



Childwatch

Speaking out for the region's children.

A Publication of Public Citizens for Children and Youth • April 2012

Spring Has Sprung

We Continue Reaching Up And Reaching Out For Kids



Spring is here. It came early – then left and now has returned – we hope to stay.

The promise the daffodils bring can be catchy and catching. It can help us believe that with hard work and community support we can have an impact. That's what the saving of E.M. Stanton and Sheppard schools in Philadelphia meant. The hope, the work, the spirit, the record of success of those schools made it seem crazy that they had to be fought for – but they did and they were. So boatloads of congratulations to all those yellow and purple shirts worn by the boosters, and congratulations to the School Reform Commission for their decision to save these two schools.

Every once in a while hope comes up and reminds us that the kids in our world – wherever they are – need us to be like those daffodils: resilient and reliable, caring and strong. We, like the communities in Stanton and Sheppard, must never give up.

So that means that each of us must remind our elected and appointed officials that all of our children need to know that we have their backs. All of the 50,000 babies that will be born in Southeastern PA this year need to be sure that we will help them be safe in their homes and communities,

have good health care, enough food to eat and caring, consistent attention paid to their needs. These babies need to know that we will work hard to help them get good child care so that their parents can work knowing they are safe and secure and that they will attend schools that are ready to teach them in communities that can, and do, protect them. It shouldn't be so hard but it is.

Our record has been mixed. More babies are being born healthy but too many are going home to communities that are not safe and supportive. Our many really good early childhood programs are out of reach for too many toddlers who are left in unreliable or poor child care places that use the television as a caregiver. Too many of our schools are not good enough and too many third graders are not reading. Too many of our teens give up on themselves and us, and have nowhere to go to be safe and learn in the school or non-school hours. Too many of our recreation centers are not staffed as well as they should be and too many of our after-school programs are skeletons of what they might be.

Our schools are improving but not fast enough. As time passes, many of our kids are getting passed over.

With your help, we can and will do better!

We will say NO to a society that says look out only for number one and ***we will say YES*** to a government and society that promises to hear and work toward improving the world for all our children. As Carl Sandburg said, "There is only one child in the world and s/he speaks our name." ***Together*** we must hear our name, ***together*** we can make the world better for all children.

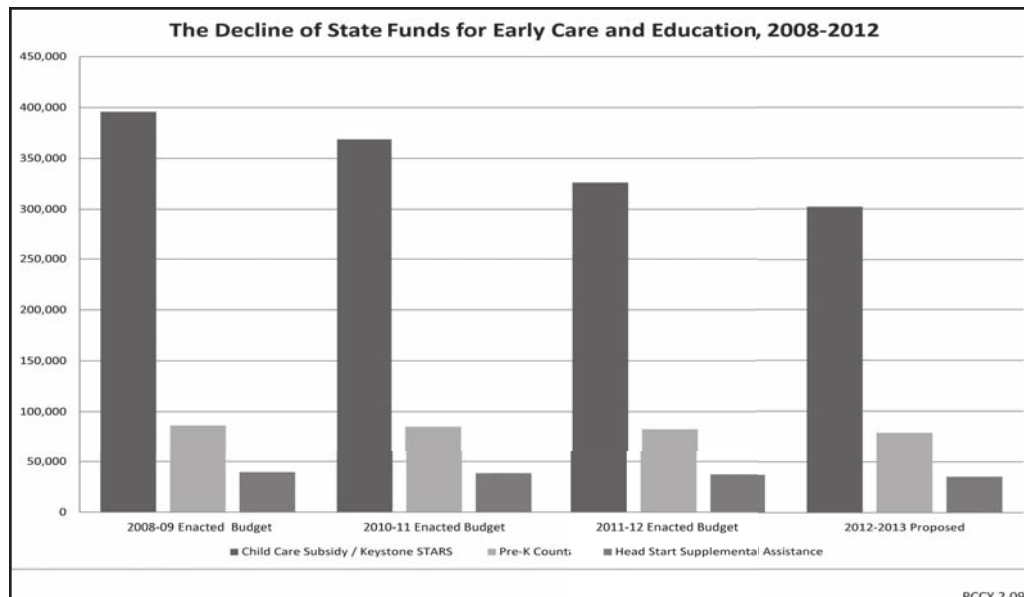
Like the daffodils, we promise to stay the course to be resilient and strong ***together. Join us!***

The State Budget Overview

Passing The Buck Without Passing The Bucks

The proposed state budget would hurt children, families and communities. Rather than proposing reasonable increases in state revenue, the budget proposes short-sighted and severe cuts to human services and education. If the Governor's budget is passed, children of all ages will be short-changed, and children in low-income communities will be particularly hard-hit as local governments have few options to make up for the loss of state dollars.

Early Care and Education



Following a steep decline last year, the proposed state budget continues to erode support for early childhood education. The Child Care Subsidy, which helps low-income parents work while their children develop school readiness skills, would be cut 7.4% (\$21.16 million); Pre-K Counts and Head Start Supplemental Assistance, which close the achievement gap among children who are most at risk of school failure, would each be reduced by 5% (\$4.14 million and \$1.86 million respectively). In addition, funds that school districts had used to support full-day kindergarten and pre-k (the Accountability Block Grant), would be eliminated (\$100 million).

Give young children a better chance to succeed. Maintain funds for Child Care Subsidy, Pre-K Counts, Head Start Supplemental Assistance and the Accountability Block Grant at the levels enacted by the General Assembly in June, 2011.

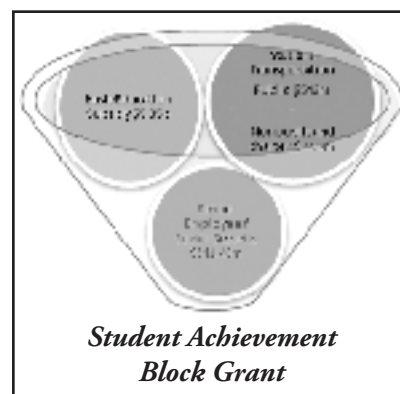
K-12 Education

Last year, Pennsylvania public schools lost more than \$900 million in education funding, which disproportionately hurt the poorest districts. This year, the proposed budget offers no relief. This budget attacks education at every level – from cuts to early care to state and state-related universities.

With the elimination of the Accountability Block Grant funding, Pre-k-12 education would be cut by \$100 million. Following last year's elimination of state funding for Charter School Reimbursements, this budget would deal a serious blow to education.

The Governor's budget proposes to combine funding for basic education, school transportation and school employees' Social Security payments into a new "Student Achievement Education Block Grant." School districts have limited ability to contain costs for transportation and Social Security payments, both of which are legally required, and day-to-day costs are also guaranteed to rise.

Thus, a block grant would not provide flexibility; it would simply squeeze funding available for core educational activities that work, such as small class size and the retention of qualified teachers. Districts would be left with the choice of cutting basic education or raising property taxes to adequately support students. The Governor's budget would jeopardize the gains in student achievement that increased school funding has made possible in recent years.



Invest in our students as they prepare for their – and Pennsylvania's – future. Restore Accountability Block Grant funding and Charter School Reimbursements. Support a fair and adequate school funding formula.

Human Services and General Assistance (GA)



The Governor's largest proposed budget cut for fiscal year 2012-13 targets Pennsylvania's most vulnerable citizens, and therefore the health of our communities. The spending blueprint eliminates the General Assistance (GA) cash assistance program – a loss of \$150 million – and slashes funding for GA-related Medical Assistance (MA) by \$169 million.

General Assistance is a last-resort safety net providing a small benefit (\$205/month) to Pennsylvanians who are unable to work or have no other source of income. The overwhelming majority of the program's 68,000 recipients are individuals with physical and/or mental health disabilities, most of whom are in the lengthy process of applying for federal disability benefits.

These dollars help provide stability by keeping people in housing, paying for transportation, and covering the basic necessities many of us take for granted.

Cutting GA makes poor budgetary sense. GA is far less expensive than the costs Pennsylvania would incur if people are left destitute. Some may end up in homeless shelters (\$1,050 a month), foster care (\$600 - \$1,800 a month), incarceration (\$2,750 a month), or state psychiatric hospitals (\$20,584 a month).

GA is a critical lifeline for women escaping domestic violence, for individuals in intensive drug or alcohol recovery programs fighting to overcome addictions, for those re-entering the community after incarceration, as well as for several hundred Pennsylvania children living with caretakers who have stepped in when their own families were unable to provide for them.

Beyond GA, the Governor has proposed sizable budget cuts to vital supports for families, such as the elimination of the Homeowners Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP). Included in the \$629 million in cuts

from the Department of Public Welfare budget is a 20% reduction (\$168 million) in funds counties use to provide mental health services, substance abuse treatment, homeless assistance and other critical services. Demand for these programs is already high, and pressure upon counties to provide services for the most vulnerable in their communities will only grow more intense if General Assistance and HEMAP are eliminated.

On March 7th, prior to the House Appropriations Committee's annual hearing on the proposed Department of Public Welfare budget, members of the statewide Coalition for Low Income Pennsylvanians (CLIP), which PCCY co-chairs, spoke out against the GA cuts. In addition, PCCY joined more than 90 organizations statewide to urge legislative leaders to reject the Governor's proposal to eliminate General Assistance, as well as cuts to other DPW programs that provide critical support to vulnerable Pennsylvanians.

Support counties' ability to keep their communities healthy. Restore funding for General Assistance and the line items in the proposed Human Services Block Grant.

The General Assembly did not adopt the Governor's proposed budget last year and need not do so this year. Instead, it can – and should – close corporate tax loopholes and adopt other revenue-generating measures to protect Pennsylvania children and families and give them relief from unnecessary budget cuts.



Pennsylvania will only move forward and achieve economic recovery if we do not leave children and families behind. PCCY urges the General Assembly to reject the Governor's proposed cuts and support a budget that protects children and families.

Take Action Today!

Visit PCCY's Budget Advocacy Page for helpful information on federal and state budget issues at www.pccy.org >issues > budget advocacy. Then join our E-Alert list right from our homepage at www.pccy.org so you too can "Take Action."

There's Another Way

Alternatives To Cuts In The State Budget

Over the years PCCY has successfully worked to increase public investment in children and youth.

Call, write and visit your State Senator and Representative. Tell them investments in Pennsylvania's children, youth and families are critical to its long-term recovery.

*Urge your State Senator and Representative to
Restore Cuts to Pennsylvania's
Children, Youth and Families.*

Choices

Increase Revenue	Restore Cuts to Children, Youth & Families
Delay Reduction of Capital Stock and Franchise Tax \$248 million	Public Higher Education \$267 million
Close The Delaware Loophole \$500 million	Charter School Reimbursements \$224 million
Pass A Smokeless Tobacco and Cigars Tax \$60 million	Early Care and Education** \$30 million
End Vendor Sales Discount \$74 million	K-12 Education* grants for evidence-based programs including full-day kindergarten and pre-k \$100 million
Pass A Sales Tax on Corporate and Private Jets \$10-\$14 million	Child Welfare grants to support family reunification, children aging out of the foster care system \$10 million
End Other Sales Tax Exemptions \$530 million	General Assistance Small grants and medical care for Pennsylvania's poorest adults and children \$319 million

* Accountability Block Grant / ** Child Care Subsidy and Keystone STARS, Pre-K Counts, Head Start

Heard In The Halls

Advocacy In Action

PCCY staffers testify regularly before city and state elected officials, the School Reform Commission and various committees. Below are excerpts of testimony from this year. Complete public testimony can be found on PCCY's website at www.pccy.org > news > testimony.



"Like our libraries, our recreation centers can be ports in the storm of adolescence. I know that you believe that these centers are important but they cannot do their job and pick up the slack for the latest crisis without adequate staffing.

The centers can play such an important part of a young persons' life. But they cannot do it with one staff person in a center- without a computer, without support. Yet that is the condition we start with – before we look at current need, before the latest funding crisis of the school district. Each of you knows how important – what a strong contribution regular planned activities make in keeping families strong and neighborhoods safe and together. As we look at summer programming, we worry about 13,000 kids who received their lunch through the school district's summer program now being hungry; we worry about the large number of kids who will be more at risk because summer schools will not be open."

~ Shelly Yanoff, Philadelphia City Council,
Committee on Parks, Recreation, Cultural Affairs;
Testimony on Resolution No. 120045

"The Corbett administration proposes to establish a Human Services Block Grant with the ostensible purpose of giving communities more flexibility in terms of how they spend money. However, by combining seven line items into a single block



grant and reducing overall funding by 20 percent, the only thing the HSBG does is give counties the freedom to decide which services to cut next. It's like passing the buck, without passing the bucks.

~ Christie Balka, Philadelphia City Council,
Committee on Health and Human Services

"We know the School Reform Commission and principals need to make difficult budget priorities right now about what to keep and what to cut. Within the spectrum of essential curricular programs for students, please remember arts education. Please remember the teachers who deliver consistent, sequential arts education to students on a daily basis, so the students can reach their potential. These are teachers of instrumental music, general and vocal music, visual arts, dance and drama."

~ Gretchen Elise Walker, School Reform Commission



"Philadelphia children have made progress in the last years; we must continue that progress. If additional funding is not found locally for our schools, students will face a skeleton like education, more people with options will leave the city, businesses will choose not to come or stay here. Our schools will become more

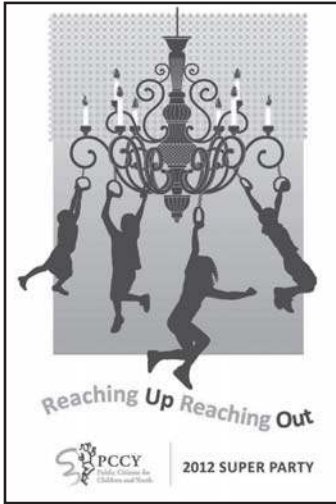
pathways to prison rather than roads to positive lives. So far the state's proposed budget means that Philadelphia will lose \$21 million through the loss of the ABG alone – that does not include the naturally increasing costs that all districts see each year. We have been hit hard by the loss of the charter school reimbursement which PCCY is fighting for. This is on top of our current and a projected \$269 million dollar deficit awaiting us next year."

~ Shantee Garner, Philadelphia City Council

2012 Super Party

Reaching Up Reaching Out

Mark your calendars and save **Wednesday, May 2, 2012** for the town's hottest ticket, **PCCY's Annual Super Party!**



Our 2012 Super Party will be held at the Crystal Tea Room in the Wanamaker Building (100 Penn Square East - 9th Floor - above the Macy's) on Wednesday, May 2nd from 5:30pm to 8:30pm, and feature a cocktail hour, buffet style dinner, silent auction and great entertainment.

"Our Super Party is an occasion to highlight talented local youth who benefit from the rich variety of arts education programs in the region, programs we need to treasure and preserve," says Steven Fynes, Event Coordinator, "It's a lot of fun for the young performers as well as our guests."

Featuring Performances By:

Musicopia Ensemble
PHILADANCO D/3 Youth Ensemble
Nebinger Elementary School Girls Chorus Ensemble
High School for the Creative and Performing Arts Ensemble
Poetry Performance by The Philly Youth Poetry Movement

2012 Honorary Chairman:

Governor Edward G. Rendell

Our silent auction is sure to please with items such as tickets to sporting events featuring the Philadelphia Phillies and the Camden Riversharks, getaways like a week's stay in the Adirondacks or a relaxing stay in Quakertown to enjoy the scenery on a 37-acre tract featuring a 200-year old farmhouse. Feeling a bit more adventurous? Take a new Fuji bike out for a spin. Or take a trip to Washington, DC to tour some of our country's historic sites. Do you like the theatre? How about local museums and other attractions? Like going out to eat? We have you covered with some great deals! All this and more will add to the buzz of this year's event.



Tickets can be purchased online at www.pccy.org > events > The Super Party.
You'll also find more event and ticket information and a list of silent auction items that is updated weekly.

Childhood Hunger and Summer Feeding

PCCY Sponsors Forum With USDA and PA Department of Education

Faced with increasingly tight budgets, school districts statewide are considering cutting back on summer school – which has the unintended consequence of children in struggling families missing meals.

PCCY hosted a March forum aimed at helping community agencies, social services organizations and churches ensure that Philadelphia children get fed through their participation in the USDA Summer Food Service Program (SFSP).

“We know many families in our region haven’t gotten back on their feet since the recession and many children in our region will go hungry if there is no summer feeding site in their community,” said PCCY Director of Family Economic Security, Kathy Fisher, who convened the forum. “Childhood hunger doesn’t take a vacation.”

Administered by the state Department of Education’s Division of Food and Nutrition, the federally-funded SFSP provides 14 million children free or reduced-price school meals during the school year. But during the summer months, just three million of 22.3 million eligible kids receive SFSP meals, according to Joyce Rouba, Program Specialist for the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

SFSP works by signing agreements with sponsors, public or private nonprofit organizations such as camps, schools, municipalities, etc., that can adhere to USDA guidelines for managing a food service program. Sponsors either prepare the food themselves or purchase meals through a vendor. Sponsors also oversee the sites where the food is served. Any Philadelphia child 18 or under is eligible for a meal.

“The food helps families stretch their food budgets... we need more area sites and greater participation at existing sites.” - Joyce Rouba

Last year 904,587 meals (breakfast and lunch) were provided statewide – 295,900 in Philadelphia according to Terry Roden, DEP’s new Summer Food Service Program Supervisor. “There’s no reason anyone in this country should grow up hungry,” he told the audience.

A retired army major and former high school principal originally from Lancaster City, PA., Roden said his passion for children’s welfare has origins in his own humble beginnings. “I watched mom begging the electricity guy not

to turn off the electricity,” he declared, adding, “I cannot stomach Spam, powdered milk and powdered eggs.”

Erinn Hill, Assistant Director for School and Summer Programs, Nutritional Development Services (NDS), Archdiocese of Philadelphia, said its program serves 1.5 million meals annually through up to 600 sites in the region, the majority located in Philadelphia. NDS works with individual sites, she said, noting that they welcome organizations wishing to become a part of their program. “They need to be non-profit and [operators] must attend our trainings,” pointing out that NDS offerings include fresh fruit, juices, and nutritious snacks.

Participating in summer meals for her 21st year, Patrice Patton explained how the food is distributed to sites. Breakfast is delivered the day before and stored, while ice is supplied in the mornings with lunch to keep the food cool before serving. Narrow one way streets can be shut down for safe play and there’s trash pickup too. Menus are changed every year with taste tests conducted with the children, who also fill out questionnaires rating the food.

The acting Summer Food Program Coordinator for the city Department of Recreation, Patton said making sure sites meet the program regulations is central to its application process. “We’re expecting a greater number of children this year,” she added, noting that meals were served at 850 sites last year. The city anticipates boosting that number this summer by 50 locations. “It is about the children,” she smiled.

If your organization would like to participate in the Summer Food Service Program, contact Education Administrator Specialist, **Mary Ringenberg at 800-331-0129 or email at mringenber@pa.gov.**





Health News

New Policy Brief and Health Insurance Eligibility Chart

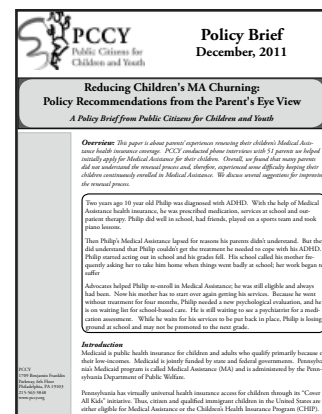
Reducing Children's Medicaid "Churning"

"Churning" occurs when a person's public health insurance coverage is interrupted for a period of time and later begins again. Reasons for churning can include communication issues between parents and County Assistance Offices, a lack of information about the renewal process, paperwork issues, administrative snafus, etc.

PCCY's policy brief, *Reducing Children's MA Churning: Policy Recommendations from the Parent's Eye View*, examines the scope of churning, barriers to insurance coverage renewal, the effect on children and families, and a list of recommendations to reduce the practice.

"Everyone loses when churning happens," says Deborah Zubow, PCCY's Child HealthWatch HelpLine Coordinator, who connects parents with public health insurance coverage for their children. "Kids get enrolled in MA, fall into this hole and can go without coverage for months at a time – so their health suffers."

"HMOs go through the expense of intake and repeatedly setting up ongoing care plans and never realize the savings they are supposed to create by being a 'health maintenance organization,'" she adds, "and the state pays over and over again for the needless administrative costs of dropping and re-enrolling kids."



For your copy of *Reducing Children's MA Churning: Policy Recommendations from the Parent's Eye View*, visit our website at www.pccy.org > publications > policy briefs.

For more information and to reach PCCY's Child HealthWatch HelpLine, call 215-563-5848 x 17.

New Health Insurance Eligibility Chart



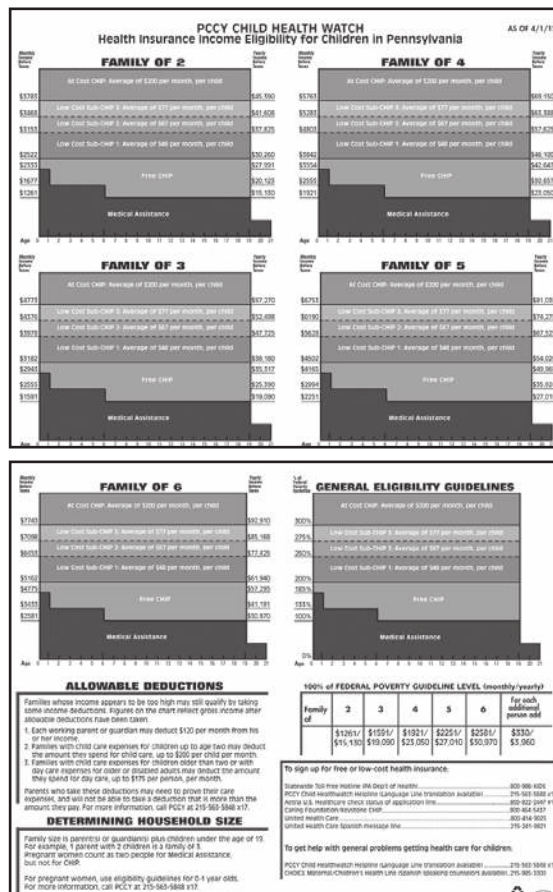
The 2012 update of the Child HealthWatch HelpLine's "Health Insurance Income Eligibility for Children in Pennsylvania" is now available for child service professionals.

Intended for use by social workers, counselors, resource specialists, DHS personnel, etc., the chart is an easy-to-understand reference showing what kind of public insurance a child is eligible for based on their age, household size and household income.

Pennsylvania has a public insurance program that can cover every citizen or qualified immigrant child in the state.

The two-page full color chart is available online at www.pccy.org > child health > health insurance for kids.

For a hard copy of the "Health Insurance Income Eligibility for Children in Pennsylvania" chart, call Deborah Zubow at 215-563-5848 x17.



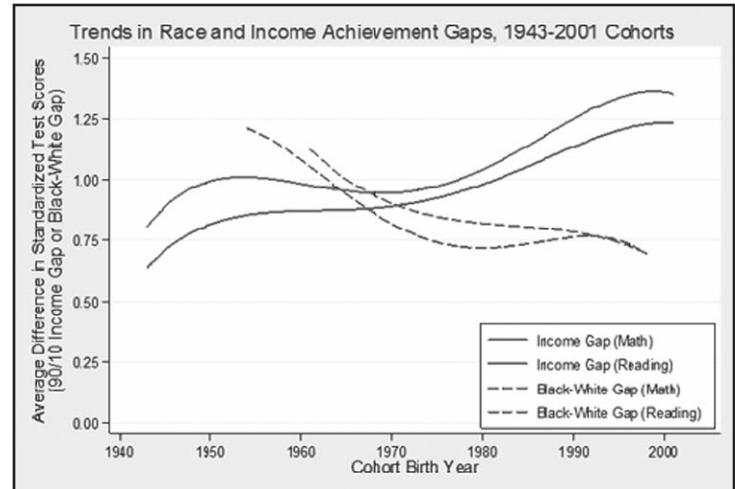
New Policy Brief Released

Concentrated Poverty and PA's Shrinking Middle Class

With nearly half of Americans struggling economically a trend is emerging: evidence of the middle class shrinking while pockets of concentrated poverty – neighborhoods with more than 30 percent poverty – are growing. The percentage of Pennsylvania children living in concentrated poverty has more than doubled over the last decade (from 8 to 17 percent)!

“Understanding the impact of concentrated poverty on schools will be a critical issue in crafting sound education policies,” says Taimarie Adams, PCCY’s Co-Director of Education Policy. “We know that individual students living in poverty can learn, but concentrated poverty’s cumulative effect on a school district presents challenges in providing an adequate education. This situation must be addressed if Pennsylvania is to prosper.”

The brief includes recommendations to address the achievement gap created by concentrated poverty.



For your copy of *‘Trickle Up: Growing Poverty and its Impact on Educational Outcomes Challenges and Opportunities in the 2011-12 Budget Season’* visit our website at www.pccy.org > publications > policy briefs.

Seeing Is Believing

2012 Give Kids Sight Day

By the time you receive this newsletter, PCCY will have concluded our annual Give Kids Sight Day event in conjunction with Wills Eye Institute and the Philadelphia Eagles Youth Partnership.

Last year, in just over nine hours 1,392 children of all ages – up from nearly 1,200 at two locations last year – had their eyes checked during the free event. Nearly 43 percent (595) of the kids were fitted for glasses, the last step in a

process that included refraction, auto refraction, and finally a visit to select frames to the Wills on Wheels or two Eagles Eye Mobiles stationed at the Wills entrance.

Throughout the year, PCCY’s Child HealthWatch HelpLine stands ready to help. For more information about vision providers and getting health insurance for your child, contact PCCY at 215-563-5848 x17. To find an eye doctor, visit our www.eagleseyehealth.org.

Staying Social

PCCY’s Making More Use Of Facebook And Twitter



Action today means protecting children tomorrow. PCCY sends regular e-alerts to keep our network up-to-date on important issues affecting children and families in our region. Please continue working with us to protect the lives and life chances of our region’s children by taking action today.

Sign up for our E-alerts at www.pccy.org

“Like” us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pccypage

“Follow” us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/pccyteam

The Picasso Project

2012 Awards and Petition

PCCY's Picasso Project in January awarded \$50,083 in arts grants to 13 Philadelphia public schools at the World Café Live. Thirty-five schools applied for the annual awards that pair schools with local artists who assist in the creation of works captivating the attention of the student body. *And the winners are:*

Amedee Bregy Elementary School - \$3,234
"Tell Me A Story"

Lewis C. Cassidy Elementary School - \$4,500
"A Peaceable Kingdom- Building Community"

Grover Cleveland Elementary School - \$4,245
"From the Same Tree"

Excel Academy South - \$4,500
"The Recycled Water Cycle - A Mosaic Mural"

Albert M. Greenfield Elementary School - \$2,500
"We Dig the Earth"

Andrew Jackson Elementary School - \$4,500
"Garden of Diversity/Jardín de la Diversidad"

Thomas Mifflin Elementary School - \$4,500
"The Peaceful Posse"

Motivation High School - \$4,140
"Multicultural Artistic Expressions – Part 2"

George Nebinger Elementary School - \$4,500
"Nebinger Goes Green - One Team One Planet"

Samuel Powel Elementary School - \$2,000
"Dance as a Tool for Education and African Dance"

Paul Robeson High School For Human Services - \$4,500
"From These Roots"

Sankofa Freedom Academy Charter School - \$2,500
"Sankofa Rewind: A Cinematic Journey from Self Discovery to Social Action"

Youth Study Center - \$4,464
"Exploring the Harlem Renaissance and Its Influence on the Hip Hop Revolution"

Eighty teachers, educators and artists interested in connecting with applying schools attended three fall information sessions. Picasso Project Coordinator, Gretchen Elise Walker added a February fundraising workshop for the schools that did not receive grants. "Teachers are really starved for resources because of budget cuts," she says. "We made a very strong effort at outreach and grant writing education so the proposals we got were very targeted."

Individual Picasso schools are developing advocacy plans along with their projects to raise awareness about the importance of arts education with communities and decision-makers.

After the grants were award, a \$15,000 gift from the Wyncote Foundation in March enabled Picasso to fund projects for two extra schools, Houston (\$5,000) and Harrison (\$4,995). "We were thrilled to be able to give support at a time of such high need," Walker says, noting that Houston will use the funding to install a recording studio and craft original compositions about anti-bullying. "The students and teachers are elated." Harrison will focus on visual arts and collaborations with North Philadelphia artists.

For more information and a list of PCCY's Picasso class of 2012 schools and their arts projects go to **www.pccy.org > issues > picasso project**.

To see a step-by-step overview of the Picasso Project and video of the awards ceremony, visit PCCY's YouTube channel: **www.youtube.com/user/PCCYphilly**

Picasso Petition

Arts education is so vital to our children and youth. With the current budget crisis in Philadelphia public schools, arts programs are at risk of being cut. The arts foster more than creativity – they increase children's self-esteem, create critical thinkers and leaders. **Help us collect 1000 signatures for Arts Education in Philadelphia by May 17th. Please support arts education! Sign our petition to the Philadelphia School Reform Commission and forward it widely:**

<http://www.change.org/petitions/keep-arts-education-strong-in-philly-schools>

PCCY's Courtwatch Project

2012 Review Of Philadelphia's Family Court System Completed

Twenty citizen volunteers monitored the proceedings of nearly 600 juvenile delinquency cases last fall in Philadelphia's Family Court as part of PCCY's Courtwatch project.

Overwhelmingly male (86 percent), African American (77 percent) and high school-aged (76 percent), the youths faced charges from shoplifting to assault.

Attending court hearings two days a week for two months, the volunteers documented what happened in the courtroom during the proceedings. Standardized forms were used to record their observations which included the presence (or not) of counsel representing the children (11 – 20 years old), whether or not they were handcuffed, the presence and participation of a parent or guardian, and whether or not the child's educational, health and disability needs were addressed.

"Our Courtwatch volunteers felt the struggle between acting as a disinterested, trained volunteer once putting himself in the shoes of a parent, and trying to figure out



what was happening," said PCCY Executive Director, Shelly Yanoff. "Watching in court, like serving on a jury, is important citizen work."

For a copy of our last Courtwatch report, visit our website at www.pccy.org > **publications** and stay tuned for our 2012 report to be released in the next few months.

Out And About With PCCY

Saks Fundraising Event and Two Workshops



Food, fun and make-overs... nearly 100 people participated in PCCY's first annual Shopping Event at Saks Fifth Avenue on City Avenue in Bala Cynwyd. Thanks to all who participated.

PCCY's Arts Education Director, Gretchen Elise Walker, leads a workshop on how to fund arts programs in schools.



Special thanks to PCCY Board Members Ray McCullough and Naomi Alper for their leadership. We also thank Saks Fifth Avenue; Carlino's Speciality Foods; Diverse Catering; Frog Commissary, and; Whole Foods Market - Callowhill.

PCCY's Education Co-Director, Taimarie Adams, leads a discussion for the ABC Program on individual advocacy and advocacy for your school.





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PCCY Roundtable



Join PCCY's *Education Roundtable*, a monthly discussion with local reporters of topical issues affecting the School District of Philadelphia and its students. Hosted by Shelly Yanoff, the half-hour program airs on PSTV, Comcast Channel 52, the District's own cable channel, and PhillyCAM on Comcast 66/966 and Verizon 29/30.

Check local listings for time.

Mission Statement

PCCY - Public Citizens for Children and Youth is the region's leading child advocacy organization, dedicated to improving the lives and life chances of children in our region through thoughtful and informed advocacy. Founded in 1980, PCCY is an independent, non-profit organization.

About The Newsletter

Writers and Editors: Christie Balka, Kathy Fisher, Steven Fynes, Shanee Garner, Colleen McCauley, Gretchen Elise Walker, Deborah Zubow and Shelly D. Yanoff, Executive Director, Sid Holmes, Communications Director. Design & Layout, Steven E. Fynes.

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