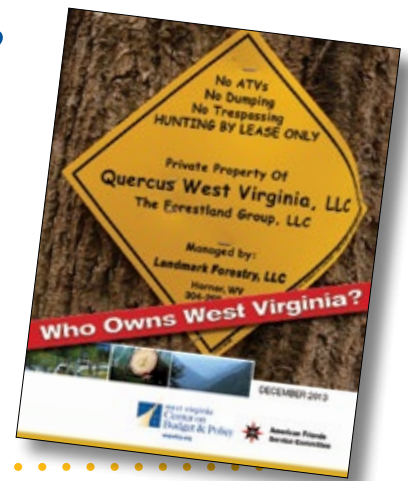


Who Owns West Virginia in the 21st Century?

In December the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy and the American Friends Service Committee released their findings of private landownership in “Who Owns West Virginia in the 21st Century?” Comparing current data with those from a landmark 1974 study done by Tom Miller with the *Huntington Herald-Dispatch*, the groups’ research showed that while landownership is still concentrated in the hands of a very few, those hands have changed from large out-of-state coal companies to timber management companies.



Future Fund Trip to North Dakota



The momentum to pass a West Virginia Future Fund continued throughout 2013 during the year’s Legislative Session and interim meetings. In August 2013, under the invitation of Senate President Jeff Kessler, WVCBP Executive Director Ted Boettner and Board Secretary Rick Wilson accompanied legislators on a fact-

finding trip to North Dakota. The mission was to learn more about that state’s Legacy Fund, the country’s newest mineral trust fund. In its short life, North Dakota’s fund has grown rapidly to over \$1 billion and will begin being used in 2017. The trip included meetings with a bipartisan



group of North Dakota representatives as well as the state’s governor and other representatives.

Joined Marcellus Collaborative

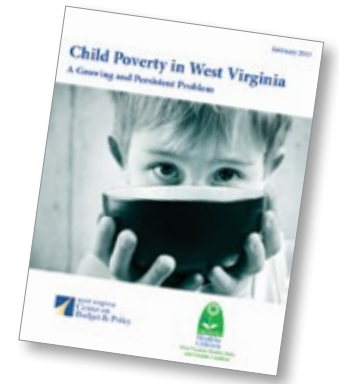


In 2013, the Multi-State Shale Research Collaborative was launched including the West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy, Policy Matters Ohio, Keystone Research Center/Pennsylvania Budget and Policy Center, Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis (VA) and the Fiscal Policy Institute (NY). The Collaborative is conducting in-depth research and interviews in order produce trend analyses, policy recommendations and other resources that will help local officials and community leaders respond to the local impacts of drilling.

The Collaborative released its first research paper in November and will provide more analysis throughout 2014.

Major Achievements

2013 was a big year for the fight to end childhood poverty in West Virginia. In February the WVCBP released “Child Poverty in West Virginia: A Growing and Persistent Problem” to coincide with Children’s Day at the state Capitol. Throughout the year, the WVCBP was a leader on the Our Children Our Future campaign which coordinated public workshops throughout the summer and a statewide Policy Symposium in September attended by 300 people. Attendees voted on a multi-issue platform to advocate during the 2014 Legislative Session which included passage of the West Virginia Future Fund and increasing the state’s minimum wage, both WVCBP policy priorities.



During the 2013 Legislative Session, Senate leaders formed the Senate Select Committee on Children and Poverty. The WVCBP was called upon to present to the Committee on multiple occasions during the Session and the interim meetings that followed. The first accomplishment of the Committee was passage of the Feed to Achieve Act which provides free school meals for all West Virginia students, regardless of family income.

Victories for West Virginia Families

In arguably the biggest policy change to benefit West Virginia’s low-income children and families in decades, in May 2013, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin announced he would expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, opening up affordable health care to approximately 120,000 West Virginians. To expand this access to the largest population possible, the WVCBP worked throughout 2012 and into 2013 providing data to the governor and his staff on the impact that Medicaid expansion would have in West Virginia.

In its health policy work throughout the year, the WVCBP also encouraged Governor Tomblin to allow state PEIA policy holders to switch their children to the state’s CHIP program. Within days of this recommendation, the governor made this option possible, saving the state as much as \$10 million over the next decade.

The state also increased funds for early childhood education during the 2013 Legislative Session by passing an education reform bill that will bring the state’s Pre-K program for four-year-olds to 100 percent enrollment by 2016.

The legislature also passed comprehensive prison reform in 2013. Many of the recommendations from the 2012 WVCBP report, “Stemming the Tide: The Racial and Economic Impact of West Virginia’s Prison System,” – including increasing the use of drug courts and parole violation reform – were included in the prison reform legislation.

To stop 800 families and 1,400 children from losing child care assistance in 2013, the WVCBP, working with child care advocates and other stakeholders, presented the report, “Reducing Child Care Assistance: The Impact on West Virginia’s Low-income Working Families” to the governor’s office. The report highlighted that the state was raiding TANF funds for child care assistance and using them for other purposes. On the heels of this report, Governor Tomblin and the legislature appropriated \$17 million to the Child Care Assistance Program and no cuts were made to the program.

As a committee member of the Governor’s Task Force on Early Childhood Planning, the WVCBP provided analysis and recommendations to the task force on how to finance improvements to the state’s early childhood education and intervention programs.

Outreach and Advocacy

In 2013 the WVCBP was featured in more than 165 stories in 39 local and national media outlets including the *Washington Post* and the *Boston Globe*. Additional coverage appeared in the state's weekly newspapers and on local radio and television stations.

News stories and op-ed topics included childhood poverty, Medicaid expansion, voter ID laws, education investment, economic diversification, increase in the minimum wage, the need for accurate fiscal notes, landownership in West Virginia, and modernization of the state's unemployment insurance program through Work Sharing.

The WVCBP continued its weekly "Budget Beat" and also expanded its following on Twitter and Facebook.



2013 Major Publications

- Medicaid Expansion Would Provide Coverage to 130,000 West Virginians
- Every Dollar Counts: The Need for Transparency and Evaluation of Business Tax Incentives
- Reducing Child Care Assistance – The Impact on West Virginia's Low-Income Working Families
- The Impact of the Decline of Coal and the Rise of Natural Gas on Local Severance Tax Revenue
- Afterschool Programs in West Virginia – Improving the Lives of the State's Children
- Child Poverty in West Virginia: A Growing and Persistent Problem
- West Virginia Photo Voter ID Law: An Expensive Solution Looking For a Problem
- Analysis of Governor's FY 2014 Budget Proposal: Declining Revenue Hurting State
- Ensuring Broadband Access in Appalachia
- Ethnic and Racial Disparities in West Virginia
- How Do House and Senate Budget Proposals Differ from the Governor's Bill?
- Using Data for Racial Equity in West Virginia
- FY 2014 Budget Update
- Tens of Thousands to Gain Access to Health Care
- Low-Income West Virginians Face Food Assistance Cut in November
- West Virginia Should Extend CHIP Coverage to Public Employees
- State of Working West Virginia 2013: From Weirton Steel to Wal-Mart
- Giving West Virginia's Workers a Raise: Increasing the State Minimum Wage
- Expanding Health Coverage Will Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
- Exaggerating the Employment Impacts of Shale Drilling: How and Why
- Who Owns West Virginia in the 21st Century?

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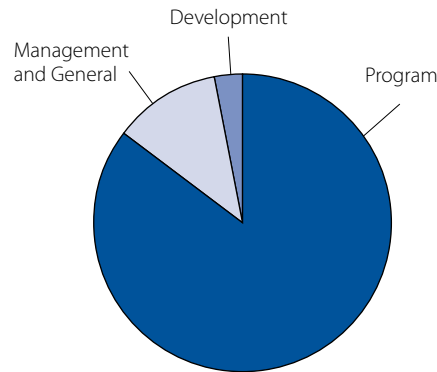
Tristan Shorter
Summer Research Associate

Three Men & Their Babies



The WVCBP's Baby Boom! Sean O'Leary with Liam, Brandon Merritt with Lucia, Ted Boettner with Lucy.

Expenditures



General Program	\$341,304
Management and General	\$46,778
Development	\$11,712
Total	\$399,794

2012-2013 Funders

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W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, Service Employees Union International 1199, Affiliated Construction Trades Foundation, American Friends Service Committee, West Virginia Kids Count, Rockefeller Family Fund, Stoneman Family Foundation, West Virginia AFL-CIO, and the West Virginia Healthy Kids and Families Coalition.



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The West Virginia Center on Budget and Policy is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization. Our aim is to support public policies that contribute to a shared prosperity for all West Virginians. We study critical issues, share what we learn with the public and policymakers, and work with diverse groups on sound solutions to economic and social problems.