



# Poverty Impacts Us All strengthen our economy...

## Poverty Impacts Us All.

Whether we know it or not each of us pays the cost living in a city with a high rate of poverty. The good news is that we each can do something about it. When we speak with one collective voice we can change the conversation and by providing opportunities for those living in poverty, you are not only helping our neighbors and fellow citizen, you

- **Strengthen Our Economy** by increasing our tax base and the consumer base for District businesses.
- **Build Our Neighborhoods** by improving access to resources and improving our schools.
- **Empower Our Families** by providing economic security and stable homes.

## Strengthen Our Economy

Most arguments for reducing poverty emphasize the moral cases for doing so; however, there is a strong economic case for reducing poverty. When individuals live in poverty, they are less likely to be contributing to economic growth and lack the ability to purchase goods and services from our city's small businesses.

Strengthening the District's economy and ending poverty both require putting individuals – who have the skills needed in our economy – to work. To build the strong economic foundation that our city needs, our city must do a better job of providing an infrastructure that enables our workforce to get the education, learn the skills, and obtain the life supports that are necessary to be productive members of our workforce.

When we strengthen our workforce, the effects trickle down. We see more consumers, a stronger local business environment and an improved quality of life for everyone in the city.

## Learn about the Campaign

- **Build a Strong Foundation** - *Make Basic Needs Accessible to District residents*
- **Make Work Possible** - *Provide the skills & supports residents need to work*
- **Make Work Pay** - *Help residents live in our city and contribute to our economy*

## Make Your Voice Heard

- Sign the Pledge to cut poverty in half by 2022
- Utilize your social media networks to spread the word
- Author Op-Ed pieces in support of our campaign

## Take Action

- Meet with our elected officials
- Sign a letter supporting our campaign
- Testify before the council

**19.2% or nearly 110,000** District residents live in poverty

**The FACTS:**

- **37,000 D.C. residents** looking for work can't find a job.
- More than **70% of District jobs** are held by non-DC residents.
- If we could eliminate childhood poverty, research estimates that we could boost our **national GDP by about \$500 billion per year**, or the equivalent of nearly 4% of GDP.



**Endorse our Campaign**

*Make Work Possible  
Make Work Pay  
Make Basic Needs Accessible*



**By endorsing our campaign**, you are not only helping our neighbors and fellow citizens you affirm that you are committed to growing the local economy and creating economic opportunity. Additionally, you will have access to:

- Networking events with leaders from across the city.
- Opportunities to tell your story and highlight your events to our members.
- Our support on events and forums that help to defeat poverty.
- Talking points for events and facts for newsletters.
- Use of our logo on your website to show your support for our campaign.