



# CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



Legacy Keynote Speaker Jim Lehrer of PBS NewsHour



*Celebrating at the Legacy Luncheon:*

*Representing our founders, the Congregation of Benedictine Sisters in Boerne, Texas: Sr. Bernadine Reyes, OSB, Prioress (far left); Sr. Susan Mika, OSB, Council Member (second left); Sr. Sylvia Ahr, OSB, Sub-Prioress (far right).*

*Our Executive Directors: Dianne Stewart, 1991-2001 (third left); DeAnn Friedholm, 1988-1991 (back); F. Scott McCown, 2002-Present.*

**2011** was a big year. At the start, the state faced a \$27 billion revenue shortfall in large part because of the Great Recession but also because it could no longer cover the cost of the unaffordable 2006 tax cut. CPPP's steady call for a balanced approach to meeting the needs of Texas helped prevent billions of dollars in additional cuts to education and health and human services.

Throughout the year, the Center continued to advance policy to increase economic opportunity and meet the basic needs of Texas families. And we continued to keep the focus on improving the well-being of Texas children.

We celebrated our 25th Anniversary at the 2011 Legacy, keynoted by Jim Lehrer, executive editor of PBS NewsHour. To mark the occasion, the Texas House of Representatives honored us in a resolution noting that the Center "serves as a vital nonpartisan resource," and the Texas Senate commended us in a proclamation calling the Center "a leading nonpartisan, nonprofit policy institute."





Home since 1992



Future home on North Lamar

## STAFF

F. Scott McCown  
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Anne Dunkelberg  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Dick Lavine  
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Jane Burstain, Ph.D.  
SENIOR POLICY ANALYST

Stacey Pogue  
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Valerie L. Davidson  
MANAGER OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Brian Stephens  
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Gina Chavez  
COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATE

## ON THE MOVE

While 2011 has been exciting, the upcoming year promises excitement of its own. Our growing staff is moving from our old, small house to an exciting new mixed-use building on Austin's light rail line on North Lamar Boulevard. Thanks to a matching grant from the Paulos Foundation and the generous response of our supporters, we'll be able to furnish the new office and make the move this Spring.

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

We were pleased to receive some special recognition this year:

- The League of Women Voters of Texas gave us the 2011 Making Democracy Work Award.
- Texas AFT gave us the 2011 Child Advocate Award.
- *Texas Monthly* named Scott McCown one of the 25 people with the most influence in Texas policy.
- The Equity Center named Dick Lavine its 2011 Champion for Equity for his work in supporting public education.

Our Health Care Team continues to receive national recognition for its expertise in both public and private health insurance:

- The National Academy of Social Insurance elected Anne Dunkelberg to membership.
- The National Association of Insurance Commissioners continued Stacey Pogue's appointment as a Funded Consumer Representative.



Dick Lavine



Anne Dunkelberg



Stacey Pogue

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A few highlights from among our accomplishments in 2011:

- Helped derail a proposal to limit adults in Texas Medicaid to just three prescriptions a month regardless of their health.
- Helped preserve funding for family services in the state's budget for Child Protective Services.
- Helped 1) secure new authority for the Commissioner of Insurance to increase the availability of health insurance for children and 2) improve rate information sent to consumers allowing them to shop for better policies.
- Helped lead a coalition to expand the summer food program so children in 173 additional low-income schools districts have access to nutritious meals in the summer.
- Designated negotiator for consumer groups in mediation with the lending industry resulting in the enactment of payday loan reforms to protect consumers.
- *OpportunityTexas*, a project working to move more Texas families toward greater economic opportunity through education, saving, and asset building, completed its first year. In one project highlight, the City of Austin gave an additional \$20,000 to match our grant to Foundation Communities Tax Centers for a pilot program to encourage low-income filers to save a portion of their tax refunds.

# PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

We released more than 130 analyses and comments about public policy: ([Click an article title to view online.](#))

- [Undermining the Texas Economy: The 2012-13 Texas State Budget](#)
- [Using the Rainy Day Fund to Ensure our Recovery and Prosperity](#)
- [Texas Health Care 2011: What Has Happened and the Work that Remains](#)
- [Texas Health Care Primer \(Revised 2011\)](#)
- [Proposed Federal Cuts Would Sap SNAP's Proven Ability to Help Poor, Hungry Texans](#)
- [HB 643 Will Help Kids Eat Right During the Summer](#)
- [The Guide to Texas Child Protective Services](#)
- [Promoting College Success](#)
- [Payday Lending by Any Other Name Is Still Payday Lending](#)
- [Texas Poverty 101](#)
- [How Texas Measures Up in the 2010 American Community Survey](#)
- [The State of Texas Children 2011](#)

We presented on public policy to more than 13,000 people and the media cited us more than 1,000 times.

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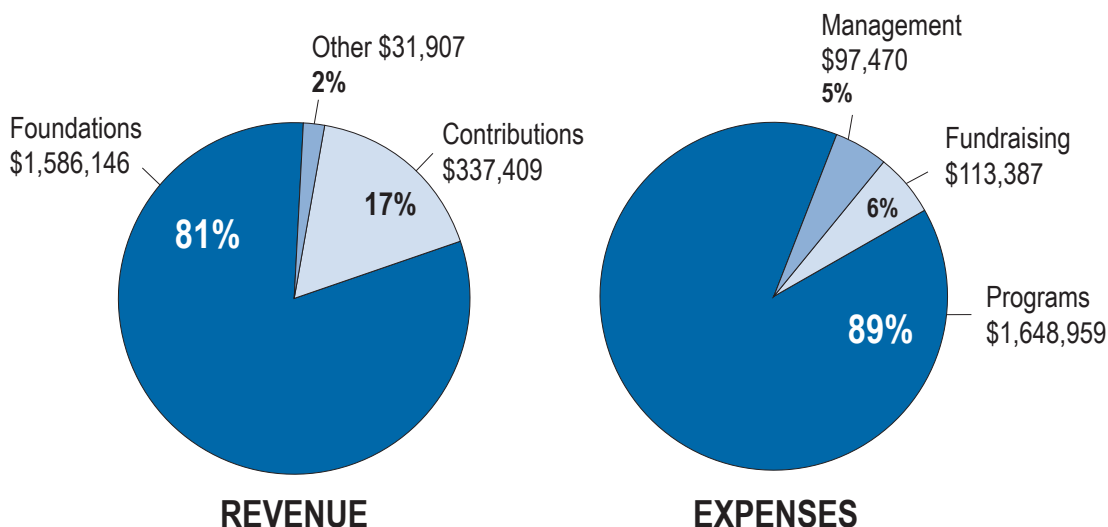
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# ANNUAL REPORT 2011

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT *(As of 10/31/2010)*



### ABOUT

The Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit policy institute committed to improving public policies to make a better Texas. We pursue our mission through independent research, policy analysis and development, public education, advocacy, coalition-building, and technical assistance. We ground our work in rigorous data analysis.

### VISION

We envision a prosperous Texas where economic and social opportunity is available in fair measure to all.

### HISTORY

Over 25 years ago, the Congregation of Benedictine Sisters in Boerne, Texas, motivated by a vision of social justice for the poor and disenfranchised, opened the Center to improve access to health care for the poor. The Center evolved into an independent 501(c)(3) policy institute working to address the challenges facing low- and moderate-income Texans.

### AFFILIATIONS



A Project of  
The Annie E. Casey  
Foundation

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