KIDS COUNT : Data for Change
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Overview

- Background/Hypothesis
- National and State KIDS COUNT
- Examples of Success
- Importance of Data
Hypothesis

If policymakers, advocates, and the public have regular access to **accurate, timely data** on the well-being of children, then more state level policies affecting children and families will be based on accurate information rather than anecdotes and “best guesses.”
KIDS COUNT Data-Based Advocacy

Strong Data

Compelling Communication

Effective Advocacy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National KIDS COUNT Products</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KIDS COUNT Data Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>KIDS COUNT Data Book/Products</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cutting Edge Technology</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

![KIDS COUNT Data Center](image1)
![KIDS COUNT Data Book/Products](image2)
![Cutting Edge Technology](image3)
Example: Infant Mortality in DE

- **2004 KIDS COUNT Data book ranks DE 50th on IMR**
- **DE KIDS COUNT convenes stakeholders on issue**
- **Task Force Report released outlining plan for reducing IMR in DE**
- **Series of task force recommendations put in place across state**
- **Focused efforts on preventing premature births improving prenatal care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMER 2004</th>
<th>FALL 2004</th>
<th>SPRING 2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007-2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DE Gov Minner breaks embargo announcing action</td>
<td>Infant Mortality Task Force created</td>
<td>1st $2 mil committed toward DE Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium</td>
<td>2010 KIDS COUNT Data book ranks DE 31st on IMR</td>
<td>As of FY10 $18 M committed toward DE Healthy Mother and Infant Consortium</td>
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</tbody>
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Example: Infant Mortality in DE

Turning the Curve on Infant Mortality

Rate per 1,000 live births


DE - 10% decline in IMR since 2004
Example: Lead Poisoning in RI

- Rhode Island KIDS COUNT Data Book
  - Lead poisoning indicator
  - Reported annually

- Community Leader Response
  - Enforce lead laws
  - Parental education
  - Lead Poisoning Prevention Plan
  - Lead Poisoning Prevention Law
Example: Lead Poisoning in RI

Children Entering Kindergarten with a History of a Positive Screen for Lead Poisoning (1997 to 2008)
Success

Data + Advocacy + Communications = improved outcomes for vulnerable children and families.
Why Data is Important Now More than Ever?

- 42% of all children in the US now live below 200% FPL
- States are slashing supports and services to vulnerable kids and families

Source: Kids Count Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter

### Largest State Budget Shortfalls on Record

Total state budget shortfall in each fiscal year, in billions

- **2002**: -$40
- **2003**: -$75
- **2004**: -$80
- **2005**: -$45
- **2006**: -$110
- **2007**: -$130
- **2008**: -$191
- **2009**: -$75**

*Reported to date
**Preliminary
Source: CBPP survey, revised March 2011
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- Access data on Children and Families
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  - mobile.kidscount.org (mobile site)

- Use KIDS COUNT Network as a Resource
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