

COMMUNITY

STATUS REPORT

GRIT & RESILIENCE

Strong economy and folks are working. Amarillo unemployment:

- ▶ Dropped to nearly pre-pandemic levels: 2.7% to 2.2%
- ▶ 36% below the state level.
- ▶ 42% below the national level. (Pg. 10)

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Suicide

The Panhandle is still above the Texas and national average, however the death rates of suicide:

- ▶ Decreased by 25.7% in Potter County.
- ▶ Decreased by 30.6% in Randall County. (Pgs. 21 & 22)

Refugees

Has not been reported in this report in 6 years, however, Texas is an excellent destination for refugees.

- ▶ Texas receives more refugees than any other state except California.
 - ▶ Proportionally, however, Texas is 10th in refugee resettlement.
 - ▶ Countries of origin, in order of prevalence: Afghanistan, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guatemala, Sudan, & Syria. (Pg. 26)

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Cost of Childcare

Significant expense for families, although there are positive signs.

- ▶ Potter County: 20% of median income, spent on childcare.
- ▶ Randall County: 9% of median income, spent on childcare.
- ▶ Amarillo: cost of childcare-\$103 less a month than the state average. (Pgs. 14 & 15)

UWAC's focus on A.L.I.C.E.

Asset Limited, Income Constrained, & Employed: working people who make more than the federal poverty level but not enough to make ends meet.

- ▶ 32% of Potter County is A.L.I.C.E.
- ▶ 24% of Randall County is A.L.I.C.E.
- ▶ 30% of Texas is A.L.I.C.E. (Pgs. 16 & 17)

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CONTINUED



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INCOME INEQUITY

Still very much problematic. The proportion of people out earning their parents has dropped:

- ▶ From 90% for people born in the 1950's.
- ▶ To 50% for people born in the 1980's. (Page 14)

EDUCATION

Post-pandemic K-12 performance revealed for the first time.

- ▶ Performance outcomes suffers in all subjects, especially math.
- ▶ 3rd graders STAAR performance, suffered less than 8th graders.
- ▶ High school graduation rates improved during the pandemic in Amarillo and Canyon ISD's. (Pgs. 8 & 9)

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ADOLESCENT MOTHERS

There are encouraging trends in our community but there is still a great need.

- ▶ Years past, in Potter, Randall, and statewide, rates have been decreasing.
- ▶ Potter County recently slightly increased by 3.7%.

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ABUSE

Abuse and neglect among children and family is still very much a problem.

- ▶ Potter and Randall Counties- slight decreases in child abuse reports, but not as low as in years' past.
- ▶ Potter and Randall Counties rates of child abuse and neglect- still well above the state average.
- ▶ Family violence increased during the pandemic but not at an explosive level.
- ▶ Potter County- 5% increase in family violence.
- ▶ Randall County- 6.4% decrease in family violence. (Pgs. 24 & 25)

RESPONSE TO THE NEED

This report does something new and focuses on 4 specific Nonprofit Programs that are making real impact in our community in response to the challenges and highlights several others. (Pgs. 10-11, 18-19, & 27-30)

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