

Our November focus: Combating food insecurity (more below). What's working and what's scalable?



INVESTING IN NEIGHBORHOODS:
Cincinnati Children's Hospital is investing **\$10 million** to improve housing conditions in one of the city's low-income neighborhoods, with the goal of tackling diseases like childhood asthma and improving neighborhood children's health.



Join us on November 30 for "[Combating Food Insecurity: What's Working and What's Scalable](#)," which will feature leaders from across the food system who are investing in and deploying market-based solutions and interventions to help ensure everyone has access to healthy and affordable food.

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Ideas: New York City's Board of Health passed a resolution [declaring racism a public health crisis](#), requesting the Health Department expand its anti-racism work. The pandemic "magnified inequities, leading to suffering disproportionately borne by communities of color in our City and across our nation," said Health Commissioner Dr. Dave A. Chokshi. "But these inequities are not inevitable. Today is an historic day for the country's oldest Board of Health to officially recognize this crisis and demand action."



BASIC INCOME, STATE IRAs, COVID'S DRAIN: A look at pandemic aid programs as [proof of concept](#) on guaranteed basic income, as one of the latest [basic income pilots](#) launches in Minneapolis. Meanwhile, [state-run individual retirement accounts](#) in California, Illinois and Oregon are gaining traction.

There are big holes to fill: A recent study finds that 19% of U.S. households [lost all their savings](#) during the pandemic, with one-quarter of Latino and Native households and 31% of Black households reporting they have no savings left.



Actions: Fannie Mae's decision to incorporate rental payments into the mortgage origination process [will expand access to homeownership over time](#), the Urban Institute writes, citing research showing rental payments are a better predictor of mortgage performance than credit scores.



Join us: November 18 at 10 AM EDT for "[An Economy That Works for All: Fostering Low-Income Homeownership](#)." This multi-disciplinary event will feature the latest Federal Reserve research on mortgage forbearance and refinancing, as well as banking, lending, and neighborhood nonprofit leaders, who will detail the actions their organizations are taking to address inequities in homeownership.

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Ideas: [How to prevent gentrification's displacement](#) using tools such as community land trusts, nonprofits that retain land on behalf of a community to keep homes affordable.



CARBON OUT, ELECTRIFICATION IN: The city of Ithaca, N.Y. voted Nov. 3 to [electrify and decarbonize](#) its buildings, the first city in the U.S. to do so. "We are being very aggressive," Luis Aguirre-Torres, Ithaca's director of sustainability, told the Washington Post. "I'm very excited but, at the same time, it's a lot of work ahead."



Actions: New York Mayor Bill de Blasio announced a [\\$37 million](#) violence intervention employment program that aims to connect people at risk of gun violence with jobs in the green energy sector paying \$20 an hour or more. The program's goal is to wrap trainings including de-escalation strategies and technical skills with trauma-based counseling and other services to create 1,500 jobs in neighborhoods that experience half or more of the city's total shootings.

The New York Fed's Community Development unit works with community leaders to understand community needs and with capital providers to foster economic opportunities. We are searching for ideas that can tear down barriers to economic mobility for low- and moderate-income people; our focus is on the economic drivers of health, household financial well-being, and climate-related risks. Our goal is to elevate those ideas and connect them with funding. To see our [past events](#) and learn more, visit our [website](#).

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