

Guaranteed Basic Income and Housing

Implementation Workgroup Meeting

June 13, 2022

Attendees: Mary Wise, Rep Minor Brown, Rita Landgraf, Erin Nescott, Trenee Parker, Shayne, Meghann Karasic, Leah Woodall, Cailin Loyd, Janeen Boyce, Sue Ryan, Shayne Lewis, Ray Fitzgerald, Janeen Boyce, Mawuna Gardesey, Erin Nescott and Ana Bueno.

Approval Meeting Minutes May 9, 2022

Rep. Minor Brown moved a motion to approve minutes of meeting on May 9, 2022 previously sent by Ana to the workgroup. Rita Landgraf moved a motion to approve minutes. Mawuna Gardesey seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

GBI Status Report

Ana informed the workgroup that Liddy was out of the office as she lost her mother last week and proceeded to give a Status for the GBI Demonstration Project. Ana reminded members that the GBI program is going well and the cohort is full as it currently has 15 participants. She also presented preliminary data on April expenses made by GBI participants:

- All 15 cards are active
- Average Purchase Amount: \$43.63
- Almost 84% of funds have been spent to date
- 25% spent on food
 - When fast food and restaurants are combined, these account for 13% of expenditures
 - 12% of the funds were spent at grocery stores
- About 12% were third party transfers – we will explore these in our interviews in late June/July
- 8% on gas
- 4% at discount stores
- 4% on utilities

Ana mentioned that participants are not allowed to purchase alcohol and/or tobacco products and HMA has put a hold on the option to allow participants to transfer cash by using cash app or other apps. HMA is planning to ask participants if transfers are needed to decide if they should be allowed in the future. Meghan mentioned it was important to be careful with participants as the workgroup did not want to feel the participants were grilled about using the card as the GBI Program is meant not to create barriers for participants. She also added this option may be used by participants to transfer money to other person to buy groceries. Ana agreed and informed the workgroup that during the internal meeting HMA discussed the importance of being sensitive during the interviews not to make participants feel uncomfortable.

Rep. Minor Brown suggested to include a question during the interviews about the formula crisis as this may have had an impact on how participants used GBI funds. Cailin thanked Rep. Minor Brown and

noted HMA will add a question during their first set of interviews to find out if participants used the GBI card to buy formula.

Ana informed members that 25 participants will be added under the next cohort which will start on July 1, 2022.

Leah Woodall mentioned that DPH was able to add 25 participants due to funding received from ARPA funds. She also mentioned that DPH is working to address the formula shortage in Delaware using the current infrastructure under the GBI and HWHB. DPH is contracting with HMA to buy gift cards using the current account used for GBI and plans to work with current HWHB providers to get the gift cards out to provide help to women to buy formula.

Housing Program status update

Ana reminded the workgroup about decisions made up to today:

- Quality Insights will be doing the Case Management
- Stand By Me will be providing Financial Coaching
- St. Francis and Westside will be the two HWHB Providers to screen 1st and 2nd trimester pregnant women for housing insecurity program
- DEHAP is funding source for housing for 18 months and DPH for the other 6 months for a total of 24 months.
- Income eligibility will match DEHAP and or Arbor Management's eligibility (at or below 80% of area median income)
- Women must be in 1st or 2nd trimester who are homeless or housing insecure
- Women will be asked to be part of the evaluation with incentives

Ana informed the workgroup that the Housing Partners had a meeting on June 7, 2022, during this meeting partners worked on the referral process and agreed on how the program would work from beginning to end. Ana mentioned that she received an email from Denise Neale informing her that the application to prioritize pregnant women under the Tax Credit Program was declined but Denise is still willing to work with the program to try to house the women hoping they will still be eligible for housing under the tax credit program without the pregnancy prioritization.


Rita Landgraf mentioned she is meeting with Rep. Minor Brown to brainstorm on possible solutions to prioritize pregnant women.

Ana suggested to workgroup to continue with next steps assuming participants would be able to apply with Wilmington Housing Alliance and/ or Denise for Housing and reminded the workgroup on the need to have a definition for Homeless and Housing Insecure.

Ana mentioned to the workgroup that the GBI program uses the following to assess eligibility:

- Eligibility based on current income;
- Eligibility based on \$1,000 extra earnings per month
- HWHB High risk Zones

Based on notes and suggestions made last meeting workgroup members felt it was important to use HUD Definition for Homelessness:



Homeless Definition

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING HOMELESS	Category 1	Literally Homeless	<p>(1) Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; (ii) Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); <u>or</u> (iii) Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less <u>and</u> who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution
	Category 2	Imminent Risk of Homelessness	<p>(2) Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance; (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; <u>and</u> (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing
	Category 3	Homeless under other Federal statutes	<p>(3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Are defined as homeless under the other listed federal statutes; (ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing during the 60 days prior to the homeless assistance application; (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during in the preceding 60 days; <u>and</u> (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time due to special needs or barriers
	Category 4	Fleeing/ Attempting to Flee DV	<p>(4) Any individual or family who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence; (ii) Has no other residence; <u>and</u> (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

Meghan suggested Couch surfing to be included as homeless under category 1. Sue Ryan agreed.

Ray Fitzgerald suggested to be careful and consider there maybe conflict based on funding source. Marlena clarified that under DEHAP there is no definition for homeless.

Rita Landgraf moved a motion to approve the use of HUD’s definition for Homelessness and Housing Insecurity but adding Couch surfing under Category 1. Rep. Minor Brown seconded he motion. No one

opposed. No one abstained. Motion on homelessness and housing insecurity for Housing Program was approved.

Rita informed the implementation workgroup that she informed DHMIC of the work done and everyone is pleased about the level of engagement and the level of collaboration of the implementation workgroup. Rita thanked members for all their hard work to make the demonstration project a success.

Sue Ryan congratulated everyone and added that it is fantastic to see the amount of work done and to see how the concept or idea was formed and now made a reality.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm