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Homeless children in Arkansas: Part One

Malcolm Glover (2009-04-13)



Our House resident Rob Parker and Executive Director Georgia Mjartan outside the Our House Child Development Center.

(UALR PUBLIC RADIO) – Most parents try to protect their children from some of life’s cruel realities, like broken relationships, sickness, discrimination, and even understanding of death. However, with the nation’s economy in a state of flux, poverty is on the rise and there are some parents who are unable to safeguard their children from experiencing homelessness.

One of every 50 children in America experiences homelessness and a new report by the National Center on Family Homelessness says most states have inadequate plans to address the growing problem. In the reports ranking system, Arkansas is in the bottom five with states that have poor performance in the areas of child homelessness per capita, child well-being, risk for child homelessness, and state policy and planning.

In part one of a two part series, FM 89’s Malcolm Glover goes inside Our House, a shelter community in Little Rock that tries to combat homelessness through a variety of child care, education, and job training programs for homeless children and families. [Click here](#) to learn more about Our House and its programs.