



The Challenge

The District of Columbia faces deep economic and geographic divides. Wards 7 and 8 suffer from child poverty rates exceeding thirty percent, severe food deserts, and a childcare system facing a waitlist freeze and cuts to educator pay equity. Meanwhile, the District's child support system acts as a punitive collector, intercepting payments meant for the poorest children to reimburse government operations. The Solution

- This comprehensive platform restructures the District's safety net by treating family stability, childcare, and healthy food as guaranteed public resources. **Family-First Child Support:** Enacts a 100% pass-through of all current child support and arrears directly to TANF families, ending government interception. It halts carceral penalties (driver's license suspensions, bench warrants) and establishes a complete debt-amnesty program for state-owed arrears.
- **Universal Early Education & Pay Parity:** Fully funds the child care subsidy program with \$177.1 million to permanently eliminate the enrollment waitlist, and restores \$94.2 million to the Pay Equity Fund to guarantee fair, competitive wages for educators.
- **Municipal-Cooperative Food Sovereignty:** Establishes a \$15 million capital fund to acquire retail space in Wards 7 and 8, leasing state-of-the-art facilities at zero-rent to community-owned, worker-run grocery cooperatives to deliver immediate, cost-plus priced nutrition.
- **Restoring Baby Bonds:** Fully restores the Child Wealth Building Act with a permanent \$30 million annual general fund allocation, expanding wealth-building trusts to families covered under the DC Healthcare Alliance.

The Funding Strategy

The total annual funding requirement of \$348.8 million is secured without raising taxes on working families, middle-class households, or local small businesses :

1. **Static Tax Conformity (\$157.6M annually):** Permanently decouples the DC tax code from the regressive federal OBBBA as of January 1, 2025, reclaiming local tax sovereignty.
2. **Professional Services Business Activity Tax (\$500M annually):** Closes a massive tax loophole by enacting a targeted 2.0% Business Activity Tax (BAT) on elite corporate partnerships (law, lobbying, and consulting firms owned by Maryland and Virginia residents) that currently pay zero local franchise taxes. Neighborhood small businesses are protected via a \$200,000 exemption threshold.
3. **Capital Gains Surtax (\$121M annually):** Levies a 1.5% surtax on resident capital gains income, targeting passive, high-end wealth concentration to fund public early childhood education.