

A Basic Income For All

Cash assistance programs are a proven way to reduce wealth inequality, stimulate the economy, and help the people of Washington State make ends meet. In 1997, Washington State created the “WorkFirst” TANF-equivalent program to ensure the state’s residents had access to funds that could bolster their working wages.



More recently, in 2021, the State Legislature took the step of funding the Working Families Tax Credit that was first created during the Great Recession, allowing working people who make around \$50,000 to access a much-needed stipend to help with groceries, mental health services, utility costs, and more.

Washington lawmakers took these steps because they're effective. Progress doesn't have to stop at past gains.

The Statewide Poverty Action Network was proud to contribute intent language to Rep. Liz Berry's bill to establish a Guaranteed Basic Income in Washington State. We'll continue to work with our legislative partners to see the implementation of the Working Families Tax Credit through to completion. In the 2023 Legislative Session, we'll be coordinating with our community partners to continue building a robust social safety net.