



San Francisco Guaranteed Income Advisory Group
May 14, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.
Online via Webex
Minutes

I. Call to Order:

Jacob Dumez called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. and gave remote meeting and public comment information.

- II. Meeting Attendees:** Amanda Fried, Gloria Berry, Jacob Denney, Jim Pugh, Norel Knowles, Shirley Yee, Roberto Vargas, Susie Smith, Dulce Garcia
Members Absent: Sheryl Davis, Bina Shirmali, Elena Chavez Quezada

III. Overview of the Field

Stephen Nuñez from the Jain Family Foundation gave an overview of guaranteed income pilots across the field. He shared that there is currently an enormous amount of interest in guaranteed income as compared to two or three years ago, partially because of the pandemic. He also shared that there are approximately a dozen GI pilots across the country in various stages of development and broadly reviewed them and their potential implications. Mr. Nuñez took questions from the Advisory Board members.

IV. Distribution, Benefits, and Taxation

Amanda Fried discussed the tax implications of GI and that it generally is not treated as taxable income if the money is provided as the “promotion of general welfare,” or consistent with the mission the organization. Payments cannot be in exchange for services.

Jacob Dumez reviewed strategies for distributing and protecting GI recipient safety net benefits. Some benefits are already protected such as MediCal, Social Security & SSDI, Unemployment Insurance. For programs such as CalWORKS, Housing, WIC, and CalFresh, the work thus far has been focused on seeking waivers and clarifying exemptions to exclude the GI money from a recipient’s income when calculating benefits.

V. Spotlight on Local Pilots: The Abundant Birth Project

Dr. Zea Malawa discussed designing The Abundant Birth Project, which is a cash supplement that will be launched in June 2021 and is a monthly stipend of \$1000 during pregnancy with 150 black and Pacific Islander pregnant people in San Francisco. She reviewed the Spectrum



of Public Participation and it was utilized to design the project including involving, collaborating with, and empowering community members. Dr. Malawa took questions from the Advisory Board members.

VI. Group Discussion: What Does this Mean for San Francisco?

Jim Push led the Advisory Board members in a discussion about what guaranteed income would mean for San Francisco. The group discussed the following questions:

- What are the opportunities for guaranteed income in San Francisco?
- What are the risks that we should be considering as we think about our work in San Francisco?
- What are the questions we still have that need to be answered for us to come up with the best plan of action?

VII. Public Comment

The advisory group took public comment. There was no public comment.

The next meeting will be on Friday, June 11 at 1pm. Send questions to Jacob Dumez or submit public comment at Jacob.dumez@sfgov.org.