Appendix B. Question-by-question justification for baseline survey

This document provides the sources and justifications for each question on the Baseline Survey (Instrument 1).

| Item | Question text | Source | Justification |
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| **SECTION B: DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIOECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS** |
| B01 | Are you Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin?1. No, not of Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin2. Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano/a 3. Yes, Puerto Rican4. Yes, Cuban 5. Yes, Another Hispanic, Latino/a, or Spanish origin  | Adapted from Building Evidence on Employment Strategies (BEES) (OMB No. 0970-0537)  | These items measure demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, 3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts.  |
| B02 | What is your race?1. AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE2. ASIAN3. BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN4. NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER 5. WHITE99. OTHER (SPECIFY) | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B03 | What is the primary language spoken in your home? Is it…1. English, 2. Spanish, or 99. Some other language?  | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B04 | Are you currently in high school? | New; Developed by Mathematica |
| B05 | What is the highest degree or year of school that you have attained?1. LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA2. GED or GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT3. REGULAR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA (NOT A GED)4. SOME COLLEGE 5. A TWO-YEAR DEGREE (ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE)6. A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE (BACHELOR’S DEGREE) 7. A GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE OR HIGHER | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B06 | What is your current marital status—are you now married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never been married? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B07 | Do you have a spouse or partner who lives in your household? | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537)  |
| B07a | How many children under the age of 18 are in your household?  | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |  |
| B07b | How many adults age 18 or older, including yourself, are in your household?  | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B08 | Do you currently care for someone in your household with a disability? | Subsidized and Transitional Employment Demonstration (STED)(OMB No. 0970-0413) |
| B09 | Which of the following best describes your housing during the past month?1. own your own home or apartment,2. rent your home or apartment, 3. homeless or live in emergency or temporary housing, such as a shelter, 4. live in a halfway house, sober house, or other transitional housing, 5. live in a group home6. live with friends or relatives and pay rent to them7. live with friends or relatives and not pay rent to them, or 99. some other arrangement? (SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537)  |
| B09a | Which of the following best describes your housing during the past month?1. live with a parent or guardian, 2. rent your home or apartment, 3. homeless or live in emergency or temporary housing, such as a shelter, 4. live in a halfway house, sober house, or other transitional housing, 5. live in a group home6. live with friends or relatives and pay rent to them7. live with friends or relatives and not pay rent to them, or 99. some other arrangement? (SPECIFY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537)  |
| B10 | Have you been homeless at any time in the last three months? | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| B10a | If you add up all the days you have been homeless in the last three months, about how many days have you been homeless? Your best guess is fine.  | Adapted from HUD's Point-In-Time Survey |
| B11 | Are you currently receiving child support? | STED(OMB No. 0970-0413) |  |
| B12 | Are you currently expected to pay child support? | STED(OMB No. 0970-0413) |
| B13 | During the past year, did you or anyone in your household receive income or assistance from any of the following sources?1. Disability benefits from the Social Security Administration. These are also called Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)2. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or [STATE SPECIFIC TANF NAME] 3. Unemployment Insurance4. Worker’s Compensation5. Short-term disability6. Food Stamps/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/ [STATE-SPECIFIC PROGRAM]7. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) 8. Housing Choice Voucher, also known as Section 8 or Public Housing9. Veterans Benefits 10. Medicaid or [STATE SPECIFIC MEDICAID] or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)0. NONE OF THE ABOVE  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B14 | For these next questions, please consider only yourself, not anyone else in your household. Have you received a check or electronic payment from the Social Security Administration because of a disability in the past year as an adult? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | These items measure demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, 3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts, and (6) determine the target population of interest to the Social Security Administration (namely, individuals who are not currently receiving SSI or awaiting a pending claim). |
| B15 | Are you currently receiving checks or electronic payments from the Social Security Administration because of a disability? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B16 | As an adult, in the past five years, have you applied to the Social Security Administration to receive checks or electronic payments because of a disability? | New; Developed by Mathematica |
| B17 | Are you currently awaiting a decision by the Social Security Administration on a pending disability application?  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| B18 | If you had an emergency, would you be able to count on someone to help you? | Adapted from Building Strong Families Evaluation (BSF)(OMB No. 0970-0304) | These items measure social supports for economic well-being. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts.  |
| B19 | Is there someone you could turn to if you suddenly needed to borrow $100?  | Adapted from BSF(OMB No. 0970-0304) |
| **SECTION C: EMPLOYMENT STATUS AND CHALLENGES** |
| C0 | Have you ever worked for pay? | New; Developed by Mathematica | These items measure baseline employment status. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| C01 | Are you currently working for pay? | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C02 | In total, how many months did you work for pay during the past year (including current job)?  | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C03 | In what month and year did you last work for pay? | Adapted from Parents and Children Together Evaluation (PACT)(OMB No. 0970-0403) |
| C03a | How much [do/did] you get paid before taxes and deductions, at your [current/most recent] job? | Evaluation of Employment Coaching for TANF and Other Related Populations (Coaching) (OMB No. 0970-0506) |
| C04-C04a | How many hours per week, including regular overtime hours, did you usually work on your [current/most recent] job? Your best estimate is fine.  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C05 | Does a physical, mental, or emotional condition limit the kind or amount of work you can do?  | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | These items measure baseline barriers to employment. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| C06a | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, a little hard, somewhat hard, very hard, or extremely hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION | Adapted from Child Support Noncustodial Parent Employment Demonstration (CSPED)(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06b | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING DRIVER’S LICENSE OR A VALID DRIVER’S LICENSE | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06c | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING STABLE HOUSING | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06d | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. A PREGNANCY OR A RECENT CHILDBIRTH | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| C06e | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING GOOD ENOUGH CARE FOR A CHILD OR SOMEONE ELSE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD WHO NEEDS CARE | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06f | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING RIGHT CLOTHES OR TOOLS FOR WORK | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06g | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT HAVING RIGHT SKILLS OR EDUCATION | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06h | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. HAVING DIFFICULTY SPEAKING OR READING ENGLISH | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06i | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. HAVING DIFFICULTY COMPLETING JOB APPLICATIONS ON MY OWN | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06j | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. HAVING A CRIMINAL RECORD | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06k | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. HAVING PROBLEMS WITH ALCOHOL OR DRUGS | Adapted from CSPED(OMB No. 0970-0439) |
| C06l | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. HAVING A GAP IN EMPLOYMENT | New; Developed by Mathematica |
| C06m | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. LACK OF SUPPORT OR RESISTANCE FROM FRIENDS OR RELATIVES RELATED TO FINDING A JOB OR WORKING | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| C06n | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. EXPERIENCING ABUSE BY A SPOUSE OR PARTNER | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| C06o | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. A LEARNING DISABILITY | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| C06p | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. NOT FINDING THE RIGHT KIND OF DISABILITY-RELATED SUPPORTS OR ACCOMMODATIONS | New; Developed by Mathematica |
| C06q | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. LOSING BENEFITS YOU NEED SUCH AS SOCIAL SECURITY, DISABILITY INSURANCE, WORKERS' COMPENSATION, OR MEDICAID IF YOU TOOK A JOB OR WORKED MORE HOURS | New; Developed by Mathematica |
| C06r | Please indicate if each of the following has made it not at all hard, slightly hard, moderately hard, or very hard for you to work or pursue education or training in the past 3 months. OTHER SPECIFY | Adapted from Rural Welfare to Work(OMB No. 0970-0246) |
| C07a | I set long-term employment goals that I hope to achieve within a year, such as finding a job, finding a better job, getting promoted, or enrolling in further education.1. STRONGLY DISAGREE 2. DISAGREE 3. AGREE 4. STRONGLY AGREE | Goal Setting Questionnaire, adapted from Coaching (OMB No. 0970-0506) | These items measure goal setting and goal pursuit in the context of employment. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| C07b | I set specific short-term goals that will allow me to achieve my long-term employment goals.1. STRONGLY DISAGREE 2. DISAGREE 3. AGREE 4. STRONGLY AGREE | Goal Setting Questionnaire, adapted from Coaching (OMB No. 0970-0506) |
| C07c | I think I should work on finding a job or a better job. 1. STRONGLY DISAGREE 2. DISAGREE 3. AGREE 4. STRONGLY AGREE | LASER Questionnaire, adapted from Coaching (OMB No. 0970-0506) |
| C07d | I think there is nothing I can do being out of work right now. 1. STRONGLY DISAGREE 2. DISAGREE 3. AGREE 4. STRONGLY AGREE | LASER Questionnaire, adapted from Coaching (OMB No. 0970-0506) |
| C08 | Have you ever been arrested? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | These items measure past involvement with the criminal justice system. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| C09 | Have you ever been convicted of a crime? | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C10 | Are you currently on parole or probation? | BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C11 | Have you ever been incarcerated in a juvenile or adult facility, such as a detention center, jail, or prison? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| C12 | What is the total amount of time you have spent in incarceration? | New Developed by Mathematica |
| **SECTION D: PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH** |
| D01-D09 | SF-12v2 Questionnaire | SF-12 Instrument Also used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | This questionnaire measures functional health status. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D10 | Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing? | American Community Survey (ACS) disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | These items measure disability. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D11 | Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?  | ACS disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D12 | Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?  | ACS disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D13 | Do you have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?  | ACS disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D14 | Do you have difficulty dressing or bathing?  | ACS disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D15 | Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping?  | ACS disability questionsAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D16 | Have you ever been treated for any mental health condition? | New Developed by Mathematica | These items measure physical and mental health status. We will use them to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D17 | What physical, mental, or emotional condition is the main reason you are limited? | Adapted from National Beneficiary Survey (NBS)(OMB No. 0960-0800) |
| D18a | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel so depressed that nothing could cheer you up?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | This questionnaire assesses mental health and distress. We will use these items to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D18b | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel hopeless?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D18c | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel restless or fidgety?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D18d | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel that everything was an effort?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D18e | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel worthless?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D18f | During the last 30 days about how often did you feel nervous?0. NONE OF THE TIME1. A LITTLE OF THE TIME2. SOME OF THE TIME3. MOST OF THE TIME4. ALL THE TIME | K-6 Distress ScaleAlso used on BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) |
| D19-D21 | AUDIT-C questionnaire | AUDIT-C Questionnaire | This questionnaire measures alcohol dependency. We will use the items to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D22-D31 | DAST-10 questionnaire | DAST-10 Questionnaire | This questionnaire measures drug dependency. We will use the items to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |
| D32 | The next question asks about using prescription pain relievers in any way a doctor did not direct you to use them.When you answer this question, please think only about your use of the drug in any way a doctor did not direct you to use it, including:• Using it without a prescription of your own• Using it in greater amounts, more often, or longer than you were told to take it• Using it in any other way a doctor did not direct you to use itAre you currently taking a prescription painkiller (such as OxyContin, Percocet, or Vicodin) without a prescription or in any way not directed by a doctor? | Adapted from BEES (OMB No. 0970-0537) | This item measures opioid use. We will use it to (1) describe the characteristics of study participants and check that random assignment has created treatment and control groups with similar characteristics, (2) define subgroups, (3) provide control variables for regression models that will increase statistical precision, (4) construct weights to adjust for survey nonresponse, and (5) support analysis of the mediating factors driving program impacts. |