

# WEALTHFAIR TOUR: KEY MESSAGE & TALKING POINTS

**Key Takeaway: We Don't Want Welfare- We Want WEALTHFAIR!**

## Key Message/ Talking Points for Moms

1. Low-income moms who receive government assistance are penalized for working. As soon as a mom enters or returns to the workforce, she has 10 days to report her income. Once reported, the benefits she needs to support her family (i.e., Food, healthcare, childcare, formula for babies, and housing) are drastically cut and or increased leaving her no room to live. Low-income moms get more money if they stay home and do nothing versus if they were employed.
  - We spend \$ 1trillion per year fighting poverty and fail!
  - Moms make more money sitting home than they do if they work!
  - #Incentivize – Don't Penalize!

**Call to Action:** Sign our online petition and spread the word about the WEALTHFAIR policy agenda. Let policymakers know that you “Do Not Want Welfare-You Want Wealthfair”!

## Key Messages for Fathers

2. You cannot move One Million Moms OFF the Welfare System without addressing the needs of fathers. In a report sent to congress from the Department of Health and Human Services, they found that child support was a key indicator in determining how long a mother would stay on welfare. If fathers are supported and not incarcerated in mass numbers, they would be able to provide a strong financial future for their children. Unfortunately, this is not the case for low income Specifically African Americans who make up about 14% of the US population but more than half of the prison and welfare populations.
  - You can't move One Million Moms OFF Welfare without addressing the needs of fathers!
  - African Americans make up only 14% of the US population but almost more than half of the prison and welfare system!
  - #Educate Not Incarcerate fathers for failure to pay child support!

**Call to Action:** Sign our online petition and spread the word about the WEALTHFAIR policy agenda. Let policymakers know that we should “Educate and Not Incarcerate Fathers for Failure to Pay Child Support”.

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## Key Messages for Public Housing Resident Leaders /Advocates

3. PHA's are scored on their physical conditions, and occupancy/vacancy rates, However, when residents are gunned down in their local communities, deprived of economic opportunities, and stuck in poverty year after year. There is no score, metric, or evaluation to gauge the overall quality of life for residents. Public Housing Authorities are frequently evaluated using a system called the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS). In past years, resident satisfaction was a measure of this performance score. However, due to lobbying efforts from other housing agencies, this was removed.

- Resident Groups should advocate for residents!
- HUD's inspectors care more if trees touch the buildings than if a mom loses her son due to gun violence in his community!
- #Public Housing Lives Matter

**Call to Action:** Sign our online petition and spread the word about the WEALTHFAIR policy agenda. Let policymakers and HUD know that your "Public Housing Lives Matter"!

4. As Public Housing Authorities shift into high gear preparing America's largest affordable housing stock for redevelopment, demolition, and disposition, it's important that HUD and housing authorities enforce the rights of residents under 24 CFR 970.9. The laws of land give resident council groups the authority to seek partnerships with nonprofit developers to become equity stakeholders in their development deals. If public housing residents can endure poverty and deplorable living conditions for decades, they deserve to also share in the same level of prosperity with those who will now become new owners of the place they call home. Support Tenants Opportunities to Purchase-TOPA!

- If residents share in poverty, they too should share in prosperity!
- Residents deserve more than granite countertops and stainless-steel appliances!
- #TOPA FOR ALL!

**Call to Action:** Sign our online petition and spread the word about the WEALTHFAIR policy agenda. Let policymakers and HUD know that you want "TOPA for All"!

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5. As Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) mantra become America's new promise to black and brown communities let's ensure this in both word and deed. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has failed to enforce Section 3 reporting requirements for public housing authorities for decades. With more than \$18.9 Billion being triggered annually for low-income people, there are more than \$16 million in weekly wages hanging in the balance for poor communities. If we are to actualize the true meaning of IDEA, we must address the patterns of practice being played out on the ground floor.
  - HUD's failed OIG report highlights missing wages for families!
  - \$16 million in weekly wages hang in the balance for poor families!
  - #Give me Equity or Give me Section 3!

**Call to Action:** Sign our online petition and spread the word about the WEALTHFAIR policy agenda. Let policymakers and HUD know that you believe that "IDEA starts with Section 3"!