



Introduction(s)

- The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides funds to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in communities
- Community Action Partnership "We work to end poverty across the country."

What are the benefits of getting people out of poverty?

What do you want to get out of today's session?

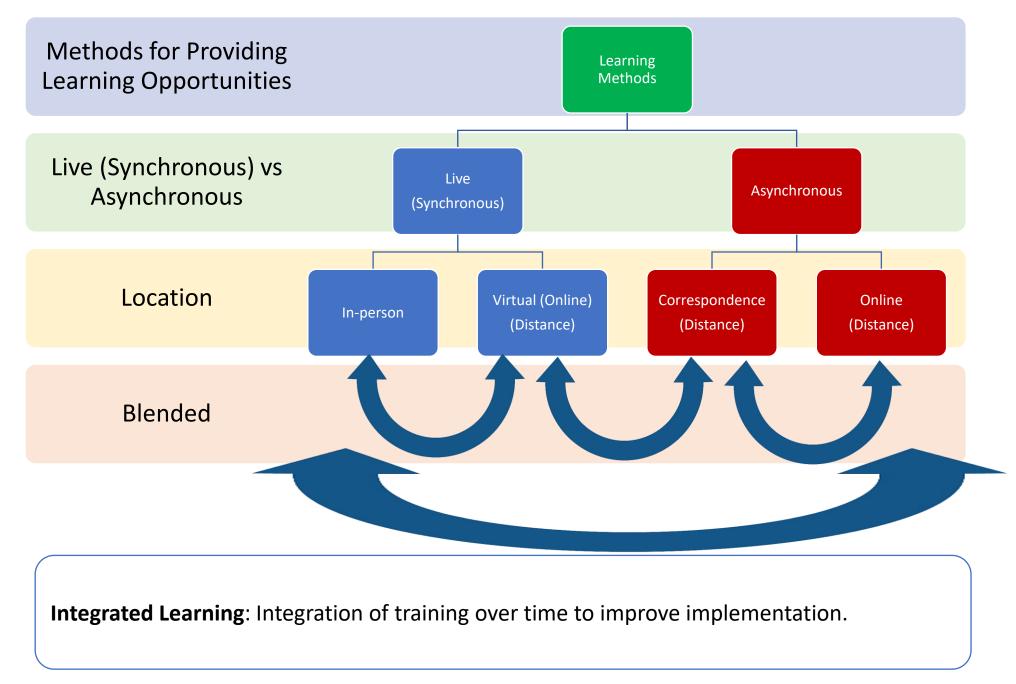


THE CONTEXT OF POVERTY AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

Live, Virtual Training
October 21 @ 2PM CT/1pm MT

Asynchronous classes available from 10/1 -12/31/20

- Working with the Context of Poverty and Economic Barriers
- A Holistic Approach to Economic Security and Well-Being
- Leveraging Assets to Cushion Economic Shocks



What is Poverty?

Poverty can be defined as a state or condition where one's basic needs for survival -- food, goods, clothing, shelter, or means of support -- are not being met.

A person living in poverty lives in a state of general scarcity, and lacks a certain amount of material possessions or money.

What is Poverty?

 There continues to be much debate about how to define poverty, based on ideological, political, and methodological differences of opinion.

Poverty Measures

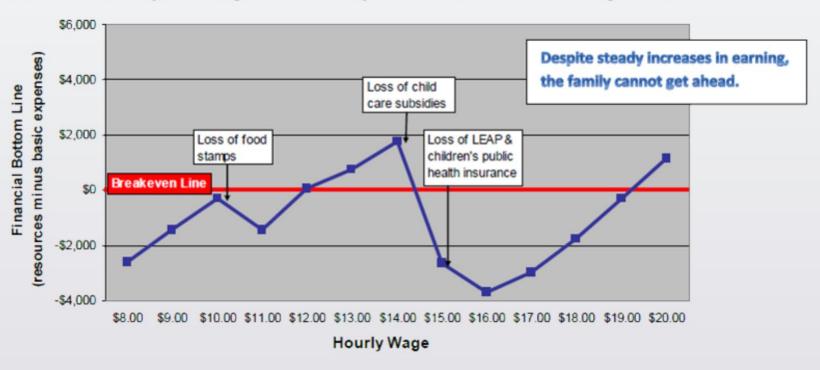
- Inflation adjusted cost of a minimum food diet (in 1963) x 3
- Poverty rate
- Supplemental Poverty measure
- Income Thresholds (Cliff Effect)
- Above Poverty Level
- Near Poverty 100-125%
- Below 100% in poverty
- Below 50% in deep poverty

Not Quite Poverty

- ALICE = Asset Limited Income, Constrained, Employed (United Way)
- Above Poverty but not enough to live
- Federal Poverty Level does not include people who are significantly struggling.
- Asset Poverty households without sufficient new worth (definte net worth) to subsist at the poverty level for three months in the absence of income
- 25.4 % of American households are considered to be asset poor

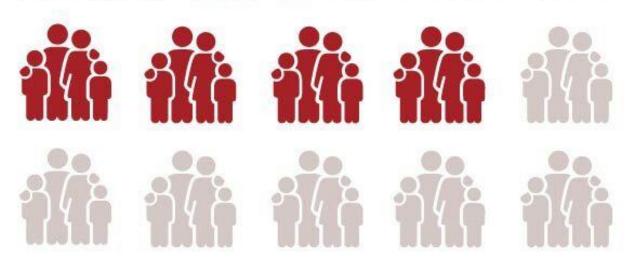
Cushioning the Cliff Effect

EXAMPLE: Denver County, CO: Single-Parent Family of Three Hits Cliffs as Earnings Increase



Income	Current	With Pay Raise
Hours per week	40	40
Hourly wage	\$11.50	\$12.00
Monthly gross earned income	\$1,993.33	\$2,080.00
Payroll deductions	-\$199.33	-\$208.00
Monthly net earned income	\$1,794.00	\$1,872.00
Expenses	Current	With Pay Raise
Eligible for child care assistance?	Yes	No
Child care	\$108	\$845
Take-home after child care expenses		
	\$1,686	\$1,027

NEARLY 4 IN 10 HOUSEHOLDS

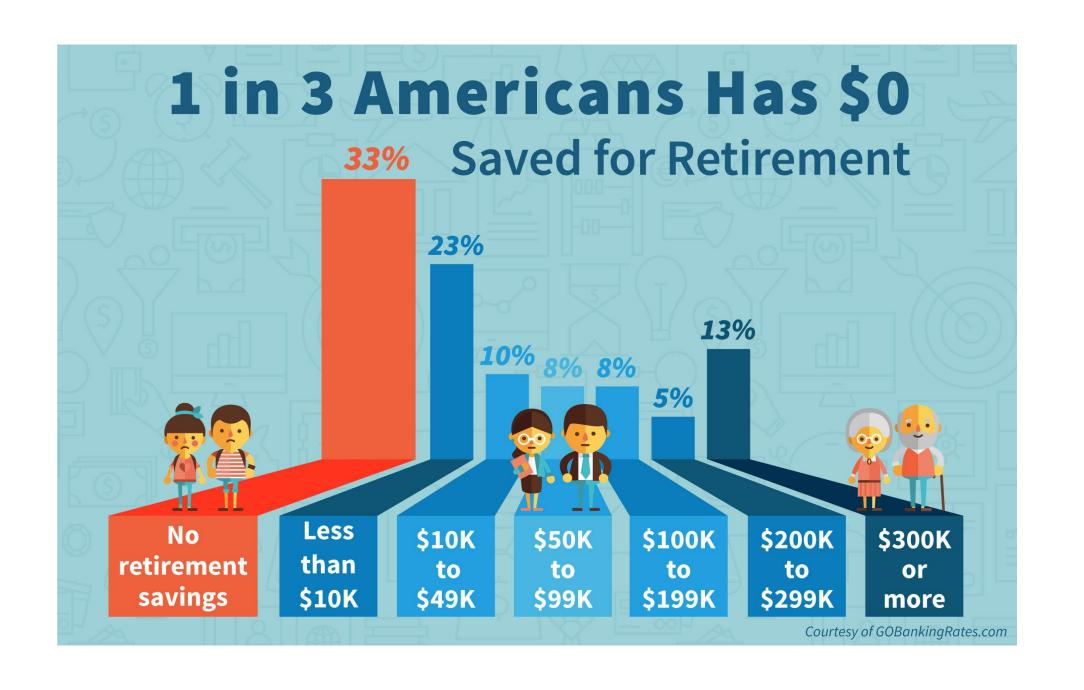


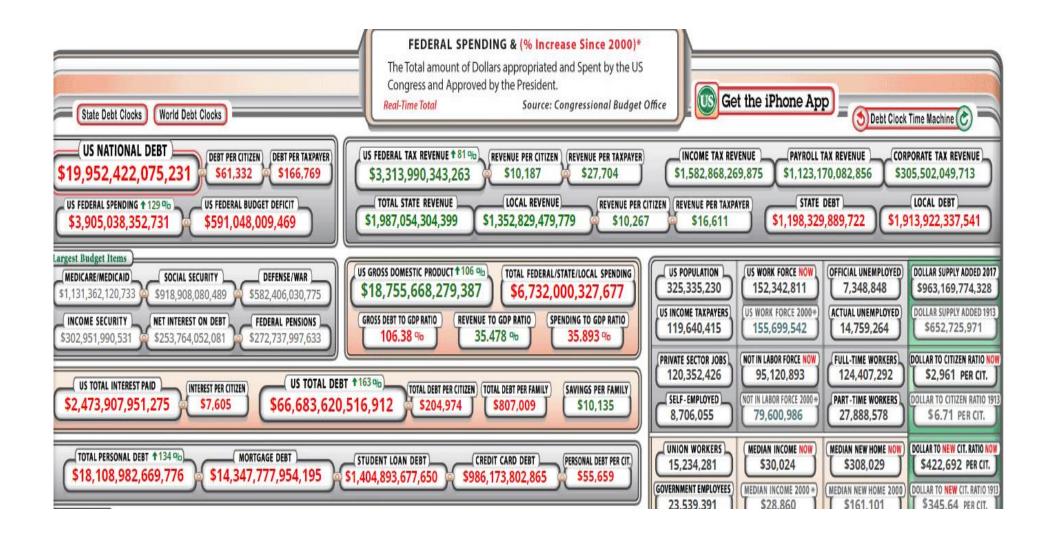
ARE LIQUID ASSET POOR IN THE US

THEY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH SAVED TO PAY THEMSELVES A POVERTY LEVEL INCOME FOR THREE MONTHS IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. (THIS LIQUID ASSET POVERTY LEVEL IS ESTIMATED AT \$6,150 FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR).



63% of Americans Don't Have Enough Savings to Cover a \$500 Emergency





WOW! Those are fun statistics Shawn!

Thanks for bringing so much happiness to your presentation!

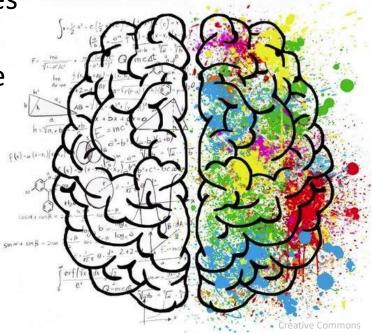
Any more fun information for us?

Neoclassical economics

An approach to economics that relates supply and demand to an individual's **rationality** and his ability to maximize utility or profit.

Behavioral economics

A method of economic analysis that applies psychological insights into human behavior to explain economic decision-making.



Decision Default Bias Heuristic Status Quo Availability Hyperbolic Discounting Bias Bias Decision Anchoring Fallacy Fatigue Economic Loss Herding Shock Aversion Confirmation Framing Inhibition Effect

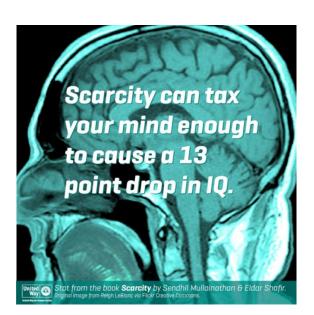


A very small supply: the state of being scarce, especially want of provisions for the support of life. (Merriam-Webster)

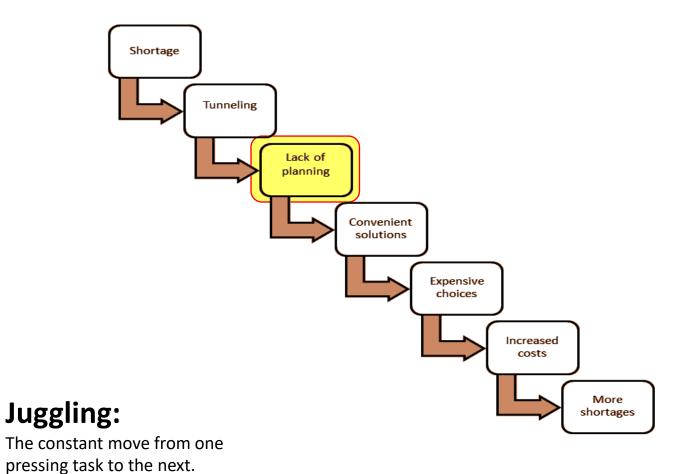
In classical economics, Scarcity is the gap between limited resources and the wants or needs people have for those resources. (Investopedia.com)

Stress and scarcity impact cognition

- Your brain is built to deal with stress that lasts about 30 seconds. The brain is not designed for long term stress when you feel like you have no control.
- Severe stress lasting weeks or months can impair cell communication in the brain's learning and memory region.
- Stress lasting as little as a few hours can impair brain-cell communication as well.
- Stress damages virtually ever kind of cognition that exists. (Memory and executive function, cognitive capacity, motor skills, ability to sleep.)



Tunneling is the act of focusing so intently on one issue that other issues are unable to be seen or acted upon.



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Individual Scarcity

Organizational Scarcity

Cognitive

- Difficulty planning ahead
- Fighting fires instead of preventing them
- Hard to focus
- Impaired Executive Functions



Planning and Directing Process

- Spending the bulk of management meeting time on "fighting fires" (dealing with scheduling problems and complaints due to stressed, overstretched staff)
- Projects done at the last minute or late, often not done as well as you want them
- Attempting various "fixes" for problems, without a coherent, systemic strategy
- Focus on cutting expenses and "unnecessary" activities without considering long term effects
- Asking staff to fill roles/take on functions they aren't trained to do or aren't a good fit for, because staff is stretched too far

Emotional

- Anxiety
- Fear of change



Nurturing of Agency Culture

- Sending the message that staff need to keep their focus on "serving clients" without providing time, and permission to work through the stress of the job
- Supervision is infrequent, unclear and/or inconsistent
- Restricting attendance at outside meetings and professional growth activities, cutting off contacts with other organizations or people who could be supportive
- Lack of fun and humor
- It's easier to get information from the rumor mill than from administration
- · Staff don't feel valued or heard

Physical

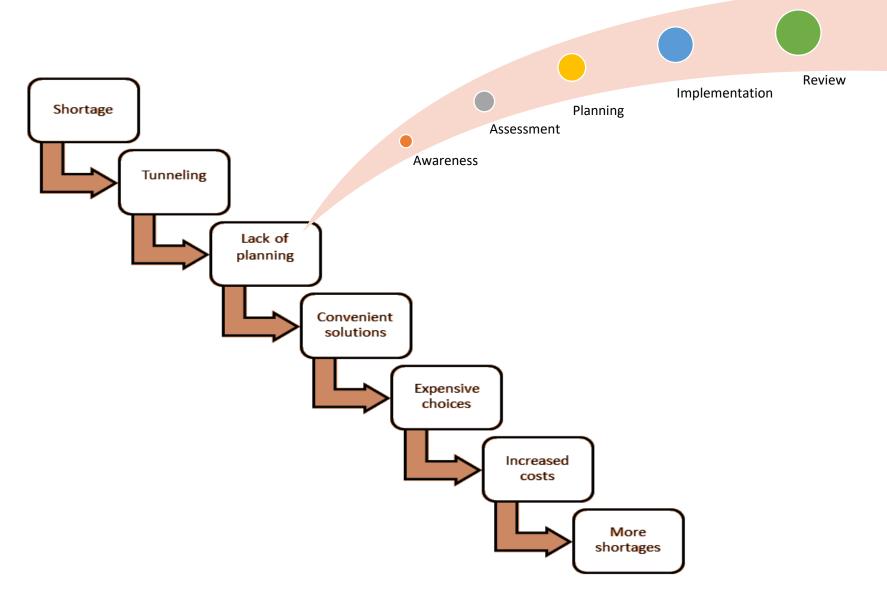
- Difficulty sleeping
- Poor diet
- "No time" to exercise or do other types of self-care



Working Environment

- Rationing of basic supplies
- Decreased upkeep of buildings, vehicles, website, etc.
- Difficulty accessing tools staff need to accomplish their jobs smoothly
- No long term plans for improvement of physical environment
- Complaints from staff about working conditions

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A Different Paradigm and Approach

What is Economic Security?

Finance and Economics

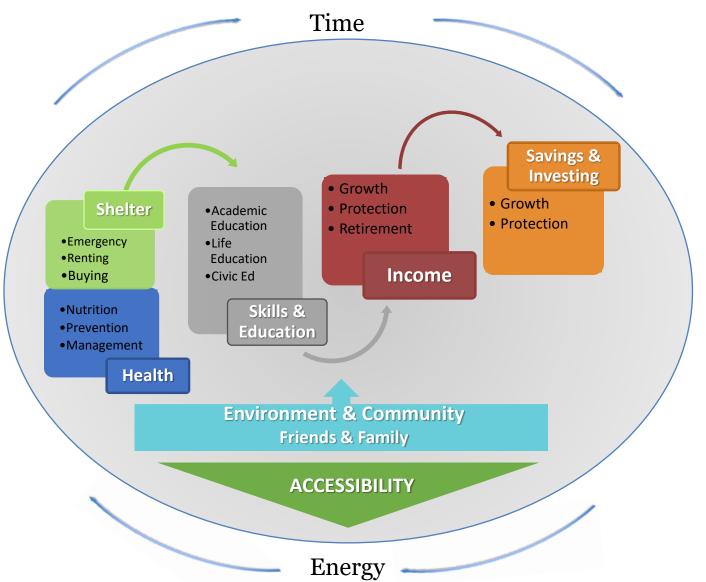
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Finances = Money going in and out (Think income)
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Economics = All Resources going in an out (Think assets)
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Social Determinants of Health

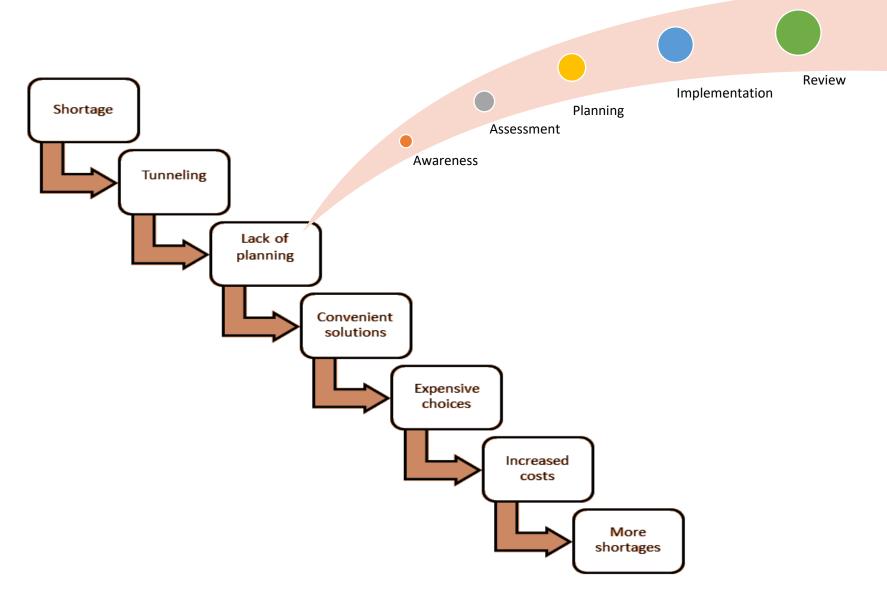


Asset Building Continuum



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WHAT COMES NEXT???

Watch for an email inviting you to sign in to **The Leadership Academy** online learning environment to take the three asynchronous courses



For any questions, contact:

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