

January Research Memo
Present: Ford, Miller, Michalek

Discuss Research schedule

New schedule first Wednesday of the month @9:30AM-10:45

In April (due to passover) the committee agreed to do Wednesday the 12th.

Updates

START Project, Michalek

Submitted it by the due date. Waiting to hear if anyone takes interest in the project.

Can take up to a month to hear back.

In discussing housing solutions, an idea to ask Mary Morgan, housing advocate, to come talk to the research committee or commission was brought up.

Criminal justice response meeting/Jail

Common theme discussed is the need for programs. Many people incarcerated had low offenses and could not pay fines so they were sent to jail.

Miller suggests writing or researching programs to help people stay out of jail.

Idea to ask expert, Donyel Byrd, to come and speak to us about possible programs to lessen the amount of people that end up in jail.

Discussed work of Care not Cages.

New Topics

Family Independence Initiative / UpTogether. - A possible approach to addressing poverty and adding to research collected.

Non-profit is based on Strengths Theory, in which one focuses on the strengths and powers individuals and group units hold. Program invests in those with limited income and empowers the use of social capital. Statistically has been shown to increase wealth and lower use of social services, further it promotes the idea that people are experts in their own life and will find unique community solutions to the challenges they face.

Has been modified to test UBI in multiple cities, with Uptgether providing the payment management systems.

[Interview](#) with Mauricio Lim Miller

[2021 example](#)

ACLU transformation public safety - information about current work there. Could be beneficial to create or add onto the initiatives here

Looking further at jail and processing time, Ford will send a follow up email to see if the policy institute has released the report from the Monroe prosecutor's office.

Next month agenda

1. Report on START program, will we need to send another request if not taken up.
2. Miller will attempt to attend another meeting for criminal justice response.
3. Ford will send initial contact to learn more about *The Alternative*, see if a guest speaker would be possible
4. Invite Mary Morgan or Donyel Byrd to Feb and/or Mar meeting