

# GIST

## GRANTMAKERS INCOME SECURITY TASKFORCE

### Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit: Short-Term and Long-Term Possibilities

**March 4, 2008, 9:30am-11:30am**

The Brookings Institution, *Somers Room*  
1775 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC

#### AGENDA

The Earned Income Tax Credit has been broadly recognized as the most effective anti-poverty strategy instituted in recent decades, having played a particularly powerful role in lifting women with families out of poverty and encouraging greater attachment to the formal workforce. In the past year, a number of scholars have made thoughtful proposals – ranging in scope, generosity and particular features – to expand the EITC to childless singles or non-custodial parents in order to alleviate poverty and increase the work effort of men. Some suggest the increased income and workforce attachment could result in outcomes as ambitious as reduced crime and incarceration and increased marriage rates. The concept has been welcomed by elected leaders, ranging from New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Representative Charlie Rangel to Senators Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, and Evan Bayh. One particularly ambitious and exciting long-term proposal, developed by Gordon Berlin, president of MDRC, may represent the next fundamental reform of the nation's supports for low-income workers and families.

**9:30 – 9:45am**

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

- [Ron Haskins](#), Brookings Institution

**9:45 – 10:15am**

#### **Short-Term and Long-Term EITC Expansion Proposals**

This session will include brief presentations on possibilities for action under a new Administration and Congress, and also how we might think about possibilities beyond.

- [Ron Haskins](#), Brookings Institution (Moderator)
- [Gordon Berlin](#), MDRC
- [Harry Holzer](#), Georgetown Public Policy Institute and Urban Institute
- [Ronald Mincy](#), Columbia University
- [Nick Gwyn](#), Subcommittee on Income Security & Family Support, Committee on Ways & Means

**10:15 – 11:30am**

#### **Discussion and Questions & Answers**

- [Ron Haskins](#), Brookings Institution (Moderator)

**11:30am**

#### **Adjourn**