

May 17, 2012

## MEMORANDUM

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Coalition for Evidence-Based  
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### President

**Jon Baron**  
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TO: Board of Advisors of the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy

FROM: Jon Baron

RE: Update on our work

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I'm pleased to report that there have been several excellent press articles on evidence-based policy in the past few weeks, linked below. (The first two - in the *New York Times* - were among the Times' top 10 most-emailed articles in the days following their publication.)

1. [David Bornstein's piece in yesterday's \*New York Times\*](#) (5/16/2012) discussing the Nurse-Family Partnership and HHS's new evidence-based Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, and citing much of the Coalition's work in this area (including linking to our Top Tier panel [review](#) of the Nurse-Family Partnership, and our evidence [summaries](#) for other home visiting models).
2. [David Brooks' column in the \*New York Times\*](#) (4/26/2012), discussing Jim Manzi's recent book *Uncontrolled*, and calling for randomized controlled experiments across government to build credible evidence about what works.
3. [Daniel Stid's op-ed in the \*Washington Post\*](#) (4/25/2012) on the "social services industrial complex," discussing rigorous findings that many large federal social programs produce weak or no overall effects, as well as the promising new federal initiatives to redirect funds toward evidence-based program models. As you'll note, the Coalition's work is cited prominently.
4. [Steve Bell's op-ed in \*Roll Call\*](#) (4/25/2012), calling for greater use of rigorous - especially randomized - evidence to guide Congressional decision-making, and offering suggestions on how to assess the credibility of social science research.

Hopefully the call for evidence-based policy reform will continue to grow. We'll keep you posted.

Jon