

Social Determinants of Health Committee

9/10/24 | 9:03am | Zoom

Attendees—

Liddy Garcia-Bunuel

Marci Eads

Ray Fitzgerald

Emily Haas Katzen

Dr. Julius Mullen

Jennifer Pulcinella

Emily Cunningham

Kirsten Olson

Dr. Garrett Colmorgen

Nick Beard

Renee Fortune

Helen Arthur

Shebra Hall

Mawuna Gardesey

Brit Seidt

Minutes—

1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes

- **Time:** 9:02 AM
- Ray Fitzgerald called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the May meeting minutes.
- The motion was approved without opposition.

2. Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) Program Update

- **Overview:** Liddy Garcia-Bunuel provided an update on the GBI demonstration program.
 - 38 of 40 women have been disenrolled after two years of participation.
 - Participants received \$1,000 per month, split into two \$500 payments.
 - The final two participants will be disenrolled by mid-October, completing the project.
- **Evaluation Report by Marcy Eads:**
 - **Spending Breakdown:** One-third of the money was spent on food, 13% on rent, and the remainder on necessities such as clothing, transportation, utilities, and child care.
 - **Health and Wellbeing:** The program significantly reduced participant stress and improved physical and mental health. It also helped stabilize employment and housing.
 - **Return on Investment:** The GBI program achieved a 4.24:1 cost-benefit ratio, meaning every dollar spent generated over \$3 in returns to the state and community.
 - **Participant Feedback:** Strong relationships with case managers were key to the success of the program. Women reported improved relationships with their children and better overall stability.
- **Discussion:**
 - **Kirsten Olson** discussed the creation of a GBI Task Force to expand the program. The task force includes representatives from child welfare, public

health, and other sectors. A half-day retreat is planned for October to strategize advocacy efforts.

- The committee acknowledged the importance of GBI in empowering women to meet their own needs and manage resources effectively.
- **Additional Resources** for Kirsten Olson's GBI presentation:
 - **Contact Information:** Kirsten Olson, email: Kirsten.olson@cffde.org
 - **Parental Stress Advisory from the US Surgeon General:**
<https://www.hhs.gov/surgeongeneral/priorities/parents/index.html>

3. Housing Work Group Update

- **Presented by Ray Fitzgerald:**
 - The Housing Work Group has been meeting bi-weekly, focusing on three primary actions:
 1. **Data Collection:** Efforts are underway to collect data from various sources (e.g., clinical providers, managed care organizations, and shelters) to better understand housing insecurity among pregnant women.
 2. **Housing Pilots:** The group is exploring housing programs that prioritize pregnant women and ensure long-term support.
 3. **Centralized Intake Process:** Work is being done to streamline the intake process across Delaware's five housing authorities. This will simplify access to housing and ensure that applicants are better supported. Educational materials will be developed for all stakeholders, including participants and landlords.
- **Long-Term Goals:**
 - The ultimate goal is to help individuals transition into homeownership.
 - The group is also working to influence local zoning regulations to make it easier to provide affordable housing.
 - Collaboration with local champions and stakeholders will be essential to ensure the sustainability and expansion of these efforts.

4. Next Steps and Closing Remarks

- The GBI Task Force will continue its work, with opportunities for committee members to join advocacy efforts.
- The Housing Work Group will finalize its data collection and prepare a report to present to the incoming administration by November or December.
- **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 AM.