

SD: Hardship in the Heartland: The Association Between Material Hardship, Income and Financial Stress



12/17/2019, 10:30 AM - Noon

Main Library, LIB-2032

Speaker: Aislinn Conrad, Assistant Professor, Doris Duke Fellow,
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Session Description

Nearly 12% of Iowans are income-poor, yet 40% of all Iowans have financial stress or materials hardship related to food, housing, transportation, bill-paying, or childcare insecurities. Social safety net programs that provide food and cash are based on income qualifications that exclude a large swath of families with materials hardship. This gap suggests that income is not an adequate indicator of economic well-being. In response, we measured overall financial uncertainty, including income, materials hardship, and financial stress. In this interactive presentation, we will 1) describe the prevalence of financial uncertainty in Iowa, 2) solicit feedback from attendees, and 3) discuss next steps.

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