



A PROJECT OF MOTHER'S OUTREACH NETWORK

# DC Guaranteed Income Coalition Council Period 26 (2024 - 2025) Platform

## 1. Expand the District Child Tax Credit, introduced by Councilmember Parker with additional co-sponsors, with funding for outreach.

The FY2025 Budget included a \$15 million investment to establish the District Child Tax Credit legislation, proposed by Councilmember Zachary Parker. The DC Guaranteed Income Coalition worked with him on the original bill. It includes up to \$420 per child for up to three children for households with at least one child below age 6, effective starting in Tax Year 2025.

While this bill signifies that D.C. is on an historic path to a guaranteed income, there is still more work to do. We are seeking to expand the District Child Tax Credit. According to the DC Tax Revision Commission's recommendations, the tax credit should be doubled to up to \$1,000 per child, increase the age of eligible children to 18, and increase the income limits.

## 2. Strengthen benefits protection

The DC 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 that the DC Housing Authority 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.

## 3. Invest in multiple guaranteed income 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 DC Council to invest \$13.5 million to fund rigorously evaluated guaranteed income programs**—providing cash to 750 households for 3 years at \$500 a month—operated by 5 to 10 participating organizations serving populations that face diverse social and economic circumstances. **Additionally, we seek a Hold Harmless Fund of \$6.75 million**—enough to provide \$250 per month to 750 households for 3 years—to support pilot participants whose other benefits may be reduced or lost because of this income.

## 4. Expand and improve upon Strong Families, Strong Futures

DC's only publicly-funded guaranteed income pilot is Strong Families, Strong Futures, a direct cash assistance program supporting new and expecting mothers in Wards 5, 7, and 8 that was launched in 2022 with an initial grant of \$1.5 million. Although SFSF concluded payments to its first cohort in 2023, the DC Council allocated \$1.5 million of funding for another year of the program in 2023.

**We call on the DC Council to open SFSF to residents of all wards and to commission a robust evaluation of SFSF** that would explore the theory that providing cash positively impacts perinatal and infant health outcomes.

## 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