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Report Released on Barriers Faced by Low Income Women

(KTNC)-- Voices for Children in Nebraska released a report recently that focuses on the barriers low income women face when they pursue economic opportunity. Policy Coordinator for Economic Stability and Health Aubrey Mancuso says those receiving public assistance and receive a small increase in income fear it will push them over the limit for assistance.

As an example, a family receiving public assistance that receives a small boost in pay due to a raise or increase in hours may actually be worse off if it causes a decrease in assistance due to limits in place.

As an example, a woman who receives subsidized daycare, and receives a co-pay of \$200, and they get a pay raise, they could make too much to receive the benefit. That could bump their child care bill up to \$600 a month when that pay raise only amounts to \$50 in that same time period. Voices for Children recommend work to address the cliff effect by ensuring families are able to transition off of public assistance gradually. They also recommend restructuring incentives aimed at building savings accounts for these families and increase opportunities for higher education.

Nebraska News Network