



**Stockton Economic  
Empowerment Demonstration**

Max Vargas, Senior Policy Advisor to Mayor Michael Tubbs  
12.06.18 California Public Utilities Commission Workshop

**“Talent and intellect are universal, but  
resources and opportunities are not.”**

**~ Mayor Michael Tubbs**

Stockton's median household income of \$46,033 falls far below the state's median household income of \$61,818.



Only 35% of the City's students are college-ready by high school graduation.



The City is 18th in the nation for child poverty.



Recent unemployment rates in San Joaquin County hover around 7.5%, higher than the state average of 4.3%.

**We are motivated to test a guaranteed income  
in Stockton because we believe it is one of  
the most effective tools to combat poverty.**

[www.stocktondemonstration.org](http://www.stocktondemonstration.org)

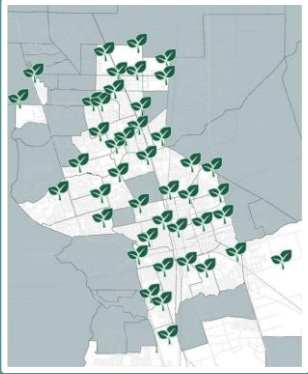
# Country's First City-Led Initiative

- Office of Mayor Michael Tubbs
- The Reinvent South Stockton Coalition
- The Economic Security Project
- Stockton Residents

# Overview

- **Beginning in 2019**
- **SEED will select approximately 100 Stocktonians**
- **To receive a guaranteed income of \$500 per month for 18 months**
- **The income will be unconditional  
(no work requirements or spending restrictions)**

# Eligibility & Selection Process



- Led by two independent researchers, Dr. Stacia Martin-West of the University of Tennessee, and Dr. Amy Castro Baker of the University of Pennsylvania.
- Eligibility: 18 or older, occupy a residence within the City of Stockton, located in a neighborhood where the median income is at or below \$46,033.
- Selection Process: 1,200 randomly selected residences in neighborhoods meeting the eligibility criteria will receive a letter inviting them to apply.

# Evaluation

- **Randomized Control Trial**
  - One group of about 100 residents will receive \$500 another will not
  - Both groups will be asked to respond to surveys and interviews
  - Comparison/control group will be about 200
- **Questions we aim to answer...**
  - How does a guaranteed income impact financial insecurity and volatility?
  - To what degree will a guaranteed impact drivers of inequity and social determinants of health?
  - How does it unleash potential among recipients and generate agency?



# Storytelling

- **Connecting people and their stories to SEED**
  - **Stockton Story Series (Adriana Brogger, San Joaquin Delta College):** student-driven initiative modeled after StoryCorps (oral histories)
  - **Help Wanted: Work, Wages, and Worthiness (Tama Brisbane, Stockton Poet Laureate):** centered on youth and young adult voices, featuring poetry and spoken word performances on the association between work and dignity.

# Questions?

