

# ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

# Proclamation

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## COUNTIES FOR A GUARANTEED INCOME

WHEREAS, 46% of American households have experienced serious financial trouble during the pandemic, including running out of savings, difficulty affording food, paying utility bills, and paying their rent or mortgage; and

WHEREAS, Black and Hispanic workers were more likely to experience COVID-19-related unemployment, as well as higher levels of food insecurity and nearly twice as much difficulty meeting household expenses; and

WHEREAS, direct Economic Impact Payments under the CARES and ARPA legislation alleviated and reduced poverty, allowing individuals and families to pay for essential needs, such as rent, food, and utilities; and

WHEREAS, the expanded child tax credit reached more than 35 million households with children, temporarily cutting child poverty by nearly half and driving it to record lows, including for all racial and ethnic groups measured; and

WHEREAS, the expanded child tax credit reduced food insecurity among families by 26% and led to the lowest share of households with children that were food insecure on record; and

WHEREAS, nearly 40% of Americans could not afford a single \$400 emergency prior to the pandemic, and rising income inequality is compounded by an ever-growing wealth divide; and

WHEREAS, Arlington County has experienced an sustained high level of eviction prevention assistance requests from low-income households since 2020; and

WHEREAS, providing an income floor through which no American family could fall will benefit individuals and communities both now and in the future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Arlington County Board,

Supports Arlington County Board becoming a member of Counties for a Guaranteed Income on behalf of Arlington to advance work to create an income floor for all residents; and

Supports ongoing, direct cash payments to be part of any future stimulus package, and that any such package include funding for local governments to facilitate guaranteed income pilots; and

Urges formal local advocacy efforts to ensure such payments and funding are included in any major economic stimulus legislation going forward; and

Calls on President Biden and Congress to develop an ongoing federal guaranteed income program that provides an income floor for all Americans.

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# *Proclamation*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christian Dorsey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "C".

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Christian Dorsey  
Chair