About CBPP

We apply our extensive understanding of budgets, taxes, low-income programs, and social insurance programs – along with our analytic skills and the keen strategic sense for which we are known – to inform and shape debates, influence outcomes, and achieve concrete results.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) was founded in 1981 to analyze federal budget priorities, with a particular focus on how budget choices affect low-income Americans. We have broadened our work considerably over the years as we responded to new developments and entered new areas of research. Most notably, we began extensive work on budget priorities and low-income programs at the state level in the 1990s as Washington was shifting responsibility over many areas of low-income policy to the states. In the states, we also collaborate with non-profits — including the more than 40 members of the State Priorities Partnership — to build their capacity to conduct sound budget and policy analysis and participate effectively in policy debates.

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Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP)

Description:
We are a nonpartisan research and policy institute. We pursue federal and state policies designed both to reduce poverty and inequality and to restore fiscal responsibility in equitable and effective ways.

Stakeholder(s):
Low-Income People:
We apply our deep expertise in budget and tax issues and in programs and policies that help low-income people, in order to help inform debates and achieve better policy outcomes.

CBPP Board of Directors

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Melanne Verveer:
Executive Director, Georgetown University Institute for Women, Peace and Security — Former U.S. Ambassador for Global Women’s Issues and former United Nations Representative on the Commission on the Status of Women (Obama Administration); former Special Assistant to President Bill Clinton; former Chief of Staff to First Lady Hillary Clinton.

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Stakeholders (continued)

**Kim Wallace**:  
Consultant — Former Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs for the Department of Treasury (Obama Administration); former Senior Analyst for the Senate Budget Committee

**William Julius Wilson**:  
Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor, Harvard University — Author, Power, Racism and Privilege; The Declining Significance of Race; The Truly Disadvantaged; and When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor.

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**Drew Wynn**:  
Interim Vice President for Development
Vision
Less poverty and inequality, more fiscal responsibility

Mission
To reduce poverty and inequality while restoring fiscal responsibility

Values
  - Equality
  - Fiscal Responsibility
1. Fiscal Issues

Analyze federal and state fiscal issues.

Federal and state fiscal issues:

1.1. Budgets

Analyze budget proposals.

We analyze budget proposals, focusing especially on programs for low- and moderate-income families.

**Stakeholder(s):**
- Low-Income Families
- Moderate-Income Families

1.2. Responsibility

Examine long-term budget challenges and promote measures to improve fiscal responsibility in an equitable way.

We also examine long-term budget challenges and promote measures to improve fiscal responsibility in an equitable way.

1.3. Taxes

Analyze tax proposals.

We analyze major tax proposals, examining their likely impact on the economy, on the nation’s fiscal health, and on the government’s ability to address critical national needs, especially over the long term.

1.4. Households

Examine the impact of tax proposals on households.

We also examine the impact of tax proposals on households at different income levels.

**Stakeholder(s):**
- Households
2. Low-Income Programs

Ensure that programs serving low- and moderate-income people are adequately funded, accessible, and effective.

**Stakeholder(s)**

Low-Income People

Moderate-Income People

Low-Income Programs: we work to ensure that programs that serve low- and moderate-income people are adequately funded, accessible, and effective in helping beneficiaries meet basic needs while moving toward self-sufficiency. We work, for instance, on:

### 2.1. Health

Ensure that Medicare, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and the Affordable Care Act provide coverage that meets the needs of low-income children and families, seniors, and people with disabilities.

Health: We work to ensure that Medicare, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and the Affordable Care Act provide coverage that meets the needs of low-income children and families, seniors, and people with disabilities. We also work to ensure that proposals that would affect these programs do not slash benefits for, or impose costs on, the nation’s most vulnerable people.

**Stakeholder(s):**

Low-Income Children

Low-Income Families

Low-Income Seniors

People with Disabilities

### 2.2. Tax Credits

Protect and expand the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

Low-income tax credits: We work to highlight the benefits of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit and to protect and expand them to further encourage work and reduce poverty. We work closely with members of the State Priorities Partnership to maintain and expand state-level EITCs where they exist, and to bring them to more states.

### 2.3. Food

Food assistance: We design and promote polices to make SNAP stronger, more accessible, and easier to administer; help states design their SNAP programs; help ensure that WIC has the funds to serve all eligible applicants; and design and promote policies that increase school meal participation for low-income kids.
2.4. Income

Family Income Support: We research and analyze federal and state Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) issues, and we provide technical assistance to help states design their TANF programs so they can reach more eligible families and meet families’ particular needs.

2.5. Housing

Low-income housing: We work to improve the effectiveness of federal low-income housing programs, and we study how well-designed housing assistance programs can advance such goals as reducing concentrations of poverty.
3. Trends

Consider economic, poverty and income trends.

Economic, poverty and income trends:

3.1. Budgets

Examine how changes in the economy affect federal and state budgets.

We examine how changes in the economy affect federal and state budgets, and how federal and state budget and tax proposals would affect economic growth.

3.2. Taxes

Examine how tax proposals affect economic growth.

3.3. Employment & Insurance

Analyze employment trends and promote reforms to strengthen unemployment insurance.

We analyze employment trends and promote reforms that would strengthen the unemployment insurance system.

3.4. Wages & Employment

Support minimum wages and policies leading to full employment.

We support more adequate federal and state minimum wages and policies that would lead to full employment.

3.5. Poverty & Income

Analyze trends in poverty and income.

And, we analyze trends in poverty and income at both the national and state levels, including trends in income disparities.

3.6. Safety Net

Examine the effectiveness of safety-net programs.

We also examine the effectiveness of safety-net programs in reducing poverty.
4. Social Security

Examine Social Security’s effects on poverty and on particular demographic groups.

Social Security: We examine Social Security’s effects on poverty and on particular demographic groups.

4.1. Solvency & Effectiveness

Analyze Social Security reform proposals to determine their likely impact on the program’s long-term solvency and effectiveness in reducing poverty and hardship.

We also analyze Social Security reform proposals to determine their likely impact on the program’s long-term solvency and its effectiveness in reducing poverty and hardship.
5. Climate Change

Analyze the potential effects of climate change policies

Stakeholder(s)

Poor Individuals: Tens of millions of poor and moderate-income individuals and families have benefited from the Center’s efforts.

Poor Families

Moderate-Income Individuals

Moderate-Income Families

Parents: At the national level, we have helped to expand health coverage for millions of parents, children, and low-income adults with disabilities;

Children

Low-Income Adults with Disabilities

Working-Poor Families: extend tax credits to millions more working-poor families; and

Low-Income Families: strengthen basic nutrition and housing assistance for low-income families.

Climate Change: We analyze the potential effects of climate change policies on low-income households and on the federal budget.

5.1. Energy

Ensure that the higher energy prices resulting from climate change legislation do not drive more households into poverty.

We also design measures to ensure that the higher energy prices resulting from climate change legislation do not drive more households into poverty or make poor households even poorer.
Administrative Information
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