

THE NEED FOR A GUARANTEED BASIC INCOME

IN WASHINGTON...

we believe everyone deserves the essentials: a roof over their head, a stocked pantry, and to see a doctor when they're sick without worrying about the size of the bill.

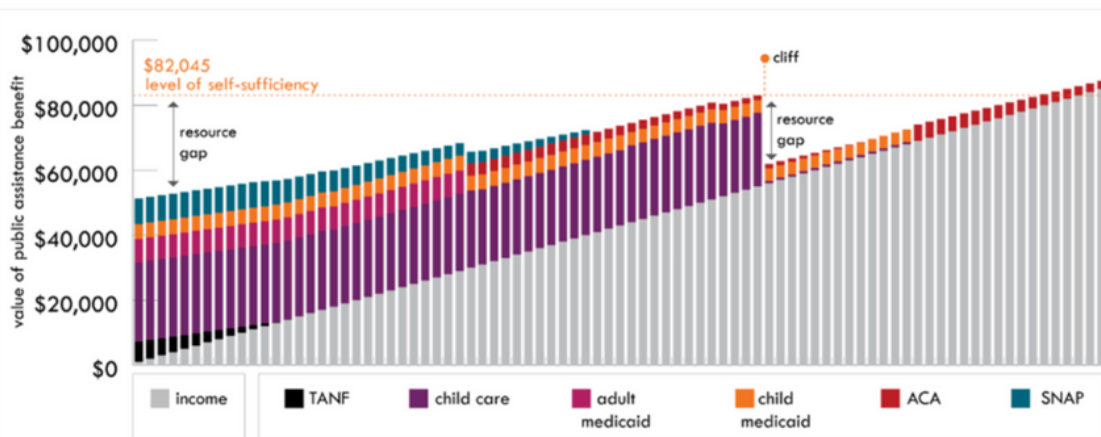
A **guaranteed basic income (GBI) program** would provide monthly, unconditional, and unrestricted cash payments that offer participants greater freedom, dignity, and choice in caring for themselves and their families.

THE PROBLEM:

Although our state offers many public assistance programs, they are often not enough. A family of three needs \$82,000 to have an adequate standard of living. With the current amount of cash, food, child care, and medical assistance, lower-income families cannot keep up with the costs for the basics. In some cases, the gap between what they receive and what they need is around \$20,000.

GAPS & CLIFFS IN SELECT PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS*

Family of Three – One Adult, Two Child (ages 2 and 6) King County, 2021



Source: Ilin, Elias and Ellyn Terry. 2021. 'The Policy Rules Database.' Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta.

Available at www.frbatlanta.org/economic-mobility-and-resilience/advancing-careers-for-low-income-families/policy-rules-database.aspx.

*Section 8 not included due to limited availability; not all people eligible receive these benefits due to limitations in funding or access (child care deserts).

Source: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Basic

HOUSEHOLDS THAT WOULD BENEFIT

GBI operates on the principle that every person has intrinsic value and deserves to have their basic needs met regardless of their ability, employment, citizenship status, or household composition.

INCOME: \$26,191

Single-person household

A person who recently exited the criminal legal system finds a job that pays minimum wage at a fast food restaurant, only gets scheduled for four days a week, and makes \$26,191 that year.



INCOME: \$0

Single-person household

An immigrant who quit her job to provide 24/7 care for a parent with Alzheimer's disease is living off of her savings.



INCOME: \$32,739

2-person household

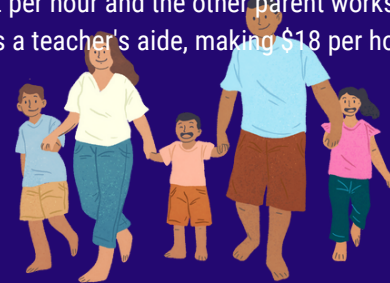
A single parent with a child is working full-time at a grocery store, makes \$32,739 a year.



INCOME: \$64,480

5-person household

Two parents with three children, ages eight, five, and three. One parent works full-time as a car mechanic making \$22 per hour and the other parent works part-time as a teacher's aide, making \$18 per hour.



WHO WE ARE

The GBI coalition has a membership of 160+ diverse community partners from across the state representing interests in early childhood, food security, foster youth, education, healthcare, immigrant and refugee justice, housing, domestic violence prevention, labor, and more.