



# Media Release

20 July 2012: News from CPAG

## **CPAG granted leave to appeal High Court decision on discrimination claim against children of beneficiaries**

The Child Poverty Action Group is very pleased the Court of Appeal has today granted leave to appeal against the decision of the High Court in relation to its claim of discrimination against the 230,000 children of beneficiaries. The claim relates to the In Work Tax Credit which is part of Working for Families, a package that has a key aim to alleviate child poverty.

Spokesperson Susan St John said, “Children whose parents are on benefits are excluded from this child payment. The parent may have illness, disability or caring responsibilities or be unemployed because of the recession or earthquake. The In Work Tax Credit provides significant weekly financial support to families with children (\$60 for the first 3 children plus \$15 for each child thereafter). This support has been denied to children living in all beneficiary families and many are in serious hardship.”

“New Zealand must wake up to the systemic causes of child poverty. Agencies are reporting that the child poverty they are seeing is at its worst for 30 years. It is time to hold the government to account for its policies. It does not have to be like this.”

“In Australia children don’t miss out on child payments because of the work status of their parents. They have a much a less severe depth of child poverty as a result,” said St John.

For more information about the case [click here](#)

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