



Date aired: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Aired: \_\_\_\_\_

**Weekly Public Affairs Program**

Show # 2024-07

Total running time: 29:30 (with optional exit at 24:00)

1. **Bridget Freisthler, PhD**, Professor in the College of Social Work at Ohio State University

Child abuse and neglect cases have been on the rise since the pandemic and its aftermath. Prof. Freisthler led a study of an alcohol control project in Sacramento. The program's purpose was to reduce alcohol-related problems in two neighborhoods in the city, but it discovered an unexpected byproduct: in one of the neighborhoods, total entries into foster care were reduced by nearly 12%. She discussed factors behind child abuse and why she believes additional research is needed before trying to duplicate the program elsewhere.

**Issues covered:**

**Alcohol Abuse  
Child Abuse & Neglect  
Foster Care**

**Length: 9:27**

2. **Megan Henly, PhD**, Research Assistant Professor in the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire

Older Americans, low-income workers, and people with disabilities are over-represented in rural parts of the US. But enrollment in federal and state programs in these regions tends to be low. Prof. Henly discussed the numerous barriers to getting information about, and enrolling in, programs like Social Security disability and retirement benefits, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Medicaid health insurance program, and what can be done to reduce the problem.

**Issues covered:**

**Government Assistance  
Disabilities  
Rural Concerns  
Aging**

**Length: 7:46**