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F4GI STANDS WITH EQUITY AND TRANSFORMATION TO DEMAND CHICAGO FOLLOWS THROUGH WITH THE PROMISE OF THE C.E.F GUARANTEED INCOME PROGRAM

CHICAGO, IL, December 06, 2024 — The Fund for Guaranteed Income (F4GI) stands in unwavering support of Equity and Transformation (EAT)) as they work to eliminate material barriers faced by formerly incarcerated Chicagoans. As EAT’s proud disbursement partner for the [Chicago Future Fund](#), F4GI saw first hand that guaranteed income was a lifeline for formerly incarcerated individuals in West Garfield Park and throughout the city.

The Chicago Future Fund provided \$500 monthly payments to 100 residents over 18 months, and built critical data on how guaranteed income can break cycles of poverty entrenched by systemic injustices. It paved the road for the Chicago Empowerment Fund (CEF) program, a new guaranteed income program offering eligible Chicagoans \$500 per month for 12 months through a city-wide lottery.

In July, Mayor Brandon Johnson and Chicago’s Department of Family and Support Services decided to launch the CEF starting in January of 2025. However, the city recently announced that it will back down on that promise due to “budget cuts.” Cutting funding for the CEF would not only [jeopardize progressive gains](#) but also send a troublesome signal about the city’s *real* commitment to equity and transformation.

Programs led by Equity and Transformation have proven that guaranteed income is more than just financial assistance—it’s an investment in dignity, self-sufficiency, and community resilience. We urge city leaders to honor this vision and keep the program in the budget, recognizing the transformative power of investing in people rather than perpetuating cycles of deprivation.

We stand ready to support EAT in their efforts to restore funding to the CEF. Together, we can build a city where everyone has a chance to thrive. F4GI remains hopeful that a guaranteed income movement – that propels us toward a more just tomorrow – will prevail.

To support the Chicago Empowerment Fund: [click here](#)

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