

# A Study on Child-rearing Household Support Needs: A Questionnaire Survey of Households Using Food Banks in Shimane Prefecture

## **Abstract**

This study aims to investigate and identify various difficulties impoverished child-rearing households experienced post-COVID-19, using data from a questionnaire survey conducted on households using food banks in Shimane prefecture. Additionally, the survey examined specific support and services that could be offered to impoverished child-rearing households. Survey results revealed that the respondents were facing multiple life issues, such as household financial burdens, job insecurity, and difficulties in balancing work and child rearing. They also felt mentally burdened and isolated. In particular, families with children in junior high school and above experienced heavy financial burden due to school and education costs and had high needs for education support. Other necessary support measures include financial burden reduction measures and promoting childcare support, such as community dining (kodomo shokudou) to support building relationship among child-rearing households and the community.