



Center for Public Policy Priorities

900 Lydia Street, Austin, Texas 78702

PH: 512.320.0222 FAX: 512.320.0227 www.cppp.org

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 9, 2005

CONTACT: Lynsey Kluever, Comm. Director
kluever@cppp.org, 512-320-0222 X112

EXPERTS TO RELEASE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF HOUSTON/HARRIS COUNTY KIDS AT CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN

***Half-Day Conference Will Also Feature 79th Legislative Session Updates by
State's Leading Experts & Hobby Visionary Award to Houstonite Ann Kaufman***

Austin, TX— With school out and the 79th Legislative Session just behind us, the Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) will release the *2005 Texas KIDS COUNT Special Report: A Snapshot of Children Living in Houston and Harris County*, before hundreds of child advocates on Wednesday, June 15 at the United Way of Texas Gulf Coast. The report's key findings include:

- **Teens are twice as likely to die of homicide in Harris County then in all of Texas**
- **Houston ISD students are three times as likely to drop out as Texas students overall**
- **Since 2003, 31% fewer children in Harris County receive CHIP**
- **Teen pregnancy rate in Harris County has dropped by 17 percent since 1997**

The report will kick off a half-day conference on children's issues, featuring breakout sessions by such experts as Scott McCown, CPPP's Executive Director and retired district judge who heard thousands of child abuse cases, Anne Dunkelberg, one of Texas' leading health care experts, and Cory Anderson of the national Annie E. Casey Foundation.

The conference will conclude with a keynote address: "Summing Up the 79th Legislative Session and Thinking About the 80th" by Scott McCown and the presentation of the William P. Hobby Visionary Award to Houstonite Ann Kaufman for her commitment to improving the lives of children in Harris County.

WHAT: Houston KIDS COUNT Conference on Children, featuring:

- ***The 2005 Texas KIDS COUNT Special Report: A Snapshot of Children Living in Houston and Harris County***
- **Breakout sessions on Children's Issues and the 79th Legislative Session**
- **A keynote address: "Summing up the 79th Legislative Session and Thinking About the 80th" by Scott McCown**
- **The presentation of the William P. Hobby Visionary Award to Ann Kaufman**

WHEN: Wednesday, June 15, 2005

9:15 a.m. Report Release

10:15-11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions

12:15 p.m. Keynote Address & Presentation of the Hobby Visionary Award

**WHERE: United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast
50 Waugh Drive, Houston, TX**

###

The Center for Public Policy Priorities is committed to improving conditions for low- and moderate income Texans.