



A PROJECT OF MOTHER'S OUTREACH NETWORK

DC GI Coalition End-of-Year Newsletter

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- Preview the Upcoming 2026 Economic Justice Film Festival; plans include neighborhood screenings of *Cracked Shells* by co-sponsors ONE DC and Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid, and *Storming Caesar's Palace* by DC Poor People's Campaign, among others.
- Get Ready: The Mother Up Phase 3 Guaranteed Income Pilot is preparing to launch in December
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- DC GI Coalition T-Shirts: Get yours while supplies last!
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Five Years Down!



As we close out 2025, I am filled with gratitude for everyone who has built the DC Guaranteed Income Coalition over the past five years. Parents, caregivers, workers, and community partners across the city have come together to insist that families deserve cash stability and dignity, and that our neighbors should not have to choose between meeting basic needs and caring for their children. In that time, we have advanced bold ideas, from guaranteed income pilots to local tax credits, and we have done it together in relationship with those most directly targeted by harmful systems.

We are also organizing in a challenging moment. Our local autonomy remains under threat even as we work to protect and expand tools like the local DC Child Tax Credit and to grow guaranteed income efforts that move real dollars to households. The coming year will call for even deeper shared strategy and a wider circle of people ready to knock on doors, share stories, and help design what economic justice can look like in our city.

This newsletter lifts up some of the ways you can plug in right now. You will find details about our December eighteenth coalition meeting on Zoom, updates on the Child Tax Credit campaign, our Parents' Tax Clinic and celebration, the next phase of the Mother Up pilot, and chances to help shape a 2026 film series that keeps our communities' stories at the center. I hope you will read through, join us in the spaces that speak to you, and continue to walk with us as we push for policies and practices that honor family dignity and community power.

December 18 DC Guaranteed Income Coalition Meeting and Planning for 2026

We are closing out the year by looking back at five years of hard-won progress in the DC Guaranteed Income Coalition and looking ahead to new canvass opportunities and deeper organizing in 2026, even as our local autonomy remains under threat. Together with parents, caregivers, and community partners, we have pushed for policies that honor family dignity, stabilize household income, and challenge the way our systems treat our neighbors.

Join us, stay tuned, and follow us. We wish you the best of holidays filled with peace, joy, and rest for the necessary struggles for justice ahead.

In Peace, Resistance, and Joy,

Melody

Mother's Outreach Network/DC GI Coalition

Thursday, December 18, 2025, on Zoom we will:

- Share updates on guaranteed income campaigns across DC
- Lift up the new local DC Child Tax Credit and the volunteer-led petition drive and legislative work to protect and strengthen it
- Reflect on lessons from the Let's GO DMV pilot and other cash efforts
- Preview our 2026 film festival plans, including future screenings that build on Let's GO DMV and Standing with Moms
- Offer concrete opportunities to sign up for upcoming canvasses, committees, outreach, and other volunteer roles

Save the date and **register now** for the December 18, 2025, meeting via Zoom. Registration information is at bit.ly/DCGIEndofYear. Join us to help shape the road ahead and plug into coalition work in the new year.

Recap: December 9 DC Child Tax Credit Campaign and Parents' Tax Clinic and Celebration

2026 Launch of Workshops and Advice Clinics



Guest Speaker: Tazra Mitchell, DC Fiscal Policy Institute Chief Policy and Strategy Officer, at the joint DC Guaranteed Income Coalition and Mother's Outreach Network Parents' Tax Clinic and Celebration. Also joining as a guest presenter was Brittany Pope, Bread for the City, Economic Security Supervisor.

Mother's Outreach Network (MON) aims to equip mothers in the Washington, D.C., area with the resources they need to provide for their families. Our Parents' Tax Workshop & Clinic provides mothers the opportunity to learn more about tax credits they may be eligible for in the upcoming tax filing year. Through presentations from experienced tax professionals on eligibility requirements and one-on-one consultations, mothers will be provided the necessary tools and resources to have confidence when they file their taxes. In our most recent Tax Workshop & Clinic, MON celebrated with mothers the recent passage of the local Child Tax Credit in D.C., which provides families up to \$1,000 per child. For more information on when our next Tax Workshop & Clinic is scheduled, please refer to our website: mothersoutreachnetwork.org and join our mailing list at <https://bit.ly/MonMailingList>

Help us put real money back into mothers' pockets by spreading the word for Mother's Outreach Network's Free Tax Workshops & Brief Advice Legal Clinics, which will resume in January 2026!

This event was organized with partners Mothers Outreach Network, Bread for the City, DC Fiscal Policy Institute, and Spaces in Action, as part of a shared commitment to ensuring that public benefits and tax credits reach the families they are designed to serve.

Volunteer-Led Petition Drive and Legislative Campaign Seeks Your Participation!

Our volunteer-led petition drive and legislative campaign to protect and strengthen the local DC Child Tax Credit continues into 2026. Coalition members are gathering signatures, sharing stories, and meeting with council offices to show why cash-based supports are essential to family stability and community well-being.

At upcoming meetings and canvasses we will:

- Share talking points about the local Child Tax Credit and related tax provisions
- Support volunteers to speak from lived experience and professional expertise
- Plan visits to council offices and community events where we can build support



DC GI Coalition member Vee Tucker collects signatures at the 2024 Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid Back to School Event. Watch for sign-up links at the December 18 coalition meeting and in future emails if you want to help staff tables at community events, collect signatures, or participate in outreach to decision-makers.

Film Festival and Culture Work in 2026

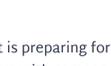


Courtesy of WAMU. Ruth Tedla, Cracked Shells.

Building on our screenings of Let's GO DMV and Standing with Moms, the Coalition is planning a 2026 film series that highlights the experiences and leadership of parents, workers, and community organizers who are demanding guaranteed income and broader economic justice. This includes plans for a future screening of *Cracked Shells* and other creative projects that keep storytelling at the center of our work.

The film series is one way we invite the wider public into deeper conversation about why permanent guaranteed income and other cash-focused policies matter and how they connect to struggles for autonomy in DC. In 2026, there will be multiple chances to host screenings, participate in discussions, and help shape the next phase of this culture work.

Mother Up Phase 3 Research Pilot Preparing to Launch



The Mother Up guaranteed income research pilot is preparing for its Phase 3 due to action with D.C. mothers who have children in the foster system or whose children live with someone else due to action by the Child and Family Services Agency, the family regulation system at the heart of the design. The pilot is grounded in the theory of change that direct cash supports family preservation, reduces system involvement, and affirms the leadership of mothers who know firsthand how harmful surveillance and separation can be.

We are excited to draw the year to a close with the initiation of our third phase of the Mother Up Guaranteed Income Research Pilot Project, again in partnership with the Access to Justice Lab at Harvard Law School!

This project is so important to our mission to legislate the truth that "poverty is not neglect."

We deeply appreciate those of you who have previously participated in recruitment efforts for earlier phases of the Mother Up Project and look forward to building a new cohort of participant moms. A later announcement will share more details and a link to apply.

Ways to Plug In

Throughout 2026, the Coalition will create additional spaces to connect, deepen relationships, and move work forward. At upcoming meetings, we will provide opportunities to sign up for:

- Neighborhood and digital canvasses
- Policy advocacy committees and ad hoc working groups
- Event planning teams, including for future film screenings and community conversations

Get Involved

If you are ready to help lead a committee or host a house meeting or community conversation, please flag your interest at the December 18 coalition meeting or reply to this email at info@dgcgi.coalition.org so that staff and volunteer leaders can follow up with you.

Claim Your DC GI Coalition T-Shirt While Supplies Last!



Help make guaranteed income visible across the city. DC GI Coalition T-shirts are available for volunteers and partners to wear at canvasses, community meetings, and events. To request a shirt while supplies last, contact info@dgcgi.coalition.org with your size and preferred pickup or event where you plan to wear it.

Want to join our Signal group, share your ideas, or say hello?

Tell us via email at info@dgcgi.coalition.org