



CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES

ECONOMIC MOBILITY AND SECURITY AND IMPACT ON THE PUBLICS' HEALTH AND DISABILITY

A briefing was held at the New America Foundation on “Economic Mobility: What is the Problem and What to do About It?” Presenters at the forum were economists and researchers from policy organizations.

Summary Economic mobility and economic insecurity are framing political debates. The prospects of upward mobility for a child born into poverty have diminished substantially in the U.S.. There is change of the economic well-being, opportunity and risk of poverty for children and families in the U.S.. Mobility has slowed down or stagnated and Income heritability is greater in the U.S. than other European countries. Children of low income parents are less likely to be upward mobile and economically less secure than children of higher income parents. The federal government has in place, tax policies specifically designed to devote hundreds of billions of dollars for incentives for contributions for health, retirement and education, with \$126 billion associated with retirement in 2010.

Disability Prevention Issues Economic security has relevance to protections of the publics' health. Failure of public health protections through social determinants of health may result in unnecessary diminished health and disability. Of the billions of dollars in subsidies to middle and upper economic groups, few benefits for federal savings go to low income households. In 2004, 0.2% federal contribution incentives went to low income families and asset limits on benefits add to inequities of economic security Most Western European and English speaking nations have higher rates of economic mobility and security rates than the U.S.. For instance, evidence indicates that American children born since the 1950s have had lower educational mobility and adverse effects from other social determinants of health associated with economic mobility and security than children in Sweden and other Western nations.

Activity There is ongoing study of the implications of economic security and mobility on the publics' health.

Principle The public's health should be protected through economic security that prevents unnecessary diminished health and disability irrespective economic status.