



THE HEALTH DIVIDEND

CAN UNCONDITIONAL BASIC INCOME ADDRESS HEALTH INEQUITIES?

Brocher Foundation Expert Workshop

23-24 May 2023

Brocher Foundation
Hermance, Switzerland

Organisers:

Jurgen De Wispelaere
Douglas MacKay
Vida Panitch



COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Public Policy





Schedule of Events

Monday 22 May

Dinner at Brocher Foundation

Tuesday 23 May

- 7:30-9:00 Breakfast
- 9:00-10:15 Session 1 | Basic Income and Health Inequity**
- 10:15-10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45-12:00 Session 2 | Health Outcomes and Pathways**
- 12:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 Session 3 | Basic Income and Mental Health**
- 15:15-15:45 Coffee break
- 15:45-17:00 Session 4 | Basic Income, Gender and Health**
- 19:00 Dinner

Wednesday 24 May

- 7:30-9:00 Breakfast
- 9:00-10:15 Session 5 | Basic Income and the Pandemic**
- 10:15-10:45 Coffee break
- 10:45-12:00 Session 6 | Health Dividends as a Political Strategy**
- 12:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-15:15 Session 7 | Health and Basic Income Experiments**
- 15:15-15:45 Coffee break
- 15:45-17:00 Session 8 | Future Directions in Research**
- 17:00 Farewell



Detailed Program | Day 1

Session 1 | Basic Income and Health Inequity

Chair: Douglas MacKay

Speakers: Carina Fourie, Douglas MacKay, Daniel Weinstock

Health inequities are inequalities in health that are unfair. This session will clarify and explore different approaches to identifying health inequities, and will investigate the potential for basic income to address them.

Session 2 | Health Outcomes and Pathways

Chair: Vida Panitch

Speakers: Salla Atkins, Marcia Gibson, Gloria Sanchez-Cuevas, Nicole Valentine

This session will discuss the social determinants of health, and will examine the different causal pathways through which basic income might impact health outcomes at the individual, community, and population level.

Session 3 | Basic Income and Mental Health

Chair: Douglas MacKay

Speakers: Troy Henderson, Shari McDaid, Matt Smith, Jenna van Draanen

This session will discuss the existing evidence regarding the effects of basic income-like policies on population mental health and wellbeing and will explore the potential of more comprehensive basic income policies to improve people's mental health.

Session 4 | Basic Income, Gender and Health

Chair: Vida Panitch

Speakers: Kerry O'Neill, Vida Panitch, Christine Straehle

We will explore the potential for basic income to address specific gender inequalities in health and social wellbeing (including those due to intra/extra-household gender violence) and be part of an agenda of promoting gender equality in health.



Detailed Program | Day 2

Session 5 | Basic Income and the Pandemic

Chair: Jurgen De Wispelaere

Speakers: Jurgen De Wispelaere, Diana King, Ian Orton, Lou Tessier

We will reflect on the role of basic income as part of a comprehensive public health strategy that comprises urgent pandemic support, long-term pandemic recovery, and future pandemic preparedness.

Session 6 | Health Dividends as a Political Strategy

Chair: Jurgen De Wispelaere

Speakers: Matthew Johnson, Tijs Laenen, Neil McHugh

We will discuss the social values underlying the health promotion strategy for introducing basic income and examine if and how the health argument increases social support for basic income amongst key constituencies.

Session 7 | Health and Basic Income and Experiments

Chair: Douglas MacKay

Speakers: Sarath Davala, Neil Howard, Anna Marion, Aida Martínez

We will analyze recent cash transfer experiments and the evidence they provide on the effects of cash transfers to improve health and wellbeing. We will also explore how to design and implement experiments to elicit better evidence about the health impact of basic income policies.

Session 8 | Future Directions in Research on Basic Income and Health

Moderators: Jurgen De Wispelaere, Douglas MacKay and Vida Panitch

A panel discussion about the future directions of this project and the broader research agenda, including plans for future events, collaborations and publications arising from this workshop.



List of Participants

1. Salla Atkins, Tampere University, Finland
2. Sarath Davala, BIEN & UNESCO Inclusive Policy Lab, India
3. Jurgen De Wispelaere, University of Freiburg, Germany
4. Carina Fourie, University of Washington, USA
5. Marcia Gibson, University of Glasgow, Scotland
6. Troy Henderson, University of Sydney, Australia
7. Neil Howard, University of Bath, UK
8. Matthew Johnson, Northumbria University, UK
9. Diana King, UNICEF, Switzerland
10. Tijds Laenen, KU Leuven, Belgium & Tilburg University, Netherlands
11. Douglas MacKay, UNC Chapel Hill, USA
12. Anna Marion, UNC Chapel Hill, USA
13. Aida Martínez, Office of the Pilot Plan to Implement the UBI, Catalunya
14. Shari McDaid, Mental Health Foundation, UK
15. Neil McHugh, Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland
16. Kerry O'Neill, McMaster University, Canada
17. Ian Orton, International Labour Organisation, Switzerland
18. Vida Panitch, Carleton University, Canada
19. Gloria Sanchez-Cuevas, Carleton University, Canada
20. Christine Straehle, University of Hamburg, Germany
21. Matt Smith, University of Strathclyde, Scotland
22. Lou Tessier, International Labour Organisation, Switzerland
23. Nicole Valentine, World Health Organisation, Switzerland
24. Jenna van Draanen, University of Washington, USA
25. Daniel Weinstock, McGill University, Canada