



## WEBINAR GUEST BIO

### *Identifying the forces behind persistent poverty*

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H. Luke Shaefer, Ph.D. is the Hermann and Amalie Kohn Professor of Social Justice and Social Policy and Professor of Public Policy at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan. At U-M, he is also the inaugural director of Poverty Solutions, an interdisciplinary, presidential initiative that partners with communities and policymakers to find new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty. Through Poverty Solutions, Shaefer acted as a special counselor on anti-poverty policy to the director of the

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services from 2019-2021.

Dr. Shaefer is one of the nation's leading scholars of poverty and social welfare policy. His research has been published in top peer-reviewed academic journals in the fields of public policy, public health, health services research, sociology, social work and history, and his work has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and U.S. Census Bureau, among other sources. He has presented his research at the White House and before numerous federal agencies, testified before the U.S. Senate Finance Committee, and advised a number of the nation's largest human service providers.

Dr. Shaefer's has been cited in media outlets such as the New York Times, Washington Post, The Economist and The Atlantic, and he has been featured on such programs as PBS "NewsHour," "Marketplace," "1A," "The World" and CNBC's "Nightly Business Report." His book with Kathryn Edin, "\$2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America," was named one of the 100 Notable Books of 2015 by the New York Times Book Review, and won the Hillman Prize for Book Journalism, among other awards. His new book, "The Injustice of Place," has been featured on "MSNBC," The Atlantic, TIME and the LA Times, among other outlets.

Dr. Shaefer received his B.A. in politics from Oberlin College and A.M. and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration. He was recently awarded an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.