

## NEWS BREAK

Article: **More cities adopt cash payments to aid those living in poverty**

Section: **BUSINESS, C6**

Sunday's News Break selects an article from **Sunday, September 18, 2022** of The Seattle Times print replica for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions.

You are encouraged to modify this lesson to fit the needs of your students. For example, some teachers might use this as a take-home assignment and others might read and answer the questions in a small group or larger, class discussion.

***\*Please be sure to preview all NIE content before using it in your classroom to ensure it is appropriate for your students.***

### Standards:

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.1**

- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

#### **CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.4.2**

- Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

### Objectives:

***Students will discuss guaranteed income and whether it makes sense or not. They'll learn what it is and how pilot programs across our country are rolling out programs to help those close or at poverty levels in local communities. They will think about deeper questions from their own perspectives-Has racism and capitalism intersected to steal wealth from some communities, creating the disparities we see today? Opponents argue that guaranteed income programs are too expensive and are counterproductive-students will be asked for their thoughts.***

**Pre-Reading Discussion:**



- What do you think the article will be about, using only this picture?
- Are there any clues?
- What can you infer?

**Vocabulary Building:**

Read this sentence, what do you think the highlighted words mean using *context clues*? A **context clue** is a word or words that are hints and refers to the sources of information outside of words that readers may use to predict the identities and meanings of unknown words.

The payments are part of a **pilot program** from the city of Los Angeles, one of the nation's largest experiments with a guaranteed income.

***Pilot Program Guess:***

***Pilot Program Definition:***

**Comprehension Questions:**

1. The payments are part of a pilot program from the city of Los Angeles, one of the nation's largest experiments with what?
2. What is the idea behind this model?
3. The concept, sometimes referred to as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, has had advocates for decades.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ made it a centerpiece of his 2020 Democratic presidential campaign.

5. At the same time, detractors have long argued that the approach incentivizes people to do what?
6. Still, it is gaining traction, city by city. More than \_\_\_\_\_ guaranteed income programs have been started in cities nationwide since 2020, according to Mayors for a Guaranteed Income, a network of leaders supporting such efforts at the local, state and federal levels.
7. Some efforts are publicly funded, and others have nongovernmental support. Jack Dorsey, former CEO of Twitter, donated \$\_\_\_\_\_ million to help the initiative.
8. What state has become the epicenter of the movement?
9. What does the Los Angeles program do? What are the requirements? How many people are they currently helping?
10. Last year, the state set aside \$\_\_\_\_\_ million over five years for cities to carry out pilot programs, which can use different criteria, including income level, people leaving the foster care system and residence in low-income neighborhoods.
11. Michael Tubbs, who as the mayor of Stockton, California, put in place one of the country's first guaranteed income programs in 2019, notes that these payments are not meant to be a sole means of income but aim to do what?
12. Tubbs sees the programs as crucial tools in achieving \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ for Black people and Latinos.

**Discussion Questions (small/large groups), Journal Prompts or Essay Questions:**

- *What surprised (or stood out to) you in the article?*
- *At first, I thought \_\_\_\_\_, but now I think \_\_\_\_\_?*
- *What things did you already know from prior experience?*

***“The ways in which racism and capitalism have intersected to steal wealth from some communities,” he said, “creates the disparities we see today.”***

What are your personal thoughts on this quote? Do you agree? Disagree? Back up your answer using details to support your answer.

***Opponents argue that guaranteed income programs are too expensive and are counterproductive.***

What are your personal thoughts on this quote? Do you agree? Disagree? Back up your answer using details to support your answer.

***According to city data, one-third of adults in Los Angeles are unable to support their families on income from full-time work alone. “When you provide resources to families that are struggling, it can give them the***

***breathing room to realize goals that many of us are fortunate enough to take for granted,” Mayor Eric Garcetti said when the program began.***

What are your personal thoughts on this quote? Do you agree? Disagree?  
Back up your answer using details to support your answer.

News Break is posted to the Web on Monday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the print replica for your class, please [register online](#) or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655.  
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