

# Vision 2020 e-Newsletter

## October 2011



The Vision 2020 Campaign is a collaborative effort of –

*Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP),  
Wisconsin Head Start Association, and  
Wisconsin Council on Children & Families (WCCF)*

Welcome to our newest members of the Vision 2020 Campaign and welcome back to you long-time supporters! Help grow this campaign by taking just a minute to forward this e-newsletter to your friends, colleagues, and neighbors. Encourage them to join you in becoming part of this perfect vision for Wisconsin.

***Together we will end child poverty in Wisconsin by 2020!***

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#### **1. WCCF Discusses the Proposed Medicaid Changes.**

This week WCCF released a preliminary analysis of the changes to Wisconsin's Medicaid program proposed by the Department of Health Services. Our analysts examined the suggested changes relating to eligibility, benefits, payment reform, service delivery and possible consequences of these changes.

#### **2. WCCF Releases County-by-County Info Illustrating Local Effects of the Recession.**

Last month WCCF released community-level information about poverty, housing costs and un-insurance rates for several WI counties, along with a county-specific measure of how median incomes have changed since 2007, the year before the recession began. Learn specifically how the recession has weighed upon your county.

**3. WCCF's Legislative Watch List – Bills Currently Active.**

Our legislature is considering several bills that are of concern to Vision 2020 members. Please take a moment to share your opinion with your legislator.

[AB 222](#) – would require proof of citizenship for public assistance programs

[AB 255](#) – would limit FoodShare eligibility for legal immigrants

[AB 173](#) – deporting undocumented immigrants; The AZ Copy Cat Law

[SB 137](#) – companies hiring illegal immigrants not eligible for tax credits

**4. Register now for POVERY MATTERS: Preparing for the Future!**

Mark your calendars for [this two day conference](#) to be held in the Wisconsin Dells, November 15 and 16, sponsored by WISCAP. The mission of the Poverty Matters conference is to continue the War on Poverty by bringing together human service professionals, community leaders, state officials, advocates, educators, and low-income people to discuss the causes and solutions to poverty. More than thirty [workshops](#) on poverty related topics will be offered.

**5. Register now for VIRTUES PROJECT Workshop in Waupaca on November 9.**

The Waushara County Coordinated Services Team invites all Vision 2020 members to this special training opportunity. The Virtues Project model is a universal program recognized by the United Nations as a Global Program for families and service agencies. The workshop uses interactive activities to provide practical application for anti-bullying, self-discipline, character education, trauma, mental health, restorative justice, parenting and leadership. Registration must be received by 10-31-11. Contact Michele Marks at 920-787-6600 or [michelem.parkstreet@co.waushara.wi.us](mailto:michelem.parkstreet@co.waushara.wi.us).

**6. “Poverty Among Women and Families,” – a New Census-based Report.**

The National Women’s Law Center last month issued a “gendered analysis” of the federal poverty data in its annual report, “[Poverty among Women and Families](#).” The report details the experience of adult women, of single mothers with children, and of women over age 65. National trends over the last decade for each group are identified, along with a strong call to prevent recent experience from becoming the “new normal.”

*“There is a better way forward..... Congress can heed President Obama’s call to quickly create jobs through measures like aid to states to prevent layoffs of teachers and other public sector employees, investments in infrastructure (including measures to improve access to employment in this sector for women and disadvantaged people), an extension of federal emergency unemployment benefits, support for subsidized jobs and job training, and additional targeted measures to help the long-term unemployed.”*

**7. Vision 2020 Survey Results.**

Many thanks to those who participated in our recent survey of Vision 2020 Friends about ways that WCCF could be more useful to your anti-poverty work. There was nearly a three-

way tie for the “single most important issue,” with early childhood education winning first place by a narrow margin, health care placing second and poverty coming in third. Vision 2020 e-newsletters will be sure to keep a particular focus this year on the three priorities described above.

**8. “Like” Vision 2020 on Facebook and Follow the Project on Twitter.**

Join conversation with other like-minded advocates to share ideas and information. To start a discussion, go to the [Vision 2020 Facebook page](#). Then click on “Discussions” in the left bar menu, and then click on “Start a discussion.” We hope this will be a useful communication tool for sharing what you’re doing in your community.

**Help Keep WCCF's Voice for Wisconsin Youth Strong!**

You can be part of a strong voice for justice for  
Wisconsin's Youth by supporting WCCF.

Significant public policy changes do not happen by accident  
and, joining with others, you can help ensure that all  
Wisconsin youth are treated justly.

We offer our e-materials and publications free of charge.  
We can't do it without your help.

[Donate online here.](#)

And, don't forget to bookmark the WCCF blog  
at <http://www.wiskids.blogspot.com/>

Bookmark it and check it regularly for updates  
on issues critical to Wisconsin's Children and Families.

**Finally,  
Thank you all for your hard work  
throughout Wisconsin.  
With your continued efforts,  
we can –  
and we will -**

***End child poverty in Wisconsin by 2020!***