1. **Building Support to Reduce Poverty Through Effective Language**

*Kali Schmitz, Maryland Center on Economic Policy*

The words you use make a difference, whether you’re working to build support for state policies that reduce poverty or trying to communicate how your organization helps clients who are struggling to make ends meet. In this session, attendees will learn about research-backed approaches to talking about poverty in ways that increase public support for solutions.

1. **Racism?! Here?! Understanding and Undoing Racism in Our Own Organizations**

*Adam Schneider, University of Maryland School of Social Work; Leonard Croft, Heather Strauss, and Gerardo Benavides, Health Care for the Homeless*

Racism exists. Its manifestations and impacts are seen and felt throughout our society – including within the organizations and individuals that seek to promote social justice. This session will examine structural racism as it manifests in social service organizations, and ways to dismantle racism within our own walls.

1. **Supplemental Target Energy Program: A New Approach to the Energy Affordability Gap**

*Matt Lyons, Maryland Office of Home Energy Programs (OHEP) of the Department of Human Resources*

OHEP has developed a new program – Supplemental Target Energy Program (STEP) - where people struggling to pay their energy bills receive an incentive-based grant to bring their energy bill to an affordable level in the short-term, while receiving wrap-around services that overcome systemic barriers to energy affordability. This will session will discuss the new program launching in July of 2017.

1. **Welfare to Meaningful Work: Successes and Struggles in Charm City**

*Dalton Collins, Homeless Persons Representation Project; Kathleen Weiss, BioTechnical Institute of Maryland; Anita Donaldson, Catholic Charities of Baltimore; Briana Abel, BioTechnical Institute of Maryland Student and TCA Program Participant.*

Since the work activity requirement for TCA was added in 1996, there have been struggles to engage participants in meaningful work activity that will lead to independence from cash assistance. Advocates, job training stakeholders, and a TCA participant will discuss challenges faced by workforce training programs in navigating the program, and the difficulties faced by TCA participants attempting to satisfy the requirements.

1. **What Does the Data Say About Welfare Reform in Maryland?**

*Dr. Lisa Nicoli, Ruth Young Center for Families and Children, University of Maryland School of Social Work*

Since Welfare Reform began in 1996, researchers at the University of Maryland School of Social Work have been tracking its implementation. This presentation will focus on early TCA recipients, looking at what happened to them in the 15 years after they left, as well as provide some insight into what TCA recipients look like today and discuss what challenges they are facing.

1. **Marginalized Families: Putting the Pieces Together**

*Hilary Laskey, St. Mary’s County Department of Social Services*

This session will discuss the influence of living at or near poverty on the growth and development of a family, and the importance of attending to basic needs. Additionally, this session will outline the importance of advocacy on behalf of families who are marginalized.

1. **Anti-Viral Linkage Initiative for Hepatitis C**

*Octavia Sykes, Delaney Lackey, Deana Krizan, Baltimore Crisis Response*

Approximately 75% of people living with hepatitis C (HCV) are unaware they have chronic HCV. This workshop will address the barriers to care that individuals battling behavioral health issues face, and determine strategies to overcome them. Additionally, attendees will identify how some welfare policies relate to disproportionate dissemination of HCV resources.

1. **Expungement 101**

*Mary-Denise Davis, Maryland Office of the Public Defender*

This workshop will focus on providing attendees with information about expungement and shielding in Maryland including who is eligible, how they apply, and what to expect in the process. Additionally, recent changes in expungement law will be discussed, as well as opportunities for needed policy changes in our State’s expungement laws.

1. **TANF Dollars at Work: How the Earned Income Tax Credit Reduces Poverty, and Who’s Being Left Behind**

*Robin McKinney, Maryland CASH Campaign; Kali Schumitz, Maryland Center on Economic Policy*

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) plays a critical role in lifting people out of poverty. In addition to general funds, Maryland invests significant TANF dollars in the EITC, and these flexible dollars are critical for people transitioning to or back to work. Learn how Maryland is missing out on an opportunity to ensure that young, low-income workers get a better start in the workforce and in adulthood.

1. **Becoming a Trauma-Informed Agency**

*Johanna Miller, Villa Maria at Fallstaff, Catholic Charities of Baltimore*

While clinical treatment is available for those who have been impacted by trauma, therapy is not the only way to provide support. By implementing a trauma-informed care model agencies are able to support clients from the moment they walk through the door, regardless of the services they receive. This workshop will explore the individual and community impact of trauma, and will provide a framework for the implementation of trauma-informed care model.

**D. Two-Generation Model in Service Delivery**

*Ann Flagg, Maryland Department of Human Resources*

Integration of the whole family approach to poverty reduction through TANF, MSDE, and Labor partnerships will be discussed in this session. The workshop will focus on the two-generation model of service delivery, including possible speakers from Garrett County, Montgomery County, the ASPEN institute and a Children’s Cabinet Representative.