

## **The Annie E. Casey Foundation Commitment to State-level Indicators of Child Well-being**

The Annie E. Casey Foundation is a national philanthropy devoted to improving the circumstances and life outcomes for disadvantaged children and families. The Foundation annually releases the national KIDS COUNT report, which uses child indicator data to measure how American children are doing. It also supports state KIDS COUNT organizations in all 50 states, DC, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Through its partnership with its state KIDS COUNT grantees, the Foundation has developed a keen understanding of the importance of good indicator data at the state level for the development and tracking of effective child policy.

If Congress passes legislation that funds a state level survey of child well-being, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and a consortium of other funders have pledged to supplement that funding by providing at least \$1 million annually to give states, researchers, policy analysts and community groups technical assistance in understanding and using the data. This will ensure that the data collected by a state survey is accessible to and used by state policy makers.

This commitment constitutes a jointly funded project with the federal government. The federal lobbying restrictions on private foundations provide an exception for jointly funded projects, at §53.4945-2(a)(3), which enables the Annie E. Casey Foundation to lobby on the bills proposed by Rep. Fattah and Senators Rockefeller and Snowe.