

Séminaire Hospinnomics

Mark Stabile
(INSEAD, NBER)

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1 Parvis Notre-Dame, 75004 Paris

CHILD CASH BENEFITS AND FAMILY EXPENDITURES: EVIDENCE FROM THE NATIONAL CHILD BENEFIT

Income may improve child outcomes through two mechanisms: as a direct input into health and education, or indirectly, by reducing household financial stress. We exploit policy induced changes in refundable tax benefit income in Canada to study these two potential mechanisms. Our findings suggest that additional income may improve outcomes through both mechanisms: some benefit income is spent on direct education and health inputs, while some is spent on everyday items likely to improve the general conditions children face. Additionally, some families reduce spending on risky behavior items. Spending responses to benefit generosity appear to vary by income.



Mark Stabile is Professor of Economics at INSEAD. From 2007 to 2015 he was the founding Director of the School of Public Policy and Governance at the University of Toronto and Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. He is also a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, Massachusetts, a Policy Fellow at the Martin Prosperity Institute and Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics. From 2003-2005 he was the Senior Policy Advisor to the Ontario Minister of Finance, where he worked on tax, health, and education policy. He is the recipient of the Carolyn Tuohy award in Public Policy, the John Polanyi Prize in Economics, the Harry Johnson Prize from the Canadian Economics Association and an Excellence in Teaching Award from the Rotman School. His recent work focuses on the economics of child health and development, child mental health, health care financing, and tax policy and health insurance. He has advised the Governments of the United States, Canada, and Ontario, among others, on health care reform and programs to reduce child poverty. He is associate editor of the Journal of Health Economics and the journal of Health Economics, Policy, and Law. He serves on the Advisory Board for Canada 2020 and on the Board of Directors for the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario. Professor Stabile received his Ph.D. from Columbia University and his BA from the University of Toronto.