



Cornell University  
ILR School

Cornell University ILR School  
**DigitalCommons@ILR**

---

Buffalo Commons

Centers, Institutes, Programs

---

3-1-2013

## Impact of Poverty

Assunta Ventresca

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.ilr.cornell.edu/buffalocommons>

Thank you for downloading an article from DigitalCommons@ILR.

**Support this valuable resource today!**

---

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Centers, Institutes, Programs at DigitalCommons@ILR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Buffalo Commons by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@ILR. For more information, please contact [catherwood-dig@cornell.edu](mailto:catherwood-dig@cornell.edu).

If you have a disability and are having trouble accessing information on this website or need materials in an alternate format, contact [web-accessibility@cornell.edu](mailto:web-accessibility@cornell.edu) for assistance.

---

## Impact of Poverty

### Abstract

Developmental-Begins before birth: quality of mother nutrition and prenatal care; Parent-child interactions; less access to learning-oriented toys; less access to developmentally appropriate activities. Asthma- Environmental; Access to preventive health care. Obesity- Lack of opportunities for physical activity; Lack of access to nutritionally dense foods.

### Keywords

Buffalo, Education, Health and Wellness, Poverty and Education, Report, Other, PPT



# Impact of Poverty

## Buffalo Public School District Health Related Services

Buffalo Poverty Research Workshop IV  
Friday, March 1, 2013

Assunta Ventresca, R.N., M.S.M., Director  
[arventresca@buffaloschools.org](mailto:arventresca@buffaloschools.org)  
716-816-3912

# Poverty Impacts on Health & Learning

## Developmental

- Begins before birth: quality of mother nutrition and prenatal care
- Parent-child interactions
- Less access to learning-oriented toys
- Less access to developmentally appropriate activities

## Asthma

- Environmental
- Access to preventive health care

## Obesity

- Lack of opportunities for physical activity
- Lack of access to nutritionally dense foods

# Variables that Increase the Risk of a Child Living in Poverty

- Teen Mother
- Mother unmarried at time of child's birth
- Mother does NOT obtain high school diploma or GED

Risk increases with each additional variable

- 27% higher if one variable is present
- 42% higher if two variables are present
- 64% higher if three variables are present

If NONE of these variables are present the risk of living in poverty is 7%

# Poverty Limits the Chances of Educational Attainment

Children living in poverty are at risk for:

- Poor Health
- Social Emotional Problems

Poor Health and Social Emotional Problems Impact on  
Academic Success

Educational attainment is one of the prime mechanism for  
escaping poverty

# BPS Current Reality

87.74% Free & Reduced Lunch

Physical activity

- Bussing – 90%
- Limited opportunities during school day

Nutrition

- Free breakfast & lunch for all – started fall 2012
- Breakfast in the classroom – started fall 2011

Behavior Health Risks (BPS YRBS report)

- Higher rate of suicidal thoughts /attempts
- Rate of sexual activity/early engagement

Health Education

Health Service:

- Nurse in every school & 13 School Based Health Centers
  - Immunization monitoring, administer meds/treatments, first aid, etc...
- Dental screening/services initiated spring 2012
- STD testing pilot in one high school

# Strategies

Partnerships/Collaborations

Shared Vision: *Healthy School Communities*

Wellness Policy

- Framed on CDC's Coordinated School Health

Youth Risk Behavior Survey

- Sexual Forums Held

Health Committees Established

- Diverse Stakeholders

School Health/Wellness Teams

- Complete School Health Index
- Develop Wellness Plan



# Moving Forward

## Physical Activity

- Meet NYS Regulations for Physical Education
- Daily Recess PK-6 & infuse physical activity in classroom

## Nutrition

- Meet USDA requirements and wellness policy
- Garden Tool Kit

## Health Education

- Introducing a new health curriculum
- HS Seniors offered sexual health education this spring

## Health Services

- Expand dental services/STI testing/grade level physicals
- Assure families have access to health insurance

Establish Mental, Emotional & Behavioral Health Committee

# 8 Components of Coordinated School Health

