Presentation Overview

• Jobs-Plus and the value of research
• Who we are
• Goals of our research
• Overarching questions
• Substantive areas of focus
• What we’re asking of you
• What we commit to you
• Discussion and feedback
Jobs-Plus and the value of research

- Original Jobs-Plus demonstration was an “experiment” in many senses of the word
- Rigorous research design held program to highest standards
- Design demonstrated not only impacts, but importance of strong implementation
- Strongest level of evidence helped policy makers make case for funding and for HUD’s current investments
- Showed benefits of the program, and also areas where there was room for improvement
Who we are

• MDRC
  • David Greenberg (PI), Victoria Quiroz-Becerra (field research lead), Aurelia De La Rosa Aceves (field research), James Riccio (advisor)
  • Helped design and evaluate all Jobs-Plus models to date
  • Site leads for Boston, Houston, and Syracuse

• National Initiative on Mixed-Income Communities (Case Western)
  • Prof. Mark Joseph, Cyleste Collins, Taryn Gress, Emily Miller
  • Expertise in public housing redevelopment and self-sufficiency programs
  • Site leads for Chicago, Cuyahoga, and St. Louis

• Center for Urban and Regional Studies (UNC-Chapel Hill)
  • Prof. Bill Rohe, Kirstin Frescoln, Michael Webb
  • Expertise in public housing reform and self-sufficiency initiatives
  • Site leads for Charlotte, Memphis, and Roanoke
Goals and approach to research

• Provide objective assessment to HUD, grantees, and public about program
• Contribute to strong program dynamics, by supporting feedback loops
• Acknowledge start-up as important reality, and topic in its own right
• See your insights about challenges and breakthroughs as our fundamental resource and most important data source
  • Will also rely on program and cost reporting, PIC data
Broad research questions

- **Early implementation**: How do HUD and the grantees start up and support Jobs Plus operations?
- **Saturation and dosage**: To what extent do all eligible residents receive employment services, rent incentives, and Community Support for Work?
- **Early outcomes**: What early outcomes are achieved by grantees?
- **Costs**: What are the costs of implementing Jobs Plus?

**Comparative perspective**: How do experiences vary across sites, and what explains differences among them?
Overarching indicators of success

- Start-up and scale-up
  - Developing value-added partners
  - Getting the program launched in a timely way
  - Leveraging additional resources that benefit residents

- Achieving saturation and dosage
  - Enrolling in employment services, receiving JPEID, exposure to CSW

- Quality of service delivery
  - Enrollment in training programs; job placement and retention

- Sustainability
  - Consolidating work for a strong transition to post-program
Substantive areas of focus

• Program scale-up and support
• Employment services
• Financial incentives (JPEID)
• Community Support for Work
• Creating synergy among program components
Program scale-up and support

Topics include:

• How HUD and PHA management help practitioners learn the model
• How accountability – internal and external – is established
• The role of partners external to the PHA
• What types of supports are most helpful to grantees as they adapt Jobs Plus to local circumstances
Employment services

Topics include:

- How grantees develop service focus
- How sites achieve “saturation” of varied services
- How partnerships develop to support higher-wage jobs
  - Career pathways and sectoral models
- Early outcomes of employment services
  - Training completions, placements, retention
Financial incentives

Topics include:

• How JPEID is started-up and integrated into property management
• How the incentive is framed and marketed
• How residents view its benefits
• JPEID’s integration with asset-building or financial inclusion programs
• Take-up of JPEID across the development
Community Support for Work

Topics include:

• The nature and scope of CSW activities
• How coaches are supported and trained
• How peer-to-peer contact emerges, beyond outreach
• How CSW can be a vehicle for promoting shared expectations and aspirations about work
• Early outcomes of CSW, in terms of reach within development
Interaction among program components

Topics include:

• How practitioners define and articulate synergies among program components
  • Employment Services-Financial Incentives
  • Financial Incentives-CSW
  • CSW-Employment services

• How practitioners put these synergies into practice

• How model components work together to engage, help, and motivate residents
What we’re asking of you

• Candor about what it takes to make Jobs Plus successful
• Help coordinating staff interviews, resident focus groups
  • Two, 3-day visits (Q3/16, Q1/17)
  • 8-10 interviews, 1-1.5 hours; help identifying potential residents
• For 3 grantees only, coordinate unobtrusive observations
  • Three additional, 1-day visits
  • Walk with community coaches, observe case management/job development
  • No interview time required
• Openness to listen into calls with your program officers
  • Right to disinvite us to any or all
• Review our written findings
  • Interim report (Q1-2/17)
  • Final report (Q2-3/18)
What we commit to you

• Respectful, efficient and engaging interactions
• Sharing what we’ve learned ASAP
  • Webinars on early observations and research findings
• Confidentiality and other research protections
  • Shielding identity of respondents
  • Data security and consent
• Working with HUD, a chance to review evaluation findings and materials
• Openness to your feedback about our findings
• Our best attempt to help the field learn from your experiences
Discussion and feedback

• Questions or feedback about research and areas of substantive inquiry?
• Questions or feedback about research approach?
• Early preferences about how you’d like to be engaged?
• Other comments?

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