

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2023 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-018-2023

Proposed by Council Members Oriadha, Olson, Ivey, Blegay, Burroughs, and Dernoga

Introduced by Council Members Oriadha, Olson, Ivey, Blegay, Burroughs, Dernoga
Franklin, Fisher, Hawkins, Harrison and Watson

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction March 14, 2023

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program

3 For the purpose of creating the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot Program, to be modeled after the
 4 Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED) program in Stockton, California; and
 5 tailored to the needs and resources in Prince George's County, Maryland in conjunction with aid
 6 from The Greater Washington Community Foundation.

7 WHEREAS, generational poverty is defined as the condition of an individual that, during
 8 childhood, was supported by a family at or below the national poverty level and continues to live
 9 at or below the national poverty level as an adult (Urban Ventures, 2020); and

10 WHEREAS, residents of Prince George's County are intractably trapped in this
 11 generational cycle with little to no prospects for economic mobility; and

12 WHEREAS, generational poverty is a nationwide reality that many jurisdictions are
 13 combatting with a Guaranteed Income pilot, a monthly cash stipend paid directly to residents for
 14 a limited period of time, with no repayment requirement; and

15 WHEREAS, cash transfers have been studied for many years and prove to be an effective
 16 tool in building economic stability by diminishing continued poverty; and

17 WHEREAS, Stockton, California created the most well-known, studied, and modeled pilot
 18 known as the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED) in 2019 and continues
 19 to provide monthly cash stipends to 125 randomly selected residents over a 24-month period; and

20 WHEREAS, Prince George's County in conjunction with the Greater Washington
 21 Community Foundation will launch a similar pilot modeled after SEED for the purpose of

1 closing the racial wealth gap that feeds on generational poverty; and

2 WHEREAS, the Greater Washington Community Foundation will commit \$1,000,000 (One
3 Million Dollars) to seed the pilot; and

4 WHEREAS, the Greater Washington Community Foundation also secured an additional
5 \$1,000,000 (One Million Dollar) commitment from a local foundation, on the condition that
6 Prince George’s County contribute funds; and

7 WHEREAS, the initial 24-month pilot will require \$4,000,000 (Four Million Dollars) from
8 a combination of fund sources to include, but not limited to: The Greater Washington
9 Community Foundation, Prince George’s County, a local foundation, and other philanthropic
10 partners; and

11 WHEREAS, the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot could significantly improve the lives of
12 Prince George’s County residents who live at or below the poverty line; and

13 WHEREAS, funding for the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot program will improve the
14 County’s response to generational poverty.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George’s
16 County, Maryland, that the Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot shall be created and seeded by the
17 initial \$1,000,000 (One Million Dollar) contribution from the Greater Washington Community
18 Foundation; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Prince George’s County Council is committed to
20 providing up to \$2,000,000 (Two Million Dollars) needed to fund to the Guaranteed Basic
21 Income Pilot to be used for startup costs associated with creating the Pilot, staffing, and
22 payments to residents; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Social Services shall serve as
24 fiduciary agent for the program; and

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be a Committee comprised of one (1)
26 member from each of the following entities: Prince George’s County Council, Department of
27 Social Services, The Guaranteed Basic Income Coalition of Prince George’s County, and the
28 Greater Washington Community Foundation; and

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall be authorized to create and
30 manage the Guaranteed Basic Income Program Pilot, modeled after SEED and tailored to the
31 needs and resources available to Prince George’s County; and

1
2

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Committee shall provide the Prince George's
County Council progress reports on an annual basis.

Adopted this 4th day of April, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Thomas E. Dernoga
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council