

## **Economic Narrative in the COVID Crisis**

**The economic calamity caused by COVID 19 is making it clear that people are what drives the economy.**

- When people are out of work, when they can't shop, pay the rent and mortgage and other basics, the economy grinds to a halt.

**The COVID economic crisis is much worse than it should be because of decades of trickle-down policies that favored the wealthy few and big corporations.**

- All over the country we see that tens of millions of families are having a tough time paying the bills after missing just one paycheck.
- Even in what we were told was a "good economy" most families have been living paycheck to paycheck, with little if any emergency or retirement savings.

**The way out of the crisis now, and the way to never have this kind of economic calamity again, are the same: our economic policies must be grounded in being sure that every American has economic security.**

- When families are paid enough to care for and support their families, shop in their neighborhoods, educate their kids, afford their health care and retire in security, that drives economic prosperity and thriving communities.

**To prevent a COVID Depression Congress must keep its focus on keeping money in people's pockets:**

- Expanded robust unemployment coverage for everyone who loses a job, hours or income. Checks to help people meet the basics, pausing mortgage and rents, credit card payments and car loans.
- No bail-out to corporations unless they keep people on their payrolls. Every dollar of relief to businesses, large and small, should be tied to keeping employees on their payrolls. Not a dime to CEOs or shareholders.

**And to recover from the COVID crisis and be sure it doesn't happen again, we need inclusive economic policies, based on the fact that when everyone does well, the nation does well.**

- Every job a good job, with decent pay and benefits, and paid time off to care for yourself or a family member. Whether you're on a payroll or self-employed.
- Affordable health care, child care, college and career training and housing for all.
- Secure retirement.
- Putting people to work with good jobs building the infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy: renewable energy, reliable transportation, modernizing schools.

**Together we can prevent a COVID Depression and rebuild an economy so that it works for all of us, not just the wealthy few and big corporations.** An America where every family and community thrives so that our nation thrives.