2019 Budget and Policy Briefing Agenda

Thursday, February 21, 2019

9:30-10:00am  Breakfast and Registration

10:00-10:30am  Welcome and Introductions
    •  Bob Shull, Program Director for Workers’ Rights, Public Welfare Foundation

10:30-11:00am  Table Discussions
    Working in small groups, participants will identify pressing concerns and strategies for moving the needle in 2019.

11:00-12:15pm  Federal Policy, Budget and Revenue Outlook – What’s in store during the 116th Congress
    Noted tax and budget policy expert Bob Greenstein will provide an overview on the key provisions in the federal budget, discuss current and upcoming budget debates, and offer insights on the potential impact on struggling families, workers and communities.
    •  Noah Berger, Director, Policy Reform and Advocacy, The Annie E. Casey Foundation (moderator)
    •  Robert Greenstein, founder and President, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

12:15-1:15pm  Lunch

1:15-2:15pm  State Policy Outlook for Workers and Families
    As gridlock stalls federal-level efforts, new federalism continues to push key policy decisions to states and localities, and the fall 2018 elections ushered in a host of new state leaders, philanthropy is increasingly focused on state policy landscapes as a mechanism to improve conditions for workers and families. This session will provide an opportunity to explore key battles and opportunities in the states, the role of state policy in improving equity, opportunities to build power to inform federal policy, and what is at stake in 2019.
    •  José García, Program Officer, Future of Work, Ford Foundation (moderator)
    •  Michael Leachman, Senior Director of State Fiscal Research, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
    •  Thea Lee, President, Economic Policy Institute
2:15-2:45pm  **Table Discussions**
Participants will have time to reflect on previous sessions and consider the following questions.
- What stood out to you after hearing about the Federal and State landscape?
- Which policies most resonate with your work?
- How might the reflections from speakers impact your work moving forward?

2:45-3:00pm  **Break**

3:00-3:30pm  **Making the Case for Government and Taxes**
The public sector is under attack, with the Federal Government being held hostage as leverage for political ends, deep budget cuts proposed to government health-care and social-service spending, and tax reform policies that disproportionately benefit wealthy households and profitable corporations. Key findings will be shared on communications approaches that lead to greater support for a government for the people and by the people, equitable tax reform and increases to revenue streams that are crucial to so many of our policy goals.
- Meg Bostrom, Co-founder, Topos Partnership

3:30-4:30pm  **Money Matters: Building Public Will to Increase State Revenues**
While the philanthropic sector does much to improve the lives of low-income communities and families, public expenditures far outpace the level that philanthropy will ever achieve. Advocates working on the environment, the economy, health care, or education all face the same challenge: how to make the case for protecting and increasing public resources. Panelists will share concrete examples of current efforts to increase revenues for key public investments and learnings from proactive revenue campaigns in California (connected to new organizing at the state and local level around child care) and Maine (centered on building an inclusive economy).
- Caitlin Hamood, Program Officer, Stoneman Family Foundations (moderator)
- Mary Ignatius, Statewide Organizer, Parent Voices
- Garrett Martin, Executive Director, Maine Center for Economic Policy

4:30-5:00pm  **Closing and Adjourn**
Reflections and key take-a-ways will be shared. The meeting will close with a performance by Songrise, a DC-based women’s social justice a cappella group.
- Terri D. Wright, PhD, MPH, Vice President for Program and Community, Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation

5:00-6:30pm  **Reception (at FHI)**
Participants are invited to stay for an informal reception to network and socialize. Drinks and light hors d’oeuvres will be served.
Friday, February 22, 2019

8:30-9:00am  Breakfast

9:00-9:30am  Welcome and Reflections
-  Anna Wadia, Senior Program Officer, Future of Work Ford Foundation

9:30-11:00am  Building an Inclusive Economy: The Future of Work and Workers
Work is changing. The protection we offer workers needs to change as well. How do we mobilize workers and restructure the workplace as the contingent/fissured economy expands? What policy avenues are local groups considering?
-  Erica Smiley, Co-Executive Director, Jobs With Justice (moderator)
-  Lauren Jacobs, Executive Director, Partnership for Working Families
-  Emily Martin, Vice President for Education and Workplace Justice, National Women’s Law Center
-  Laura Padin, Senior Staff Attorney, National Employment Law Project

11:00-11:15pm  Break

11:15-12:30pm  Building an Inclusive Economy: The Future of Social Protections
As the economy and the nature of work changes, so must our social safety net policies. While privately and publicly provided social protections have been evolving, are they evolving to meet the needs of workers and their families? How can social protections be re-imagined to meet their needs and advance equity and inclusion?
-  Ryan Canney, Program Officer, Wellspring Philanthropic Fund (moderator)
-  Indivar Dutta-Gupta, Co-Executive Director, Center on Poverty and Inequality and the Economic Security and Opportunity Initiative; Adjunct Professor of Law, Georgetown Law
-  Natalie Foster, Co-chair of Economic Security Project and Senior Fellow at Aspen Institute Future of Work Initiative
-  K. Sabeel Rahman, President, Demos

12:30pm  Closing and Adjourn
-  Anna Wadia, Senior Program Officer, Future of Work Ford Foundation

12:30-1:30pm  Open Networking Lunch
Boxed lunches will be available for participants.
Follow Funders for a Just Economy on Twitter: @FundJustEconomy

Appreciation to our terrific planning committee for their time and leadership in shaping this event!

Caitlin Hamood, Stoneman Family Foundations
Bob Shull, Public Welfare Foundation
Anna Wadia, Ford Foundation
Terri Wright, Meyer Foundation

Many thanks to FHI 360 for providing the space!