My name is Rachel Rosekind, and I urge you to allocate $3M in ARPA funds to launch a guaranteed income pilot.

Guaranteed income is the currency of care, recovery, and urgency.

First, it acknowledges that we do not live—and have never lived—in a land of equal opportunity and adopts a level-up approach to equitably resourcing individuals.

Second, it responds to the immediacy of here and now: Declining social mobility, widening income inequality, and rising living costs are impoverishing individuals, straining families, and fragmenting communities. The pandemic has widened existing inequities and created new ones, and our region's recovery has been drastically uneven across population sectors.

Third, guaranteed income disrupts systemic racism. Economic distress and precarity are pervasive. They are also highly racialized. One in four Black and Latino Americans live in poverty and lag well behind whites on just about every measure of well-being, including health, homeownership, and wealth.

Fourth, guaranteed income is preventive: It mitigates economic precarity **and** prevents it by reducing income volatility and its impacts.

The data on the dozens of nationwide guaranteed income pilots are clear: direct cash payments have been a life-saver, game-changer, and community booster. It can end intergenerational poverty, institute a floor that provides for people's basic needs, and heal the harms that result from not being able to meet them. A guaranteed income pilot is aligned with the Treasury's direction for ARPA funds to "prioritize equity and target resources to communities disproportionately negatively impacted by the pandemic." To date, 21 jurisdictions, including **9 counties**, have invested or shown promise to invest ARPA funds in a guaranteed income pilot.

Guaranteed income represents the net-widening of prosperity and a commitment to collective uplift.

It is **not true** that rising tides lift all boats, but it *is true* that when we lift from the bottom, we all rise. ***Together***.