

FAMILY PROSPERITY



Evaluation Report:

First federally funded Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) initiative in Las Cruces, NM

The Challenge: Economic Insecurity in New Mexico

The Solution: Cash Transfer Program

Top 5 Spending Categories (Ranked) of Monthly Cash Support:

Boosted
the local
economy!

1 Food **2** Housing **3** Transportation

4 Utilities **5** Clothing / Shoes

73.9% of cash support was spent locally!



Who Participated?

150 Active Participants

Received \$500/month in unrestricted, direct cash payments for 18 months

150 Comparison Participants

Received small monetary incentive to complete a questionnaire once/month

Participants were:

- Randomly selected from eligible applicant pool
- Randomly assigned to Active / Comparison group

Eligibility:

Solo caregiver of at least one child under 16
Yearly income $\leq$ 80% of Area Median Income (AMI)
Subsample of consistent monthly responders:

Physical health

Housing

Income

Employment

Economic resilience

Education

Child welfare visits

Emotional health

Food security

WHAT DID WE STUDY?

When families get the right support, they invest in their futures.

	<u>Active Group</u> (Receiving Cash Support)	<i>Vs.</i>	<u>Comparison Group</u> (No Cash Support)
Data collected at baseline and monthly			
Made Payments Toward Debts	48% of the time		26% of the time
Paid Bills on Time	67% of the time		33% of the time
Felt enough stress to be classified as a serious mental health condition	38% of the time		54% of the time

The Active Participants receiving cash support:

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

Felt less hopeless

Felt less stress

Paid bills on time

Reported better health

Less food insecurity

Less anxiety

fewer encounters with child welfare

Paid down debt

Transformational Events

Events that can lead to sustainable change after Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) efforts end. Achievement of these events means continued and potentially intergenerational impact beyond the timeline of cash support. There is movement and, more importantly, an upward trajectory.

76% of the Active Group had as least one Transformational Event

Vs. 54% of the Active Group had as least one Transformational Event

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Examples:

	Active	Comparison
Got a better job	27.0%	14.29%
Went back to school	23.0%	16.96%
Quit extra job to devote time to children	13.0%	7.14%
Started a business	7.0%	2.68%
Bought a home	3.0%	1.79%



Cash is efficient and flexible, allowing families to address their most urgent and pressing needs!

Selena
Obtained an Associate’s Degree and is pursuing a Bachelor’s she is also being self-aware of her health to avoid diabetes.

Val
Started a small business and enrolled in the GED program.