

Poverty Research Initiative Committee Minutes
Monday, November 1, 2021, 3:30pm – Teams Meeting

Attendees:

Manoj Babu
Jessica Zemlac
Lora Reinholz
Dinesh Sabu
Marilyn Frenn
Gabe Velez
Aleks Snowden
Jeanne Hossenlopp
Dan Bergen
Lucas Torres

Unable to attend:

Kent Belasco
Ashley Deutsch
Alexandre Martins

1.) Update re: SDC Summit on Poverty (Group)

- a. Manoj - attended a session re: addressing poverty at a deeper level, utilizing data, and approaching businesses using the data; will use the data as he works with Feeding America
- b. Aleks – SDC Summit was an “incredible experience”; felt really privileged to be present at the event; stood out to her: how insightful all of the keynotes were
 - i. Dan – request the keynote videos from Abra
- c. Gabe – SDC Summit was really valuable – small group setting was positive; following up with a couple of folks with whom he is going to meet.
- d. Marilyn – amazed that we have this conference/event in MKE
 - i. References for the speakers

2.) Discussion of SDC Opportunities (Lucas Torres)

- a. Helping to build the research arm of the Social Development Commission – the mission has always had a strong research component to eradicate poverty and make systemic policy changes
- b. Strong partners and investing money in the initiative
- c. The institute is still in its infancy – seeking to find experts to help build and advance the initiative; partner with SDC to seek extramural funds – SDC will be the centerpiece of the grant proposals
- d. What are going to be indicators of success?
- e. Opportunity to help shape a research agenda for the SDC
 - i. Shape the agenda and be more specific about how SDC can focus their research in MKE and drive their research portfolio; health, housing, mental health, economic development.
- f. Opportunity for us to come together around a cohesive research focus – specific, unique ideas related to the City of MKE; here’s some ways to fund something like this;
- g. Develop a cohesive research focus related to ideas (next steps) – who could lead?
 - i. Idea: Community Assessment? - working with Kristin Haglund and Abiola Keller – doing a NWS community assessment;
 - ii. Consider trauma, economic well-being, health

3.) November-December Event

- a. Social Event (Informal) -- Week of December 6, 2021, 4pm - share the report Lucas provided as a pre-read for the Social Event

- i. Create a wipe board – invite people to scrawl their thoughts and ideas on a board
 - 1. **Topics**
 - 2. **Methodologies**
 - a. *Photovoice?*
 - i. Community Assessment -recruiting community members to share how poverty is impacting them?
 - ii. Provide a picture of expertise related to
 - iii. 185 character capturing your research – one-liner
 - iv. Group people doing research on poverty or systemic racism and request images/content
 - b. Lightning Talk (Formal) – build out a more cohesive event
 - c. Dinesh – thinking through from a creative practice perspective; incorporate the practice and film-making more broadly
 - ii. Manoj to work on logistics with Dan
- b. Brenda Campbell, president, [Secure Futures](#) (Lora Reinholz)
 - i. Dan to share PPT deck with team
- c. Katie Martin, author, [Reinventing Food Banks](#) (Partnership w/ Children’s Wisconsin)

4.) Ignatian Year

5.) Additional Offices

6.) Next Steps