduced by Senator Ron Wyden of Oregon. The purpose of the legislation is to incentivize excellence in child welfare practice by establishing a sense of shared accountability for promoting child well-being. It encourages child welfare agencies to partner with schools, housing agencies, employment services and health departments. The premise is that a significant impact can be achieved through modest funding coupled with strong incentives, access to funding flexibility, strong inter-agency partnerships and the encouragement and support for innovation linked to results.
- Promoting Promise Neighborhoods was also a part of CSSP's policy education efforts in 2011. CSSP provided



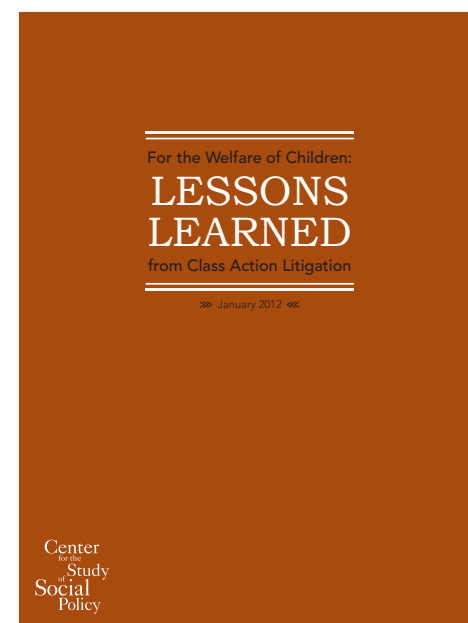


“ Our members look to us for new ideas on issues that are most pressing in their states. PolicyforResults has helped us provide them with some of the results-based research, assistance and opportunities they want and need. ”

~MARY FAIRCHILD
Senior Fellow
National Conference of
State Legislatures (NCSL)

information to congressional members and staff about the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink and the work of the grantees across the country. In partnership with PolicyLink and Harlem Children's Zone, CSSP hosted a congressional briefing sponsored by the late Representative Donald Payne of New Jersey.

- CSSP's public policy work in 2011 also included continued expansion of PolicyForResults.org, the online tool that provides research-based policy recommendations for state policymakers. Four new areas were developed: (1) preventing childhood obesity, (2) preventing child abuse and neglect, (3) increasing college completion and (4) promoting youth civic engagement. These interactive online materials were also produced as results-based public policy reports.
- In 2011, CSSP collaborated with ZERO TO THREE on *A Call to Action to Help Maltreated Infants and Toddlers*, a publication that offered a collective vision of important steps that can and should be taken in policies, programs and practices to better address the developmental needs of infants and toddlers who come to the attention of the child welfare system. Other co-sponsors of this work included CSSP's long-time partners the American Humane Association, the Child Welfare League of America and the Children's Defense Fund.

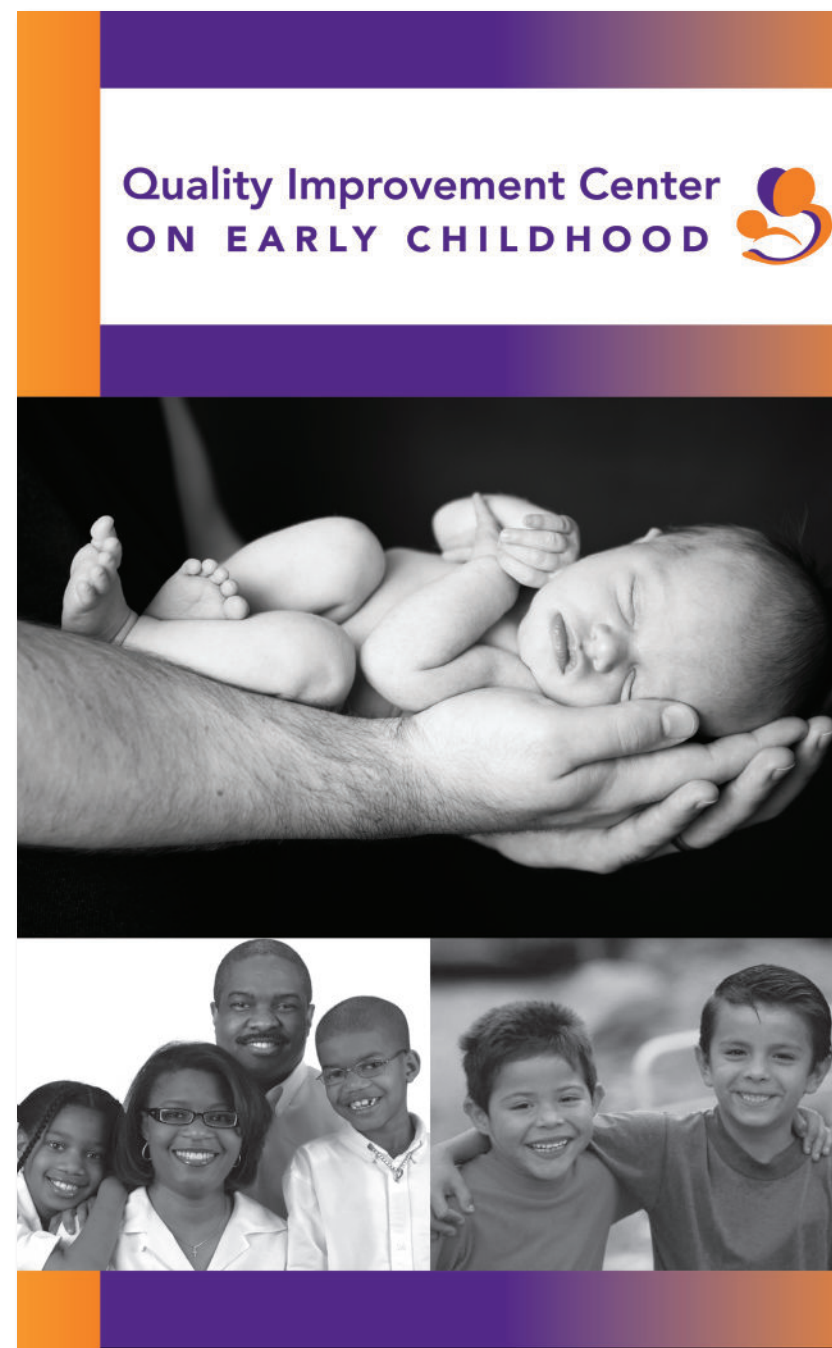


- A longstanding part of CSSP's work involves supporting child welfare system improvement through class action litigation. CSSP serves as a national resource, mediator and the court-appointed monitor in several states under a consent decree. Last year, CSSP produced *For the Welfare of Children: Lessons Learned from Class Action Litigation*, a series of papers authored by top experts with more than 40 years of experience that addresses the many factors that increase the likelihood that litigation will result in successful system reform. The publication was and is intended to accelerate the pace and quality of progress by helping policymakers, agency administrators, lawyers and judges make better and more informed decisions

throughout the course of child welfare reform class action litigation.

- The Strengthening Families National Network had a unique opportunity last year in the \$500 million Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge state grant competition. The grants, intended to propel a handful of states to dramatically improve the quality of early learning and development programs serving high-need children, acknowledged that parents are important partners in any effort to promote children's optimal development. Members of the Strengthening Families National Network mobilized to ensure that parent voices were heard during the public feedback part of the process. As a result, criteria on parent partnerships and family engagement closely aligned with the Protective Factors Framework. CSSP provided guidance and tools on how to use Strengthening Families work to meet these criteria. Fourteen states applying for the grants featured Strengthening Families as part of their application; six of the nine winning states are actively involved in the network.
- The federal Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC), a cooperative agreement with the Children's Bureau in the Administration for

Children and Families, completed its third year in 2011. Research projects are under way in Boston, Denver, Salem, Oregon and several counties in South Carolina. Five dissertation fellows are also working on research related to reducing child maltreatment. A protective factors expert panel convened by the QIC in 2011 prompted increased federal action to include protective factors in program guidance and funding announcements across departments. The expert panel included representatives from the Departments of Agriculture and Defense, and several Department of Health and Human Services agencies, including the Children's Bureau, Office on Child Abuse and Neglect, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Audited Statements of Financial Position *

Full financial statements are available by contacting Center for the Study of Social Policy at 202.371.1565.

For the Year Ended December 31,	2011	2010
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,610,860	\$ 4,414,434
Investments	4,768,066	4,792,194
Grants and contracts receivable	1,964,407	2,004,798
Prepaid expenses	144,584	151,820
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	10,487,917	11,363,246
Property and Equipment, net	219,476	211,918
Cash Surrender Value of Life Insurance	283,819	315,157
Deposits	54,840	54,840
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 11,046,052	\$ 11,945,161
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 794,633	\$ 737,500
Grants payable	455,773	923,148
Accrued vacation	274,071	280,054
Deferred rent, current portion	23,107	23,107
Refundable advances	3,128,029	3,621,121
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,675,613	5,584,930
Deferred Rent, net of current portion	429,564	322,930
Deferred Compensation	283,819	315,157
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,388,996	6,223,017
Unrestricted Net Assets	5,657,056	5,722,144
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 11,046,052	\$ 11,945,161

*Audit performed by McQuadeBrennan, LLP

Audited Statements of Activities *

For the Year Ended December 31,	2011	2010
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Grants and contracts	\$ 13,220,492	\$ 11,763,585
Investment (loss) income	(1,317)	226,031
Conference registration fees	68,280	
Publication income	10,541	14,091
Other income	45	1,400
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	13,298,041	12,005,107
EXPENSES		
Program services:		
Child and Family Well-being and Public System Reform	6,949,537	6,014,139
Building Strong Communities, Promoting Community Change, and Building Capacity for Resident and Field Leadership	4,611,509	3,550,208
Influencing Local, State and Federal Policy	172,421	371,661
International Work	867	173,291
Program services	11,734,334	10,109,299
Fundraising	167,539	160,636
Management and general	1,461,256	1,865,444
TOTAL EXPENSES	13,363,129	12,135,379
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(65,088)	(130,272)
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	5,722,144	5,852,416
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 5,657,056	\$ 5,722,144

*Audit performed by McQuadeBrennan, LLP

The 2011 and 2010 net loss of \$65,088 and \$130,272 respectively, was for board approved expenditures from CSSP's reserve fund for investment in organizational capacity.



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Agency

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

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