ACTIONABLE INTELLIGENCE

FOR SOCIAL POLICY

AISP Newsletter: November 2015

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AISP Network Sites in the News

AISP Pete Bailey Award 2015

We're excited to announce that James Moore and Susan Kretsge of the Policy Analysis Center (PAC) in Philadelphia, PA were the second recipients of the "**Pete Bailey Award for Achievement in Public**

Systems Integration." Moore and Kretsge have both worked tirelessly to improve policies and practices in the City of Philadelphia through the use of integrated data.

Northeast Ohio Improves Pre-K Programs by Utilizing Data from the CHILD Integrated Data System

"The Poverty Center at Case Western Reserve utilized its CHILD integrated data system to gather information on Northeastern Ohio's children who could be served by pre-k, the challenges these children face, the current availability of quality pre-k programs, and current pre-k enrollment numbers in the sixteen first-ring suburban school districts."

"Poverty Center researchers calculated the number of children 0-5 and of pre-school age in each suburb, and the number of those children who had adverse birth outcomes (like being born with low birthweight), received public assistance, had involvement with the Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS), had high blood-lead levels, as well as the mother's education level and age, and whether they used early childhood services like home visits, and if and where they redeemed child care subsidies." Here is the list of findings from the Poverty Center's Research.

Florida's Criminal Mental Health Project (CMHP) is cited in NY Times Article

The national "Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration" was established to "push for alternatives to arrests, reducing the number of criminal laws and ending mandatory minimum prison sentences. The group

pointed to [Florida's Criminal Mental Health Project (CMHP)](#) as an example of a program that had successfully provided mental health treatment to those who were arrested and in need of care instead of sending them to jail. Access the [New York Times article](#).

Administrative Data in the News

[New Study Using Linked Administrative Data Finds Different Conclusion about Foster Care Causing Lower School Achievement](#)

"Many studies document that, on average, youth in Foster Care perform worse in school than other children, which raises concerns about the effectiveness of child welfare and educational policy for this vulnerable group."

A new study published by the [Institute for Research on Poverty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison](#), "comes to a fundamentally different conclusion. The researchers employed a more focused and relevant set of comparisons than most previous studies, using linked administrative data for a sample of more than 222,000 children who had either experienced out-of-home placement or were in various comparison groups." IRP's "[Does Foster Care Lower School Achievement](#)" policy brief.
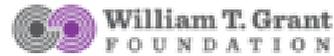
[Exploring Big Data Solutions for the Northeast](#)

"Columbia University will lead a $1.25 million project funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) to share data, tools and ideas for

tackling some of the big challenges facing the northeastern United States."

"As lead agency for the Northeast Big Data Innovation Hub, one of four NSF-sponsored hubs, Columbia will bring together experts in the public and private sector to collaborate on data-driven solutions to problems in health care, energy, finance, urbanization, natural science and education." Access the Northeast Big Data Innovation Hub.

W.T. Grant Foundation's Evidence at the Crossroads Blog Posts

The W.T. Grant Foundation created a series of blog posts, published throughout October and November of 2015, which "provoke discussion and debate about the state of evidence use in policy, specifically federal efforts to build and use evidence of What Works. Click here to access all of the blog posts.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Laura Kitson at lckitson@sp2.upenn.edu
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