

What Economic Security Looks Like and How to Get There

May 18, 2022
12-3 PM (eastern)



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In talking about the New Deal, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt painted a picture of what economic security should look like in America: “Liberty requires opportunity to make a living—a living decent according to the standard of the time, a living which gives man not only enough to live by, but something to live for.”

Without this opportunity, he continued, “life was no longer free; liberty no longer real; men could no longer follow the pursuit of happiness.”

This special event will feature strategies for ensuring that all Americans have adequate resources to “live by” and “something to live for.”

Agenda

Introduction

Proposals to reverse economic disadvantage typically fall into two camps: those designed to elevate income and others designed to cultivate a store of protective assets. But a broader perspective is emerging. Children from disadvantaged homes need policy solutions that simultaneously provide enough to survive the day and something to live for.

12:00 Sponsor Remarks

Jennifer Kelly, Policy Director, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

12:05 Framing Remarks

Michael Sherraden, George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor, Founding Director, Center for Social Development, Washington University in St. Louis

Charrette 1

The goal of the first charrette is to provide the theoretical and empirical foundation for a premise: Winning the war on poverty requires policies that offer children and families enough to survive today, as well as something to live for—a future. Income-based strategies typically focus on the former and asset-based strategies on the latter. In this charrette, leading scholars will discuss both approaches and the tendency to view them as mutually exclusive. The charrette will conclude with a moderated discussion on why that tendency must change.

12:15 Moderator's Introduction of Panelists

Trina Shanks, Harold R. Johnson Collegiate Professor of Social Work, Director, School of Social Work Community Engagement, University of Michigan

12:25 The Income Perspective (Survive Today)

Amy Castro, Assistant Professor of Social Policy and Practice, Founding Director, Center for Guaranteed Income Research, University of Pennsylvania

12:35 Five Freedoms, a Policy Proposal

Bob Casey, U.S. Senator for Pennsylvania

12:45 The Asset Perspective (Something to Live For)

William Elliott III, Professor of Social Work, Founding Director, Center on Assets, Education, and Inclusion, University of Michigan

12:55 Changing the Narrative

Tom Shapiro, Pokross Professor of Law and Social Policy, Brandeis University

1:05 Q & A

1:35 Intermission

Charrette 2

The goal of the second charrette is to move from explaining why a combined approach is needed to an understanding of how income and asset policies can be integrated to win the war on poverty and deliver on the American dream. Each presenter will discuss experiences in integrating these policies as part of a larger strategy for fighting poverty and delivering on the American dream. In a moderated discussion, they will consider how integration can be accomplished at the state and national levels, offering specific policy solutions.

- 1:40** **Moderator's Introduction of Panelists**
Debra-Ellen Glickstein, Executive Director, NYC Kids RISE
- 1:50** **Remarks by Bill Zavarello**, Policy Consultant and Advocate
- 2:00** **Remarks by Signe-Mary McKernan**, Vice President, Labor, Human Services, and Population, and Codirector, Opportunity and Ownership Initiative, Urban Institute
- 2:10** **Remarks by Connie Evans**, President and CEO, Association for Enterprise Opportunity
- 2:20** **Q & A**
- 2:50** **Wrap Up**
Michael Sherraden, George Warren Brown Distinguished University Professor, Founding Director, Center for Social Development, Washington University in St. Louis

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