

ORIGINAL
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RESOLUTION NO.: R-2021-073

Launch and Implementation of CLIMB Guaranteed Income Pilot Project

WHEREAS, the Stockton Economic Empowerment Demonstration (SEED), was the nation's first mayor-led guaranteed income initiative. Launched in February 2019 by former Mayor Michael D. Tubbs, SEED gave 125 Stockton citizens \$500 per month for 24 months; and,

WHEREAS, data gathered during the Stockton SEED Project showed that participants spent program funds on basic needs, which included 37% spent on food, 22% spent on home goods and clothes, 11% spent on utility payments, 10% spent on transportation, and less than 1% spent on alcohol or tobacco products; and,

WHEREAS, data from the Stockton SEED Project also revealed guaranteed income payments reduced income volatility, or the month-to-month income fluctuations that households experience, and the unconditional cash payments enabled recipients to find full-time employment, which increased the number of full-time employed participants from 28% to 40% over a one-year period; and,

WHEREAS, analyses of psychological distress using the Kessler 10 scale showed that participants in the Stockton SEED Project experienced clinically and statistically significant improvements in their mental health over the course of the year-long intervention; and,

WHEREAS, Stockton Mayor Michael D. Tubbs and the Economic Security Project founded national organization Mayors for a Guaranteed Income in June 2020 based on the model of the SEED Project; and,

WHEREAS, The Columbia Life Improvement Monetary Boost (CLIMB) is a one-year pilot project modeled after the Stockton SEED project, and is launched with participation, guidance and partial funding from Mayors for a Guaranteed Income; and,

WHEREAS, CLIMB will provide monthly guaranteed income payments of \$500 to a pilot group of 100 City of Columbia residents, which will be comprised of fathers participating in the Midlands Fatherhood Coalition, for 12 months, with 100% of funding originating from philanthropic and private sector partners; and,

WHEREAS, guaranteed income payments will be provided monthly through debit cards, allowing program facilitators, as with the Stockton SEED project, to track spending patterns, provide data, evaluate the pilot project, and contribute to the modelling of future guaranteed income projects both locally and nationally; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, this 15th day of June, 2021 that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Columbia, South Carolina support the launch, implementation, pilot payment period and subsequent data evaluation of CLIMB; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Columbia City Council will, through services of program partners, evaluate the data to determine how the CLIMB project transforms the stability, economic advancement, family dynamic, and health of the pilot participants to help inform future guaranteed income projects.


Requested by:

Mayor Benjamin _____



Mayor

Approved by:



City Manager

Approved as to form:



City Attorney

Introduced: 6/15/2021
Final Reading: 6/15/2021

ATTEST:



City Clerk