Prepared for the
Racine Head Start Policy Council

Thursday, January 20, 2011

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The Need

- Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds at or below federal poverty level (FPL)
- Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds with a disability who are not also at or below federal poverty level (FPL)

Racine Head Start Need
The Need

- Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds at or below FPL: 828
- Estimate of 3 and 4 year olds with a disability who are not also at or below FPL: 662
- Racine Head Start Need: 1,490
Shortfall in Head Start Slots in Racine

![Bar chart showing shortfall in Head Start slots in Racine.]

- Eligible for Head Start: 1,490
- Number of Head Start Slots: 698
Demographic Trends Children Under 5

Population Trends for City of Racine and Racine County Children Under 5
1990 - 2008

Population

City of Racine  Racine County
Demographic Trends – Racine County
Children Living in Poverty

Child poverty in Racine County by Census Tract
% of children 5 years and younger in poverty from total population

Racine Census Tracts
Children of 5 years and younger in poverty

Source: US Census 2000 Table P87
Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee 2010
Demographic Trends – City of Racine
Children Living in Poverty

Child Poverty in Racine City by Census Tract
% of children 5 years and younger in poverty from total population

Racine Census Tracts
Children of 5 years and younger in poverty
- <1%
- 1-2%
- 3-4%
- 5.7%
- 6.1%
- Racine City Boundary

Source: US Census 2000 Table P87
Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee 2010
Income eligibility of Racine Head Start Enrollees

R/K CAA Head Start Program Eligibility Income

- Eligible 0 - 100% FPL
- 101-130% FPL
- Over 130% FPL
- Foster
- Homeless
- Public Assistance


Number of Children Served: 0 - 700
Children with Special Needs

12.3% (104 out of 847) children in the R/K CAA Head Start program in 2009-2010 had a diagnosed primary disability:

- 90 speech or language impairment
- 7 emotional/behavioral disorders
- 5 non-categorical/developmental delays
- 2 orthopedic impairment
Location of other child care providers in Racine
Focus Groups with Racine Head Start Families

2 focus groups were held in 2010:

• Head Start Policy Council Representatives

• Adults with children enrolled in Racine County’s Head Start program who were not on the Policy Council
Focus Groups - Housing

Some of the problems mentioned included:

- The waiting list for Section 8 vouchers
- The high cost of utilities, particularly in winter
- Being told they make too much to qualify for energy assistance
Focus Groups - Education

Some of the problems mentioned included:

- Need better education to get many jobs
- High cost of education for adults
- Difficulty of managing school plus work plus kids
Some of the problems mentioned:

- Hard to find doctors & dentists who will accept BadgerCare Plus
- Long waiting lists
- Many people earn too much to qualify for state health insurance, but not enough to pay for private or employer insurance
- High cost of prescription drugs
- Lack of mental health/substance abuse services
Focus Group Conclusions

- Poverty is a web of needs that make life difficult
- Needs extend beyond basic needs, impacting
  - Educational success
  - Employability
  - Health
  - Personal and family repercussions
Questions?
Thank you!

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