



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Introduction to Building and Leveraging Social Capital Among TANF Participants to Improve Employment Outcomes

April 27th, 2016 -- 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. EST

Moderated by:

Carol Mizoguchi, Family Assistance Program
Specialist, Office of Family Assistance




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Introductions, Logistics, Agenda Overview

Carol Mizoguchi, OFA



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What is Social Capital?

- Social capital can be simply defined as resources that people have access to by virtue of their networks.
- Research shows that people who have more social capital are more likely to get promoted, have greater well-being, and the better connected you are the better you are going to do. It creates greater mobility.



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What is Social Capital?

- Social capital is an important factor in helping families achieve self-sufficiency.
- There are three forms of social capital that serve different purposes: 1) information; 2) support; and 3) reinforcement of norms.
- TANF agencies or related organizations can help contribute to social capital and counter obstacles to self-sufficiency. A recent study published April 2016 in the journal “Housing Studies” demonstrated that case managers play a role in promoting economic mobility and providing social capital for poor families.



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- **Overview of Research on Social Capital and Social Support**, Dr. Natasha Pilkauskas, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan
- **Cook Inlet Tribal Council's Approach to Social Capital Development**, Holly Morales, Director of Employment and Training and Andrew Freed, Senior TANF Manager
- **Facilitated Q&A**, Carol Mizoguchi, OFA



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Audience Poll #1

How familiar are you with the use of social capital among low-income families?

- a) Currently using the practice in my work
- b) Familiar with the concept but not currently implementing
- c) Unfamiliar with the practice



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Overview of Research on Social Capital and Social Support

Dr. Natasha Pilkauskas
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the
University of Michigan

Social Support Among Low- Income Urban Families

Natasha V. Pilkauskas

What Is Social Support?

Social support = support from friends and family

Social support can be considered as a form of social capital (some people have more than others)

Can come in many forms:

- **Emotional support (having someone to talk to)**
- **Perceived support (belief about the ability to receive assistance when needed)**
- **Instrumental/actualized support (financial transfers, housing, childcare, transportation)**

Why Social Support?

12

- **Despite help from the public/government safety net – families still face challenges making ends meet**
 - **21% of children in the US were poor in 2014**
 - **17% using the supplemental poverty measure**
- **Research on social support shows greater support is linked with helping families make ends meet & with child and family outcomes**
- **Research also suggests that social support can come with strings attached – not always “good”**
- **Strength of your social support network has implications for how families might be able to become self-sufficient**

Outline

1. How many families receive social support?
2. Is social support economically valuable?
3. Is social support responsive in an economic crisis?
4. Does use of social support come at a cost?
5. How many families receive both social and public support – what is the overlap?

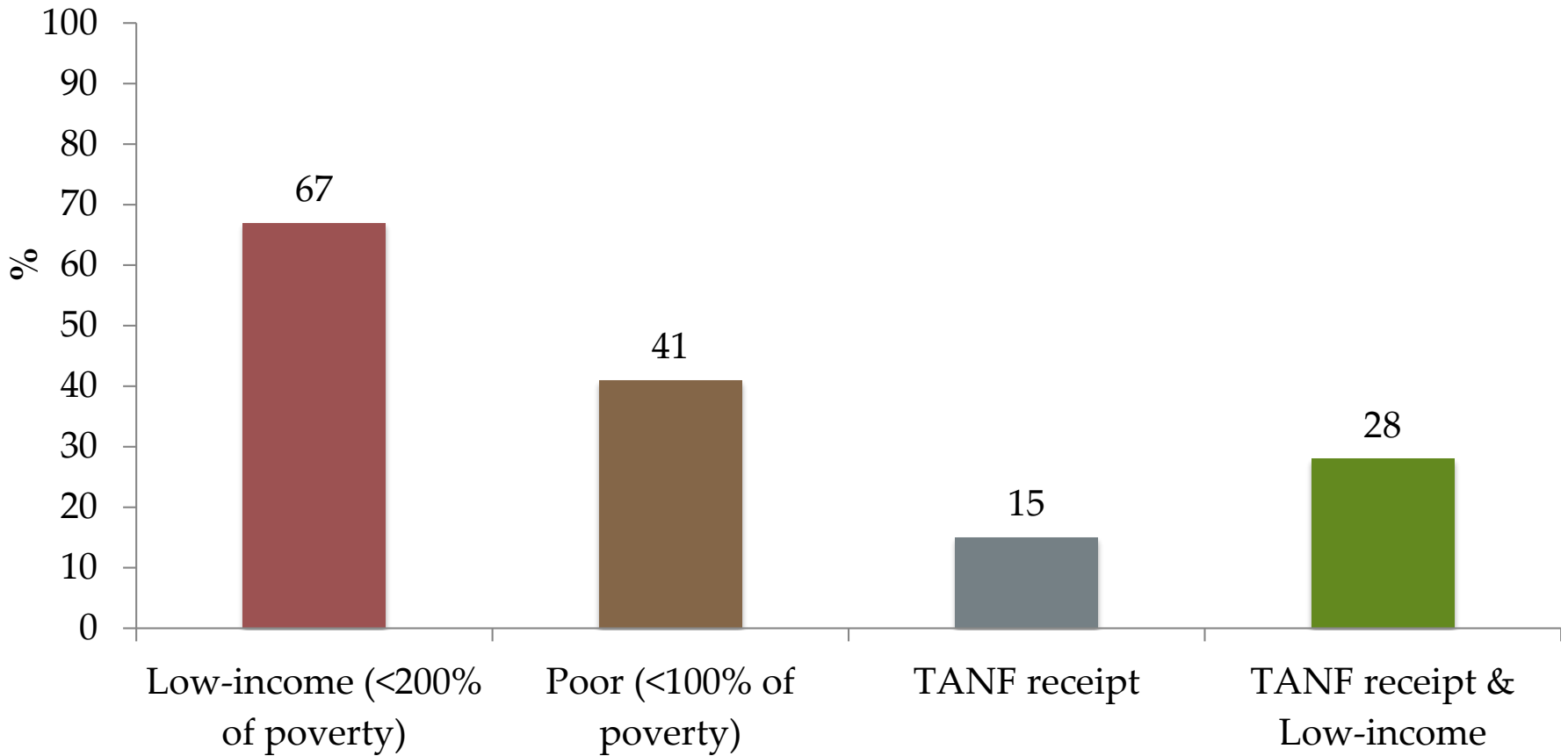
Data

14

Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study

- Longitudinal birth cohort study of ~ 5000 US births (1998-2000) in 20 large cities, over-sample of non-marital births (3 to 1). Representative of births in large cities.
- Mothers and fathers are interviewed at the hospital and 1, 3, 5 and 9 years after birth.
- Many analyses will pool the data – so we can think of this as showing social support among urban low-income families with young children.

Sample Characteristics



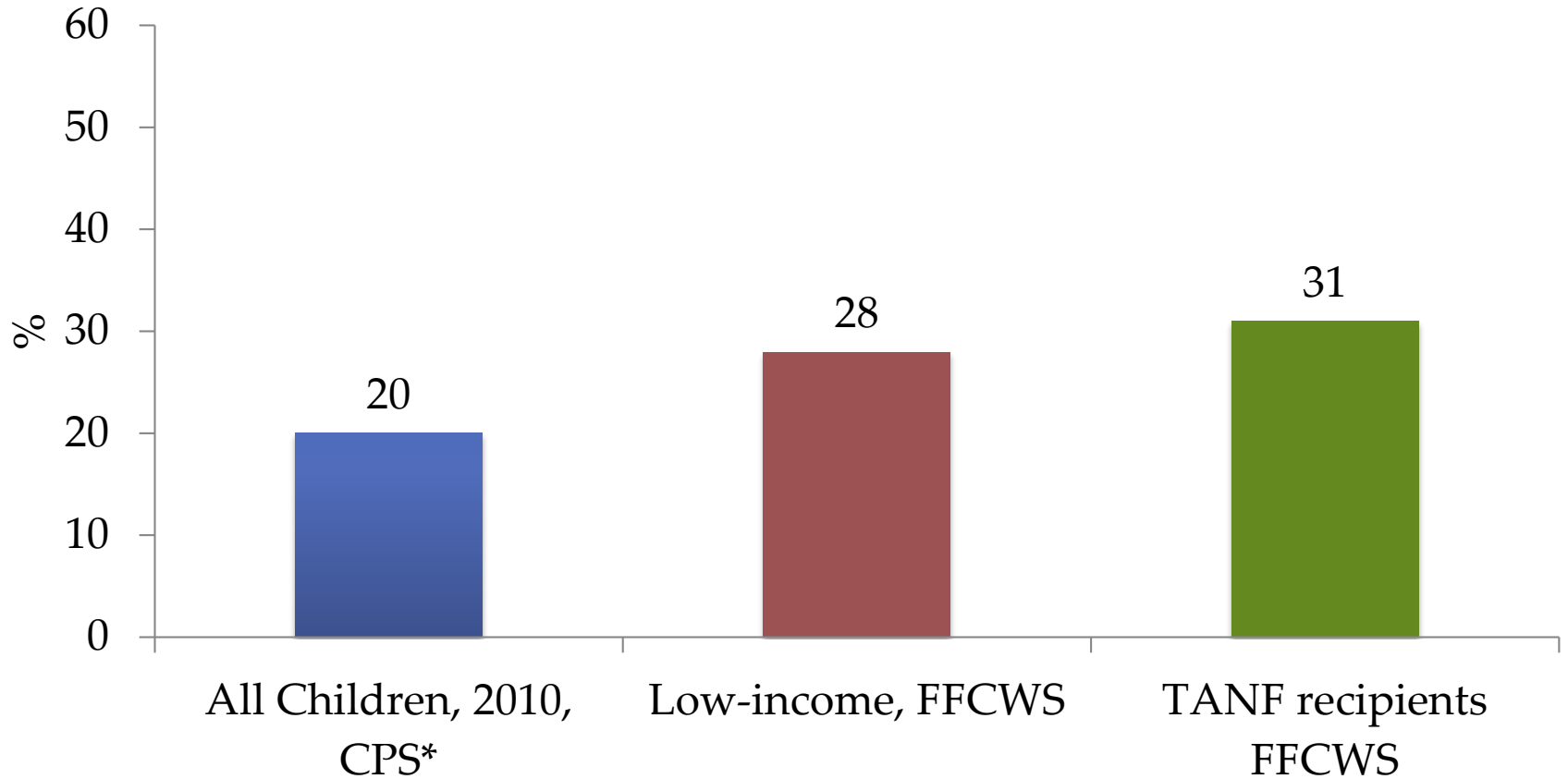
Data Source: FFCWS = Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study (birth-age9, urban sample)

Doubling Up: Living with friends and family (not the mother's partner)



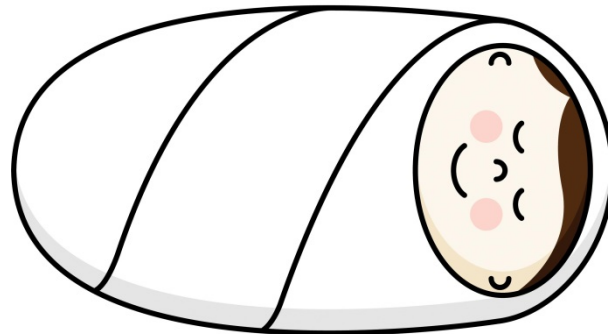
Prevalence of Doubling Up Among Households with Children

17



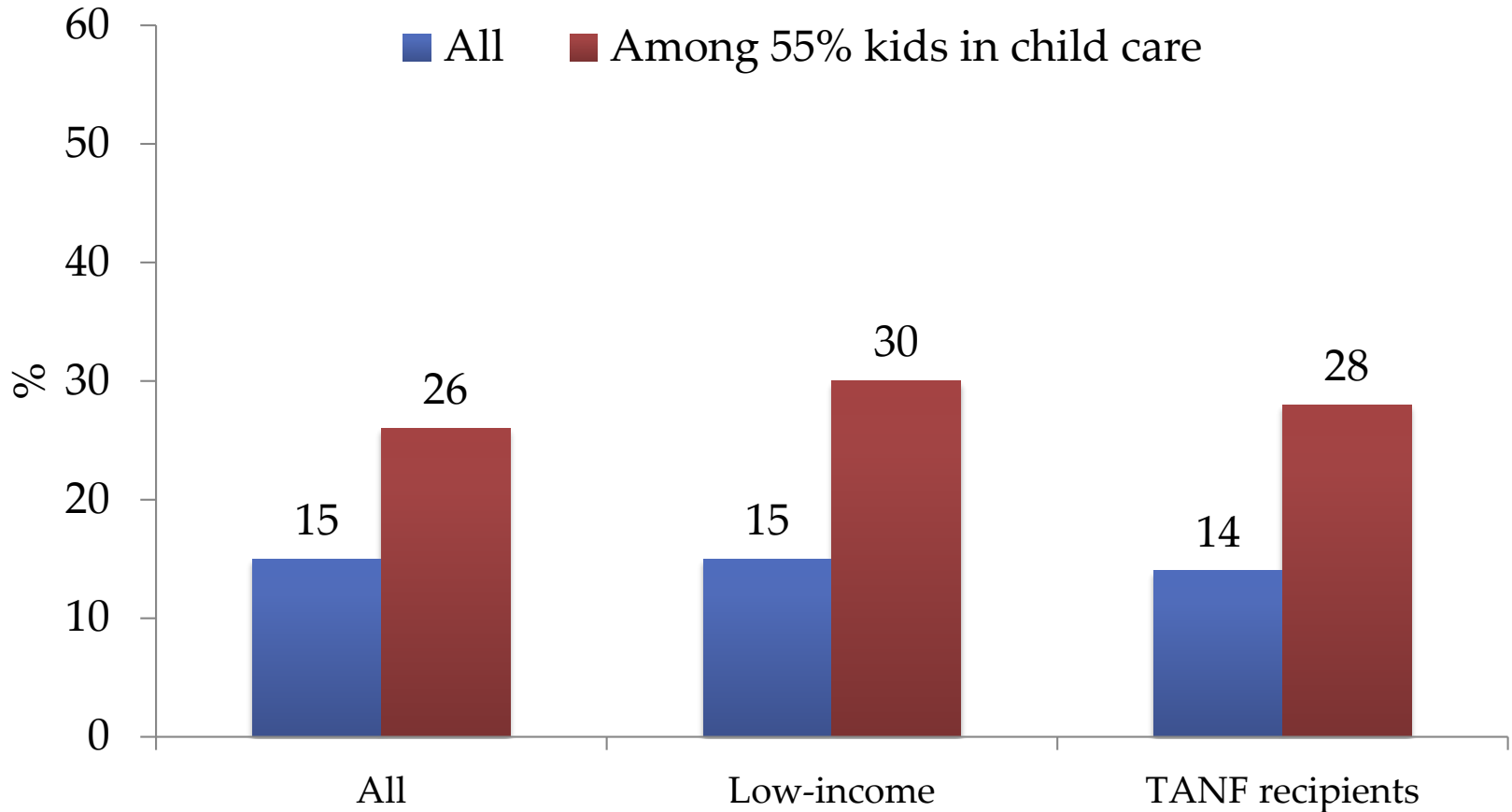
*From Mykyta & McCartney, 2012
Data Sources: CPS = Current Population Survey, nationally representative; FFCWS = Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study (birth-age9, urban sample)

Child Care (from friends and family)



Kin Child Care (Grandparents or Other Kin)

(children under 5 in large urban areas)



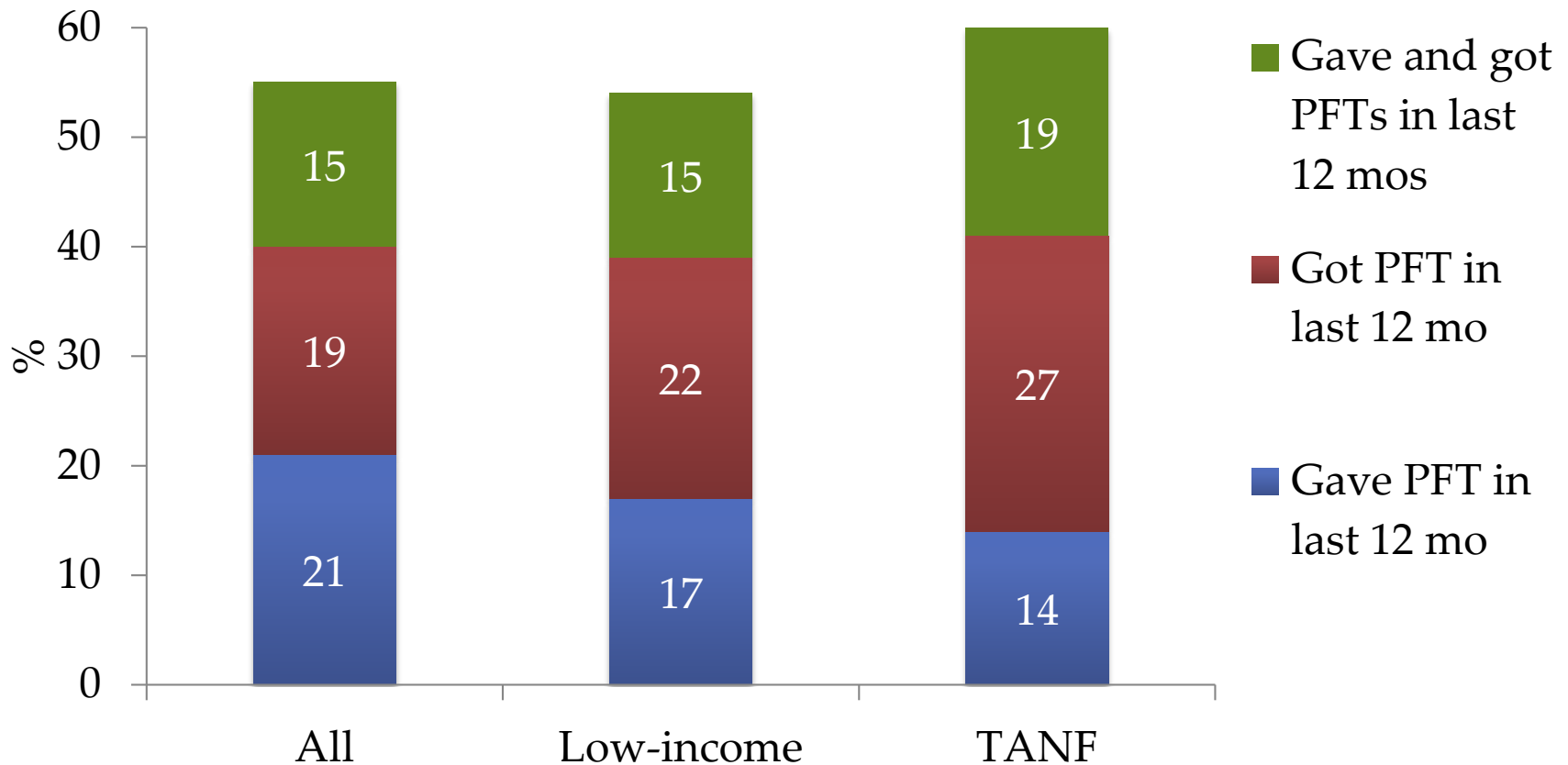
Data Source: FFCWS = Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study (birth-age9, urban sample)

Private Financial Transfers (PFTs) (to/from friends and family)



Received/Gave Private Financial Transfers

21



Data Source: FFCWS = Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study (birth-age9, urban sample)

Social Support is Valuable

22

- **Studies estimate that the rental savings from doubling up are worth nearly \$4,000/year** (Pilkauskas, Garfinkel & McLanahan, 2014).
- **Average private financial transfers worth about \$1,720/year.**
 - Among TANF recipients = \$1050
 - Among low-income = \$1250
- **Compared to say the EITC (\$2380) or TANF (\$2900).**

The Great Recession and Social Support

- **Did doubling-up increase? Maybe**
 - Studies find that doubling up was higher in 2010 than in 2007 (Mykyta & McCartney, 2012; Taylor et al 2010).
 - One study found that people who lost their jobs were more likely to double up (Wiemers 2014).
 - But other work has found no association between the recession and doubling up (Pilkauskas & Garfinkel, 2016; Bitler and Hoynes, 2015)
- **Did private financial transfers increase? Yes**
 - Research has found that PFTs do increase during recessions (Gottlieb, Pilkauskas & Garfinkel, 2014; Haider & McGarry, 2006) and lower-income mothers were especially more likely to have received financial transfers during the recession.
 - Individual job loss increases likelihood of receiving a transfer (Mazelis & Mykyta, 2011; Swartz, Kim, Uno, Mortimer & O'Brien, 2011).
- **No studies of kin child care**

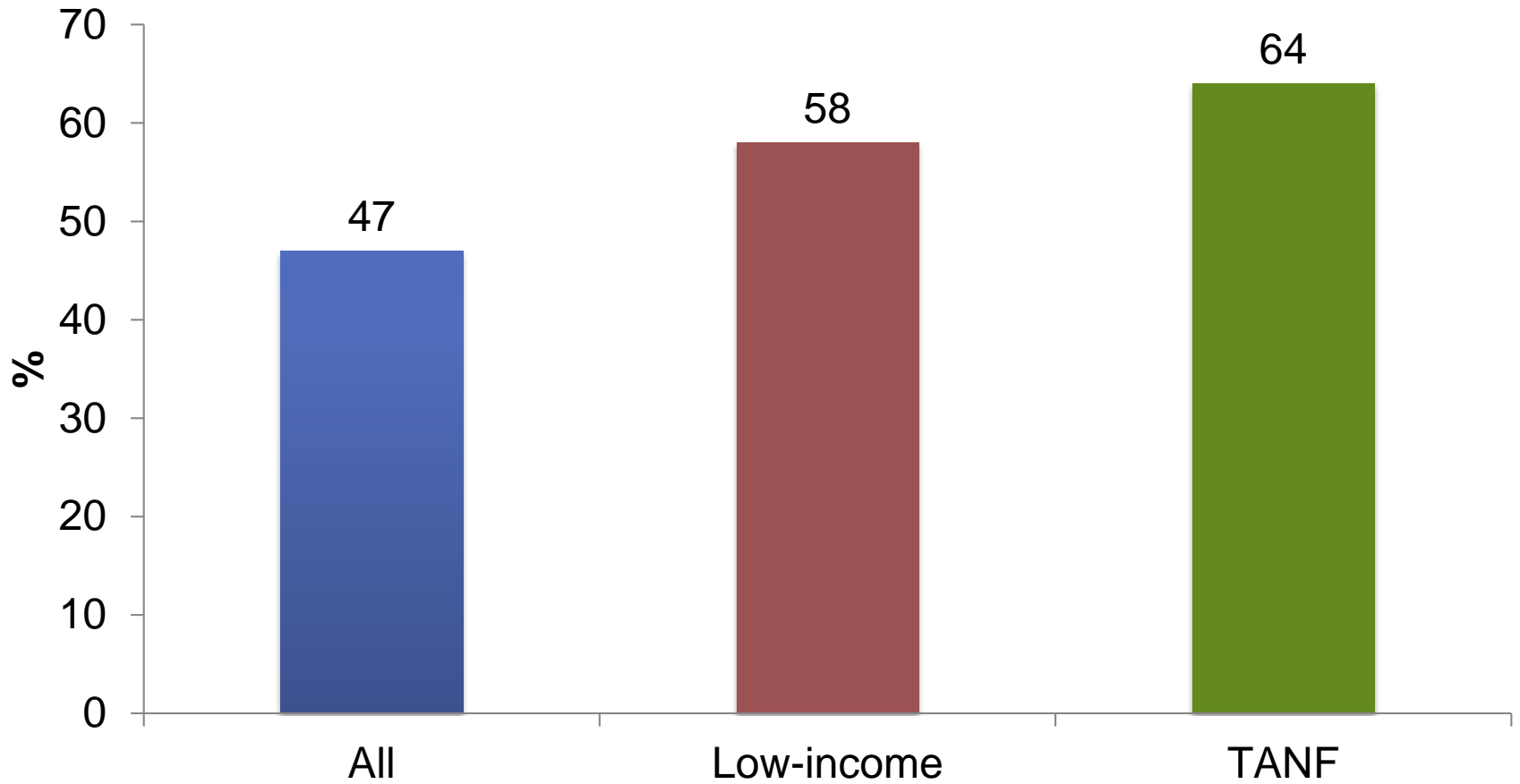
The Other Side of Social Support

24

- I help you – you help me. Norms of reciprocity, possibly to one's own detriment
- Qualitative research suggests that the reciprocal nature of social support networks can frequently lead to problems.
- Preliminary findings from new research suggest that giving a financial transfer is associated with higher levels of material hardship (Pilkauskas, Campbell & Wimer, 2016)
 - Relationship is stronger lower down the income ladder
 - Giving small amounts is associated with greater hardship

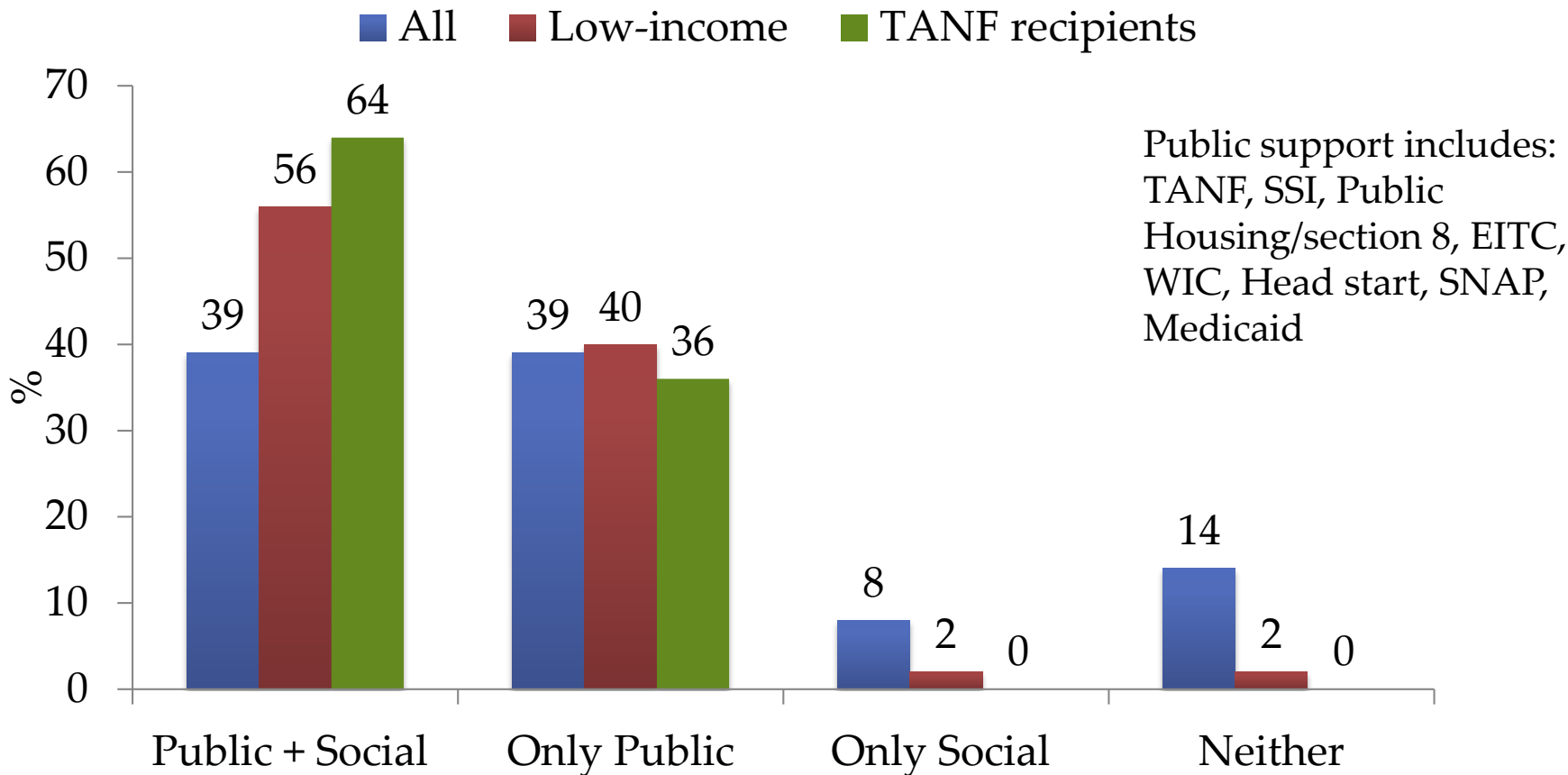
Any Private Support (doubled, child care, PFT)

25



Data Source: FFCWS = Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study (birth-age9, urban sample)

Overlap in Public and Social Support



Summary

27

- **Nearly half of urban families with young children receive some form of social support, especially those who are low-income**
- **Social support is economically valuable, on par with many public supports**
- **Social support is somewhat responsive in economic crises**
- **BUT it can come at a cost if families are obligated to help others at a cost to themselves**
- **Many families receive both public and social support – social support does not seem to serve as a substitute but more as a complement to public safety nets.**

Thank You!

28

For more information please email me at:

npilkaus@umich.edu



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Audience Poll #2

Does your program currently offer services that encourage TANF participants to leverage their social capital?

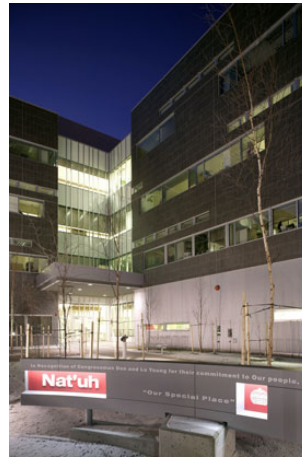
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Currently exploring the possibility



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Cook Inlet Tribal Council's Approach to Social Capital Development

Holly Morales and Andrew Freed
Cook Inlet Tribal Council



Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc.

Social Capital in Tribal Communities



Holly Snowball Morales

Director of Employment and Training

Andrew Freed

Senior Manager, Employment and Training

Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC)



- Tribal nonprofit organization
- Serving Alaska Native and American Indian people

Our Service Area



Our Services



- educational services
- employment and training service
- child and family services
- recovery and re-entry services

Our People



- common heritage, language and way of life
- multicultural families, speak English live in cities
- More diverse in how and where we live, how we look
- Linked by strong family connections, shared heritage, cultural values

Our Mission & Vision



Our Mission

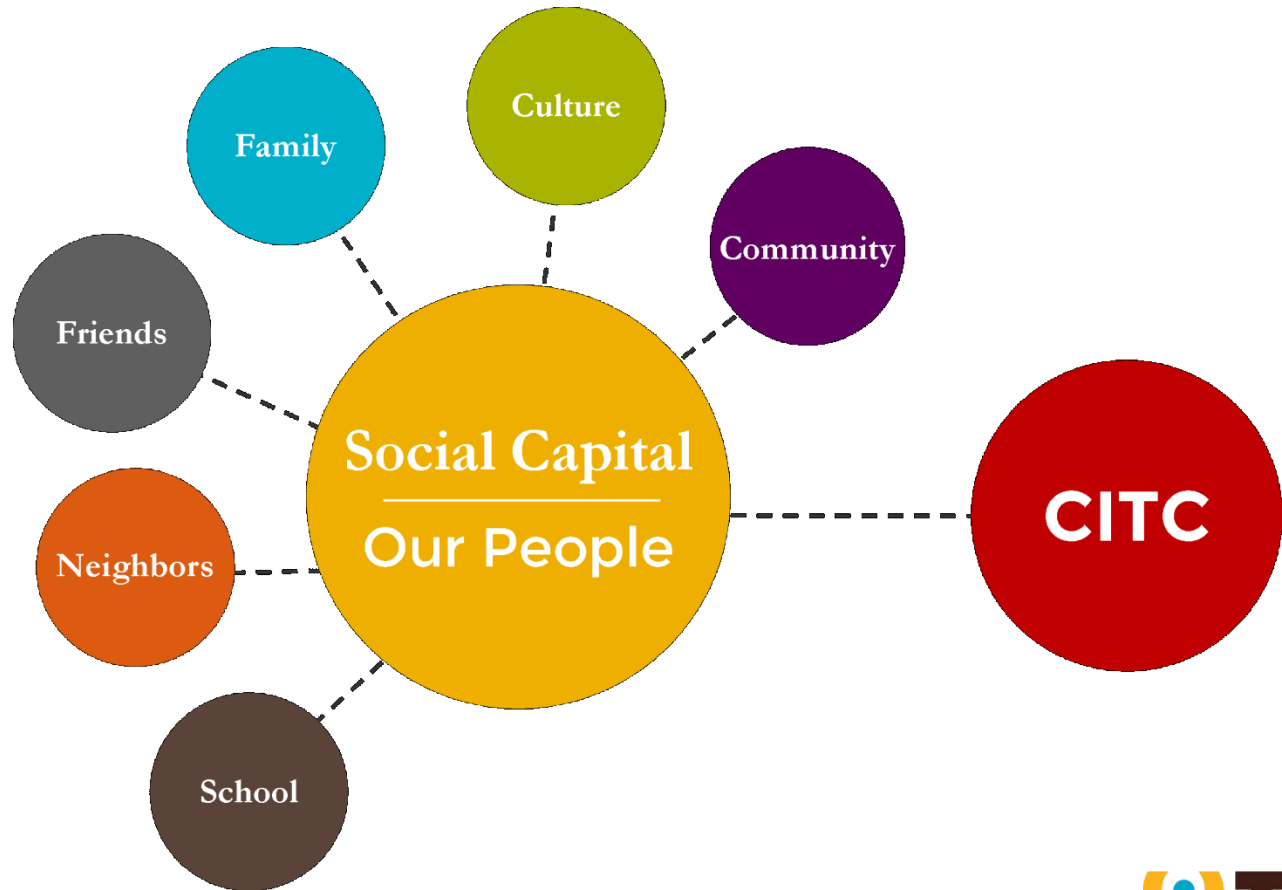
To work in partnership with Our People to develop opportunities that fulfill Our endless potential.

Our Vision

We envision a future in which all Our People—especially Our youth, the stewards of our future—have access to vast opportunities, and have the ability, confidence, and courage to advance and achieve their goals, infused with an unshakeable belief in Our endless potential.

Social Capital

CITC bridge to success



CITC Tribal TANF Overview

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families

- **Implementation Date**— July 2005
- **Population Served** - Average 500 families served per month
- **Service Model**—
 - Intake Assessment, Case Managers, Eligibility Technicians, Luqu Kenu
- **Youth Services**—
 - Youth Employment Program (YEP), Case Managers, Summer Camps, Prevention Events



Integrating Social Capital

promoting connections

Social Capital model in Our Services:

- Cohort Model
- Long Term Self Sufficiency
- Teaching participants what it is
- Youth Services



Challenges

- **Disproportionate Social Ills—**
 - Burning your bridges
- **Social Capital Abuse and unreliability-**
 - Over use and can be unreliable
- **Cultural Perception-**
 - Some cultural norms are not acceptable in main stream



Our Motivation

Why Social Capital is Important



- Increased self esteem and cultural identity
- Increased self sufficiency
- Increased health and stable families
- Increased equity and social justice

We invite you to learn more :

citci.org



Quyana





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Audience Poll #3

Does your TANF program encourage participants to support and communicate with one another through opportunities such as mentoring, job clubs, support groups, group/cohort training, etc?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Currently exploring the possibility



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Facilitated Q&A

Carol Mizoguchi, OFA




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