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SUMMARY:

Senior policy analyst with twenty-six years experience analyzing policies affecting low-income children and families. Excellent research and communication skills, combined with proven management abilities, extensive experience with legislative and executive branches, and in-depth knowledge of the Federal budget and policy-making process.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE:

Child and Family Policy Fellow, The Brookings Institution, (March 2006- present)

- Served as co-author on series of reports on children's budgets. Also wrote issue brief and working paper on spending on children and the elderly.
- Wrote series of papers on impacts of early childhood intervention programs.
- Wrote major report on economic mobility, garnering national media attention.
- Wrote paper on cost-effective investments in children, suggesting policies that were later adopted in agendas of leading Presidential candidates.
- Selected as a Fellow with First Focus, a bipartisan child advocacy organization.
- Served as visiting scholar at the Institute for Research on Poverty, Madison, WI.

Director, Data and Technical Analysis, Office of Human Services Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), Department of Health and Human Services (1998-2006)

- Supervised a staff of eight analysts providing research and data analysis on policies and programs affecting low-income children and families.
- Provided senior HHS officials with quick turn-around analyses of legislative and budgetary proposals related to welfare reform, child care, poverty, and child welfare.
- Oversaw multi-million dollar grant program studying families leaving welfare. Led grantee meetings providing technical assistance to state researchers and disseminated findings through web site, articles, and presentations.
- Developed models to estimate costs of legislative proposals, including microsimulation-based model to estimate eligibility for child care assistance.
- Developed research projects on measurement of poverty and material hardship.
- Oversaw production of annual report on *Indicators of Welfare Dependence*.

Senior Research Analyst, American Institutes for Research (1995-1998)

- Directed research and policy studies on Head Start, education, and welfare reform. Conducted focus groups, analyzed data, made policy recommendations, wrote reports, briefed government officials, and managed project budgets.

- Developed and pilot-tested survey instruments for collecting school-level finance data; led teams writing program guidance for the Head Start program; and drafted OMB clearance package for revising the Head Start grant application system.

Principal Analyst, Congressional Budget Office (summer 1984, 1985-1995)

- As **Food Stamp and Child Nutrition Analyst (1985-1995)**, analyzed hundreds of budgetary/policy proposals and prepared quick response cost estimates related to food stamps, child nutrition, and programs serving low-income children and families. Experienced in explaining numerical analyses to Congressional staff.
- As **Child Care Analyst (1988-1995)**, designed and constructed complex models of child care costs under multiple options for welfare reform, including cost estimates of a new child care entitlement (the Transitional Child Care program).
- As **Foster Care Analyst (1990-1995)**, prepared briefing materials and presented testimony on foster care growth trends before Congressional subcommittee. Developed model for projecting foster care caseload based on growth trends in the six largest states. Reviewed and assessed costs of legislative proposals relating to foster care, adoption, and independent living programs.

Research Intern, Friends Committee on National Legislation (1982-1983).

- Assisted Quaker organization in advocating for increased funding and improvements in income support, health, housing and jobs programs.
- Major duties included writing newsletter articles, background papers, and letters of advocacy, and working in coalitions.

Research Intern, Massachusetts State Senate (summer 1982)

- Wrote paper used in making policy recommendations on state child care system, analyzed legislation, and responded to constituent requests.

Part-time Teacher Aide, Williamstown Community Day Care Center (college semesters, 1979-1982)

- Worked with children in local child care program.

EDUCATION:

M.P.P. (1985), University of California at Berkeley

B.A. in Political Science (1982), Williams College
(*magna cum laude, highest honors in Political Science*)

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Elected member of the Policy Council of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), 2006-2008
CBO Director's Award for Outstanding Service
Berkeley Policy Fellow

PUBLICATIONS

- Isaacs, J. B. 2009. *The Effects of Recession on Child Poverty: Poverty Statistics for 2008 and Growth in Need during 2009*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution.
- Isaacs, J. B., Vericker, T., Macomber, J., and Kent, A. (2009). *Kids' share: an analysis of federal expenditures through 2008*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute and Brookings.
- Isaacs, J. B. 2009. *Spending on children and the elderly. An issue brief*. Accompanied by three working papers: (a) *How much do we spend on children and the elderly?* (b) *A comparative perspective on public spending on children.* (c) *Public spending on children and the elderly from a life-cycle perspective.* Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution.
- Macomber, J. Isaacs, J.B., Vericker, T., Kent, A, and Johnson P. (2009) *Federal expenditures on infants and toddlers in 2007*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute and Brookings.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2008). *Supporting young children and families: An investment strategy that pays*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution.
- Isaacs, J.B. and Love, P. (2008). *The impact of the mortgage crisis on children and their education*. Washington, D.C.: First Focus.
- Isaacs, J. B., Sawhill, I.V., and Haskins, R. (2008). *Getting ahead or losing ground: Economic mobility in America*. Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2007). *Economic mobility of black and white families*. Washington, DC: The Pew Charitable Trusts/Brookings Institution.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2007). *Cost-effective investments in children*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institution.
- Isaacs, J.B. (2007). *The costs of benefit delivery in the Food Stamp Program: Lessons from a cross-program analysis*. Washington, DC: Economic Research Service/USDA.
- Isaacs, J. B. and Lovell, P. (2007). *Priority or afterthought? Children and the federal budget*. Alexandria, VA: First Focus.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2005). *Child care eligibility and enrollment estimates for fiscal year 2003*. Washington, DC: Department of Health and Human Services.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2005). *Receipt of unemployment insurance among low-income single mothers*. Washington, DC: Department of Health and Human Services.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2005, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000, 1999). *Indicators of welfare dependence. Annual report to Congress*. Washington, DC: Author.

- Isaacs, J. B. (2003). "Mothers' work and child care," in Besharov, D., ed., *Family and child well-being after welfare reform*. New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers.
- Isaacs, J. B. (2001). "Cross-state findings on families leaving welfare," in Julnes, G. and Foster, E.M., (eds.), *Outcomes of welfare reform for families who leave TANF*. New Directions for Evaluation. No. 91. San Francisco: John Wiley & Sons.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (1999). *Access to child care for low-income working families*. Washington, DC: Author.
- Isaacs, J. B., (1999). "Monitoring outcomes for former welfare recipients: A review of eleven survey instruments," Paper presented at the 39th Annual Workshop of the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics.
- Isaacs, J. B., Garet, M. S., and Broughman, S. P. (1998, July). "A proposal for collecting school-level finance data on the Schools and Staffing Survey." In *Developments in school finance, 1997*, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) 98-212. Washington, DC: NCES.
- Isaacs, J. B., Best, C. M., Cullen, A. D., Garet, M. S., and Sherman, J. D. (1998). *Collection of public school expenditure data: Development of a questionnaire*, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Working Paper No-98-1. Washington, DC: NCES.
- Isaacs, J. B., Garet, M. S., and Sherman, J. D. (1997). *Collection of private school finance data: Development of a questionnaire*, National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Working Paper No-97-22. Washington, DC: NCES.
- Congressional Budget Office (1994, December). *The Administration's welfare reform proposals: A preliminary cost estimate*. A CBO Memorandum. Washington, DC: Author.
- Isaacs, J. B. (1993, October). *Participation of child care centers in the Child and Adult Care Food Program*. Paper presented at Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM) Research Conference.
- Isaacs, J. B. (1991, March). "CBO testimony: Growth trends in foster care." In Subcommittee on Human Resources, Committee on Ways and Means, U.S. House of Representatives, *Hearings, March 19, 1991*. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office.
- Isaacs, J. B. (1988, July). *Estimating the costs of transitional child care*. Paper presented at the 28th Annual Workshop of the National Association for Welfare Research and Statistics.
- Isaacs, J. B. (1985, April). *Funding a public/private partnership for child care in Pleasanton*. Unpublished master's thesis, University of California, Berkeley.