

Providence Guaranteed Income Initiative



What is Guaranteed Income?



Guaranteed Income is...

- A monthly, recurring cash payment given directly to individuals. It is unconditional, with no strings attached and no work or education requirements.
- Not universal, and is generally targeted to address the deep wealth and income inequality in our society.
- Intended to supplement, not replace, the existing social safety net.



Providence Pilot Program



Administering Agencies

amos

HOUSE



DORCAS INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF RHODE ISLAND



Pilot Basics

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| \$500/ month | 110 households | 12 months |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|



Income Eligibility

200% of the Federal Poverty Level

| Size of household | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 200% of FPL | \$25,760 | \$34,840 | \$43,920 | \$53,000 | \$62,080 | \$71,160 | \$80,240 | \$89,320 |



Application Process



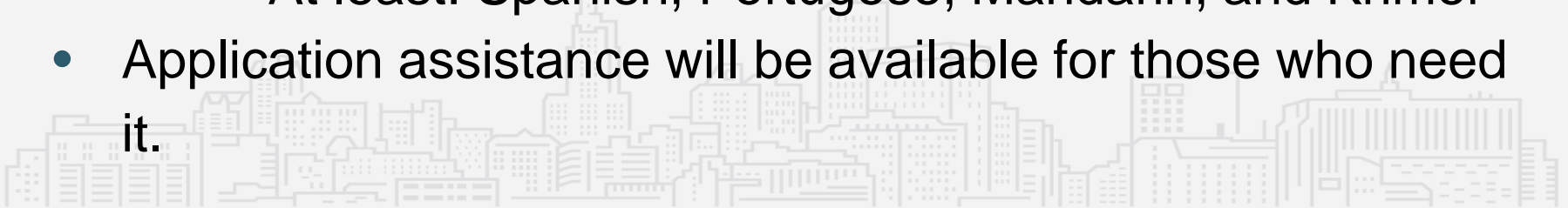
- Applications will be open from August 15-21
- Any city resident with income below 200% of the FPL is eligible to apply.
- Lottery will give special weight to:
 - Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color
 - Families with Children
- No questions about immigration status
- No documentation required. Relying on self-verification.



Application Process (cont'd)



- Application survey will be available online, in paper, and by phone.
- Paper applications will be available at Application Assistance Sites and City Hall.
- Applications will be available in multiple languages
 - At least: Spanish, Portuguese, Mandarin, and Khmer
- Application assistance will be available for those who need it.



Application Assistance



- Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance (AMOR)
- Amos House
- Center for Southeast Asians
- Dorcas International
- Genesis Center
- Higher Ground International
- Providence Community Library
- Reentry Campus Program
- RI Coalition to End Homelessness
- Sista Fire
- West End Community Center

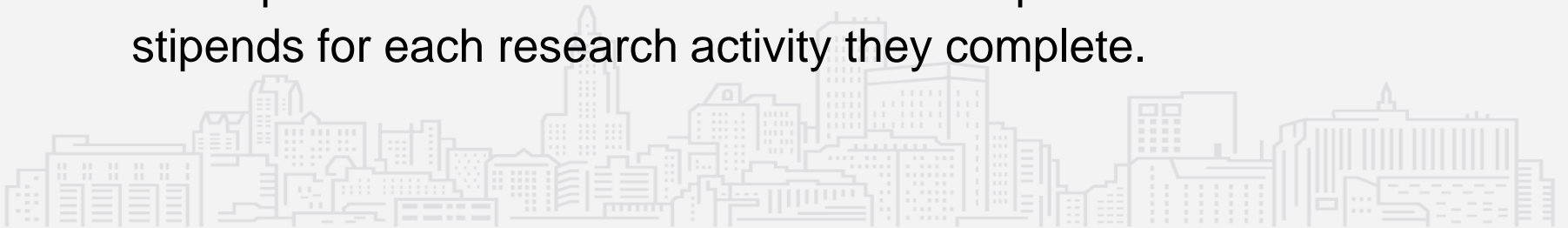


Research



Our pilot will be evaluated by the Center for Guaranteed Income Research (CGIR) at University of Pennsylvania.

- There will be a control group.
- Applicants will first be randomly selected to participate, then be randomly sorted into control or intervention group.
- Participants in Control and Treatment Group will both receive small stipends for each research activity they complete.



Timeline

- Kicking off 5 weeks of intensive outreach and publicity efforts.
 - Will be hosting community meetings with partners throughout city.
- Applications will be available August 15-21
- 8-10 weeks for onboarding and benefits counseling
- First payments will go out Mid-October or Mid-November.



Other Benefits



Guaranteed Income **will not** impact:

- RI Works
- Child Care Assistance
- Medicaid
- Medicare
- SSI/DI
- Tax credits (EITC, CTC)
- Emergency Rental Assistance
- LIHEAP
- Unemployment Insurance



Other Benefits



Guaranteed income **MAY** impact:

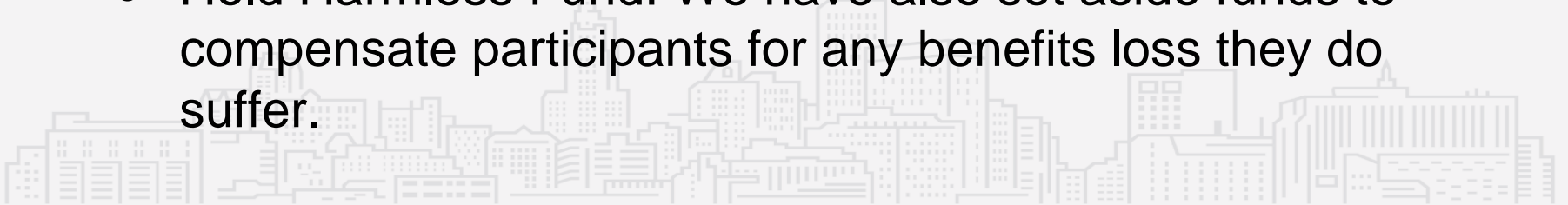
- SNAP
- WIC
- Housing subsidies or vouchers
- General Public Assistance



Other Benefits

2 other strategies for navigating potential benefits loss:

- **Benefits counseling:** Every selected participant will have the opportunity to meet with a benefits counselor to go over how this income will impact their specific benefits
- **Hold Harmless Fund:** We have also set aside funds to compensate participants for any benefits loss they do suffer.



Payments



Applicants will have two options for receiving payments:

- 1) Applicants will be able to set up direct deposits to their bank account using the STEADY App
- 1) Applicants will also be able to receive payments on a reloadable debit card



Frequently Asked Questions



Q: How will we pay for this Pilot?



A: Private Philanthropy



Our funders include:

- Jack Dorsey's Start Small Initiative
- Rhode Island Foundation
- United Way of Rhode Island
- ONE Neighborhood Builders

NO public municipal funds are being used for this pilot.



Q: Who designed this pilot?



A: Work Group



Internal Staff From:

- Policy Office
- Healthy Communities Office
- Office of Economic Opportunity
- Department of Communications
- Department of Innovation
- Office of Community Relations



External Members from:

- State Department of Human Services
- United Way of RI
- Economic Progress Institute
- RI Kids Count
- Direct Action for Rights and Equality (DARE)
- Corporation for National & Community Service (AmeriCorps)
- Alliance to Mobilize Our Resistance (AMOR)
- Providence Youth Student Movement
- Rhode Island Foundation
- African American Ambassadors Group
- One Neighborhood Builders
- Providence Housing Authority
- RI Coalition to End Homelessness
- Amos House (administering agency)
- Dorcas International (administering agency)

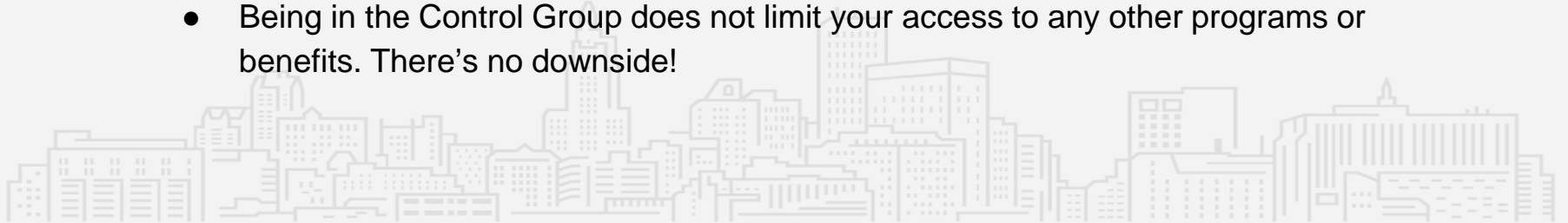


**Q: Why should I apply
when I might be selected
for the control group?**



A:

- The Control Group is VITAL for our ability to understand how Guaranteed Income impacts recipients over time.
 - For example, in Stockton, researchers were able to compare the change in full-time employment among recipients to change in full-time employment amongst members of the control group. That allows us to see that recipients experienced a much larger increase in full time employment.
 - This research will help us build the argument for the expansion of guaranteed income pilots into permanent programs at the city, state, and federal levels.
- Members of the control group will receive stipends for every research activity they complete.
- Being in the Control Group does not limit your access to any other programs or benefits. There's no downside!



Will participants' information be protected?



A: Yes - participants information will be kept confidential.

Participants will be able to opt-in to share their story with the media **if they want to.**



Thank you!

- PVDGI.com for info and to sign up for alerts
- Follow: @mayorsforagi and @Jorge_Elorza to stay up to date
- Email questions to hkahn@providenceri.gov or pspann@amoshouse.com