



4th Annual Atlanta Workshop on Public Policy and Child Well-Being (PPCW)

AGENDA

February 26-27, 2026

Atlanta, GA

Thursday, February 26

8:30-8:55 Coffee and Breakfast

8:55-9:00 Welcoming Remarks

Session A: Effects of Public Policies on Child Maltreatment

9:00-9:35 School Time and Child Maltreatment: Evidence from Four-Day School Weeks

Presenter: Rafiuddin Najam (UNC-Chapel Hill)

Discussant: Jason Baron (Duke University)

9:35-10:10 Effects of the Title IV-E Waiver Program in Reducing Child Maltreatment and Foster Care Entry in the United States, 2012-2019

Presenter: Donna Ginther (University of Kansas)

Discussant: Katherine Rittenhouse (University of Texas-Austin)

10:10-10:30 Break

Session B: Effects of Foster Care on Parents

10:30-11:05 To Protect and Serve? Child Protection Interventions and Their Effects on Parents' Involvement with the Criminal Legal System

Presenter: Jenna L. Shelton (Washington University)

Discussant: David Simon (University of Connecticut)

11:05-11:40 Collateral Harm or Help? The Effect of Foster Care on Mothers

Presenter: Jessica Pac (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

Discussant: Joe Doyle (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

11:40-12:00 Break

Lunch and Keynote Address

12:00-12:45 Lunch and Keynote Address by Dr. Hilary Hoynes "The Long-Term Effects of Welfare Reform on Children: Evidence from Randomized Experiments"

12:45-1:00 Break

Session C: Flash Presentations by Ph.D. Students, Round 1

1:00-2:00

1. Early Education, Early Returns: NYC's Universal Pre-K and Short-Term Maternal Labor Gains

Presenter: Kazuma Wells (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Discussant: Chloe Gibbs (Upjohn Institute and University of Notre Dame)

2. Do Pre-K Programs Improve Parental Mental Health? Evidence from Contrasting Universal and Targeted Pre-K Models
 Presenter: Sirui Qiu (University of Connecticut)
 Discussant: Lucie Schmidt (Smith College)
3. Full Day Kindergarten Mandates and Child Maltreatment
 Presenter: Yu-Ting Huang (Georgia State University)
 Discussant: Erkmén Aslím (University of Vermont)
4. The Role of In-Person Schooling in Child Maltreatment Reporting: Evidence from the Pandemic
 Presenter: Katherine Starr (West Virginia University)
 Discussant: Ezra Goldstein (Georgia Tech)

2:00-2:30 Break

Session D: Flash Presentations by Ph.D. Students, Round 2

2:30-3:30

5. Hooked Before Cooked: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome and State-Level Opioid Policies
 Presenter: Rachel Clohan (Emory University)
 Discussant: Christine Piette Durrance (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
6. Inheriting Risk: Theory and Evidence on Parental Substance Use, Child Outcomes, and PDMP Mandates
 Presenter: Archi Arnob (University of Kansas)
 Discussant: Lonnie Berger (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
7. The Impact of Fiscal Policy to Promote Healthy Diets: Evidence from the Navajo Nation
 Presenter: Mallory Dreyer (Indiana University)
 Discussant: David Frisvold (The University of Iowa)
8. Public Spending, Private Choices: The 2021 Child Tax Credit and Parental Spending Behavior
 Presenter: Emily Elizabeth Dobson (University of Maryland)
 Discussant: Melinda Pitts (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta)

3:30-3:50 Break

Session E: Effects of Pre-School on Labor Market Outcomes

3:50-4:25 The Effect of Access to Pre-Kindergarten on Long-Term Educational and Labor Market Outcome

Presenter: Jie Zhong (Miami University)
 Discussant: Taryn Morrissey (American University)

4:25-5:00 Preschool as Child Care: Head Start Duration Expansions and Maternal Employment

Presenter: Maria Rosales-Rueda (University of Delaware)
 Discussant: Jocelyn Wikle (Brigham Young University)

6:00-7:00 Reception
7:00-9:00 Dinner

Friday, February 27

8:30-9:00 Coffee and Breakfast

Session F: Taxes, Mandates, and Lotteries

9:00-9:35 Do Alcohol Tax Changes Reduce Pre-pregnancy and Pregnancy Alcohol Consumption? Evidence From the PRAMS

Presenter: Sarah Hamersma (Syracuse University)

Discussant: Emily Lawler (University of Georgia)

9:35-10:10 The Impact of Private Insurance State Hearing Aid Mandates on Hearing Aid Spending and Purchases

Presenter: Michael Pesko (University of Missouri)

Discussant: David Bradford (University of Georgia)

10:10-10:45 Winning a Home and Youth Crime

Presenter: Valentina Duque (American University)

Discussant: Brian Jacob (University of Michigan)

10:45-11:00 Break

Session G: Effects of Early Life Interventions on Mothers

11:00-11:35 Paid Family Leave and Parent Mental Health: Evidence from Administrative Data and Insurance Claims

Presenter: Tom Lindman (Harvard University)

Discussant: Kerri Raissian (Yale University)

11:35-12:10 Supplemental Security Income and Maternal Labor Supply: Evidence from Birth Weight Eligibility

Presenter: Melanie Guldi (University of Central Florida)

Discussant: Lisa Gennetian (Duke University)

12:10-1:00 Lunch

Session H: Schools as Non-Education Service Providers

1:00-1:35 The Removal of Free School Meals and Its Impact on Test Scores

Presenter: Calvin Mudrow (Georgia College & State University)

Discussant: Orgul Ozturk (University of South Carolina)

1:35-2:10 School-Based Support for Children's Mental Health: Evidence from North Carolina

Presenter: Sarah Komisarow (Duke University)

Discussant: Analisa Packham (Vanderbilt University)

2:10-2:15 Concluding Remarks

2:15 Adjourn