

Advisory Council on Child Poverty and Strengthening Families

Rep. Diane Lanpher, Chair Nov. 26, 2018

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/detail/2018.1/341>

Ideas for Benchmark discussion

1. Including additional benchmarks to the Council's measures appear to require only Council approval and not additional legislative action. Leg Council will assist us on procedure.
2. There are currently two measures prescribed in the law for the Council to track:
 - a. The number and percentage of children living in families at 50 percent, 100 percent, and 200 percent of the federal poverty level. (Data found through Voices for Vermont's Children)
 - b. The number and percentage of children living in families paying more than 30 percent of their cash income for housing and related expenses. (Data found through tracking by Voices for Vermont's Children)
3. Any additional benchmarks must be identified by the Council by January 2019 for tracking until our five-year review in 2023. The following are starting ideas to discuss with the Council:
 - a. The number and percentage of VT Households that are able to meet a basic needs budget using the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SMP). SMP Supplemental Poverty Measure, see Voices testimony from October 2018 and data from National Center for Children in Poverty. Joint /Fiscal Office, Basic Needs Budget and Livable Wage.
 - b. The number and percentage of children able to access mental health services. (ACES)
 - c. The number and percentage of families able to access affordability and high quality child care.
 - d. Five Protective Factor
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/WorkGroups/Adverse%20Childhood/Act%2043%20Report/W~Mike%20Mrowicki~Vermont%20Strengthening%20Families~8-25-2017.pdf>
 1. Parental resilience
 2. Social connections
 3. Knowledge of parenting and child development
 4. Concrete support in times of need
 5. Social and emotional competence of children
 - e. The number and percentage of Vermonters with post-secondary education. (Voices for Vermont Children)
 - f. The Annie E. Casey Foundation's *Kids Count* Data book.
Overall Child Well-Being (Vermont #8)
Economic Well-Being (Vermont #26)
Education (Vermont #5)
Health (Vermont #10)
Family and Community (Vermont #3)