THE VALUE OF INVESTING IN HOME VISITING

an economic perspective

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR EARLY INVESTMENT

• Investment in early life is increasingly recognized for not only the effectiveness, but the value

• Cross-disciplinary evidence from neuroscience to economics has indicated that rates-of-return are higher and the benefits greater to children and families

• Home Visiting models that invest in families with young children can be a particularly sound investment

Dawson, 2008
Heckman, 2008
THE ECONOMIC COST OF CHILD ABUSE

- Lifetime cost of child abuse and neglect about $210K
- Comparable to other costly health conditions,
  - Stroke: Lifetime cost per person estimated at $159,846
  - Type 2 diabetes: Lifetime cost between $181,000 and $253,000

Increased Healthcare Cost
Increased Reliance on Public Services
Increased Likelihood Abusing as Adults

Decreased Ability to Work
Decreased Income
Decreased Ability to Pay Taxes
INVESTING IN HOME VISITING TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE

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• For every 100 families that receive Nurse Family Partnerships 25 fewer abused children (Olds, 1998)
  • NFP costs about 10K a family
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  • NFP costs about 10K a family

• For every 100 families that receive Healthy Families America, over 9 fewer abused children (Dumont, 2010)
  • Healthy Families America costs about 5K a family
Cost of a Child Being Abused
Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused

Lost Productivity
Criminal Justice
Child Welfare
Special Education
Adult Health Care
Childhood Healthcare
Cost of a Child Being Abused

- Lost Productivity
- Criminal Justice
- Child Welfare
- Special Education
- Adult HealthCare
- Childhood Healthcare

- $250,000
- $200,000
- $150,000
- $100,000
- $50,000
- $0

[SafeCare, Healthy Families, America]
Cost of a Child Being Abused

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- Criminal Justice
- Child Welfare
- Special Education
- Adult HealthCare
- Childhood Healthcare

Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused
Cost of a Child Being Abused

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- Childhood Healthcare

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Cost of a Child Being Abused

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Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused

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- Criminal Justice
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- Childhood Healthcare

$0

$250,000

$200,000

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$50,000

$0
Cost of a Child Being Abused

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- Child Welfare
- Special Education
- Adult HealthCare
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Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused

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Cost of a Child Being Abused

- Lost Productivity
- Criminal Justice
- Child Welfare
- Special Education
- Adult Healthcare
- Childhood Healthcare

Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused

- NFP
- SafeCare
- Healthy Families America
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<th>Cost of a Child Being Abused</th>
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Lost Productivity: $0
Criminal Justice: $100,000
Child Welfare: $150,000
Special Education: $200,000
Adult HealthCare: $250,000
Childhood Healthcare: $50,000

America

- Cost of a Child Being Abused
- Cost to Prevent a Child from Being Abused
Home Visiting can prevent a child from being abused for $30-50K
Home Visiting can prevent a child from being abused for $30-50K vs. $210K in costs from abuse (one child)
REFERENCES


