

Report from OBC Poverty Task Force

December 14, 2015

**Moderator: Dave Underriner,
CEO Providence Health and Services and
Chair of OBC Poverty Task Force**

Agenda

- Overview of OBC Poverty Task Force work – Dave Underriner
- Report from OBC Poverty Team – Beverly Stein
- Research on 14-25 year olds in poverty and EITC – John Tapogna
- 2016 EITC Legislation – Rep. Keny-Guyer and Rep. Reardon
- Input for 2017 Legislative priorities – Melissa Rowe



OBC Poverty Task Force Report - 2015

OBC Approach to Reducing Poverty

- Goal: Reduce poverty below 10% by 2020 from current 17%
 - Build an economy with pathways for jobs for everyone who can work
 - Education and physical and mental health to be prepared to work
 - Build social capital to address communities of concentrated poverty
 - Improve the safety net --- recognize it takes income, assets, financial literacy, and good executive functioning to get out of poverty

Assumptions Underlying OBC Poverty Work

- **Segmentation is important** --- not all people who are poor are poor in the same way. OBC focus is on 14-25 year olds.
- Need combination of **on the ground work and policy research, support, and advocacy** --- the complexity of this issue requires continuous learning.
- **Multiple strategies are needed** that leverage each other---no one strategy will address poverty.
- **Cross sector collaboration and partnerships**--- this problem requires the attention of all sectors.

OBC Poverty Task Force Short Term: 2015 Legislative Agenda Highlights

- Redesign TANF: Rework income limits and earnings disregards to strengthen work incentives
- Expand access to Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) by increasing access for more children not currently served
- Increase the state EITC and Working Families Child Care Credit to build transitions from poverty to the middle class
- Extend and expand the Individual Development Account (IDA) Initiative to help low-income families save for housing and education
- Integrate mental health and addiction services into the CCOs

*Thanks to our partners: Neighborhood Partners, Children First for Oregon,
Hunger Free Oregon*

OBC Poverty Task Force: Long Term

- Long term agenda from Prosperity Design Lab
 - #Everyone In: Using the sharing economy to benefit low income people with United Way of Columbia Willamette
 - Lifelong Prosperity Accounting Tool: To help people plan and identify resources
 - Define Poverty: Define poverty to identify strategies that provide the most leverage
 - Communities of Concentrated Poverty: Develop proposals to impact communities of poverty (communities of color and rural communities)



Oregon Solutions Projects funded through OBC by Northwest Area Foundation

- Malheur County Poverty to Prosperity CTE project
- Jackson/Josephine Counties (Southern Oregon Success) post-secondary success project
- Klamath Tribes/Chiloquin community Early Literacy project

OBC Poverty Task Force Partners

- Worked with community partners in 2015 session on specific issues
 - Children First for Oregon
 - Hunger Free Oregon
 - Neighborhood Partners
 - Urban League (starting with 2016 session)
 - Who else for 2017?
- Working with Portland Business Alliance's Partners in Diversity to develop strategies for more quality jobs for people of color in manufacturing, skilled trades, and health care
- 2016 legislation to increase EITC utilization and frontload EITC for families with young children with Representatives Keny-Guyer and Jeff Reardon

Report from OBC Poverty Team

- Supports the OBC Poverty Task Force with research and project implementation
- Cross-sector team that includes OBC Poverty Task Force, PSU graduate students, retired professor, staff from Multnomah County DHS
- Led by Beverly Stein, OBC Poverty TF Coordinator and National Policy Consensus Center at Portland State University

Poverty Team Project Examples

- #Everybody In - overcoming social isolation and sharing resources for low income young parents – **JooYoung Oh**, Senior Consumer Insights and Strategy Specialist, Ziba
- Strengthening connections between workforce and safety net systems – **Stephen Reder**, Ph.D
- The Multnomah County Idea Lab – **Mary Li**, Director, Multnomah Idea Lab



#EVERYBODYIN

#EVERYBODYIN # THECOLLABORATORY #WHAT

(SHARING + TECHNOLOGY)
HAS BEEN BENEFITING
THE AFFLUENT POPULATION
SO FAR. HOWEVER, THIS IS
ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY
TO HELP PROBLEM-SOLVE
POVERTY.

#EVERYBODYIN # THECOLLABORATORY #WHY

SHARING BREEDS COMMUNITY,
SHARING CREATES SOCIAL
CAPITAL, SHARING DOESN'T
COME WITH SHAME.
IT EMPOWERS PEOPLE
TO HELP THEMSELVES.

#EVERYBODYIN # THECOLLABORATORY #BIGQUESTION

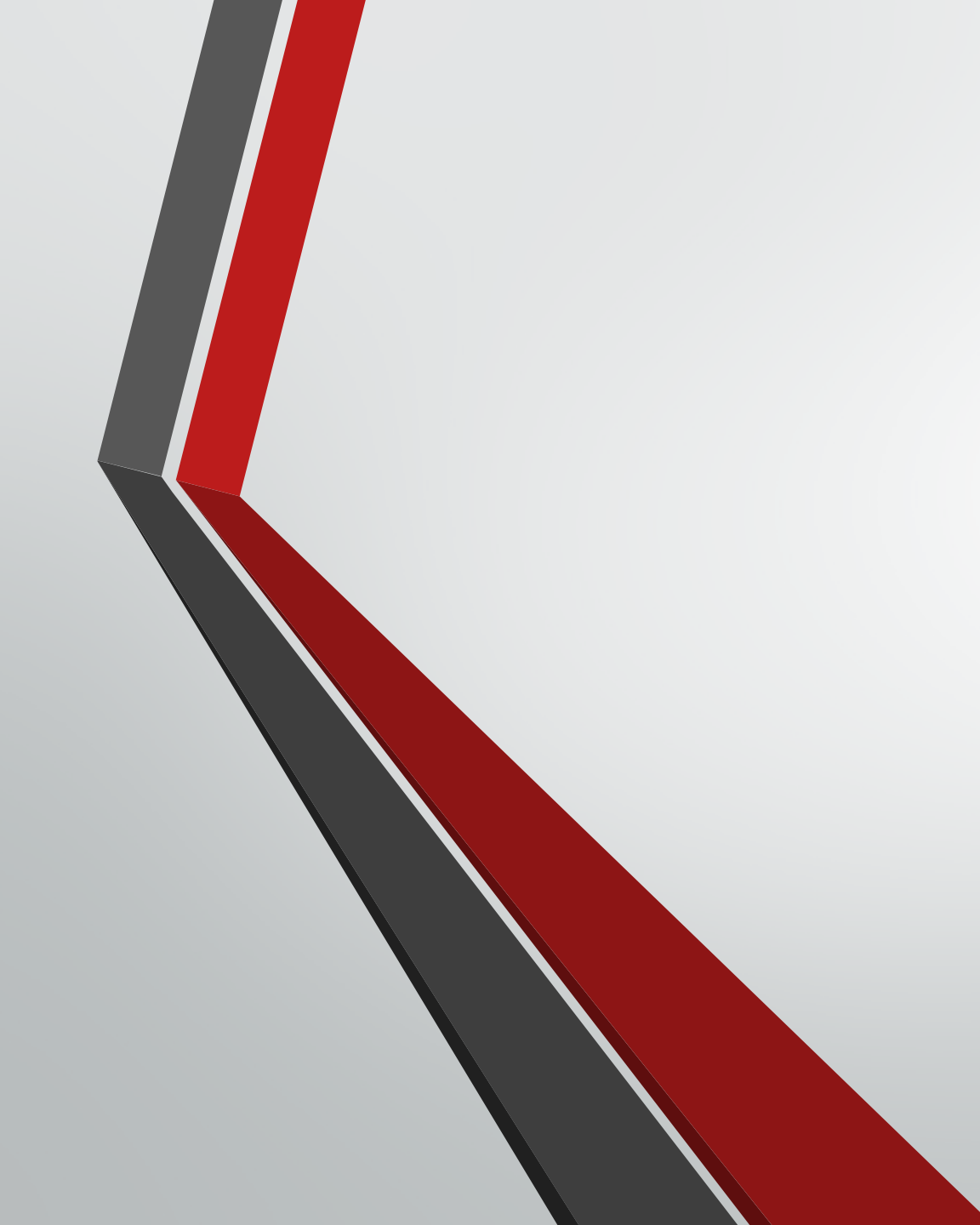
HOW MIGHT A SOCIAL
SHARING PLATFORM HELP
YOUNG, LOW-INCOME
PARENTS OVERCOME THEIR
ISOLATION & GAIN A SENSE OF
CONTROL AND SELF-WORTH?
(AND HELP THEIR CHILDREN)

#EVERYBODYIN # THECOLLABORATORY #HOW

LOCAL NON-PROFITS
EXPERIENCED
IN SUPPORTING PARENTS,
SHARING ECONOMY LEADERS,
& TECHNICAL EXPERTS WILL
CO-DESIGN IN JUNE

#EVERYBODYIN # THECOLLABORATORY #WHO

UNITED WAY OF COLUMBIA
WILLAMETTE WILL TAKE THE
LEAD WORKING WITH
BLACK PARENTS' INITIATIVE,
ZIBA AND MORE TO COME!



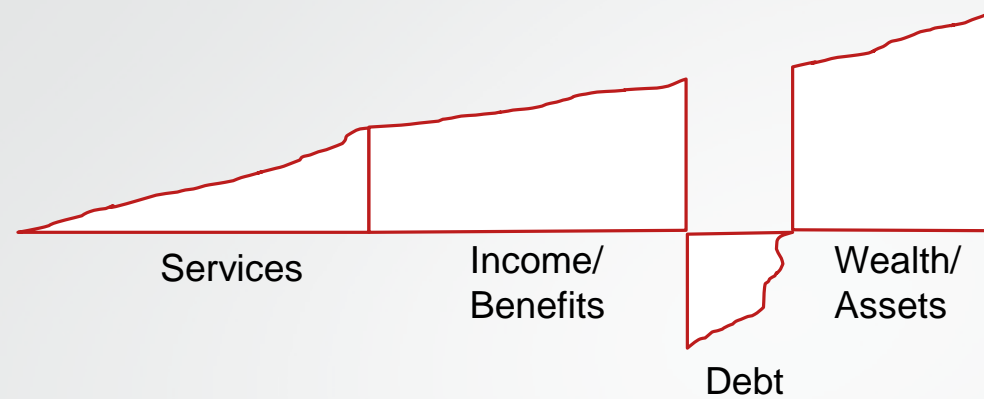
THE MIL:
Multnomah Idea
Lab

*Department of County Human
Services
Center for Policy + Innovation*



The MIL seeks active experimentation with new ideas for changing how we achieve our outcomes. It involves practices and inspiration from outside traditional human services, a search for solutions that includes the consumer, and a bias for action that moves us to test instead of talk.

Human Service Progress to the Future



Harvard and others say...

Prosperity = cash flow (income / costs) + wealth position (assets / liabilities)

Duke, New School, and others say...

Wealth = social wellbeing

The MIL says...

Effective government role in creating prosperity = human services + income + debt elimination + assets

Economic development through investment in human capital

Some early ideas:

**Earned
Income Tax
Credit**




**Assets
Scorecard**

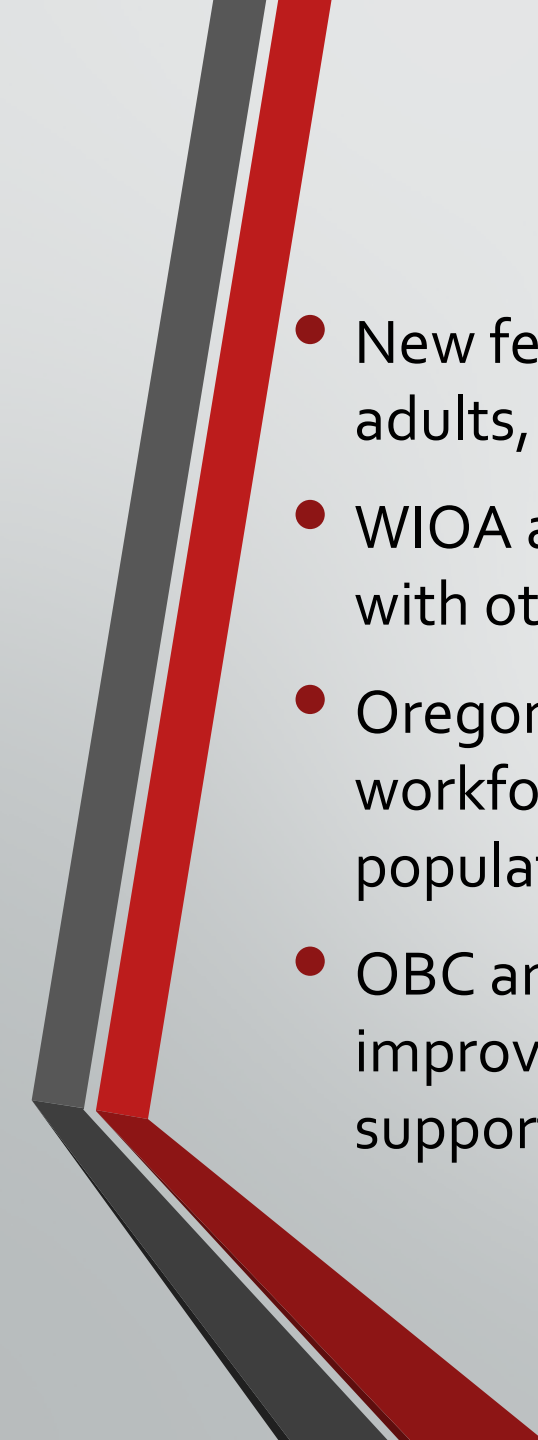
**Economic
Opportunity
Initiative**



Housing



**Oregon's Plan for the
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
(WIOA):
An Opportunity to Strengthen Connections
between Workforce Development and Other
Services**

- 
- New federal workforce legislation prioritizes serving low-income youth and adults, but leaves to the states how that is accomplished
 - WIOA allows but does not require states to coordinate workforce services with other state and local initiatives and services such as TANF and SNAP
 - Oregon soon submits a state WIOA plan that details service priorities for the workforce system and coordination with other services to low-income populations
 - OBC and poverty advocates see Oregon's WIOA plan as an opportunity to improve services that help low-income youth & adults move into family-supporting jobs

Recommendations for Oregon's WIOA Plan

- Require local workforce boards to allocate resources and target activities for low-income job seekers
- Incorporate coordination with other programs such as TANF, SNAP and Perkins into a comprehensive state plan
- Allow for flexibility but set clear requirements for expanding services for low-income job seekers needing training and foundational skills
- Ensure that performance measures used recognize the short-term progress individuals make before becoming more employable
- Use the Governor's 15% WIOA discretionary funds to incentivize innovation in connecting the workforce system with other state services to better assist low-income job seekers
- Strengthen services for youth

Earned Income Tax Credit-2016 Legislation

- Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
- Representative Jeff Reardon

What Do You Think will Reduce Poverty: 2017

Legislative Options

- At your tables you have a list of options for reducing poverty
- As a group discuss which you think would be the most effective
- Individually choose a package of seven options that you think together would have the biggest impact on poverty and mark them with a checkmark
- Add any of your own ideas and comments

Thank You!

- For more information see Oregon Business Council website:
<http://orbusinesscouncil.org/our-work/poverty-reduction/>