



Success Women's Conference 2016

Mississippi Low-Income Child Care Initiative

Biloxi, MS

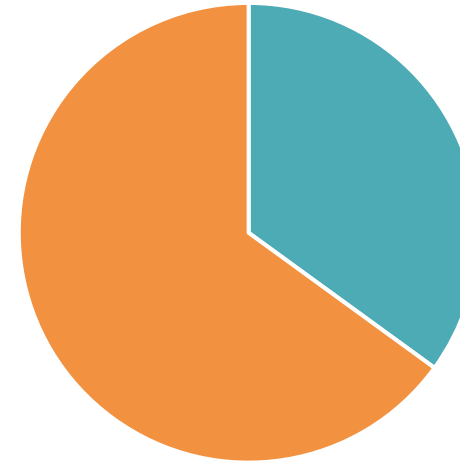
October 28th, 2016

MS Workforce



■ Men ■ Women

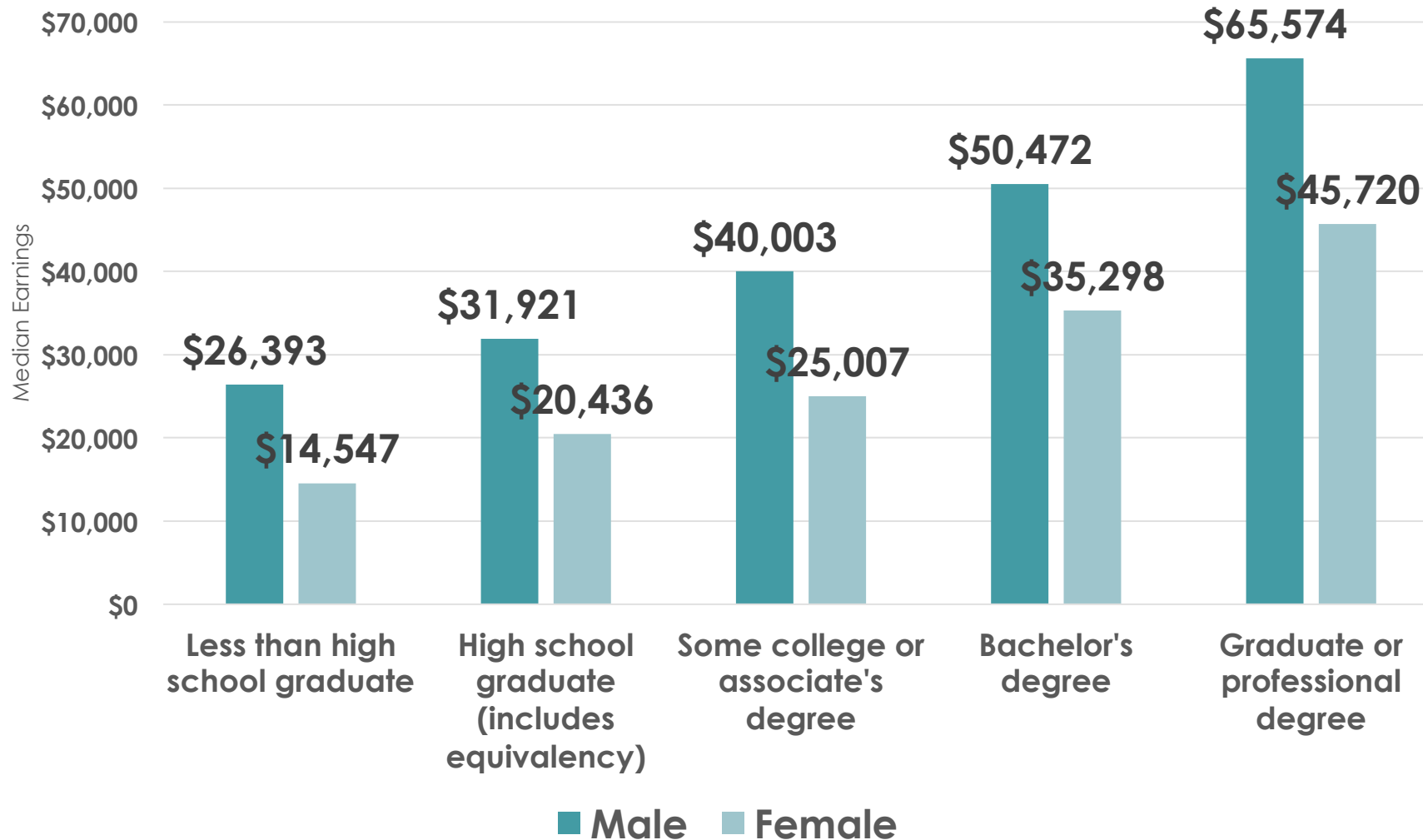
MS Minimum Wage Earners



■ Men ■ Women

MINIMUM WAGE LEAVES FAMILIES BELOW POVERTY
Mississippi Minimum Wage: \$7.25
Full-time Equivalent, 52 weeks/year: \$15,080
2016 Federal Poverty Level, Family of 2 (a mom and one child): \$16,020

Education Alone Doesn't Close the Gender Wage Gap



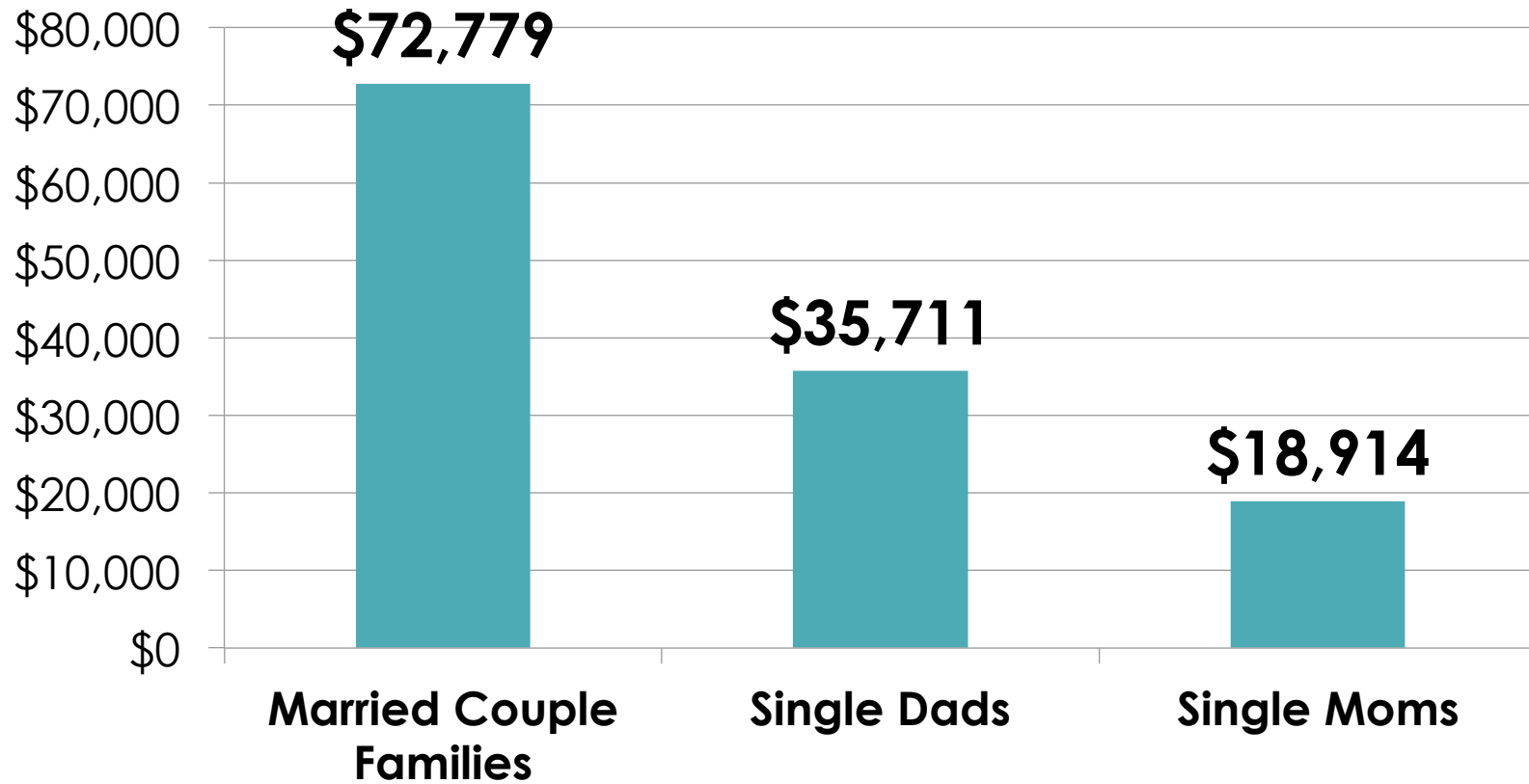
Women and Single Moms Below Poverty

• **51st** MS is ranked last in percent of women living above poverty
(IWPR)

• **55%** Single Moms with Children Under 5 Below Poverty
(2015 1-year ACS)

• **56%** of all people in poverty are women and girls
(2015 1-year ACS)

Single Moms Earn Least of any Families with Children Under 18



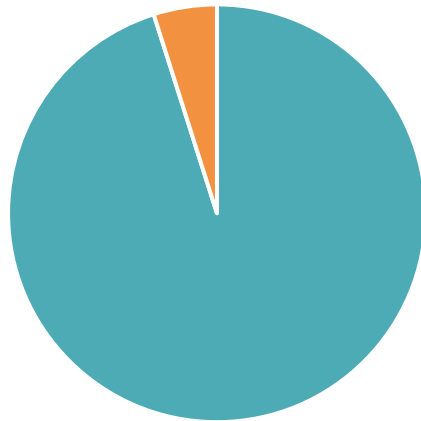
Child Care is a Proven Work Support

- Welfare recipients are 82% more likely to be working two years after leaving welfare **IF** they also received child care assistance subsidy
- Single mothers receiving child care assistance are more likely to be employed full-time than single moms not receiving assistance

High Cost of Child Care

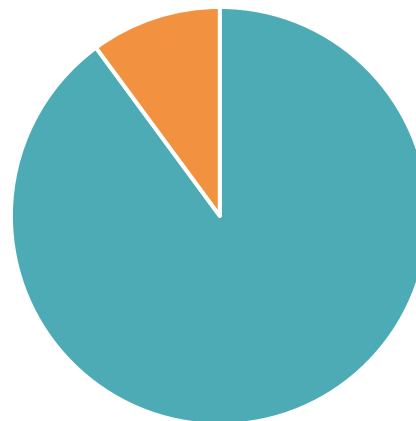
Average Annual Child Care Costs as a Percent of Median Family Income

Married Couples



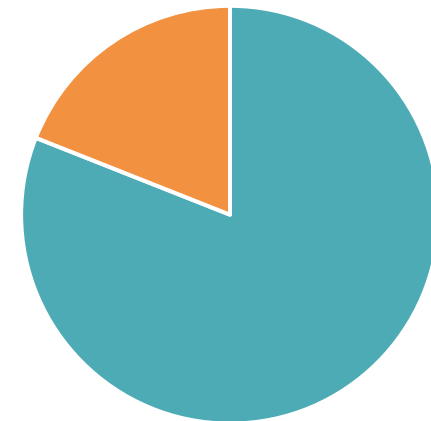
5%

Single Dads



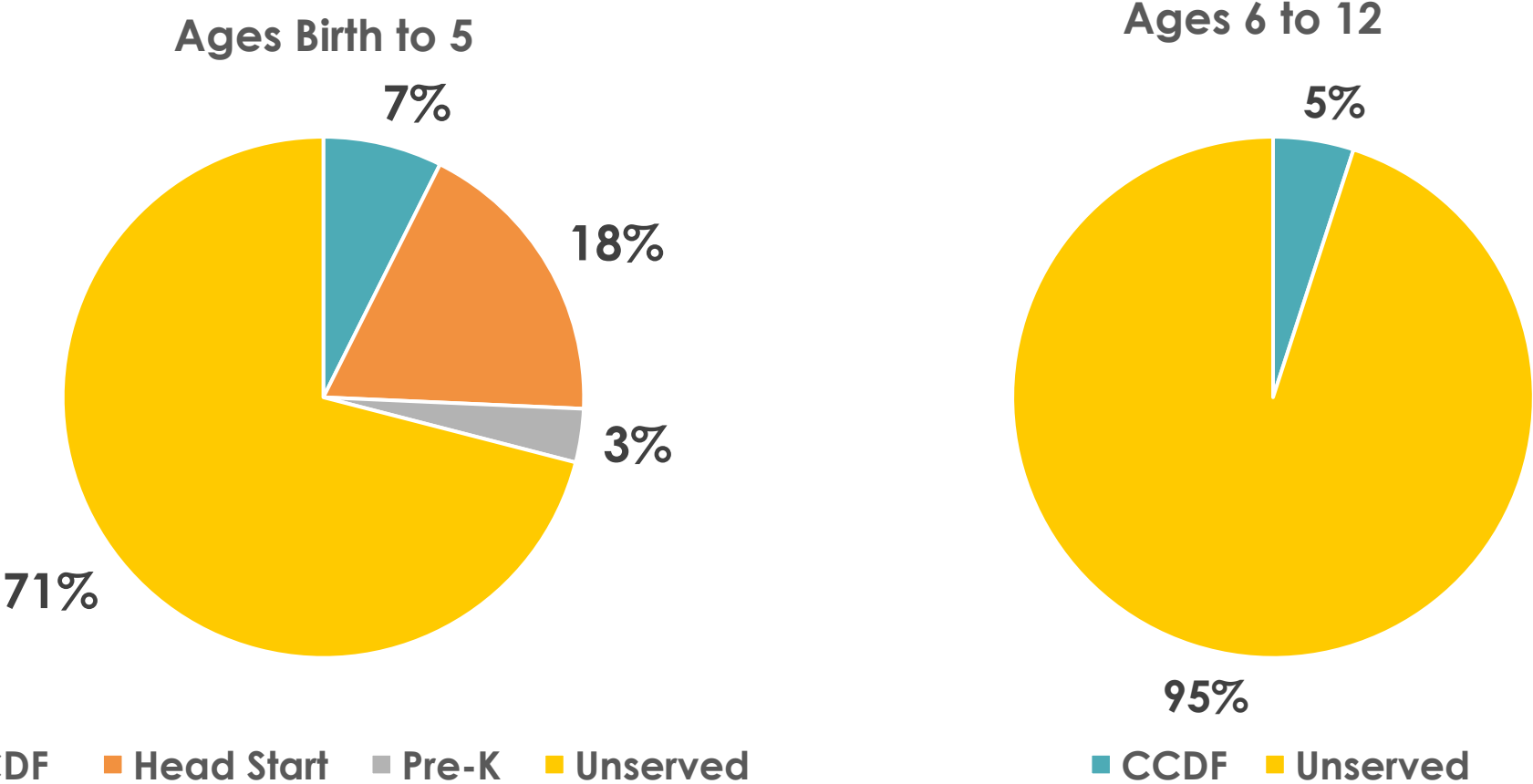
10%

Single Moms



19%

Child Care Assistance Reaches Few Eligible Children



MDHS has failed to use all available funds to expand the number of eligible families who need affordable child care services

Federal Fiscal Year	TANF - MS Unobligated Balance	Estimated Number of Children Total Could Serve
2010	\$30,545,051	8485
2011	\$8,889,324	2469
2012	\$12,867,051	3574
2013	\$7,865,405	2185
2014	\$21,167,665	5880
2015	\$35,780,085	9939

TANF as a Source of More Child Care Funding

- Currently spending \$19 million in TANF on child care
- FFY 2015, MS reported \$35.8 million in unobligated, unspent federal TANF funds
- Mississippi should give child care higher priority when spending TANF funds

Recommendations

- Spend more TANF funds on child care to **serve more children**
- Pay equity for women
- Job training for women leading to higher paying jobs
- Paid family leave



MLICCI Thanks You!

www.mschildcare.org