RETHINKING THE SAFETY NET AFTER THE GREAT RECESSION

Brookings Institution, Falk Room
1775 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

April 27, 2011
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Agenda

10 AM  Introduction and Overview
        Ron Haskins, Brookings Institution and Sheldon Danziger, University of Michigan

10:30 AM  The Role of the Safety Net in Alleviating Poverty During the Great Recession
Moderator: Sheldon Danziger

Introduction
Ron Haskins and Donna Pavetti, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

What lessons can be learned from the ARRA programs and policies?
Don Winstead, Winstead Consulting and Jodie Levin-Epstein, CLASP

What can we learn from ARRA that we should carry into the future?
Linda Martin, State of South Carolina and Christopher O’Leary, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

12 PM  Lunch (provided)

12:30 PM  Assessing Our Investment: TANF Funding, Spending and Accomplishments in Good Times and Bad
Moderator: Gordon Berlin, MDRC

Spread too thin? Rethinking the Breadth and Scope of the TANF Block Grant
Donna Pavetti and Robert Doar, City of New York

Improving TANF’s Ability to Respond to the Recession: Redesigning the Contingency Fund
Elizabeth Lower-Basch, CLASP and Andy Bush, Exemplar Human Service, LLC.

2 PM  Maintaining a Focus on Work When Unemployment is High
Moderator: Donald Oellerich, ASPE

Job Opportunities for Less-Educated Workers
Harry Holzer, Georgetown University

How can state programs provide employment?
Jennifer Hrycyna, State of Illinois and Michael Hayes, State of Texas

3:30 PM  Wrap-Up
Moderator: Ron Haskins

Isabel Sawhill, Brookings Institution and Eloise Anderson, State of Wisconsin

This event is jointly sponsored by the National Poverty Center, Gerald Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan and the Center on Children and Families, Brookings Institution. Funds were provided by a grant from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.