



A PROJECT OF MOTHER'S OUTREACH NETWORK

# DC Guaranteed Income Coalition Council Period 25 (2023 - 2024) Platform

## 1. Expand and strengthen Strong Families, Strong Futures and Career MAP

D.C. is currently funding two pilots related to guaranteed income and benefits protection for a total investment of roughly \$27 million, most of which is from the District's American Rescue Plan Act allocation. Together, the two programs are serving more than 700 low-income District families. SFSF is a direct cash assistance pilot supporting new and expecting mothers in Wards 5, 7 and 8. Career MAP is an economic mobility pilot, the cornerstone of which is a hold harmless fund that reimburses participants for lost benefits as their earned income rises.

We call on the District to invest an additional \$27 million to double the size of both programs. **In particular, we call on the District to open SFSF to residents of all wards and to incorporate Career MAP's benefits protection mechanisms SFSF's program design.**

## 2. Invest in additional pilots targeting specific populations

Though it has already been well established that guaranteed income has enormous benefits for low-income individuals and families, more research is needed to understand its particular impacts on specific populations. Specific outcomes of interest include the impact on violent crime, children's educational outcomes, and families involved in the Child Welfare System.

**We call on the District to invest \$15 million to fund rigorously evaluated guaranteed income programs at 5-10 participating organizations** serving populations who face diverse social and economic circumstances. Additionally, **we seek a Hold Harmless Fund of \$6.75 million** to support families whose other benefits may be reduced or lost because of this income.

## 3. Pass Zachary Parker's District Child Tax Credit and Financial Support for Families with Children with funding for outreach

Both the DCTC and FSFC bills would provide refundable tax credits to low and/or moderate income families with children, with the FSFC providing a larger credit that is more targeted to extremely low income households. According to analyses by Policy Engine, each bill on its own would cost about \$27 million and reduce child poverty by about 5%. Together, they would cut child poverty in the District by roughly 10%.

Both bills were referred to the Committee on Business and Economic Development in March, but neither has received a hearing. **We call on City Council to pass CM Parker's DCTC and FSFC bills, and to amend the two bills to include funding for outreach to eligible families.**

## 4. Strengthen benefits protection

The Council has already acted to protect guaranteed income recipients from the loss of many benefits through the EITC Expansion Clarification Amendment Act of 2022. However, the Act did not address housing benefits.

**We also demand DCHA write a guaranteed income exclusion into their Moving to Work plan, so that housing benefits can be protected.** We do not expect these changes would have a significant cost to the District of Columbia.

## 5. Congress must pass the Worker Relief and Credit Reform Act

Rep Gwen Moore's (WI-4) WRCR (H.R.1468 - WRCR Act of 2023) would enact badly needed reforms to the federal EITC. Among other things, It would treat caregiving and higher education as work and would change the EITC to have a 100% phase in rate. Visit [bit.ly/EITCForCaregiversAndStudents](https://bit.ly/EITCForCaregiversAndStudents) for more information on the WRCR.



@DCGICoalition



@dgcicoalition



info@DCGICoalition.org



dgcicoalition.org