



CREATE A  
CHILD  
TAX  
CREDIT  
FOR  
ILLINOIS  
FAMILIES

EXPAND  
EARNED  
INCOME  
CREDIT

¡EXPANDA EIC  
AHORA!  
¡EXPAND EIC  
NOW!

NEED THEM  
NOW!

FULL  
CITIZENSHIP  
MEANS  
ECONOMIC  
JUSTICE  
FOR ALL

8  
VOICE  
STRENGTH  
UNITY

EXPAND  
THE EARNED  
INCOME  
CREDIT

ILLINOIS  
WORKERS  
& FAMILIES  
DESERVE A  
TAX BREAK

CREATE A  
CHILD  
TAX  
CREDIT  
FOR  
ILLINOIS  
FAMILIES

OUR  
WINNING  
STORY

ECONOMIC  
SECURITY  
FOR ILLINOIS

2022 VICTORIES



# Who is ?

**Economic Security for Illinois** builds collective power to advance policy solutions that make Illinois' economy the most equitable and inclusive in the country.

We convene the Illinois Cost-of-Living Refund coalition to fight for cash policy solutions at the local- and state-levels.

We facilitated the State of Illinois' Future of Work Task Force, which issued a report in May 2022.



# Our Origins

Economic Security for Illinois,  
est. Feb. 2019

Our organization is young-- we were formed in February 2019 in light of a City of Chicago task force which aimed to tackle the economic insecurity many families were feeling.

Our first policy recommendations?

- EITC expansion & modernization
- A Chicago guaranteed income pilot
- Policies beyond cash transfers to bolster the social safety net

In our 3 years, we have grown to win over \$200 million in direct cash relief with the partnership of 40+ nonprofit + labor partners & passed policies at the City, County, and State.



# Our Roots



WHEN WE STARTED OUR WORK IN  
2019, WE WERE TOLD OUR IDEAS  
WERE TOO BOLD TO BE ADOPTED.



# Our (SMALL, BUT MIGHTY) Team



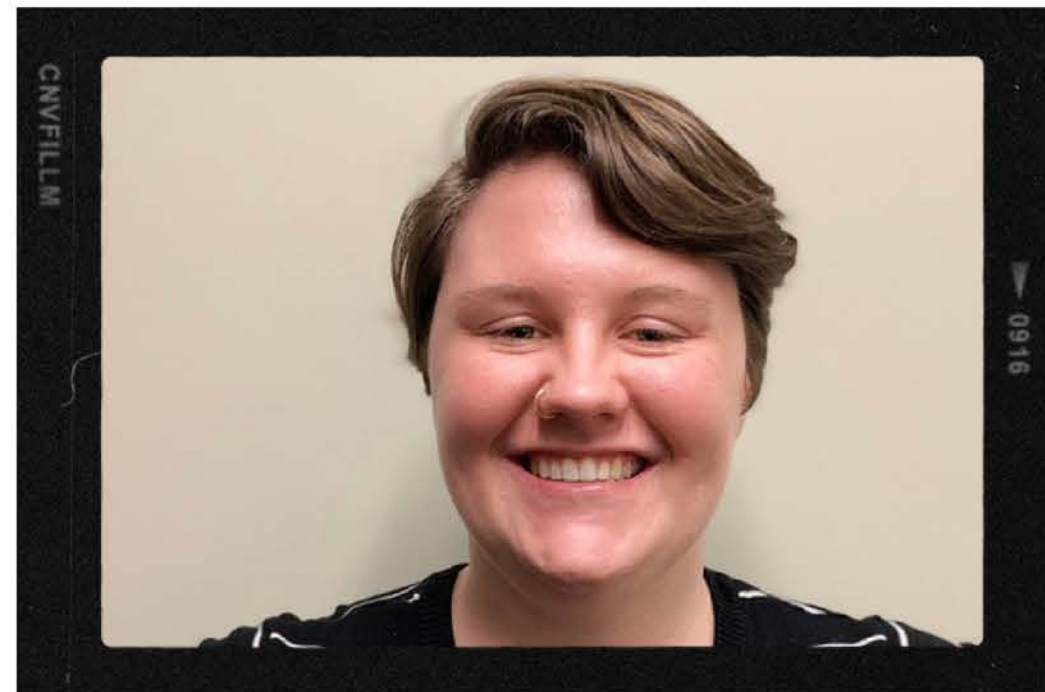
**Harish I. Patel**

Director



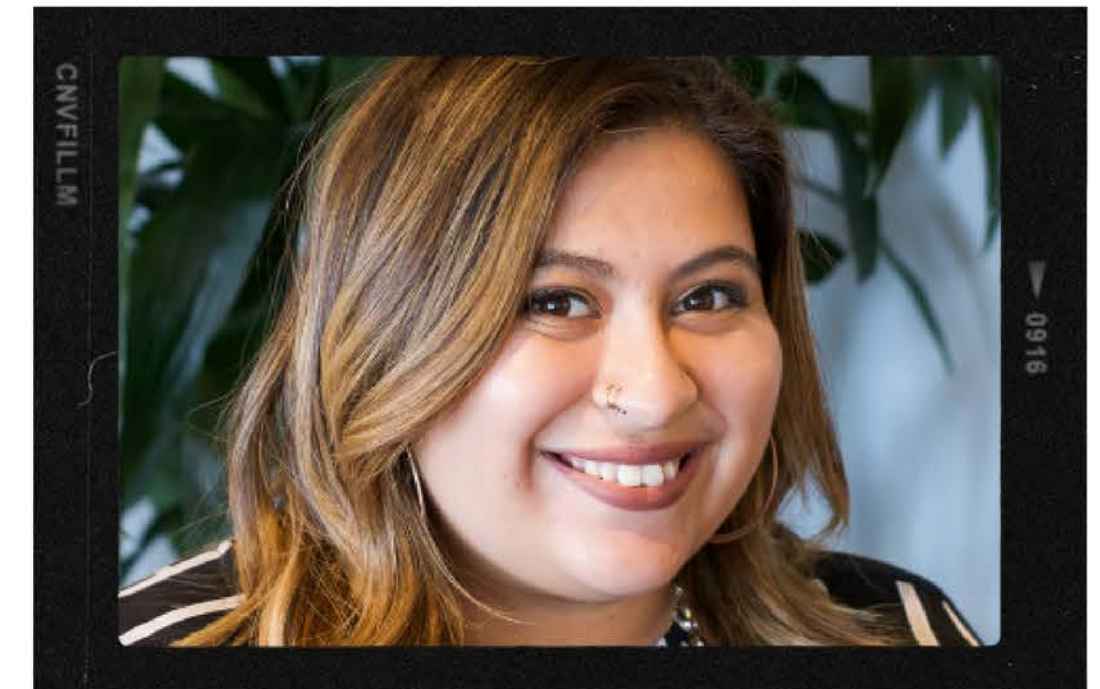
**Jenna Severson**

Communications Manager



**Hannah Gregor**

Program Manager, Operations  
& Future of Work



**Gabriela Bosquez**

Program Manager, Cash  
Portfolio & Narrative Change



# The Problem: **Poverty**

## 1.5 million



Illinoisans live in poverty (as of 2018)

## 16.2%



of Illinois children live in poverty

Black children are **4x** more likely to live in poverty







Poverty is only one  
part of the problem.

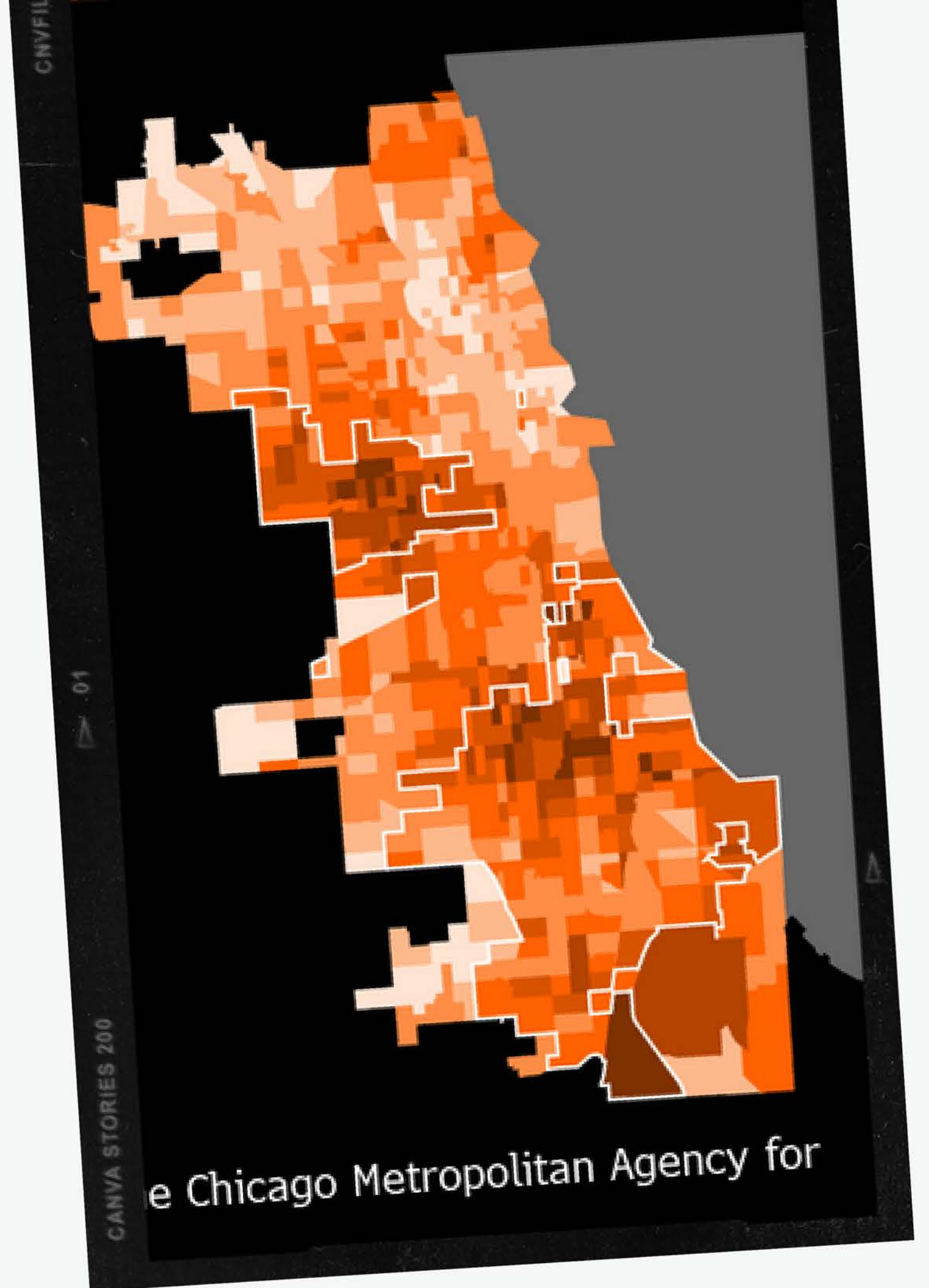
**Inequality** is the  
other.

See [wealth inequality\\_](#)  
[data visualization](#)



# Inequality drives disparities

- HOUSING
- EDUCATION
- MEDICAL CARE
- LIFE EXPECTANCY
- CAREER OPPORTUNITIES
- MENTAL HEALTH
- ACCESS TO JUSTICE, DEMOCRACY





# The Problem: **Inequality**

# 42 out of 50



Illinois' rank for income equality  
(**& tax equality**)

8th worst in the nation

In Cook County...

The top 1% makes

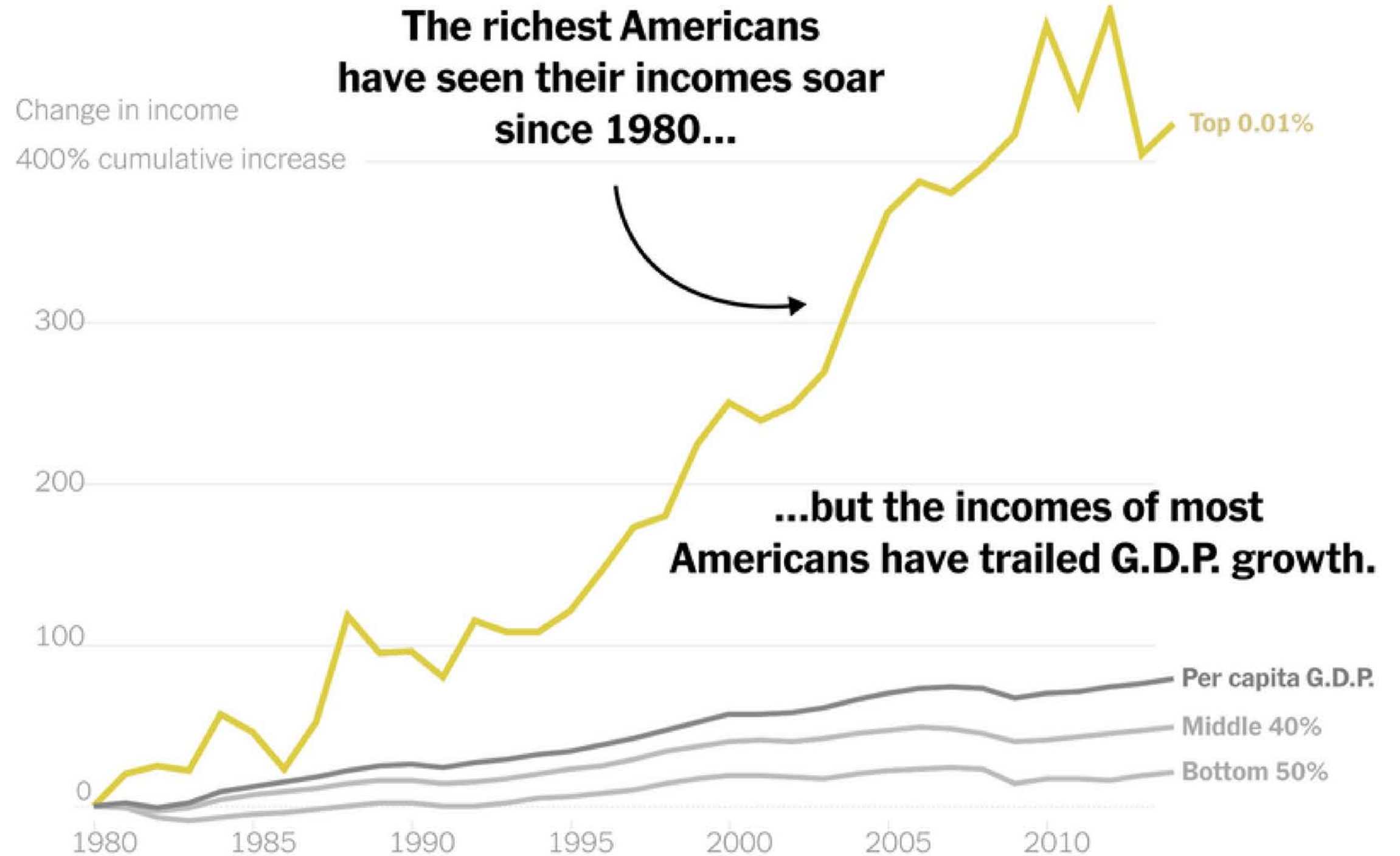
**33.2x**

more than the bottom 99%.



# It's getting worse, not better.

INEQUALITY HAS RISEN  
EXPONENTIALLY BECAUSE  
OF POLICY CHOICES



Graph from New York Times, [www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/04/10/opinion/coronavirus-us-economy-inequality.html](http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/04/10/opinion/coronavirus-us-economy-inequality.html)



# OUR SOLUTIONS

## Expand the Earned Income Credit

Expand existing credit  
to more people & give  
more money.

## Establish a Child Tax Credit

Like the federal CTC, a  
state CTC would give  
parents a monthly check to  
support their families.

## Adopt a guaranteed income

Take private or public  
funds and give them back  
directly to the people in  
monthly recurring checks.

## Give direct cash transfers

Like a guaranteed income,  
but only once. Think  
stimulus checks.

## Future of Work

Preparing policies that  
meet needs of workers +  
employers alike for years  
to come.





**Economic Security for IL**

@EconsecureIL



We focus too much on the cost of policy change, & not enough on its impact in people's lives.



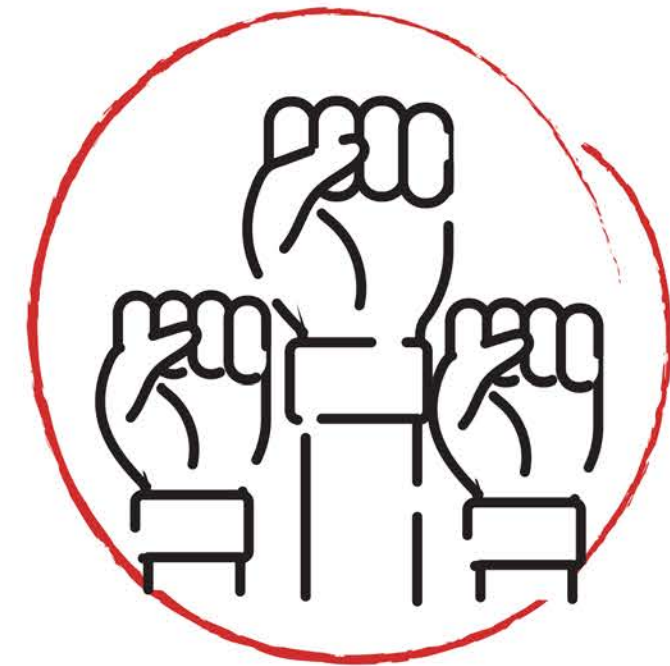
# Our Tools



**Policy  
Advocacy**



**Narrative  
Change**



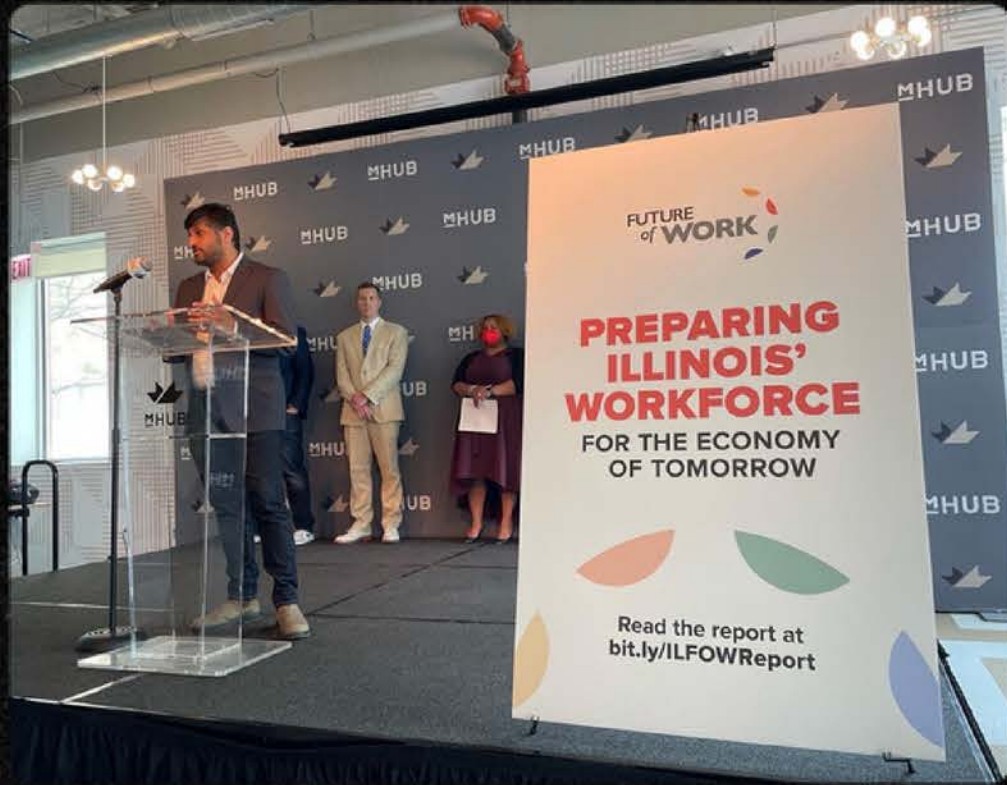
**Coalition &  
Community  
Building**





CANVA STORIES

CANVA STORIES



# Meet Chicagoans who plan to apply for the city's guaranteed income pilot

By Esther Yoon-Ji Kang

April 22, 11:51 a.m. CT

▶ LISTEN 7:01



CANVA STORIES

CANVA STORIES



# One-time cash wins

## (Public/Private) #GiveTogetherNow fund for restaurant workers

Our first victory was an immediate response to the start of the pandemic: in early 2020, we worked with UpTogether & Chicago Independent Restaurants to a fund for workers impacted by COVID-19. Supported by the City of Chicago, we raised over **\$3.3 million dollars to provide cash payments to 6,000 Chicago families.**

## City of Chicago housing 'Resiliency Fund'

City of Chicago + Chicago Department of Housing pandemic-related direct cash assistance for individuals struggling to make rent, mortgage payments.

Over **\$33 million in cash assistance** was distributed by The Resurrection Project

## Cook County's one-time \$600 direct cash transfer

President Preckwinkle used CARES funding to establish the **Resident Cash Assistance Program**, a **\$600 one-time cash transfer** for Suburban Cook County families impacted by COVID at 250% FPL. The program gave **\$11M** in assistance.

## State of Illinois direct cash to immigrant families

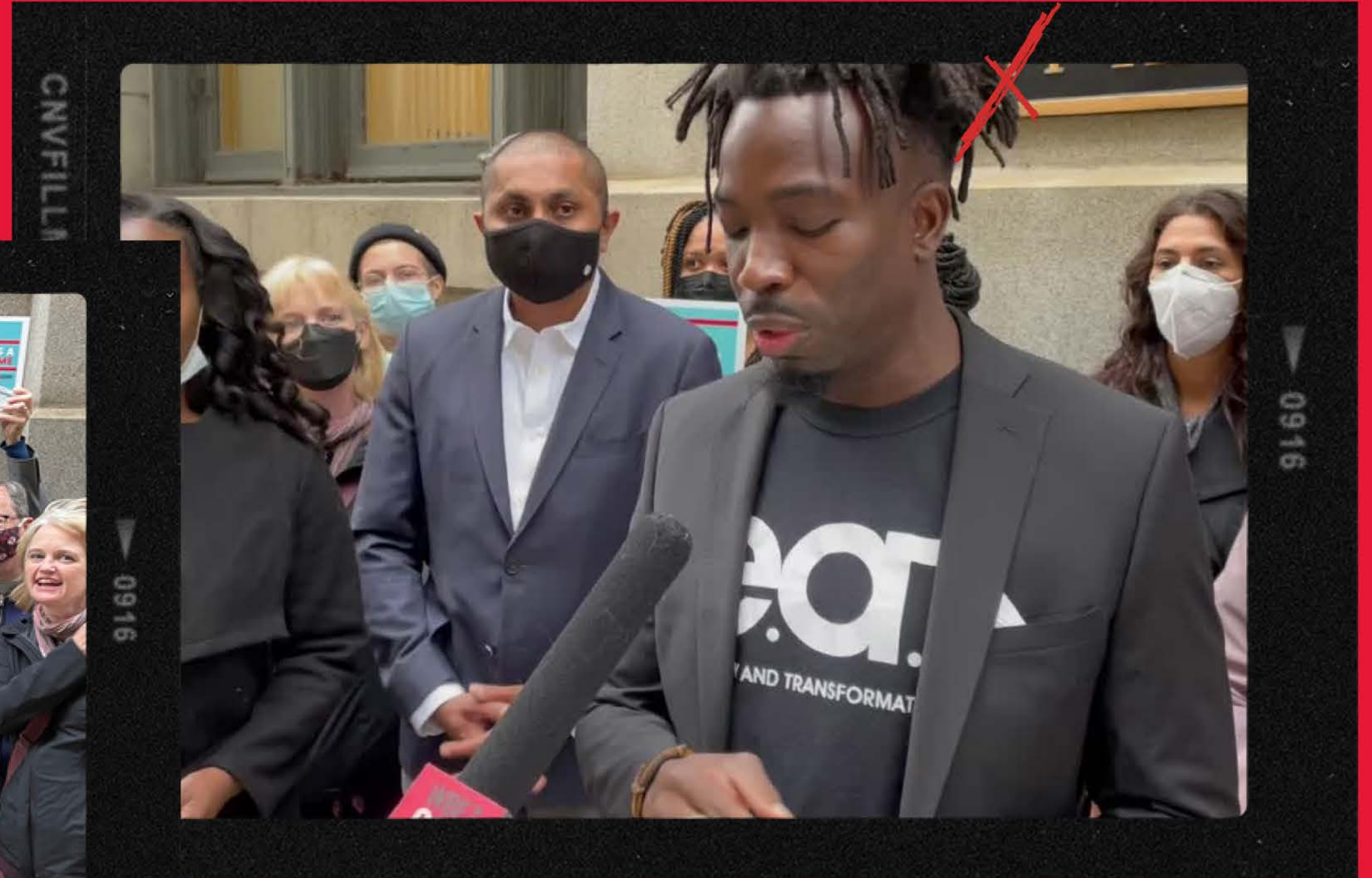
At the state-level, we won **\$65 million to support immigrants**, who were left out of the CARES Act stimulus payments, with **\$20 million intended to fund direct cash payments**, distributed by Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights.

**TOTAL:**  
**\$112 million**  
**in direct cash**



# Cash Advocacy

Together with our partners, we have been urging cash programs since before the pandemic. We made Chicago a center of the cash policy world.



Richard Wallace, Equity & Transformation



# Guaranteed income wins

**TOTAL:  
\$75 M**



## City of Evanston

Public partnership with  
Northwestern University

\$1 Million

1 year of \$500 monthly  
payments

150 residents in 3 groups:

Youth (18-24)

Senior citizens (over 62)

Undocumented residents

Lottery system.

Payments start in Nov 2022.



## Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot

City of Chicago

\$31.5 Million

5,000 residents 1 year of  
\$500 monthly payments

Lottery system.

First payments went out  
in June 2022.



## Chicago Futures Fund

Equity and Transformation

Program designed by & for  
system people in West  
Garfield Park.

18 months, \$500/month, 30  
recipients.

Second year expected to  
start distribution of  
another \$1M.



## Cook County Promise

Nation's largest public pilot

\$42 Million

3,250 residents

2 years of \$500 monthly  
payments.

Lottery system.

**This pilot will become a  
permanent policy.**

Applications open Oct. 6,  
2022; payments in December





CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



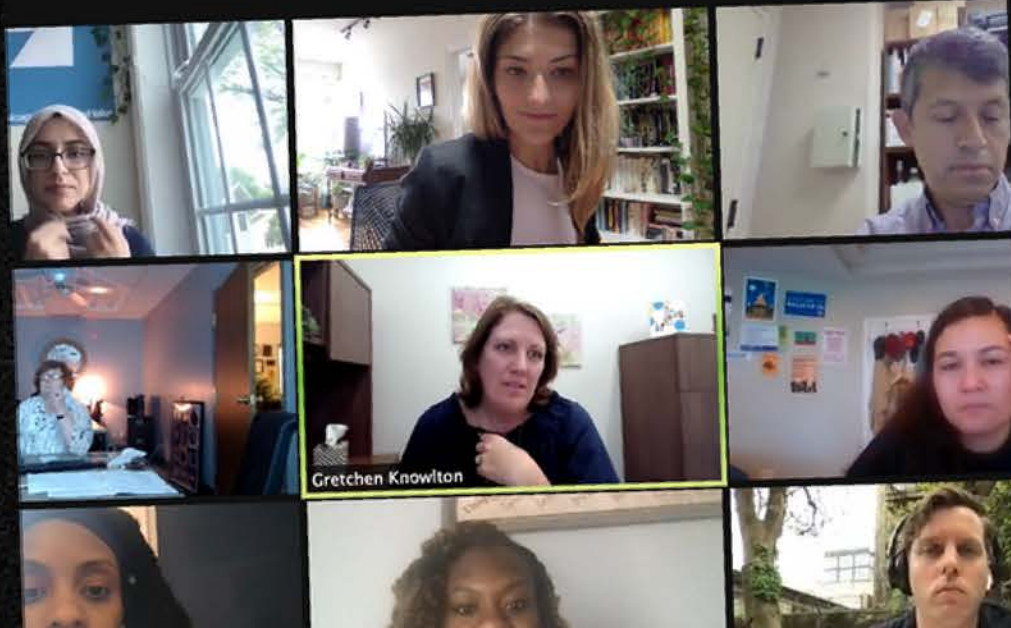
CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES





CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES



CANVA STORIES





# Our **Tax Equity** Vision

Comprehensive proposal developed before January 2022

- **Expand the Earned Income Credit (EIC)** that makes the following excluded groups eligible:
  - Young adults 18–24
  - Older adults 65+
  - Immigrants who file taxes with an ITIN number
- **Double the amount of EIC credit:** increase the existing match of the federal EITC from 18% to 36% over three years for all filers
- Create a \$600 annual **Child Tax Credit** for all caregivers
- **Expand the net to include people with low– or no– earnings who do not file taxes**
- Provide a **simple portal to file taxes** for low and zero income individuals





# EIC History



**2014**

A campaign increased the credit to 14% of a match to the federal EITC (they fought for 20%). Together with some of our same coalition partners, they helped create a foundation so legislators knew how important this was.

**2022**

Our coalition runs, and WINS, a campaign to expand the EIC to 20% and include ITIN filers, 18-24 & 65+ year olds without children.

**2000**

A tax credit matching the popular, bipartisan EITC is introduced, and passed, in the Illinois General Assembly.

**2018**

EIC is increased to 18%.

**2020 & 2021**

We form and grow our coalition to over 40 members from across the state, and run bills with bipartisan majorities in both House and Senate, but don't expand EIC



# Our '22 State **EIC Win**

## **EXPAND EIC ELIGIBILITY.**

**Extend the credit to 950,000+ more Illinoisans who are currently excluded.**

1. Young adults ages 18-24 without children
2. Older adults over 65 years of age
3. ITIN filers (immigrants who file their taxes with a individual taxpayer identification number)

## **INCREASE EIC CREDIT AMOUNT.**

Move from 18% to a 20% match of EITC.

## **ONE-TIME CASH TO FAMILIES.**

Most Illinois families will get \$50 per individual plus \$100 each for up to three child dependents.





# Our **Impact**

# 4.5 million



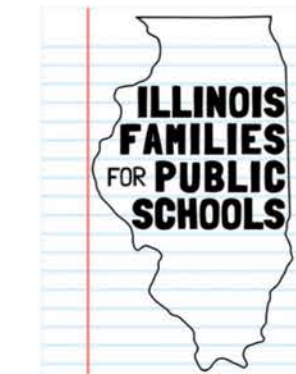
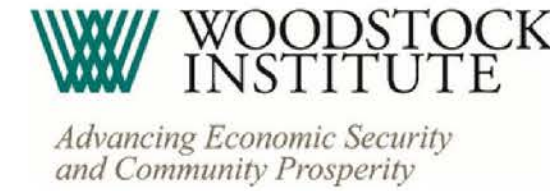
Illinoisans will benefit

Together, relief measures will direct  
**hundreds of dollars** to each low- and  
middle-income Illinois family.

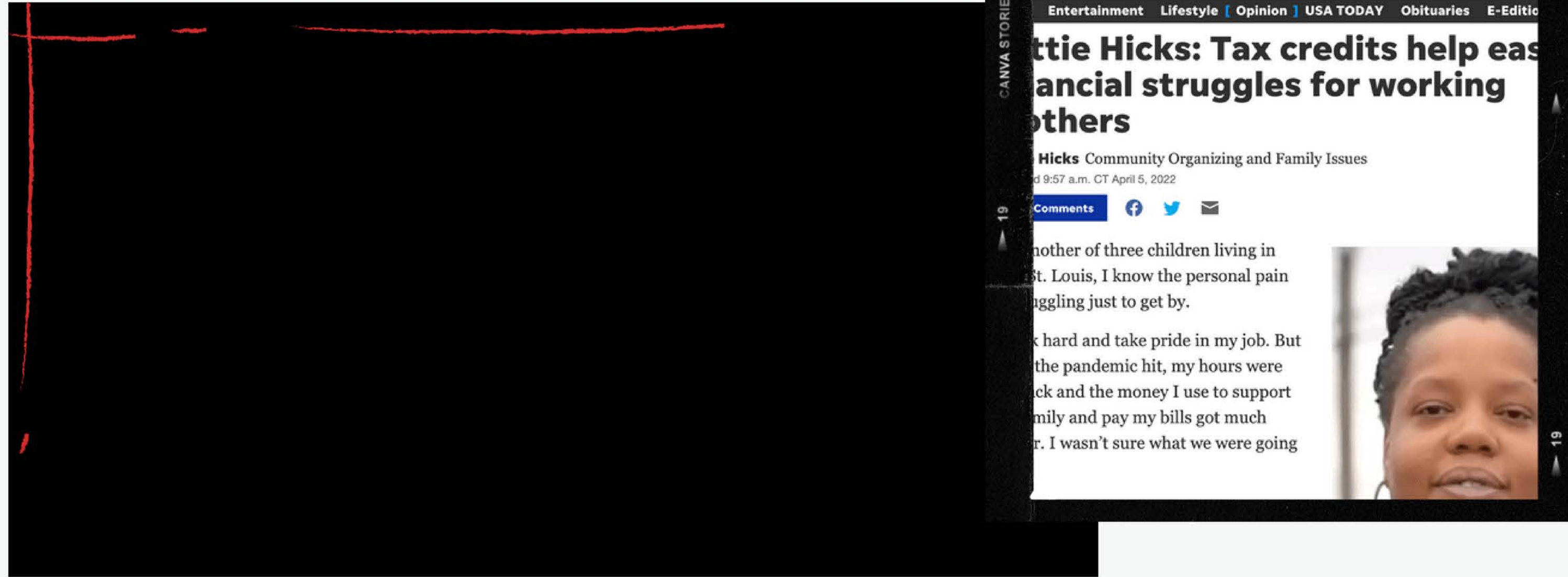


# Our Coalition

43 members strong







# Our **Voices**

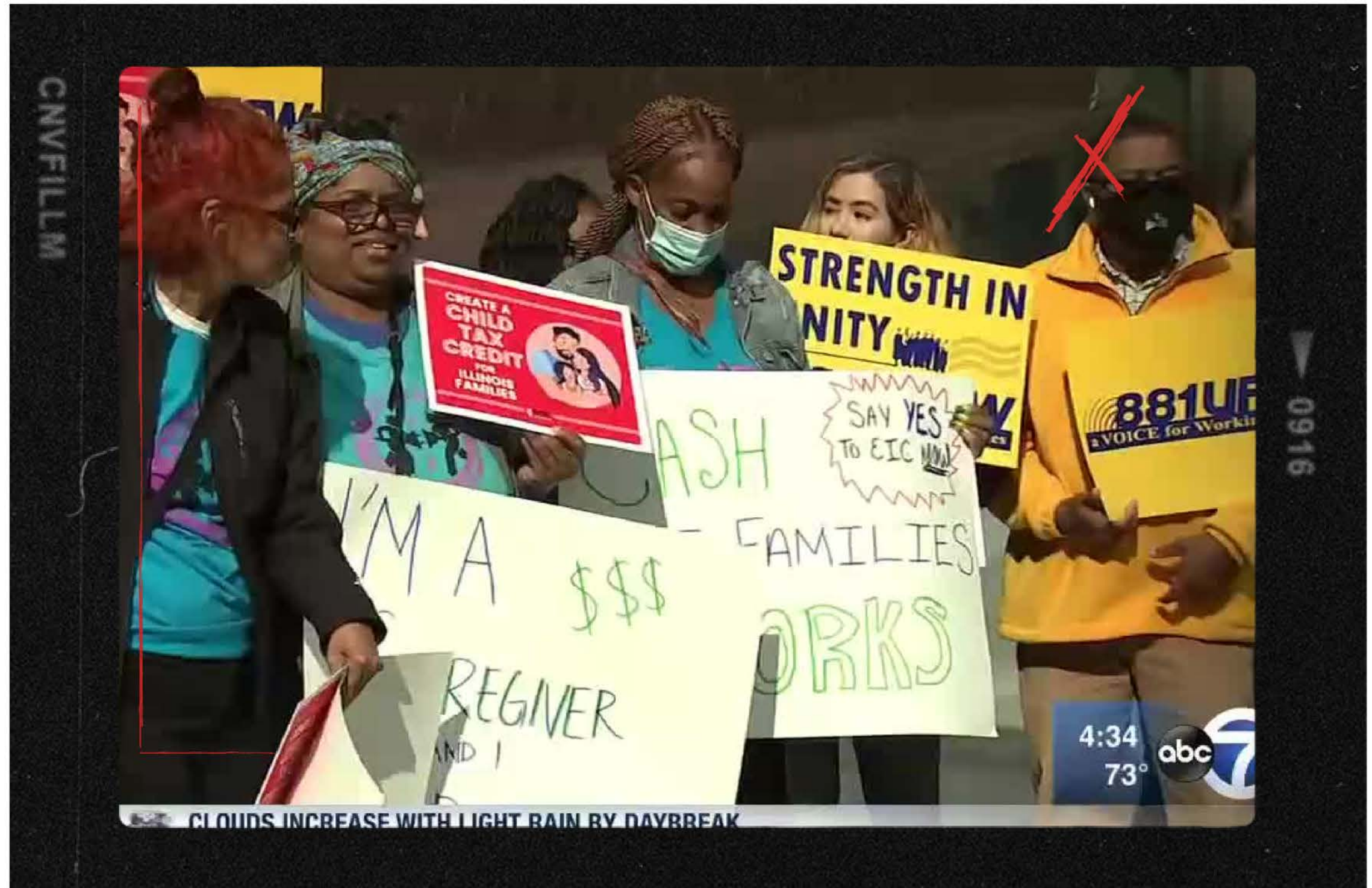
We engaged community leaders throughout our campaign, **from design to promotion.**

- **Listening sessions**
- **Town halls**
- **Op-eds**
- **Rally**
- **Legislator meetings**
- Build coalition
- Foster relationships/ trust
- Pay partners & leaders
- Let them lead
- Celebrate!



# EIC Press Hits

- 49 media hits
- 3 op-eds
- 500+ social media posts on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, & beyond
  - 4 TikTok videos
- 8 Press releases
- 4+ Press conferences
- 8 TV appearances
- 5 ESIL Newsletters







CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



HUMU ISSIFU

MOM WHO RECEIVED CHILD TAX CREDIT

CANVA STORIES

0917



CANVA STORIES

0917



# FUTURE *of* WORK



@FutureOfWorkIL



ilfow.medium.com



[bit.ly/ILFOWReport](https://bit.ly/ILFOWReport)

## Thinking forward

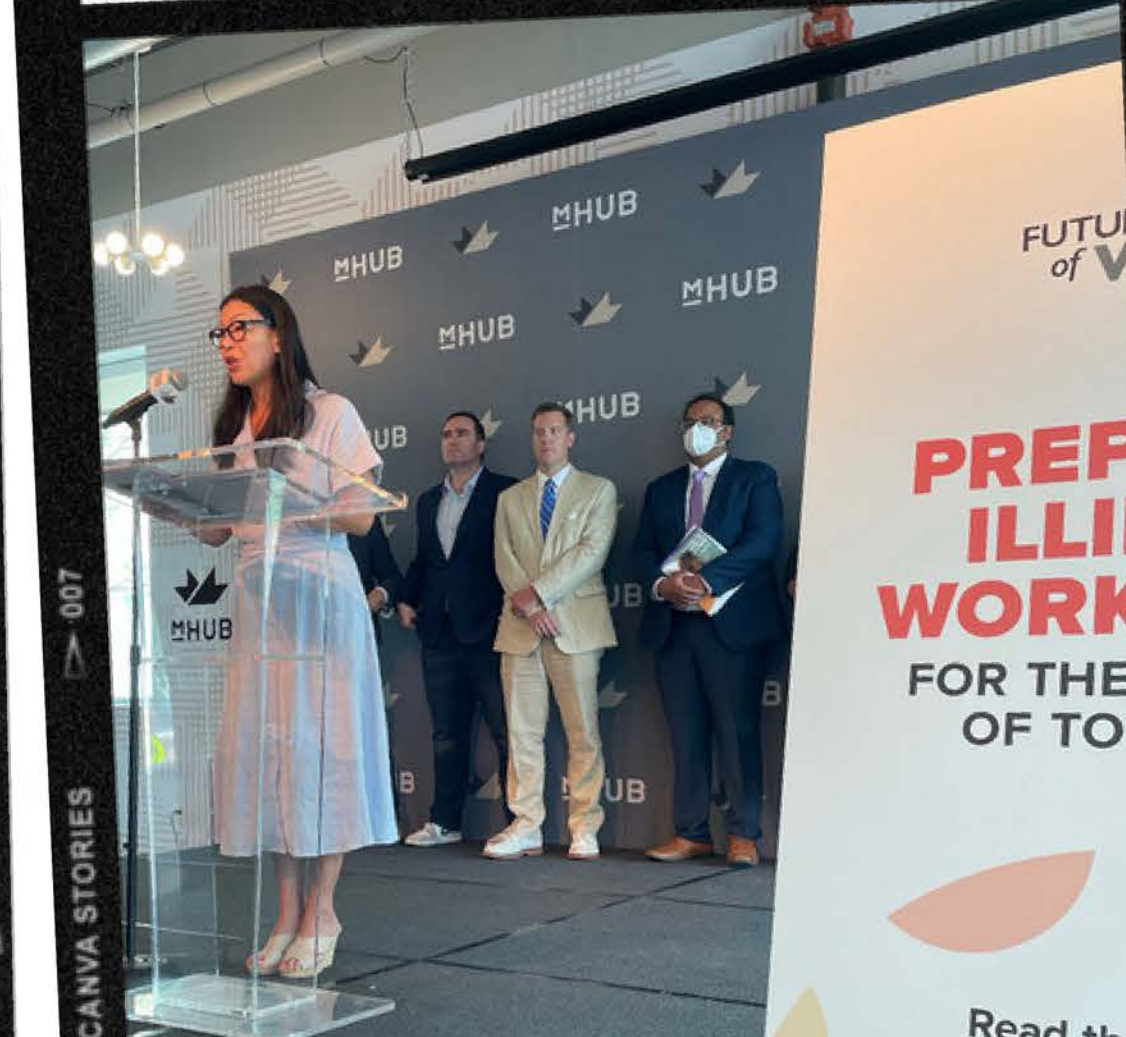
### State of Illinois Future of Work Task Force

Economic Security for Illinois facilitates the Future of Work task force by coordinating monthly task force meetings, developing meeting agendas, overseeing the production of the task force report, and convening stakeholders toward solutions-based ideas that can benefit Illinois' employers and workers for years to come.



# Good jobs are good business.

Read our standard of what makes a quality job and our 58 policy recommendations at [bit.ly/ILFOWReport](https://bit.ly/ILFOWReport).





**Thank you**  
**for fighting**  
**alongside us.**

