# Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty

## Task Force Recommendations

# Executive Summary

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback created the Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty in November 2012, with the charge of finding innovative and ground-breaking ways to reduce childhood poverty and improve child outcomes in Kansas.

The task force invited experts from across the state and nation to present research, trends and best practices to help the task force understand the causes and consequences of intergenerational poverty and poverty in general.

The presenters included researchers from institutions such as the Brookings Institution, Kansas State University and Hampton University. Other presenters included employment and training executives from the Texas Workforce Commission, the Kansas Department for Commerce and the Kansas Department for Children and Families; executive directors from poverty-fighting programs and clients of those programs; professors, teachers and child-welfare experts. All of these highly-qualified and experienced speakers offered compelling research and best practices in their field of expertise.

The task force made recommendations regarding each of the three universally-recognized pathways out of poverty; education, employment and family composition. Within each pathway, the task force identified the defined targets or objectives, current opportunities or programs to either expand or support, and incentives to encourage healthy behaviors or partnerships within the private sector.

The recommendations were made by consensus with the goal that they could be used as a starting point for the Governor and Kansas Legislature to address the issue of childhood poverty in Kansas.

The task force acknowledges that the government's ability to address poverty has historically been unsuccessful. Though government at the state and federal level continues to pour money into anti-poverty programs, poverty rates continue to grow, and out-of-wedlock childbirth has exploded. Government must be mindful of programs and policies that result in keeping individuals in poverty by disincentivizing full-time employment and marriage or incentivizing out-of-wedlock childbirths.

| Task Force Meetings |
| --- |
| **Nov. 19, 2012** |
| **March 4, 2013** |
| **June 24, 2013** |

## Task Force Members

### Secretary Phyllis Gilmore, Chair

Secretary Gilmore is a former Kansas state legislator who also served as the executive director of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB), based in Topeka, for more than 11 years. The BSRB licenses and regulates most of the mental health professionals in Kansas. She served as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives from 1994 to 2000, representing Johnson County. Her private sector experience is primarily within the areas of adoption and health care. Gilmore is a licensed specialist in clinical social work with a master's degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis. She was appointed Secretary by Governor Brownback in January 2012.

### Pastor Sherdeill Breathett, Co-Chair

Sherdeill Breathett, Segwick County economic development specialist, is former president of the South Central Economic Development district, an executive board member of Real Men, Real Heroes, serves as president of the Kansas African American Health Marriage Initiative, has worked with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sedgwick County for 20 years and is a member of the Kansas Healthy Marriage Initiative. A former radio talk show host, he has 11 years of experience in economic development and specializes in business retention, expansion, incentives, compliance and foreign trade zone.

### Secretary Shawn Sullivan

Secretary Sullivan heads the state's second largest cabinet-level agency. KDADS is responsible for overseeing and administering Older American's Act programs, the distribution of Medicaid

long-term care payments, survey and certification for adult care homes, behavioral health programs, home and community based services for older adults and persons with disabilities and the management and oversight of five state hospitals. He played an integral part in the development of KanCare, which is Governor Brownback's Medicaid reform plan that was implemented in January 2013. KanCare provides integrated and coordinated care for the 383,000 Kansans currently served by Medicaid programs. Secretary Sullivan holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Kansas State University and a master's degree in gerontology from the University of North Texas. He was appointed by Governor Sam Brownback in January 2011.

## Secretary Robert Moser, MD

Secretary Moser, MD, is a family physician. He also serves as the State Health Officer. Dr. Moser was born in Denver, Colorado and raised in Tribune, Kansas. He attended the KU School of Pharmacy, KU School of Medicine and completed his residency in Family Medicine at the Smoky Hill Family Practice Residency in Salina. After completing his residency, he practiced in his hometown of Tribune, Kansas, for 22 years where, after initially being the sole physician, he was one of five family physicians and three mid-level providers covering three western Kansas counties: Hamilton, Greeley and Wallace. The area included three rural health clinics and two critical access hospitals. In August 2010, he left Tribune to join the KU School of Medicine – Wichita as director of rural health and outreach for the Family and Community Medicine Department, but left five months later to take his current position in Governor Brownback's cabinet. Dr. Moser played a leading role in the development of KanCare. He is a past president of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians and was the Family Physician of the Year in 2006. He has served on numerous committees at the state and national level including the Kansas Rural Policy Commission and the Veterans Affairs Rural Health Advisory Committee.

## Monsignor Vincent Krische

Monsignor Vincent Krische worked for 28 years at the St. Lawrence Catholic Campus Center at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. Rev. Krische entered the ministry at age 26, working in Kansas City and Topeka before taking up his duties in Lawrence. His final assignment before retiring in 2009 was for St. Ann Catholic Church in Prairie Village. Msgr. Krische is now a Pastor Ameritus at Corpus Christi Church in Lawrence.

## Dan Lord, Ph.D.

Dan Lord, Ph.D, is a tenured professor of marriage and family therapy in Friends University's Master of Science in Family Therapy (MSFT) program in Wichita. A Kansas native, his contribution to the MSFT program and the larger MFT profession spans nearly 25 years. He has

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## Carolyn Szafran, MSW

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## Mary Wilkinson

Mary Wilkinson, RN, has a professional background in emergency department and quality assurance nursing. A lifelong Kansan, she has served on various community and statewide organizational boards throughout the past 20 years, with experience in all areas of development. Currently, Ms. Wilkinson serves on the Kansas Family Policy Council Board of Directors and served as facilitator for its Strengthening Kansas Marriages Task Force this year.

## Joan Schultz

Joan Schultz is a graduate of Washburn University and has worked throughout her career in the private, public and non-profit sectors. She has been executive director of The Willow Domestic Violence Center (The Willow) in Lawrence, since July 2011. The Willow serves survivors of domestic violence in Douglas, Jefferson and Franklin Counties. Previously, she was director of customer affairs for the Kansas Children's Service League (KCSL). While with KCSL, she worked on many projects, such as the private infant adoption program and foster care parent recruitment. She has also served as an assistant regional director and a senior manager for Medicaid for SRS (currently known as DCF). Her career has focused on safety, health, poverty, and children and family issues.

## Joyce Crumpton

Joyce Crumpton, RN, is a graduate of Bishop Ward High School in Kansas City, Kansas and St. Mary's School of Nursing. A Kansas native, she recently retired after working as a nurse in the greater Kansas City area for 30 years. Crumpton also served on the REACH Healthcare Foundation for three years.

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## National and Local Presenters

The Task Force meetings featured local and national experts to outline the latest research, trends and best practices as they relate to childhood poverty.

| Presenter | Key Points |
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| **Dr. Jared Anderson**<br>**Kansas State University** | Dr. Jared Anderson from Kansas State University presented the State of the Family Report which tracked the 18 most common child well-being indicators at the county level. The report collected data going back to 1970, when available, to establish solid trend lines in each indicator. |
| **Dr. Page Walley**<br>**Casey Family Programs** | Dr. Page Walley from Casey Family Programs discussed current trends in child welfare, specifically the number of children in out-of-home care across the nation. Casey Family Programs partners with states to help reduce the number of children in state custody and is working with Kansas to address the trend from the past several years of increased children coming into care. |
| **Ron Haskins**<br>**Brookings Institution** | Ron Haskins from the Brookings Institution discussed nationwide trends in poverty, government spending on means-tested programs, and the three pathways out of poverty: education, work and family composition. Haskins showed how poverty is closely tied to work rates and family composition, and to reduce poverty you must encourage work in your welfare programs and decrease out-of-wedlock birthrates through marriage. Haskins also discussed the need for meaningful work requirements in welfare programs to assist individuals into the workforce. He recommended Kansas adopt a statewide work requirement for the SNAP program. |
| **Dr. Linda Malone-Colon**<br>**Hampton University** | Dr. Linda Malone-Colon from Hampton University presented on strategies to reduce out-of-wedlock birthrates in Kansas. Malone-Colon showed the dramatic increases in out-of-wedlock birthrates and rates of children reared in single-parent households, especially in African-American households. The impact on child well-being is profound, affecting their educational attainment, physical health, mental and emotional well-being, family relationships, delinquent and criminal behavior and future family outcomes. Conversely, the children born in intact, married households are more than 80 percent less likely to be in poverty and fair better on every well-being indicator. |

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| **Dr. Charlie Griffin**<br>**Kansas State University** | Dr. Charlie Griffin from Kansas State University presented the report from Rising to the Challenge: Reducing Childhood Poverty and Improving Childhood Outcomes in Kansas from the Governor's Town Hall meetings. The town hall meetings were held in Kansas City, Wichita and Garden City in November 2011 to gather input from Kansans on the topic of childhood poverty. |
| **Brad Lambert**<br>**Connections to Success** | Brad Lambert, co-executive director of Connections to Success, briefed the task force on the mission and successes of this mentor-based model. Connections to Success participants achieve a 74 percent job placement rate and a 71 percent employment retention rate. |
| **Trisha Thomas**<br>**Child Support Services**<br>**Kansas DCF** | Trisha Thomas, director of Child Support Services (CSS) at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, briefed the task force on the on-going initiatives in CSS to increase child support collections and thereby decrease child poverty. Thomas also discussed CSS initiatives Building Healthy Families and the Child Savings Incentive. Building Healthy Families is a high school course developed by the Department of Education in partnership with CSS. The curriculum is designed to lay a foundation for understanding healthy relationships and marriages and promote an understanding of the responsibilities of parenthood, child support and providing for the needs of children. The Child Savings Incentive is a 529 program that encourages non-custodial parents to save for their child's college education by reducing the state child support arrears by double the amount deposited in the 529 account. |
| **Gina Meier-Hummel**<br>**Prevention and Protection Services, Kansas DCF** | Gina Meier-Hummel, director of Prevention and Protection Services (PPS) at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, discussed the many initiatives in PPS to safely reduce the number of children in state custody. Those initiatives include: alternative response, family group decision-making, faith-based initiatives, foster care/family preservation RFPs and permanency roundtables. |
| **Michael Donnelly**<br>**Rehabilitation Services**<br>**Kansas DCF** | Michael Donnelly, director of Rehabilitation Services (RS) at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, briefed the task force on employment services offered for people with disabilities through the vocational rehabilitation services program. |

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| **Jaryl Perkins**<br>**Employment Services**<br>**Kansas DCF** | Jaryl Perkins, director of Employment Services at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, briefed the task force on the employment program in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. |
| **Larry Temple**<br>**Texas Workforce Commission** | Larry Temple, director of the Texas Workforce Commission, presented information to the task force regarding the Texas one-stop model for the delivery of employment services. Temple discussed the importance of a stream-lined work program model and the need for a statewide SNAP work requirement to aid SNAP recipients in acquiring full-time employment. |
| **Kathe Decker**<br>**Family Services**<br>**Kansas DCF** | Kathe Decker, deputy secretary of Family Services at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, briefed the task force on employment program reform for the TANF work requirement. |
| **Mike Beene**<br>**Kansas Dept. of Commerce** | Mike Beene, state operations director at the Kansas Department of Commerce, shared with the task force information on the state workforce centers and the resources available to employers and job seekers. Beene also discussed the Work Ready certification program that allows job seekers to become certified to assist in employment placement. |
| **Laurie Phelan**<br>**Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)** | Laurie Phelan, president and CEO of Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) program, presented information on the JAG model utilized in Iowa schools. JAG is a successful program in more than 30 states and reports a 94 percent graduation rate of program enrollees. JAG is a school-based program that targets at-risk youth and seeks to improve their academic performance, school behavior, attendance, confidence, participation and self-esteem. JAG also contains drop-out prevention, school-to-work, and post-secondary education components. |
| **Myrna Kreihbel**<br>**Circles of Hope** | Myrna Kreihbel, director of Circles of Hope in Hutchinson, briefed the task force on the mentor-based program. Circles Leader Rebecca Lewis shared her story of how her Circles mentors have helped her end the cycle of poverty in her family. |

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| **Dr. Brian Inbody**<br>**Neosho County Community College, Partners in Change** | Dr. Brian Inbody, president of Neosho County Community College, discussed with the task force the employment program Partners in Change. Partners in Change is a mentor-based program that's purpose is to move individuals to a state of self-sufficiency by providing the training needed to become productive members of the workforce. Partners in Change is a low-cost program with the ability to be duplicated across the state. |
| **Michelle Schroeder**<br>**Kansas DCF** | Michelle Schroeder, director of Policy and Legislative Affairs at the Kansas Department for Children and Families, provided a comprehensive overview of the information presented to the task force. |

# Pathway 1 – Education

## Objectives

1. Improve high school graduation rates
    a. Identify high-risk children as early as possible
2. Improve post-secondary entry success for vocational schools, community colleges and regent institutions
3. Improve fourth grade reading

## Opportunities/ Recommendations

1. Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) – Current program that could be expanded
2. Partners in Change – Current program model that could be expanded statewide
3. Tech Ed Program
4. Mentor-Based Programs - Identify innovative, evidence-based programs and expand current programs with a history of successful outcomes for at-risk children
    a. Health literacy included to improve outcomes

## Incentives

1. Collaboration and partnerships
    a. Define targets
    b. Facilitate partnerships
2. Applied funding
3. Public/private partnerships
4. Rural opportunity zones

| Pathway 1 - Education | |
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| **Recommendations** | |
| **Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG)** | • Highly successful program for at-risk children in middle school and high school which increases graduation rates significantly and also focuses on getting youth into full-time employment after graduation<br>• This program has a 79 percent positive outcome rate for the youth who participate.<br>• After graduation, 79 percent of participants are employed, in the military, in post-secondary training or some combination thereof. |
| **Partners in Change (Neosho County Community College Model)** | • Low-cost mentoring (only $750 per person) program that can be duplicated across the state at community and technical schools<br>• Successful program that placed 56 percent of participants in employment and 32 percent into continuing education<br>• Closed 39 percent of the participants' TANF cases |
| **Technical Education** | • Data shows few low-income individuals are successful in completing a four-year degree. Technical education should be an available option to help them achieve success and obtain the skills needed to pursue a career.<br>• Career and technical education programs help Kansas meet the workforce needs of growing businesses.<br>• Increase the number of students graduating from high school with industry-demanded professional certifications. |

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| **Mentor-Based Programs** | • Research shows that mentor-based programs can have lasting and profound impacts on children's lives.<br>• Evidence-based after-school reading programs improve reading scores and literacy rates, especially when targeted to kindergarteners through third-graders.<br>• Include health literacy to improve outcomes and well-being. |

## Pathway 2 - Employment

### Objectives

1. Ensure proper stewardship of public funds
2. Meaningful work requirement for welfare programs
3. Successful workforce entry
4. Achieve self-sufficiency

### Opportunities/ Recommendations

1. Streamline work programs statewide
2. Reinstate a statewide SNAP work requirement to help encourage employment
    a. Exemption for elderly, disabled and victims of domestic violence

### Incentives

1. Partner with employers to increase and prepare workforce
2. Gain efficiencies and savings
3. Increased rate of success for job seekers

| Pathway 2 - Employment | |
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| **Recommendations** | |
| **Streamlined Work Programs** | • Work programs through the Kansas Department of Commerce, Kansas Department for Children and Families and Kansas Department of Labor should be streamlined to establish one all-inclusive program.<br>• This will eliminate duplication and will allow strong employment-focused policies to be standardized throughout all work programs, resulting in increased employment rates and decreased poverty. |
| **Statewide SNAP Work Requirement** | • As with welfare reform in the 1990s, able-bodied food stamp recipients should be required to work, prepare for work, or at least look for a job as a condition of receiving aid.<br>• Work requirement in the TANF program led to dramatic drops in welfare caseloads, surges in employment and a large-scale drop in child poverty among groups that were most dependent on cash assistance. |

## Pathway 3 – Family Composition

### Objectives

1. Decrease out-of-wedlock birthrate
2. Increase healthy marriage rate
3. Improve child outcomes

### Opportunities/ Recommendations

1. Increase pre-marital education by reducing the marriage license fee for those who complete eight hours of pre-marital education.
    a. Must contain a domestic violence component

2. Public relations campaign to highlight importance of marriage and fatherhood
    a. Must contain a domestic violence component
3. Online clearinghouse of providers and information for healthy relationship and fatherhood.
4. Expand middle school and high school healthy relationship curriculum

## Incentives

1. Future welfare savings if successful in sustaining more intact families
2. Reduction in childhood poverty
3. Reduction in high school drop-out rates
4. Reduce crime and incarceration rates
5. Increase in graduation rates
6. Reduction in teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock birthrates

| Pathway 3: Family Composition | |
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| **Recommendations** | |
| **Pre-Marital Education** | • Upon completion of a voluntary eight-hour course of pre-marital education, the cost of the marriage license will be reduced or eliminated.<br>• Studies show that pre-marital education can lead to more successful marriages.<br>• In Kansas, marriage decreases the likelihood of poverty by more than 80 percent; therefore, policies should be put in place to encourage marriage among those most at-risk. |

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| **Online Clearinghouse and Public Relations Campaign for Healthy Marriage** | • Publicized clearinghouse of providers and information can lead to more Kansans understanding the importance of marriage.<br>• Public relations campaign through the Kansas Department for Children and Families to bring awareness to the importance of fatherhood and marriage. Highlight the positive outcomes for children when raised in the married household of their mother and father. |
| **Healthy Relationship Education in Middle and High Schools** | • Healthy relationship education for youth can lead to better life-choices and delay or reduce out-of-wedlock birth significantly.<br>• Studies show healthy relationship education can improve relationship skills with peers, parents and teachers. |

# Appendices

# Appendix A: Press Release

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Room 241 South
Topeka, KS 66612

Kansas
Office of the Governor

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Sam Brownback, Governor

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
November 14, 2012

## Gov. Brownback appoints Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty

**TOPEKA** – Kansas Governor Sam Brownback Wednesday announced his appointment of the Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty to develop recommendations for measures Kansas can take to decrease child poverty and improve child outcomes in our state.

Leading the task force will be Department of Children and Families Secretary Phyllis Gilmore; Sedgwick County Economic Development Specialist and healthy families activist Sherdeill Breathett will serve as co-chair.

"All too often in our state, children who are living in poverty today become tomorrow's poor parents. Intergenerational poverty such as this affects our state's long-term productivity and wellbeing," Governor Brownback said. "We need concrete ideas on how to change this pattern."

The Governor has pulled together a panel of Kansans from all walks of life to discuss and recommend the best ways Kansas can achieve one of the cornerstone goals of his administration, reducing childhood poverty.

"Our starting point is what we believe: that children matter, that parents matter, and that there is an appropriate role for the state in improving child outcomes. While many children spend only short periods of their lives in poverty, some experience it over the course of their entire childhood," Secretary Gilmore said. "The results are lower educational achievement, reduced employment prospects, poorer health and higher rates of criminal offenses."

"However long or short the experience, it can affect them their entire lives," Secretary Gilmore added.

The task force will convene its first meeting at 10 a.m. on November 19 in Topeka in the Kansas Board of Regents Conference Room on the 5th floor of the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson.

"We are looking for realistic, cost-effective, evidence-based ways to address the problems of childhood poverty from a number of different directions," Mr. Breathett said. "Part of our mission is to look for ways to make sure young people – and their parents -- learn as early as possible that their decisions today can have an impact on their chances of escaping poverty as adults. It's a hard thing to teach the young, but we have to find a way to do it."

Kansas First Lady Mrs. Mary Brownback will serve as an unofficial advisor to the task force.

"One way to make Kansas a better place for all of us to live is to focus our attention and care on children, who are the most vulnerable among us and our most valuable resource," Mrs. Brownback said.

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The Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty members include:

**Kansas Department for Children and Families Secretary Phyllis Gilmore** is a former Kansas state legislator who also served as the executive director of the Kansas Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB), based in Topeka, for more than 11 years. The BSRB licenses and regulates most of the mental health professionals in Kansas. She served as a member of the Kansas House of Representatives from 1994-2000 representing Johnson County. Her private sector experience is primarily within the areas of adoption and health care. Gilmore is a licensed specialist in clinical social work with a master's degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis. She was appointed Secretary by Governor Brownback in January, 2012.

**Sherdeill Breathett**, Segwick County economic development specialist, is former president of the South Central Economic Development district, an executive board member of Real Men, Real Heroes, serves as president of the Kansas African American Health Marriage Initiative, has worked with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Sedgwick County for 20 years and is a member of the Kansas Healthy Marriage Initiative. A former radio talk show host, he has 11 years' experience in economic development and specializes in business retention, expansion, incentives, compliance and foreign trade zone.

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# Appendix A: Press Release

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Phyllis Gilmore, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

**MEDIA ADVISORY**
November 16, 2012

**Contact:**
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**Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty to meet**

The first meeting of Governor Sam Brownback's Task Force to Reduce Childhood Poverty will occur Monday, November 16.

Governor Brownback announced the appointment of the task force earlier this week. Department for Children and Families Secretary Phyllis Gilmore will serve as the chair of the taskforce.

"I'm very much looking forward to our first meeting and getting to work developing policy recommendations that will help reduce childhood poverty in Kansas," Secretary Gilmore said.

Media is invited to attend.

**Who**: First Lady Mary Brownback, DCF Secretary Gilmore, members of the Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty

**What**: First meeting of the task force

**When**: Monday, November 19, 2012 10 a.m.

**Where**: Kansas Board of Regents conference room, 5th Floor, Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka, KS

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Phyllis Gilmore, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

**MEDIA ADVISORY**
**March 1, 2012**

**Contact:**
**Angela de Rocha**
**Angela.deRocha@dcf.ks.gov**
**(785) 250-8113**

**Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty scheduled to meet Monday, March 4, 2013**

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty, chaired by Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) Secretary Phyllis Gilmore, is scheduled to meet at 10 a.m. Monday, March 4 in the Curtis State Office Building in Topeka.

**What**: Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty

**When**: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday, March 4, 2013

**Where**: Curtis State Office Building, 5th Floor
Board of Regents Conference Room
1000 SW Jackson
Topeka, KS 66612
Contact: 785 296-5795

Members of the task force include: DCF Secretary Phyllis Gilmore, Co-Chair, Sedgwick County Economic Development Specialist Sherdeill Breathett, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Shawn Sullivan, Kansas Department for Health and the Environment (KDHE) Secretary Robert Moser, MD, Monsignor Vincent Krische of Lawrence, Dan Lord, Friends University, Carolyn Szafran, MSW, Topeka Rescue Mission Executive Director Barry Feaker, Mary Wilkinson, RN, Joan Schultz of Lawrence, Joyce Crumpton, RN, Robert DeLeon is the Community Center Director and Youth Program Director for the Salvation Army in Garden City

This event is open to the public. If you require special assistance for a meeting (such as a translator or handouts in Braille) please contact
Angela de Rocha, 785 250-8113.

Members of the media please RSVP to Angela de Rocha
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Office of the Secretary
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Topeka, KS 66612-1354

Kansas
Department for Children and Families

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Phyllis Gilmore, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

# Media Advisory

June 21, 2013

For more information, contact:
Theresa Freed
Public Information Officer
Kansas Department for Children and Families
785-296-0537

## Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty to Meet

**TOPEKA** – The Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty will meet in Topeka on Monday, June 24, to continue looking at realistic, cost-effective, evidence-based approaches to addressing the problem of childhood poverty.

**What:** Governor's Childhood Poverty Task Force meeting

**When:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, June 24

**Where:** Curtis State Office Building, 5th floor
Board of Regents Conference Room
1000 SW Jackson
Topeka

Members of the task force include: DCF Secretary Phyllis Gilmore, Co-Chair, Sedgwick County Economic Development Specialist Sherdeill Breathett, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Secretary Shawn Sullivan, Kansas Department for Health and the Environment (KDHE) Secretary Robert Moser, MD, Monsignor Vincent Krische of Lawrence, Dan Lord, Friends University, Carolyn Szafran, MSW, Topeka Rescue Mission Executive Director Barry Feaker, Mary Wilkinson, RN, Joan Schultz of Lawrence, Joyce Crumpton, RN, Robert DeLeon is the Community Center Director and Youth Program Director for the Salvation Army in Garden City

The event is open to the public. Members of the media who would like to attend should contact Theresa Freed at theresa.freed@dcf.ks.gov.

*Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas*

# Appendix B: Agenda

## Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty
**November 19, 2012**

### AGENDA

10:00 a.m. Opening remarks by Mrs. Mary Brownback

10:15 a.m. Presentation of State of the Family Report by Dr. Jared Anderson, Kansas State University.

10:45 a.m. Presentation by Page Walley, PhD, Casey Family Programs. *How Are Kansas Children Doing?*

11:15 p.m. Presentation from Dr. Ron Haskins, The Brookings Institution. *Reducing Child Poverty and Improving Childhood Outcomes in Kansas.*

12:30 p.m. LUNCH for task force members provided by Casey Family Programs in the Crumbine Room.

1:30 p.m. Presentation by Dr. Linda Malone-Colon, Chair of the Hampton University Department of Psychology. *Addressing the Roots of Child Poverty: Strategies for Reducing Out-of-Wedlock Births.*

2:30 p.m. Presentation of Town Hall Report on Reducing Child Poverty and Increasing Child Outcomes in Kansas by Charlie Griffin, Kansas State University.

3:00 p.m. Presentation of Current Family Strengthening Initiatives in Department for Children and Families.

- Brad Lambert, Co-Executive Director of Connections to Success
- Trisha Thomas, Director of Child Support Services, Department for Children and Families
- Gina Meier-Hummel, Director of Prevention and Protection Services, Department for Children and Families
- Michael Donnelly, Director of Rehabilitation Services and Jaryl Perkins, Director of Employment Services for Economic and Employment Services, Department for Children and Families

5:00 p.m. Adjournment

# Appendix B: Agenda

## Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty
**March 4, 2013**

**AGENDA**

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| 10:00 a.m. | Opening remarks by Chairman Phyllis Gilmore |
| 10:10 a.m. | Presentation by Larry Temple, Director of the Texas Workforce Commission |
| 11:10 a.m. | Presentation by Kathe Decker, Deputy Secretary of Family Services for Kansas Department for Children and Families |
| 11:40 a.m. | Presentation by Mike Beene, State Operations Director for Kansas Department of Commerce |
| 12:10 p.m. | LUNCH |
| 1:00 p.m. | Presentation by Laurie Phelan, President and CEO of Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates (I-JAG) and Director of the Iowa School to Work Office |
| 2:00 p.m. | Presentation by Myrna Kreihbel, Circles of Hope |
| 2:45 p.m. | Presentation by Brian Inbody, President of Neosho County Community College |
| 3:30 p.m. | Discussion |
| 5:00 p.m. | Adjournment |

# Appendix B: Agenda

**Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty**
**June 24, 2013**

**AGENDA**

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| 10:00 a.m. | Opening remarks by Chairman Phyllis Gilmore |
| 10:10 a.m. | Review by Michelle Schroeder, Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs at Kansas Department for Children and Families |
| 11:00 a.m. | Discussion and Recommendations |
| 12:00 p.m. | LUNCH |
| 1:00 p.m. | Continued Discussion and Recommendations |
| 2:00 p.m. | Members Finalize Recommendations for the Governor |
| 4:00 p.m. | Adjournment |

# Appendix C: Presentation

All the presentations presented to the Governor's Task Force on Reducing Childhood Poverty can be found at: http://www.dcf.ks.gov/Newsroom/Pages/Childhood_Poverty_Task_Force.aspx