CEAR and DBEL Workshop

Portfolios of Atlanta’s Poor Project Launch

Thursday, November 29, 2012

General Information

The Center for Economic Analysis of Risk, in partnership with the Dean’s Behavioral Economics Lab, the Department of Risk Management and Insurance, and the Economics Department at Georgia State University, is launching the Portfolios of Atlanta’s Poor (PAP) research project.

The overall goal of the PAP project is to identify and test interventions that have the potential to provide manageable and financially-sustainable adjustments to the existing set of solutions to poverty and social problems in Atlanta. The PAP project is motivated by the vision that behavioral and experimental economics can help us understand why people underutilize helpful programs, products and/or services, who is more or less likely to participate, and how the programs, products and/or services might be tweaked to better serve everyone. Among those who participate, it can help us understand who the intervention helps, and for whom there need to be changes in the intervention to generate success.

An essential foundation for this new large-scale research project is to build a network of collaborators in the Atlanta area. This workshop will start with an overview of the PAP project, and will end with a panel discussion intended to provide feedback on the ideas presented. During the rest of the workshop, we will hear from representatives from several institutions and organizations that either do research or are engaged at the ground-level, providing solutions to poverty problems in Atlanta.

The purpose of the workshop is to bring potential collaborators together to discuss similarities and differences in philosophy, methodology, client characteristics, and geographic coverage area. Also, the PAP advisory group will begin to assess which organizations have programs suitable for us to work with during our pilot study period next year, and which organizations have programs that are more suitable for collaboration during a later stage, 6 months to a year from now.

Organizers

Elisabet Rutstrom, Glenn Harrison, and John Thielman (GSU) are the organizers of this workshop. Funding is being provided by the Center for the Economic Analysis of Risk (CEAR) at Georgia State University. See cear.gsu.edu for more information on CEAR. Contact John Thielman at jthielman@gsu.edu about the substance of the workshop, and contact Mark Schneider at cear@gsu.edu with questions about participation and logistics.

Dates & Times

Thursday, 11/29/2012 – 9:00am to 5:00pm. Refreshments and lunch will be provided by CEAR.

Contact Mark Schneider at cear@gsu.edu for special dietary needs.

Location

The CEAR Seminar Room is on the 11th floor of the J. Mack Robinson College of Business at Georgia State University. Here is a map link to CEAR; the physical address is 35 Broad Street, 11th Floor, Atlanta, GA 30303.
**Directions**

*MARTA Subway:*

CEAR is located 1 block North of the Five Points Marta Rail Station in Downtown Atlanta; one-way Rail Ride cost $2.50. Tickets can be easily purchased from vending machines at all MARTA stations. This is by far the easiest method, and is on a direct line to Atlanta International Airport. Here is a map of the [MARTA rail system](#).

**Driving:**

From Interstate 75/85 (the connector) going NORTH take exit 248B for Edgewood Ave toward Auburn Ave / J W Dobbs Ave. Turn left at Edgewood Ave SE and proceed 0.7 miles. Turn right at Marietta St. NW. The next intersection is Broad St. and where our facility is located. There is no street parking available nearby; however, there are pay lots and garages nearby. Costs range from $5 to $10 depending on the lot/garage used.

From Interstate 75/85 (the connector) going SOUTH take exit 248D for J W Dobbs Ave toward Jesse Hill Dr. Slight left at Jesse Hill Jr. Dr. NE. Turn right at Edgewood Ave SE and proceed 0.6 miles. Turn right at Marietta St. NW. The next intersection is Broad St. and where our facility is located. There is no street parking available nearby; however, there are pay lots and garages nearby. Costs range from $5 to $10 depending on the lot/garage used.

**Presentations by**

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<th>United Way of Greater Atlanta – Regional Commission On Homelessness</th>
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<td>Literacy Action, Inc.</td>
<td>Rich Rothenberg (GSU, School of Public Health)</td>
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<td>Operation HOPE Atlanta</td>
<td>Lesley Reid (GSU, Dept. of Sociology)</td>
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<td>Sconiers Homeless Preventive Organization, Inc.</td>
<td>Susan Kelley (GSU, School of Nursing and Health Professions)</td>
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<td>Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia</td>
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Program
Thursday 11/29/2012

9:00 – 9:30 Coffee

9:30 – 10:00 Opening Welcome (Glenn Harrison) and Visions (Elisabet Rutstrom)

10:00 – 11:00 Presentations: Financial Literacy and Financial Planning (4)
- Operation HOPE (Jay Bailey)
- Catholic Charities Atlanta (Jamie Lackey)
- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Eileen Parker)
- The Center for Working Families (Olivia B. Alston)

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee

11:15 – 12:00 GSU Research Projects (3)
- Healthy Grandparent Project (Susan Kelley)
- Sex, Drugs and HIV (Rich Rothenberg)
- The GSU Urban Health Initiative (Lesley Reid)

12:00 – 12:30 Open discussion about collaboration and possibilities (Moderator: Carter Elliott)

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 2:45 Presentations: Financial Literacy and Financial Planning (5)
- Emmaus House (Heather Infantry & Katie Bates)
- Families First (Timothy Bradley)
- Zaban Couples Center (Patricia Smith)
- Sconiers Homeless Preventative Organization (Rosalind Sconiers)
- SUMMECH CDC (Janis L. Ware)

2:45 – 3:00 Coffee

3:00 – 4:00 Presentations: Risks Other Than Financial (4)
- Literacy Action (Ryan Hall)
- Georgia Avenue Community Ministry (Gail Blumberg)
- United Way of Greater Atlanta, RCOH (Rorie Scurlock)
- Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (Tamara Serwer Caldas)

4:00 – 4:45 Open discussion about collaboration and possibilities (Moderator: Charlotte Alexander)

4:45 – 5:00 Closing (Glenn Harrison)