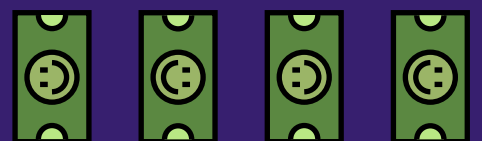
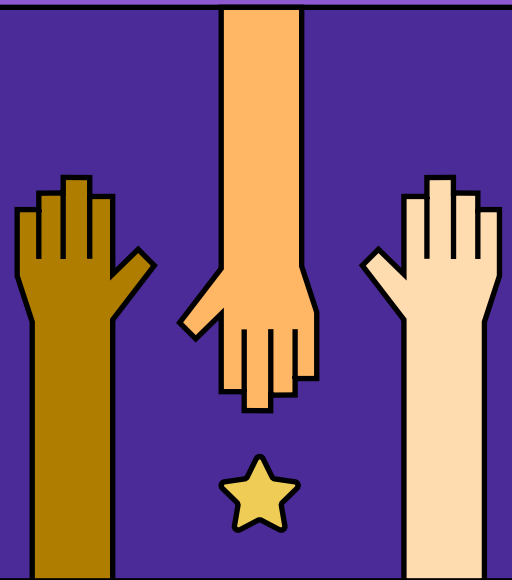
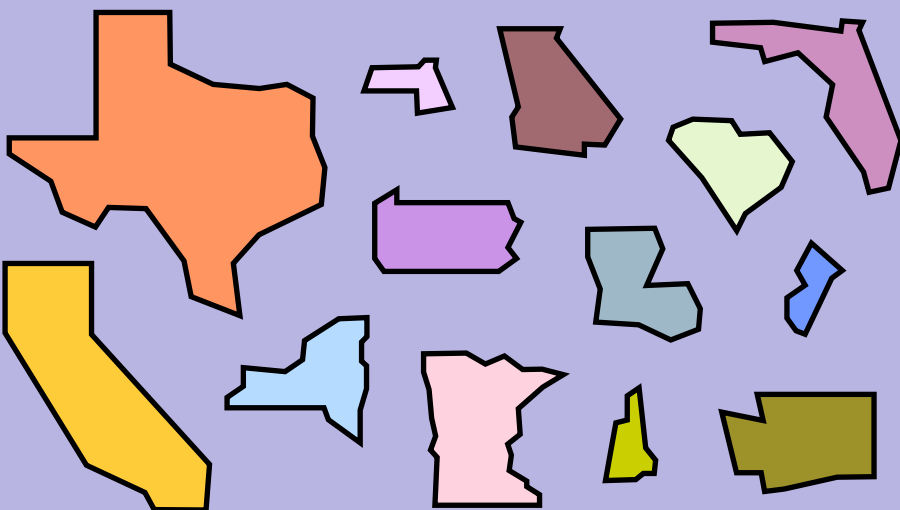


MAYORS FOR A GUARANTEED INCOME

Year In Review

June 2020 - June 2021



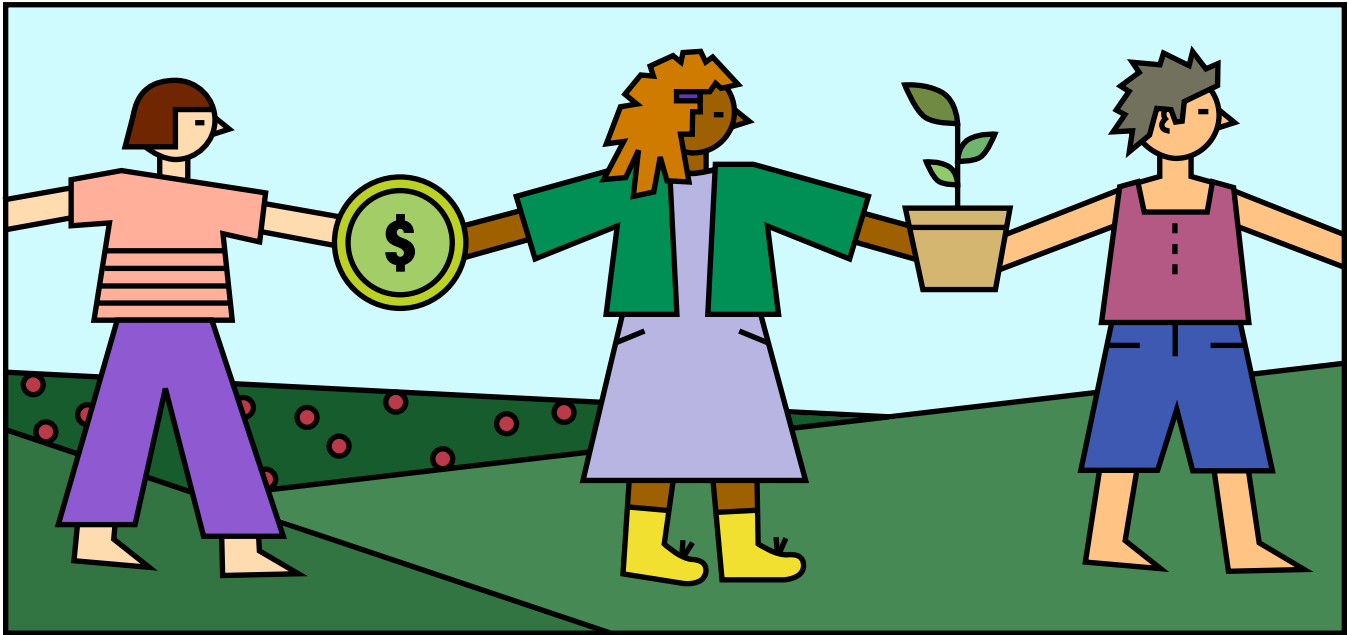
Letter from MGI Leadership

When we founded MGI one year ago, there were multiple driving factors. There was the logistical – many mayors across the country were interested in replicating a version of the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED) in their cities, but there wasn't a one-stop-shop providing infrastructure, technical assistance and rigorous research processes needed for a city to start their own pilot.

There was also the reality that SEED was about to end, and that guaranteed income was an idea that needed life beyond one mayor and one city. The founding of our organization in June of last year also came at the height of the pandemic, when millions of people were struggling with unemployment, child care and meeting their basic needs – many of them for the first time in their lives – and it was clear the economic devastation wasn't going to go away in a few weeks or few months.

This brings in the moral imperative of MGI. Last year also brought an inspiring wave of protests across the country, and the world, demanding equity for people of color – particularly Black Americans who have been historically excluded from economic gains. With its roots in racial and gender justice history, guaranteed income was recognized again as a key tool in the economic liberation for people of color.

Continued



We are founded on the belief that in the richest country in the world, no one should live in poverty, and that we can afford an income floor for all who need it. We operate based on the truth that financial instability is not the failure of individuals, but rather the failure of policies.

We've made tremendous progress in the past year advancing both the narrative and policy vision of this work – from the widespread attention given to the impressive results of SEED to the passage of a Child Tax Credit expansion that will provide nearly every parent in America with a guaranteed income for a year. We kept the heat on Congress to provide more stimulus checks, and we got them. We worked with state leaders, leading to \$35 million in guaranteed income pilot funding included in the California budget, a first in the country. We also continued to advance guaranteed income on the ground, growing our ranks rapidly from 11 to 57 mayors, and scaling up our pilots from one to more than two dozen already launched or in progress.

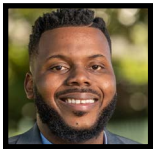
As we look to the work of our next year, we are driven by our initial success as well as the recognition that we still have a long path ahead before we achieve a world that provides financial stability and opportunity to all who need it through an income floor. Our goal remains necessary, and ambitious: passing a federal guaranteed income. We will work with the administration and Congressional leaders to ensure the CTC is made permanent. The research from our pilots will continue to feed into the evidence base proving that cash works. We will also invest in narrative efforts to show that the economy is not numbers on a graph, it's the financial reality of people in our communities. To that end, we'll be launching a photojournalism project with a major news outlet in the coming months.

Through these combined efforts at every level of government, we will relentlessly fight for our shared goal of recognizing that we have the tool to eradicate poverty and strengthen the middle class: a guaranteed income.

**In Service,
Michael D. Tubbs**

Team

Advisory Board



Michael D. Tubbs,
Founder / Chair, MGI
Special Advisor to Governor
Newsom on Economic
Mobility and Opportunity
Former Mayor of Stockton, CA



Melvin Carter,
Mayor of
Saint Paul, MN



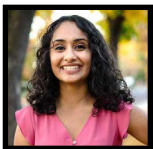
Eric Garcetti,
Mayor of
Los Angeles, CA



Taylor Jo Isenberg,
Executive Director,
Economic Security Project



MGI Team



Sukhi Samra,
Executive Director



Cameron Burns,
Deputy Director



Saadia McConville,
Communications
Director



Kathrine Cagat,
Research and
Program Officer



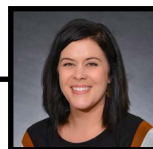
Abe Rakov,
Senior Advisor



Center for Guaranteed Income Research (CGIR) Staff



Amy Castro Baker,
Assistant Professor of
Social Policy and Practice,
University of Pennsylvania



Stacia West,
Assistant Professor
of Social Work,
University of Tennessee



Erin Coltrera,
Lead Research
& Program Officer



Launch Op-Ed

**Our residents
deserve economic
security through a
guaranteed income**

FOUNDERS

Michael D. Tubbs
Stockton, CA

Chokwe Antar Lumumba
Jackson, MS

Melvin Carter
Saint Paul, MN

Ras J. Baraka
Newark, NJ

Aja Brown
Compton, CA

Eric Garcetti
Los Angeles, CA

Adrian Perkins
Shreveport, LA

Libby Schaaf
Oakland, CA

Stephen Benjamin
Columbia, SC

Keisha Lance Bottoms
Atlanta, GA

Victoria R. Woodards
Tacoma, WA

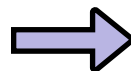
TIME

**MLK Had a Dream of Guaranteed Income.
As Mayors of 11 U.S. Cities, We Are Bringing
That Dream to Life**

In 1967, against a backdrop of massive civil unrest, Dr. Martin Luther King wrote *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?* and called for the immediate abolition of poverty. In the richest nation in the world, King saw no justification for the evil of rampant poverty and chastised the government's efforts against the ill as "piecemeal and pygmy." Housing efforts were subject to the whims of the legislature, educational reforms were sluggish, and family assistance programs were neglected; all failed to reach the most profound needs of the poor. King's economic dream was the most direct – a guaranteed income for all Americans. This week, more than 50 years later and against a similar backdrop of racial and economic unrest, we mayors are bringing that dream to life.

Today, we mayors are uniting to send a clear message: our residents deserve economic security through a guaranteed income. We are calling on legislators to wake up to Dr. King's dream for a federal guaranteed income that will put cash back into the hands of everyday Americans. Faced again with the question of chaos or community, we're choosing the latter – it's time to invest directly in our communities and our people.

We welcome all U.S. mayors to join our coalition to strengthen all our communities by supplementing the existing social safety net and driving forward this powerful tool for racial and gender equity.



**To read the full article
please click [here](#)**

Statement of Principles

.....

WHEREAS, the U.S. is one of the wealthiest countries in the world but prosperity and well-being are not broadly shared. Nearly 40% of Americans cannot afford a single \$400 emergency, and rising income inequality is compounded by a growing racial wealth gap; and

WHEREAS, the median white worker made 28% more than the typical Black worker and 35% more than the median Latinx worker in the last quarter of 2019, and the median wealth of white families was more than \$100,000 while the median wealth of Black families was approximately \$10,000 prior to the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, women - particularly women of color - are the most likely to live in poverty, are overrepresented in low-paying occupations, and are far more likely to lack access to sick leave and health care benefits; and

WHEREAS, Black women are paid 66 cents for every dollar that is paid to white men, and Latinas make even less at 58 cents for every dollar white men make; and

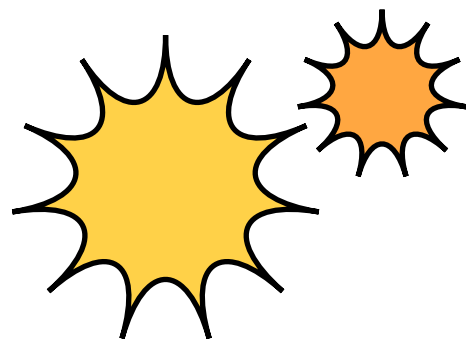
WHEREAS, we live in a time of pandemics and climate disruptions, and everyone deserves an income floor through a guaranteed income, which is a monthly, cash payment given directly to individuals. It is unconditional, with no strings attached and no work requirements. A guaranteed income is meant to supplement, rather than replace, the existing social safety net and can be a tool for racial and gender equity.

WHEREAS, a guaranteed income empowers recipients to address their most urgent needs and provides a cushion for unpredictable expenses, external shocks, and volatility; and

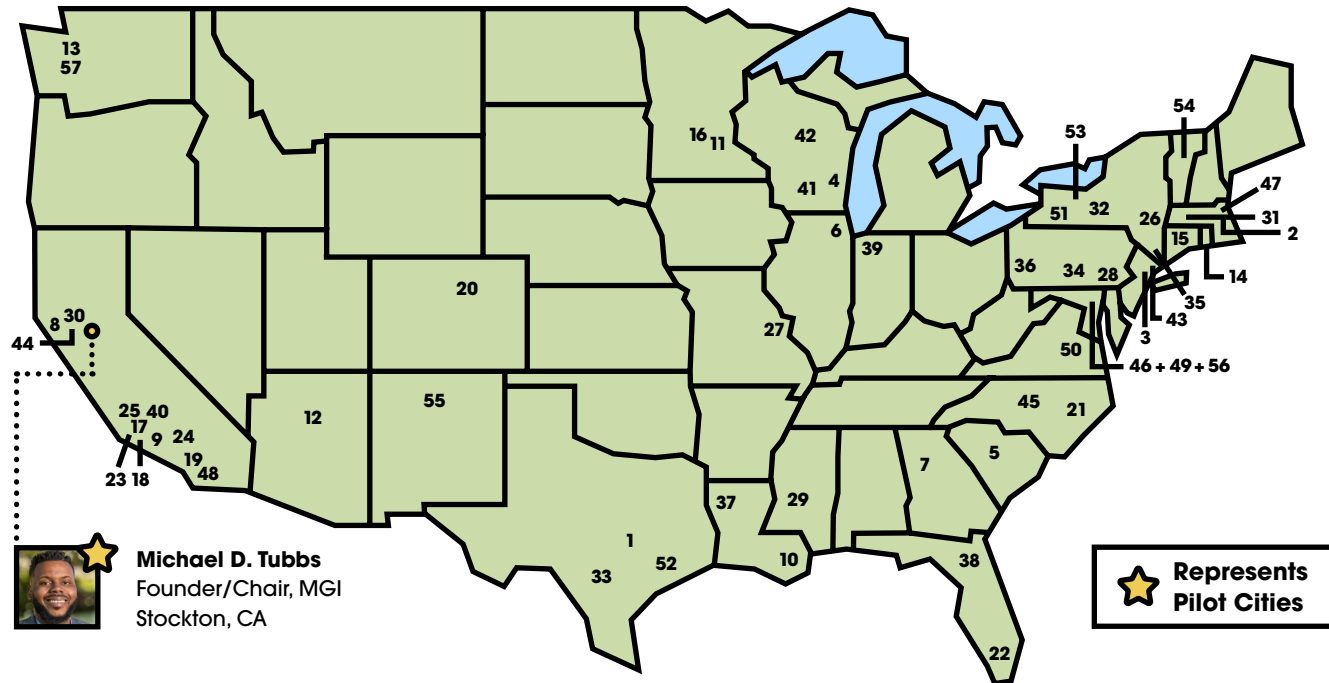
WHEREAS, as mayors, our problems may look different from town to town, but we are united in our duty to ensure the economic security of our residents through a guaranteed income.

Now, therefore, we resolve to work together to advance the following principles:

1. Advocate for a guaranteed income at the local, state, and federal level.
2. Invest in narrative change efforts to highlight the lived experiences of economic insecurity.
3. Invite other cities to join us in our efforts, and provide technical assistance and funding support for new pilots.



Mayors Leading the Way



- 1 **Steve Adler**
Austin, TX
- 2 **Thomas G. Ambrosino**
Chelsea, MA
- 3 **Ras J. Baraka**
Newark, NJ
- 4 **Tom Barrett**
Milwaukee, WI
- 5 **Stephen Benjamin**
Columbia, SC
- 6 **Daniel Biss**
Evanston, IL

- 7 **Keisha Lance Bottoms**
Atlanta, GA
- 8 **London Breed**
San Francisco, CA
- 9 **Aja Brown**
Compton, CA
- 10 **LaToya Cantrell**
New Orleans, LA
- 11 **Melvin Carter**
Saint Paul, MN
- 12 **Paul Deasy**
Flagstaff, AZ

- 13 **Jenny Durkan**
Seattle, WA
- 14 **Jorge O. Elorza**
Providence, RI
- 15 **Benjamin Florsheim**
Middletown, CT
- 16 **Jacob Frey**
Minneapolis, MN
- 17 **Eric Garcetti**
Los Angeles, CA
- 18 **Robert Garcia**
Long Beach, CA

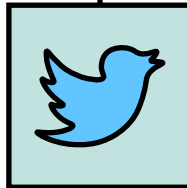
- 19 **Todd Gloria**
San Diego, CA
- 20 **Michael B. Hancock**
Denver, CO
- 21 **Don Hardy**
Kinston, NC
- 22 **Rodney Harris**
Miami Gardens, FL
- 23 **Sue Himmelrich**
Santa Monica, CA
- 24 **Christy Holstege**
Palm Springs, CA
- 25 **Lindsey P. Horvath**
West Hollywood, CA
- 26 **Kamal Johnson**
Hudson, NY
- 27 **Tishaura O. Jones**
Saint Louis, MO
- 28 **Jim Kenney**
Philadelphia, PA
- 29 **Chokwe A. Lumumba**
Jackson, MS
- 30 **Dianne Martinez**
Emeryville, CA
- 31 **Alex Morse**
Holyoke, MA

- 32 **Svante Myrick**
Ithaca, NY
- 33 **Ron Nirenberg**
San Antonio, TX
- 34 **Eric Papenfuss**
Harrisburg, PA
- 35 **Shawyn Patterson-Howard**
Mount Vernon, NY
- 36 **William Peduto**
Pittsburgh, PA
- 37 **Adrian D. Perkins**
Shreveport, LA
- 38 **Lauren Poe**
Gainesville, FL
- 39 **Jerome A. Prince**
Gary, IN
- 40 **Sasha Renée Pérez**
Alhambra, CA
- 41 **Satya Rhodes-Conway**
Madison, WI
- 42 **Katie Rosenberg**
Wausau, WI
- 43 **Andre Sayegh**
Paterson, NJ
- 44 **Libby Schaaf**
Oakland, CA

- 45 **Steve Schewel**
Durham, NC
- 46 **Brandon Scott**
Baltimore, MD
- 47 **Sumbul Siddiqui**
Cambridge, MA
- 48 **Alejandra Sotelo-Solis**
National City, CA
- 49 **Kate Stewart**
Takoma Park, MD
- 50 **Levar Stoney**
Richmond, VA
- 51 **Edward A. Sundquist**
Jamestown, NY
- 52 **Sylvester Turner**
Houston, TX
- 53 **Lovely A. Warren**
Rochester, NY
- 54 **Anne Watson**
Montpelier, VT
- 55 **Alan Webber**
Santa Fe, NM
- 56 **Patrick Wojahn**
College Park, MD
- 57 **Victoria R. Woodards**
Tacoma, WA

Spotlights on Pilots

Spotlights on pilots supported by an \$18M grant from Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey through his #startsmall initiative.

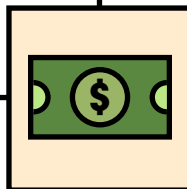


Stockton, CA ★

In February 2019, Michael D. Tubbs led the **Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED)**, giving 125 residents \$500 per month for 24 months. The demonstration has concluded and preliminary results can be reviewed [here](#). The results drew international coverage, including an exclusive in *The Atlantic*.

Richmond, VA ★

Mayor Levar Stoney's (Richmond, VA) **Richmond Resilience Initiative** is providing 55 working families who no longer qualify for benefits assistance but still do not make a living wage with \$500 a month for 24 months. RRI is also funded partially through CARES Act dollars. The Richmond Times-Dispatch covered the program's announcement [here](#).



Saint Paul, MN ★

Mayor Melvin Carter (Saint Paul, MN) launched the **People's Prosperity Pilot**, which is providing 150 residents with babies with \$500 per month for up to 18 months. PPP pairs guaranteed income with a college savings account and is the first pilot to leverage public dollars, funded partially by CARES Act dollars and the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Mayor Carter discussed the program on *CNN* and also co-authored an [op-ed](#) on why he was pursuing a guaranteed income with MGI Founder Michael Tubbs.

Compton, CA ★

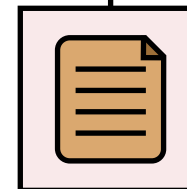
Mayor Aja Brown (Compton, CA) launched the **Compton Pledge**, which is giving 800 Compton residents a guaranteed income of varying amounts (\$300-\$600) for 24 months. The LA Times covered the pilot [here](#).

Chelsea, MA ★

In **Chelsea, Massachusetts**, 2,040 low-income families are receiving up to \$400 a month for several months. The cash comes at a time when nearly 40% of families enrolled in the program reported being food insecure - that sometimes, they do not have enough to eat. The Editorial Board of the Boston Globe [recently wrote](#) about the pilot's impact.

Paterson, NJ ★

Mayor Andre Sayegh (Paterson, NJ) will provide \$400 per month for 12 months to 110 individuals who are 18 years old and above with an annual income below \$30,000 for a single person and \$88,000 for a family. NBC covered the pilot [here](#).

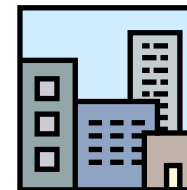


Hudson, NY ★

Mayor Kamal Johnson's (Hudson, NY) **HudsonUP** is providing \$500 per month to 25 randomly selected Hudson residents for five years. Recipients are residents of Hudson, NY who are above the age of 18 and earn less than \$35,153 each year (median annual income of the city of Hudson). PBS Newshour visited Hudson to report on the program, watch their segment [here](#).

Gary, IN ★

Mayor Jerome Prince's (Gary, IN) **Guaranteed Income Validation Effort (GIVE)** is providing \$500 per month to 120 residents for a year. The local PBS affiliate covered the pilot [here](#).



There are 16 additional pilots in the works, and we've made important progress at the state level, with CA Governor Gavin Newsom including **\$35M** in pilot support in his 2021-2022 budget.

Moving from Pilots to Policy

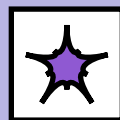
MGI advocated for recurring stimulus checks as Americans across the country continued to struggle with patch unemployment systems, a stumbling economic recovery and a lack of action in Congress to pass meaningful COVID-19 economic relief.

As the data below shows, checks played a critical role in helping people weather the economic storm of the pandemic. We also made sure Congress heeded our **sign-on letters** urging them to provide swift economic relief through additional stimulus checks, taking out **full-page ads** in the Washington Post and TIME Magazine.

Since launching, MGI has also:



- unanimously passed a US Conference of Mayors Resolution urging Congress to adopt a guaranteed income policy;



- been named a World Changing Idea by Fast Company;



- supported the State of California to put forward \$35,000,000 in the annual budget to support cities and counties with guaranteed income pilots;

This was the year that cash broke through as smart policy and winning politics. Read more about moving from pilots to policy from our partners at the Economic Security Project

[HERE](#)

Where Do We Go from Here...

In March 2021, the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED) released its first year findings. What we saw was that guaranteed income builds economic resilience and provides dignity for all.



STATUS QUO



AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR ALL

Even before the pandemic, 40% of Americans could not afford a single \$400 emergency.



Before receiving guaranteed income, just 25% of recipients would pay for an unexpected expense with cash or a cash equivalent. One year in, 52% of them were able to pay for an unexpected expense with cash or a cash equivalent.

In 2020, of the hourly workers making below minimum wage, 56.6% are 25 years old and older (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020).



Unconditional cash enabled recipients to find full-time employment. In February 2019, 28% of SEED recipients had full-time employment. One year later, 40% of recipients were employed full-time.

70% of adults in America cited the economy as a significant source of stress in 2020. This is similar to figures during the recession in 2008, which was at 69%. (American Psychological Association, 2020)



One year after receiving the guaranteed income, the treatment group showed statistically significant differences in emotional health, going from mild mental health disorder to likely mental wellness.

As of 2019, 34% of children in the United States born in the bottom quintile will remain there as adults. Black and Native American children have significantly lower rates of upward mobility compared to other racial groups. (Reeves and Pulliam, The Brookings Institution, 2019)



The guaranteed income alleviated financial scarcity creating new opportunities for self-determination, choice, goal-setting, and risk-taking.



Join Us / Learn More

It has been a year of tremendous growth for both our organization and the movement to pass a guaranteed income. Here are some highlights:

<p>1</p> <p>more than quintupled the number of mayors</p>	<p>2</p> <p>secured millions of dollars in pilot funding</p>	<p>3</p> <p>passed more than a dozen city resolutions & ordinances in support of guaranteed income and recurring cash</p>
--	---	--

The results of the initial SEED pilot that inspired MGI drew widespread media attention and helped bolster the case for ongoing economic relief through the pandemic and beyond.

The last year has shown us that, with our collective energy and dedication to creating an economy that works for all, we can achieve huge progress quickly.

We are grateful for the hard work of our member mayors, their dedicated staffers and our many wonderful partner organizations both locally and nationally.

If our first year is any indication, we will do great things together in the coming months as we continue to fight for our shared goal of providing every American who needs the stability, opportunity and freedom of a guaranteed income.



A special thank you to our funders for making our work possible:

Jack Dorsey's #startsmall, Arrow Impact, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and Shah Foundation