



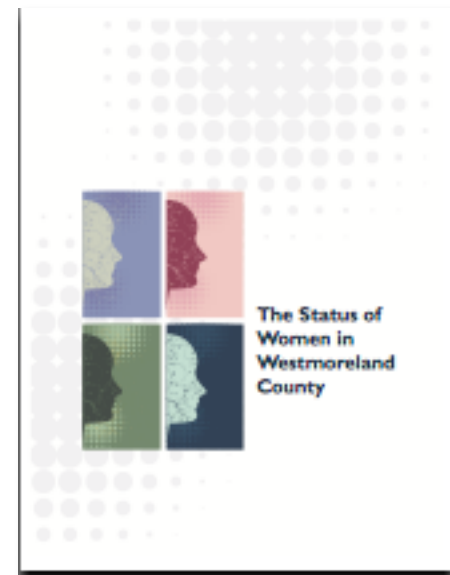
# Mothers Making More • M<sup>3</sup>

A Pilot Project to Reduce Female Headed Households Living in Poverty

# Origin of M<sup>3</sup>

## Status of Women in Westmoreland County Research Project (2008)

- Poverty
- Pay Equity
- Leadership
- Health & Well-being
- Violence



# Face of Poverty: Westmoreland County, PA



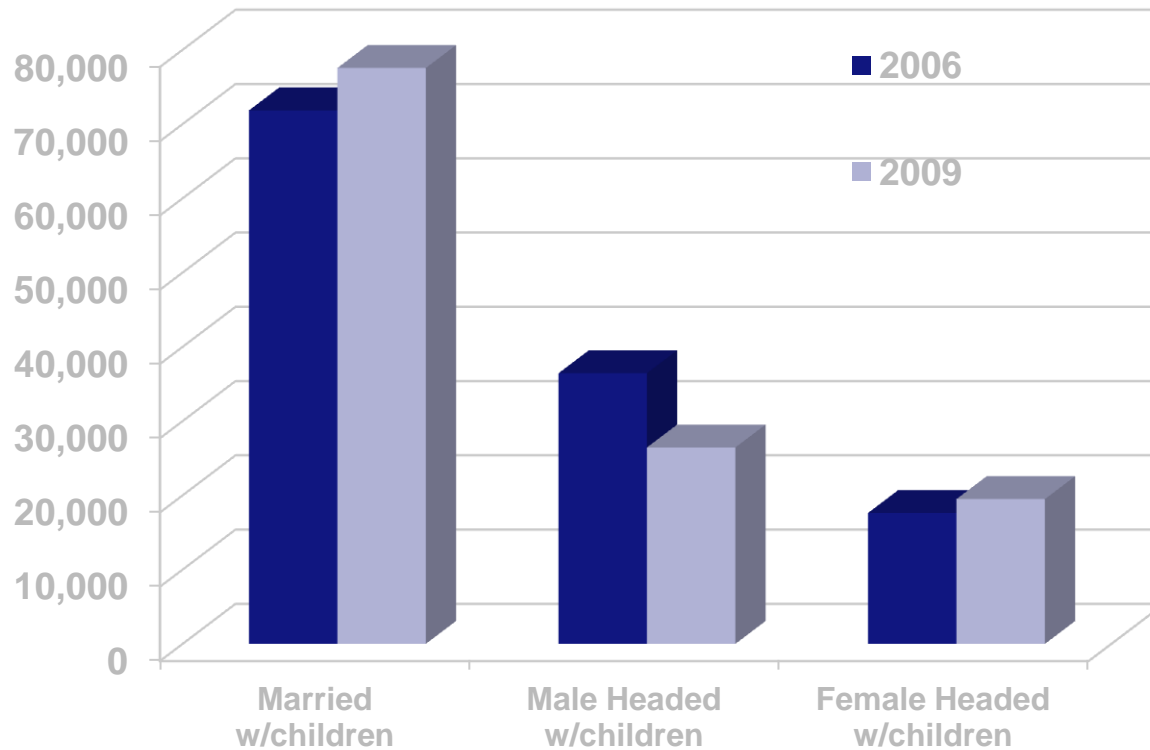
Disproportionately female  
(13.3% women in  
poverty, 7.7% men).

Particularly female-  
headed households  
with children under 18  
years of age.

27% of Westmoreland  
County FHH lived in  
poverty in 2010.



# Family Median Income in Westmoreland County: 2006 & 2009



# More About Female Headed Households Living in Poverty



**FHH living in poverty is Up!**

**7,500 FHH living in poverty** in our community.

**Median Income for FHH was \$19,499 in 2009.**

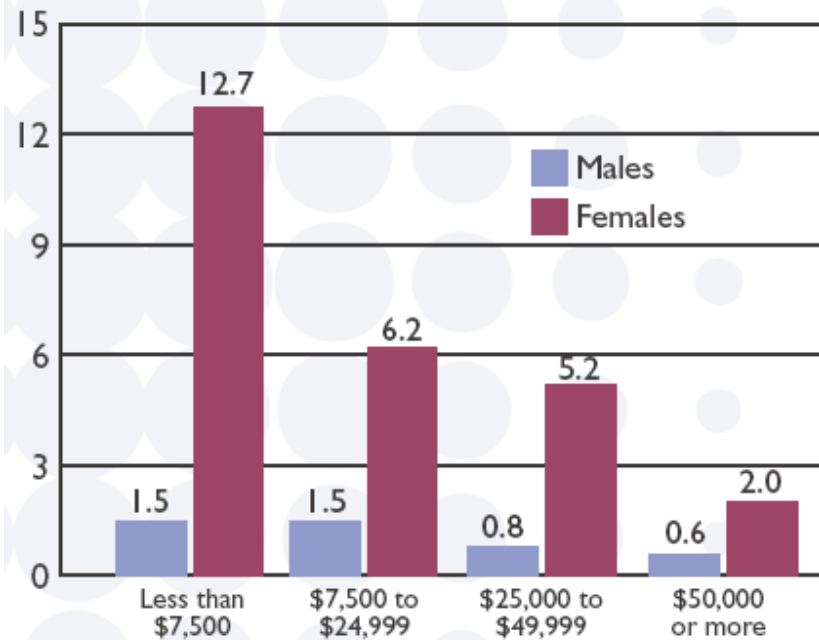
**Overall Poverty for Westmoreland County Women – Up! 3000**

- 22,243 females of all ages which has gone up by 3,000 women since the original study.

# Another Reason to Care: Violence & Poverty

Average annual nonfatal intimate partner victimization rate, by income and gender, 2001-2005

Rate per 1000 persons age 12 or older



Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics  
[www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/)

2x

2x

# Local Strategies



## Awareness & Education

### Mothers Making More - M<sup>3</sup>

### Supporting Financial Stability efforts of United Way partners

- Circles
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance:  
engaging volunteers and corporate partners
- Safety net service support

# Mothers Making More: M<sup>3</sup>



**Joining forces to improve long-term financial stability for female-headed households**

**Partners:**

Excela Health

Seton Hill University

United Way of Westmoreland County

Westmoreland Community Action

Westmoreland County Community College

Westmoreland-Fayette Workforce Investment Board



# M<sup>3</sup> Pilot Phase



Employees  
Career Ladders  
Learning Specifications

Financial Education  
Case Management



Tuition  
Books  
Curriculum



Grant Funding  
Special Needs



Career Ladder Support  
Books and Resources  
Coordination



# M<sup>3</sup>: Next Steps



Expand recruitment, inviting mothers who use Head Start services

Involve other corporate partners

Expand education institution partners

Support enrollees

Evaluate outcomes



# Mothers Making More • M<sup>3</sup>



*The Future Looks Bright...*  
when you have support to achieve your goals

You are invited to **Mothers Making More** Education, training, and support services for single working mothers who meet certain income and household guidelines

**INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m.  
Frick Hospital Board Room (4th floor)  
Sept. 21, 6 p.m.  
Westmoreland Hospital Administrative Dining Room (ground floor near cafeteria)  
Sept. 23, Noon  
Westmoreland Hospital Administrative Dining Room

Sessions last one hour.  
Refreshments provided

Learn how you can overcome barriers to advancing your career

Want to Attend?  
Contact: Annette Gold  
724.832.4561  
agold@excelahealth.org  
Respond by Sept. 16.  
Must be registered to attend.

**Mothers Making More**

This United Way partnership project targets single, head-of-households women with children under the age of 18, who are currently employed with Excelsa Health.



[www.unitedway4u.org](http://www.unitedway4u.org)

[http://unitedway4u.org/media/StatusWomenReport\\_FINAL.pdf](http://unitedway4u.org/media/StatusWomenReport_FINAL.pdf)