



MAYORS FOR A GUARANTEED INCOME

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NEW REPORT LINKS GUARANTEED INCOME TO BETTER OUTCOMES FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN

Researchers Analyzed Data from Guaranteed Income Pilots in Four Southern U.S. Cities: Atlanta, Birmingham, Louisville and Shreveport

November 28, 2023 – A new brief released today by Mayors for a Guaranteed Income and Abt Associates analyzes the effects of guaranteed income programs on parents, caregivers and children, using data from pilot programs across the U.S. South. Key findings include:

- Guaranteed income recipients were able to be more present with their children—for example, spending more time helping with homework or doing special activities together. It also reduced parental stress, allowing for more connection with their children.
- Parents and caregivers shared that guaranteed income helped them provide for their children: buying necessities from school uniforms to healthier food, investing in developmental and extracurricular programs, and securing better housing for their children’s safety and development.
- The lack of restrictions on guaranteed income payments gave families the flexibility needed to best meet their specific needs, such as supporting grieving children who’d lost a parent.
- Guaranteed income helped improve some children’s relationships to school, including their behavior, academic performance, and enthusiasm for school. This in turn increased children’s overall happiness and confidence.

Guaranteed income programs give direct and recurring cash assistance to qualifying individuals. The pilot programs studied in this report – Atlanta, GA, Birmingham, AL, Louisville, KY and Shreveport, LA – are just four of over 100 pilots nationwide. Nearly 50 of them—and all four in this report—are affiliated with [Mayors for a Guaranteed Income](#) (MGI), a network founded in 2020 by Michael D. Tubbs, former Mayor of Stockton, CA, where the first pilot program

produced [tremendous results](#). Pilots affiliated with MGI select qualified recipients at random and partner with independent research groups to conduct studies that include a control group. The specific parameters for qualifying vary by city, but all are targeted at alleviating poverty with a monthly supplement to household income.

“The stories in this brief are emotionally moving. Too many parents are put into impossible situations, working multiple jobs and coming home still consumed with anxiety about how they’ll provide for their family,” said **Michael D. Tubbs**. “The sense of relief that comes with guaranteed income allows parents to focus more on what their family needs, and it’s common sense that both parents and children benefit.”

“Our pilot in Birmingham, Embrace Mothers, focused on single mothers for precisely the reasons made evident in this brief,” said **Birmingham Mayor Randall Woodfin**. “No mother can thrive when she’s worried about how her child’s basic needs will be met. When you put resources into mothers, they use it to better their children’s lives. That, in turn, benefits whole communities and makes our city stronger. I believe we need a guaranteed income on the federal level, because it will make our nation more resilient.”

“I am proud that Shreveport was one of the cities that helped single parents succeed through a guaranteed income,” said **former Shreveport Mayor Adrian Perkins**. “Too many Americans live with economic insecurities and it destabilizes families and communities. The results of this brief show that guaranteed income is a path to ending poverty and strengthening our cities, states and the nation as a whole.”

Read the full briefing from Abt Associates: [“My kids, they deserve the world”: How children in the Southeast benefit from guaranteed income](#)

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*Founded in June of 2020 by former Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs, [Mayors for a Guaranteed Income](#) is a coalition of over 125 mayors committed to advancing a federal guaranteed income – direct, recurring cash payments to middle and low-income people. Expanding to include city and county legislators in 2023 with [Counties for a Guaranteed Income](#), the network acts as research and resource hub for municipal pilots around the country—48 and counting. A new documentary film, *It’s Basic*, which premiered at Tribeca Film Festival in June 2023, follows recipients and illuminates the life-changing impact of guaranteed income programs on families’ economic security and opportunity.*