



Minnesota Public Assistance Programs

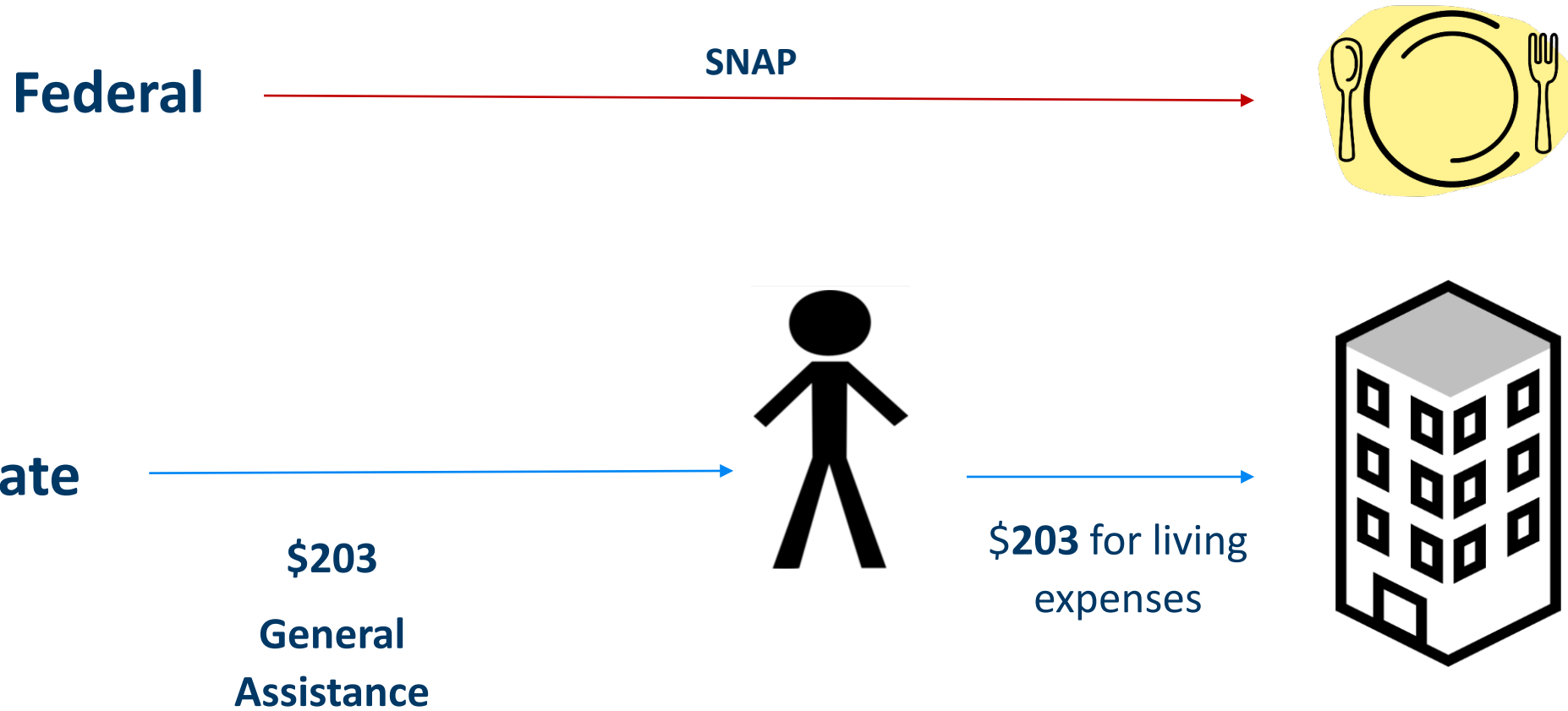
Kristine Davis and John Petroskas | Housing and Support Services

Deborah Schlick | Economic Assistance and Employment Supports

General Assistance (GA)

- State-funded income supplement for single adults and childless couples with verification they are unable to work, but don't yet receive SSI.
- Average of 23,000 monthly participants
- About one-third of recipients live in facilities and receive a monthly \$102 personal needs allowance.

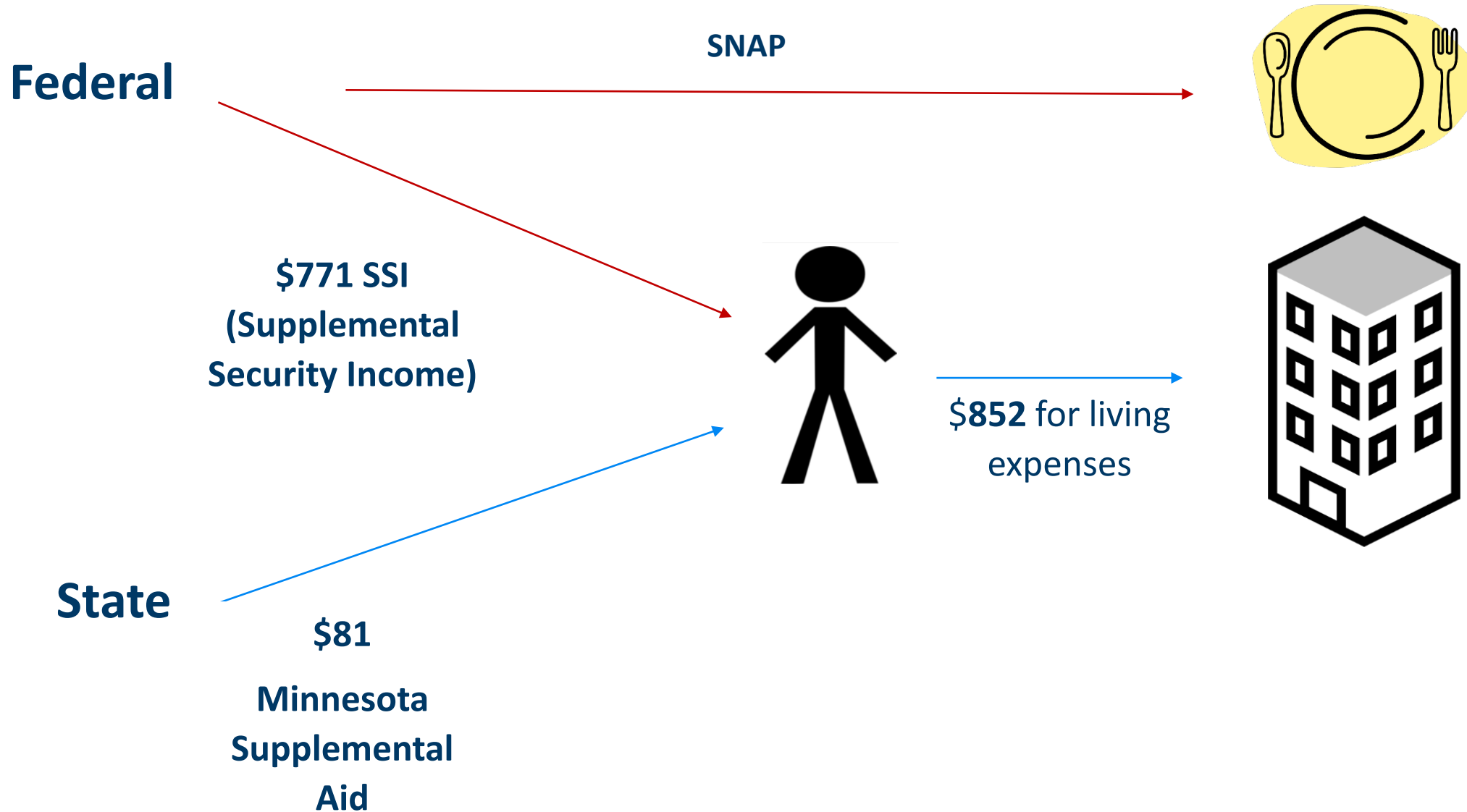
General Assistance (GA)



Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA)

- State-funded income supplement for people with disabilities who receive SSI
- Average of 31,000 monthly participants
- Additional special needs allowances can be used to pay:
 - Monthly guardian fees;
 - Conservator fees;
 - Representative payee fees;
 - Medically necessary special diets;
 - Some home repairs, and;
 - High housing expenses for some recipients.

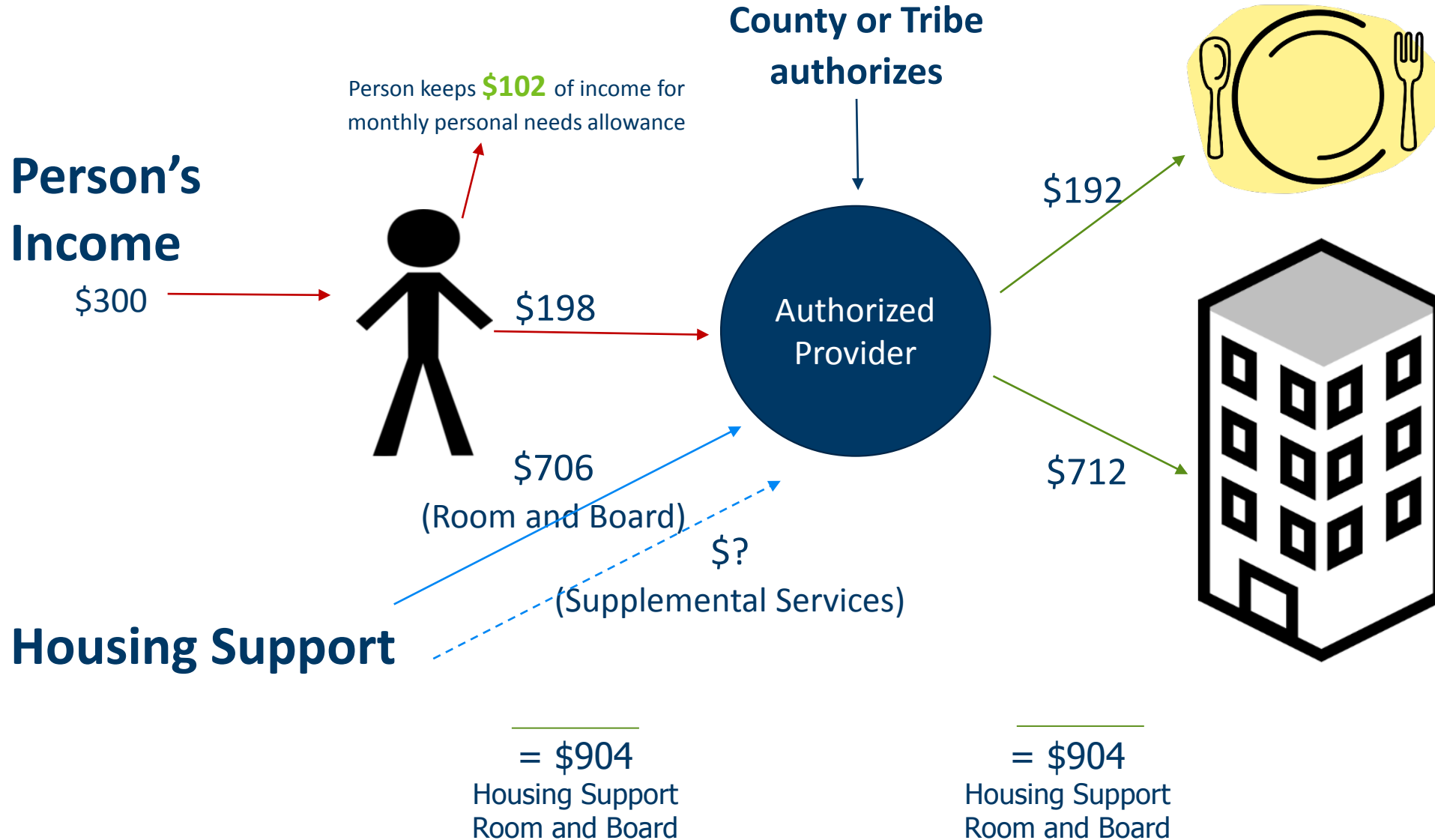
Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA)



Housing Support

- Formerly known as Group Residential Housing (GRH)
- State-funded income support for adults with a verified disability or older adult (65+) with low income/assets to pay for housing expenses, and sometimes additional services
 - Room and Board, up to **\$904** per month (20,500 people)
 - Supplemental Services, **\$482.84**, *or higher if approved by legislature* (5,900 people)
- 6,000+ authorized settings across Minnesota

Housing Support in group settings



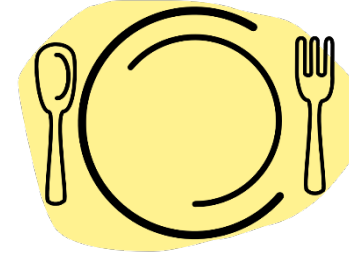
Housing Support providers must ensure every recipient has:

- food preparation and service for three nutritional meals a day on site
- a bed
- clothing storage
- linens/bedding
- laundry supplies or service
- housekeeping
- lavatory supplies or service
- maintenance and operation of the building and grounds

Housing Support in community settings

SNAP

County or Tribe
authorizes



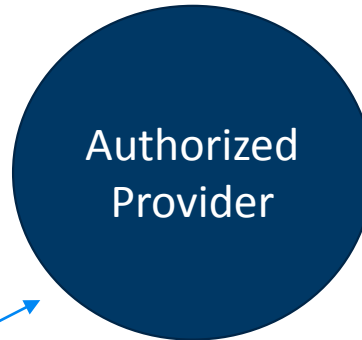
**Person's
Income**

\$300

Person keeps **\$102** of income for
monthly personal needs allowance



\$198



\$141

Utilities and other
Household Needs

Housing Support

\$706

(Room and Board)

\$?

(Supplemental Services)

\$763

(Eff.)



= \$904

Housing Support
Room and Board

= \$904

Housing Support
Room and Board

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Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

SNAP helps people pay for groceries.

It is a federal program.

It serves:

- Seniors
- People with disabilities
- Families with children
- Working-age adults without children



Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)

MFIP provides income support, food benefits, and employment services to families with children in deep poverty.

Program rules include:

- Work requirements
- Time limits of no more than 5 years assistance over a parent's lifetime.



Minnesota is the only state to have a waiver from USDA that allows the state to deliver cash and SNAP benefits together.

- Families only have to track one set of reporting rules.
- Food and cash benefits change in tandem as outside income increases or decreases.

Earnings and Eligibility

SNAP

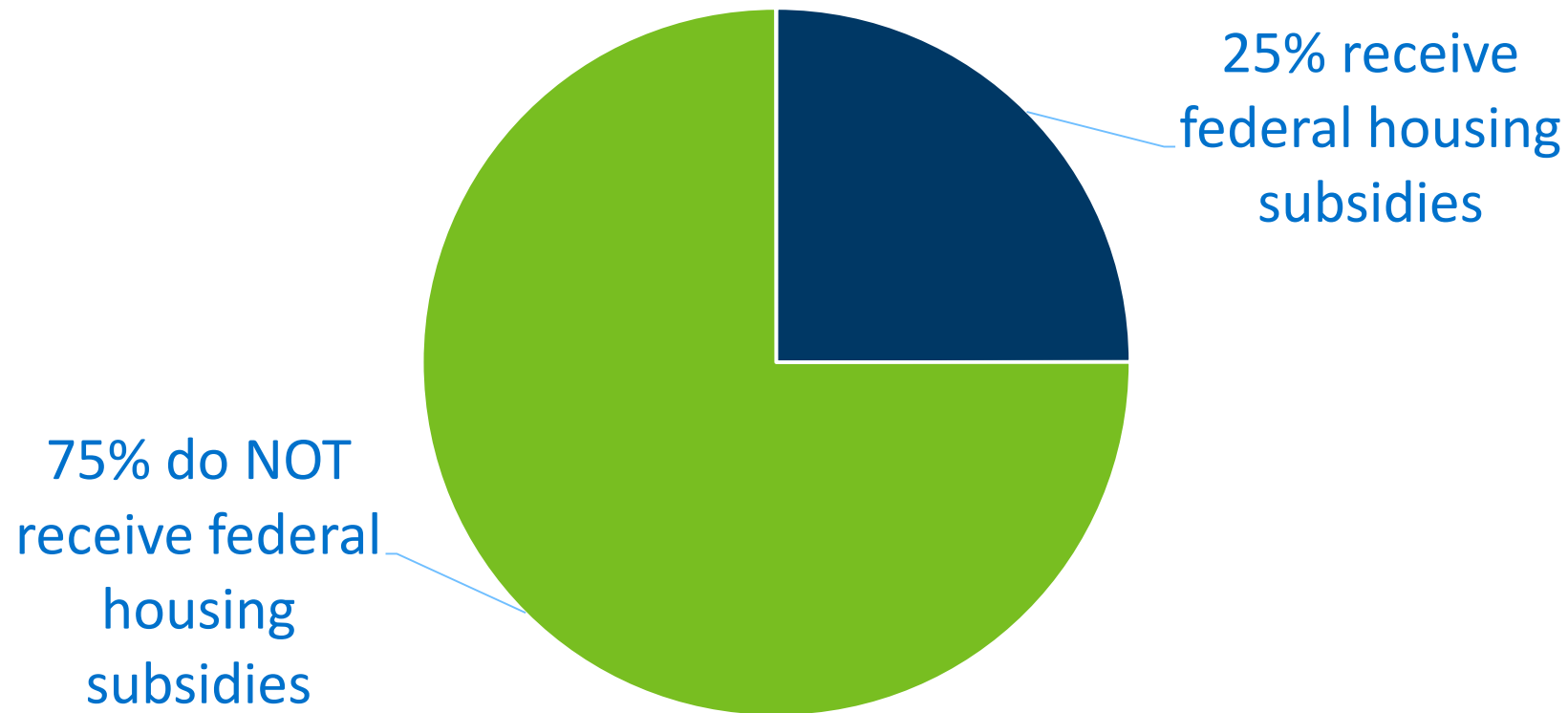
The annual income limit for a family of three is \$34,296/year.

MFIP

The annual earned income limit for a family of three is \$26,784/year.

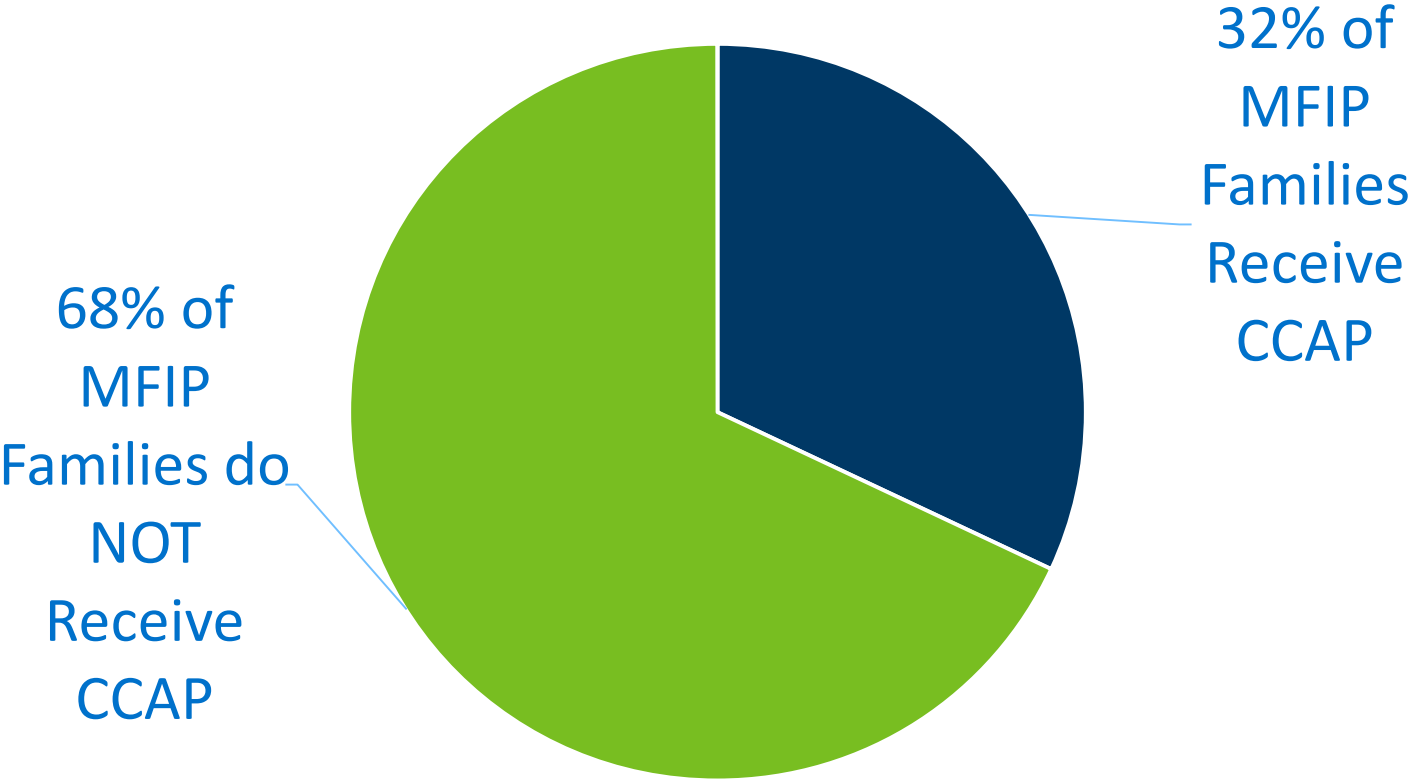
Most MFIP families do not get housing subsidies

Proportion of MFIP Families Receiving Federal Housing Subsidies



Most MFIP families don't receive CCAP

Proportion of MFIP Families Receiving CCAP



SNAP and MFIP serve low-wage workers

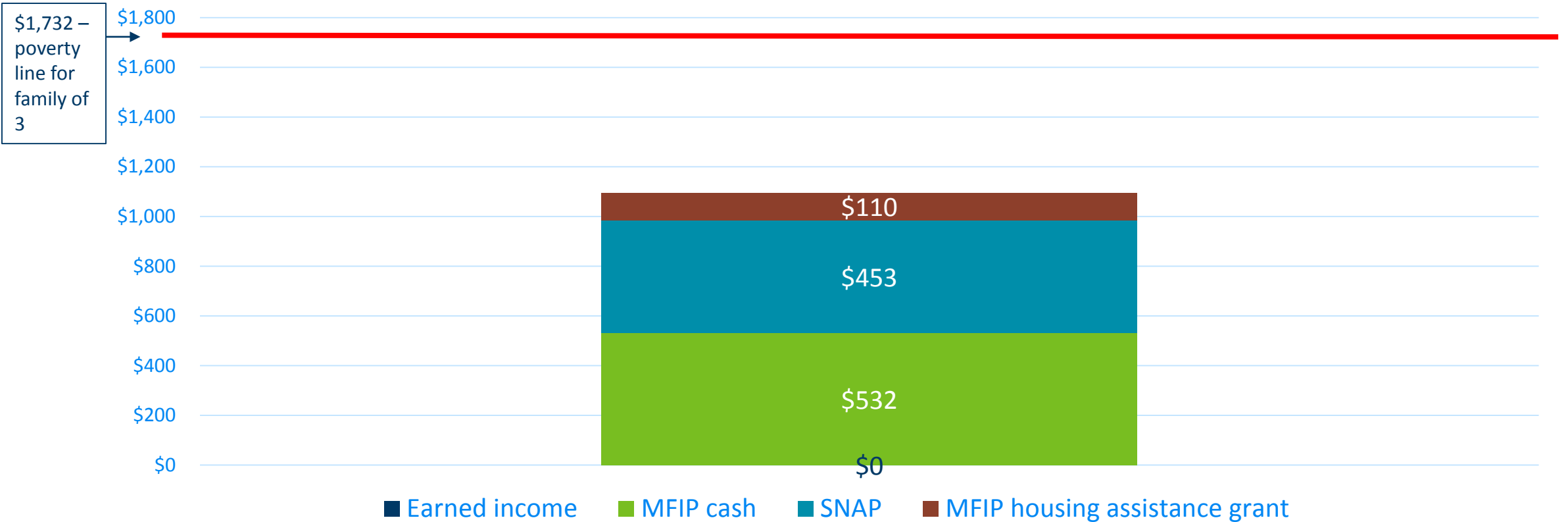
They are concentrated in the following industries:

- Hotels/restaurants
- Temp Agencies
- Retail
- Health care and social services



Monthly Family Economic Scenario

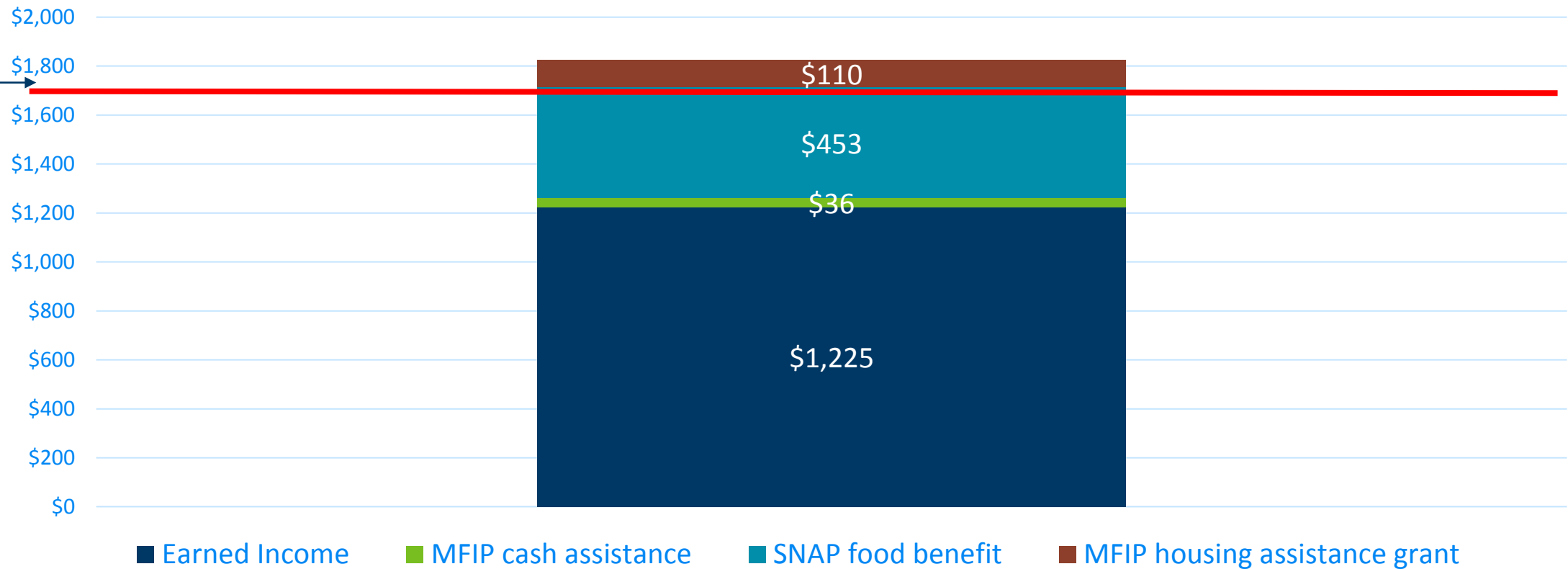
Sam: unemployed with 2 children



Monthly Family Economic Scenario

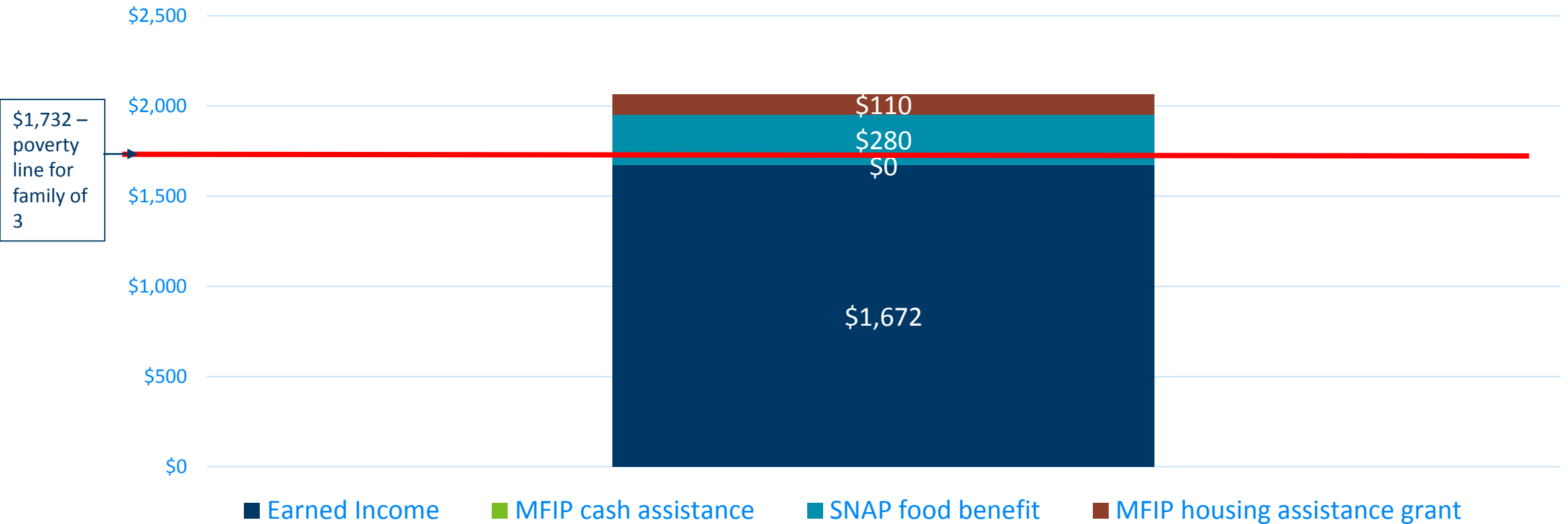
Robin: 30 hours/week at gas station (\$9.42/hour) with 2 children

\$1,732 – poverty line for family of 3



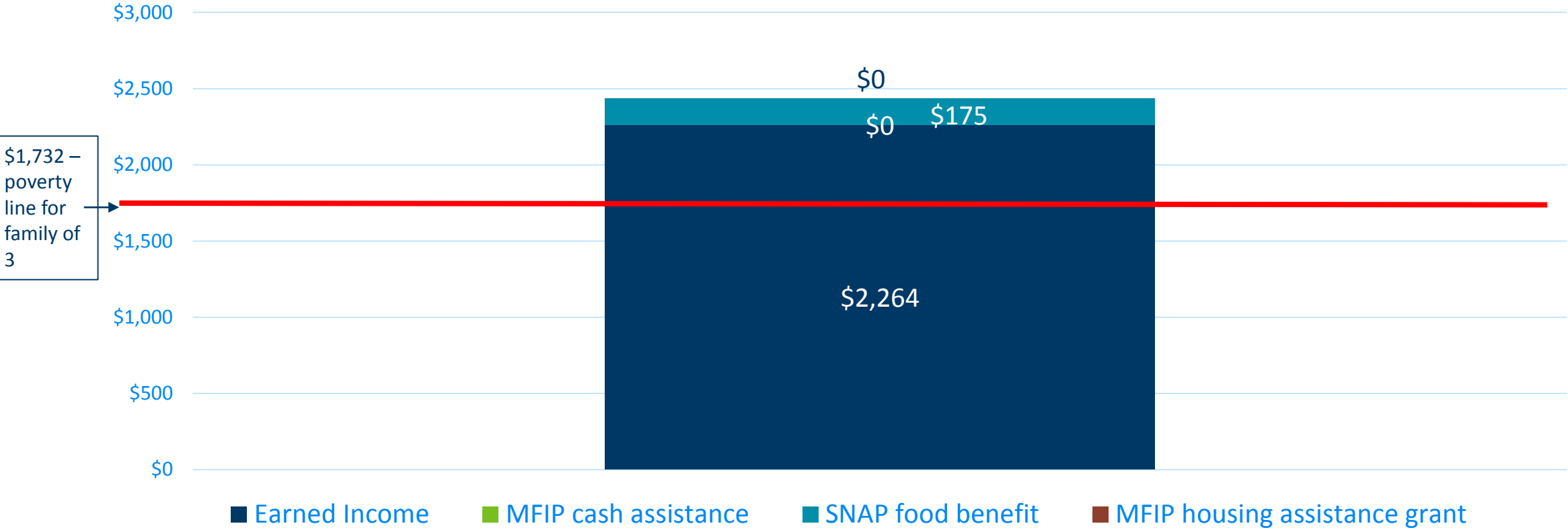
Monthly Family Economic Scenario

Brett: full-time cashier (\$9.65/hour) with 2 children



Monthly Family Economic Scenario

Morgan: full-time baggage handler (\$13.06/hour) with 2 children



Most people don't rely on benefits for a long time

SNAP

Half of all new SNAP participants leave the program within 10 months nationwide

MFIP

42% of all new applicants use MFIP once for 12 months or less

Questions?