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Media Relations

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MEDIA ADVISORY: Carsey Poverty Expert Available to Discuss New Census Data Sept. 12

DURHAM, N.H. – Beth Mattingly, director of research on vulnerable families at the Carsey Institute at the University of New Hampshire, is available to discuss new poverty data that will be released by the U.S. Census Bureau Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012.

Mattingly can be reached at 240-593-4297 and beth.mattingly@unh.edu.

Mattingly’s work at the Carsey Institute examines child poverty, how different family policies influence rural, suburban, and urban families, and how families adjust their labor force behavior during times of economic strain. She also examines poverty-related issues, how families cope with economic distress, childhood maltreatment, and foster care across states.

According to the Carsey Institute:

- Between 2009 and 2010, one million more children in America joined the ranks of those living in poverty, bringing the total to an estimated 15.7 million poor children in 2010, an increase of 2.6 million since the recession began in 2007.
- Persistent high poverty is most prevalent among children, with those living in rural America disproportionally impacted.
- Rural Americans face higher poverty rates than their urban neighbors and greater challenges escaping from poverty, even with the aid of government assistance such as the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.
- The number of Americans turning to the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps, has substantially increased since the recession began and has continued to climb as many Americans have struggled with the economic hardships of the post-recession, weak economy.

For more information about the Carsey Institute’s extensive research about poverty, visit http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/policy/poverty.html.

The Carsey Institute conducts policy research on vulnerable children, youth, and families and on sustainable community development. The institute gives policy makers and practitioners the timely, independent resources they need to effect change in their communities. For more information about the Carsey Institute, go to www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu.

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