

# Child Poverty in New Zealand

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### **Economics for the children**

In an address to the CPAG annual general meeting held in Auckland on 19 July 2004 Brian Easton –

- reviews government efforts to reduce child poverty,
- proposes a major review of our incoherent system of family assistance, and
- identifies objectives for the child poverty elimination.

For the full text of his address, click here <http://www.eastonbh.ac.nz/article565.html#TOP>

### **Assessing the impact of the Working with Families package on child poverty levels**

The latest issue of *Social Policy Journal* contains an assessment of the Working With Families Package announced in the May Budget using the internationally recognised 50% and 60% of the median equivalised household income. It tracks the changes through to 2007. For the full text, click

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/publications/msd/journal/issue22/22-pages19-54.pdf>

### **A longitudinal study of the effects of childhood family income**

Professor Tim Maloney uses the Christchurch Health and Development Study to estimate the effects of early family

income on a wide variety of detrimental outcomes experienced by young adults.

For the full text, click

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/publications/msd/journal/issue22/22-pages55-82.pdf>

### **Triggering movement in and out of child poverty**

What triggers movements into and out of child poverty? Another Social Policy Journal article examines this questions and compares New Zealand experience with several other developed nations. For the full text, click

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/publications/msd/journal/issue22/22-pages83-96.pdf>

### **The health of children of sole parents on the DPB**

The authors find that another reason why sole parents on the DPB have difficulty with paid employment is the measurably poorer health of their children. For the full text, click

<http://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/publications/msd/journal/issue22/22-pages97-107.pdf>

### **Manukau City leads the way**

In December 2003 Manukau City led the way by becoming the first city in New Zealand to produce an action plan to address child poverty. At that time 45% of

Manukau children were living in areas of highest deprivation. Twenty three percent of Manukau's children are Maori and 72% of Manukau's Maori live in areas of highest deprivation. Of Pacific people's living in Manukau, 90% live in areas of highest deprivation.

For a copy of their Action Plan, click here <http://www.manukau.govt.nz/documents/childpovertyplan.pdf>

For a copy of their first six monthly progress report, click here <http://www.manukau.govt.nz/documents/Progress%20Report%20June%202004.pdf>

### **Michael Cullen's personal vision for NZ**

On 2 August Michael Cullen addressed the Salvation Army in Auckland on his personal vision for New Zealand and to put more of a human face on the role of finance minister and Deputy Prime Minister. The full text of

an interesting speech can be found on <http://www.beehive.govt.nz/ViewDocument.cfm?DocumentID=20503>

### **Housing shortage & health**

Gay Keating, Director of the Public Health Association, and Wellington CPAG stalwart, wrote in the *NZ Herald* (25 June 2004) of the health implications of the Auckland housing shortage and government efforts to eliminate it. She estimates that the Government's health bill could be significantly reduced by greater investment in housing. Click here for the full story <http://www.knowledgeplex.org/news/31823.html>

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