



Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector

Guaranteed Income Advisory Group
Overview and Recommendations

July 2022



Advisory Group Members

Expertise in economics, finance, political science, or public policy, and experience researching and analyzing Guaranteed Income programs	1	Bina Shrimali, Federal Reserve Bank of SF
	2	Jim Pugh, Universal Income Project
	3	Jacob Denney, SPUR
Lived experience with poverty in San Francisco	4	Gloria Berry
Lived experience with poverty, under the age of 24	5	Norel Knowles
Experience serving low-income individuals, families, or youth, training and expertise in social, racial, or gender equity, intersectional problem-solving, or cultural humility	6	Elena Chavez Quesada, San Francisco Foundation
	7	Roberto Vargas, University of California, San Francisco
	8	Bina Shrimali, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco
Employees of the Office of Treasurer & Tax Collector, Human Rights Commission, and Human Service Agency	9	Amanda Fried, Office of the Treasurer and Tax Collector
	10	Sheryl Davis, Human Rights Commission
	11	Susie Smith, Human Services Agency



Shared Principles

- Be action-oriented and bold
- Seek transformational change, don't nibble around the edges
- Use what we know works, don't reinvent the wheel
- Do no harm
- Build the will to sustain the work
- Be grounded in community, data-informed, and accessible
- Shift thinking/framework from scarcity to abundance



Process

- Extensive background research, including 20+ stakeholder interviews
- Series of public meetings, including expert testimony and group discussion
- Community voice through recipient focus groups and stories from participants in multiple pilots
- Contributed to Mayor's Summit on GI and Economic Security
- Leveraged facilitation of Bay Area GI Group as well as participation in state and national communities of practices



Process

Meeting #1 (April): *Now is the Moment: Guaranteed Income and Economic Security*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#)

Meeting #2 (May): *What we know about Guaranteed Income*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#)

Meeting #3 (June): *Economic Insecurity, Safety Net, and Future of Work*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#)

Meeting #4 (July): *Developing Criteria for a Potential Guaranteed Income Pilot*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#) | [Video](#) about Designing the Abundant Birth Project

Meeting #5 (August): *Beyond Cash - Considering Longer-Term (and Radical) Solutions*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#)

Meeting #6 (October): *Where Do We Go from Here? Recommendations and Reflections*

[Agenda](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Video](#)

November - March

Draft and review report and recommendations, conduct focus groups with GI recipients



Recommendations



Coordinate and align through centralized guaranteed income unit

- **Establish a centralized staff function for guaranteed income**
 - Play a “quarterback” role
 - Supports evaluation and learning agenda
 - Leads on community research and planning
- **Create a community of practice to coordinate GI pilots and policy**
 - Include representatives from each pilot program in addition to key Departmental staff
 - Build from existing relationships, like the Bay Area GI Group convened by OFE



Center community voice in planning, implementation and evaluation

- **Focus on racial equity and periods of critical transition**
 - Utilize “life course” approach to help identify interventions
- **Support greater emphasis on community research and planning**
 - Implement and support community-driven planning processes
 - Leverage funder relationships and existing models
- **Change narrative from scarcity and “deservedness” to abundance and dignity**
 - Partner with funders and innovators
 - Develop consistent/cohesive message; employ storytelling
 - Prioritize partnerships and leadership capacity



Think big: pursue structural, sustainable, scalable strategies

- **Expand and strengthen cash supports through the tax system**
 - Lobby for preservation and expansion of Child Tax Credit, Earned Income Tax Credit; scale up Working Families Credit
- **Make deeper investments in assets for families and children**
 - Pilot “baby bonds” program through Kindergarten to College, increasing equity seed deposits to \$5,000 or more
- **Expand on reforms that increase access to public benefits**
 - Build on existing work to humanize social service delivery, reduce client burden, and increase takeup & retention