

Poverty and Policy

Understanding the causes, consequences, and current programs to address poverty in Montana and the U.S.

A Conference Sponsored by the Montana State University Initiative for Regulation and Applied Economic Analysis

Friday, April 7, Montana State University Procrastinator Theater

8:00 am Coffee & Check in

SESSION I: AN OVERVIEW OF POVERTY IN MONTANA AND THE U.S.

8:30 am **Welcome and Introduction**

Poverty in Montana: An Overview

8:45 am Presenter: George Haynes, Montana State University
Discussant: Patrick Barkey, University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research

Poverty, Inequality and Mobility: The National Picture

9:15 am Presenter: Ann Huff Stevens, University of California Davis Center for Poverty Research
Discussants: Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Brookings Institution and Northwestern University & Robert Doar, American Enterprise Institute (AEI)

10:00 am Break

SESSION II: THE INTERSECTION OF WORK, FAMILY, AND ASSISTANCE

Work and Assistance: How Do They Work Together?

10:15 am Presenter: Ron Haskins, Brookings Institution and University of North Carolina
Discussants: Robert Lerman, Urban Institute and American University & Jennifer Noyes, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Family Structure, Poverty, and Economic Growth

11:00 am Presenter: W. Bradford Wilcox, University of Virginia
Discussants: Angela Rachidi, AEI & Jennifer Noyes, University of Wisconsin-Madison

12:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm Remarks from President Waded Cruzado

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SESSION III: POLICY RESPONSES TO POVERTY – HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS

- 1:15 pm **Role of SNAP in Reducing Hunger and Poverty**
Presenter: Stacy Dean, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Discussants: Robert Doar, AEI & Diane Whitmore Schanzenbach, Brookings Institution and Northwestern University
- 2:00 pm **Medicaid: Past, Present, and Future**
Presenter: Joseph Antos, AEI
Discussants: Jonathan Skinner, Dartmouth College & Peter Buerhaus, Montana State University
- 2:45 pm Break

SESSION IV: RESPONSES TO POVERTY AMONG PARTICULAR GROUPS

- 3:00 pm **Poverty in Indian Country**
Presenter: Dick Todd, Center for Indian Country Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
Discussants: Joseph Gone, University of Michigan & Bill Yellowtail, Emeritus Katz Chair, Montana State University
- 3:45 pm **The Role of Social Enterprise in Creating Employment Opportunities for People Facing Barriers to Work**
Presenter: Carla Javits, REDF
Discussants: Robert Lerman, Urban Institute and American University & Kevin Corinth, AEI
- 4:30 pm **Wrap up and Discussion**
Moderator: Wendy Stock, Montana State University
Panelists: Heather Grenier, CEO, Human Resource Development Council Bozeman; Renee Reijo-Pera, Vice President for Research, Montana State University; Montana Wilson, Montana State University Student; Lawrence M. Mead, New York University.