

**1. What are the top five specific ways that you, as President, would increase economic opportunity for low-income Americans and decrease poverty, hunger, and homelessness?**

Mike is committed to making work pay for all Americans, making decent housing available regardless of income, and assuring access to affordable health care for all. Mike will:

1. Raise the minimum wage to \$15.
2. Expand and increase the Earned Income Tax Credit, especially for single childless workers (who currently receive little or nothing) and increase the Child Tax Credit and make it fully refundable.
3. Eliminate housing-assistance waiting lists by making housing choice vouchers an entitlement for those on extremely low incomes and cut homelessness in half by expanding rapid-rehousing programs and permanent supportive housing with wrap-around services.
4. Expand the supply of affordable housing with tax incentives and by pressing for progressive rezoning and prevent evictions and improve housing security by expanding support services for households at risk and improving access to emergency financial help.
5. Widen access to affordable health care with a Medicare-like public option.

**2. What is your single greatest concrete career accomplishment to date that has increased economic opportunity for low-income Americans and/or decreased poverty, hunger, and homelessness?**

As mayor of New York City, Mike launched the nation's most ambitious plan to expand affordable housing. The New Housing Marketplace Plan was the largest affordable housing program in the country, building or preserving 175,000 units. This plan led to a \$23.6 billion investment in affordable housing across the city.

As a philanthropist, Mike supported ambitious efforts to tackle the housing affordability crisis in cities through programs including the American Cities Initiative, a \$200 million initiative to empower city leaders to tackle their most pressing problems like housing affordability and homelessness. He also supported What Works Cities and U.S. Mayors Challenge to provide technical support and funding to help cities like Detroit, Newark, and Austin make housing more affordable for all residents.

### **3. As President, how would you staff and structure the development, leadership, and daily management of your economic opportunity, poverty, hunger, and homelessness initiatives in your White House, Cabinet, and Administration?**

Mike knows that the government must work together at all levels to solve the housing crisis and improve the prospects of low-income families.

He will:

#### **Double annual federal spending on homelessness**

Mike will make homelessness a national priority – and double federal spending on homelessness from under \$3 billion to \$6 billion annually. He will increase federal support for rapid rehousing strategies and provide housing search support and short-term rental assistance to stop homelessness before it starts.

#### **Guarantee rental assistance for the lowest-income Americans**

Mike will guarantee housing vouchers to all Americans at or below 30% of the area median income. He will help families stay in their homes by funding emergency financial assistance, expanding federal grants to cities that implement effective eviction prevention programs, and creating pilot programs for tenant counseling and legal-advice services. He will raise the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and increase the Child Tax Credit for low-income Americans, families, and hard-pressed areas.

#### **Mike will deploy immediate and unprecedented federal resources to tackle the homelessness crisis in America.**

Create hundreds of thousands of new affordable housing units

Mike will increase the supply of affordable housing units nationally – lowering costs for middle and low-income residents. He will expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit and enhance its value. He will prioritize new transportation funding for areas that have undertaken progressive zoning reform and reward municipalities that support affordable housing development in neighborhoods with good schools, transportation, and economic opportunity. He will help bring public housing back into good condition by streamlining the allocation of HUD's RAD program and increasing funding for the National Housing Trust Fund.

#### **Help renters become homeowners**

Mike will pilot targeted assistance to help people afford down payments for new homes, provide federal matching funds to offer all residents of the 100 Communities down-payment assistance, and broaden access to basic financial services. Mike will

address inequities in wealth and home ownership, and enforce laws designed to ensure that developers, landlords, and lenders act fairly.

### **Use regulation and incentives to curb housing discrimination**

Mike's plan will recruit more landlords into the voucher system and reduce bureaucratic processes. It will use regulation and incentives to curb discrimination by landlords, so that tenants are protected regardless of income source, sexual orientation, or immigration status.

### **Create the jobs of the future in communities today**

Mike will launch a major R&D initiative to create up to 30 new growth hubs in regions that need good jobs the most. The investment — modeled on the federal programs that brought us the Internet and the biotech industry — will focus on generating scientific breakthroughs in areas such as public health, hydrogen power, green technology and sustainable agriculture. It will reward places with the best plans to improve infrastructure, enhance education and promote the inclusion of underrepresented groups. Mike also will invest in community college partnerships and apprenticeships that connect people with good-paying jobs and career paths.

### **Make education and training a national priority**

Mike will work with states to upgrade America's career-training system through major new investments in community and technical colleges and through partnering with employers. He will invest in apprentice programs, with the goal of boosting apprenticeship starts to 1 million a year by 2030. He will streamline the government's 43 employment and training programs, pool their resources and focus funding on those that deliver the best results for people.

### **Make work pay**

Mike's plan will enhance the Earned Income Tax Credit, pay it monthly and pay more where it's most needed. Mike will also increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour, linked to growth in earnings, and ensure affordable child care, paid family leave and the right to sue employers for harassment and discrimination. And his plan will grant all workers — including gig, contract and franchise employees — the right to organize and bargain collectively.

### **Tap into the job-creating energy of entrepreneurs**

Mike will help communities across the country set up the most effective possible one-stop shops for entrepreneurs to help them access capital, navigate bureaucracy and take advantage of federal programs. He will invest in local ideas that work, by focusing funding on programs that deliver real, measurable results — particularly for

underrepresented groups such as minorities, women, veterans and people with disabilities.

**Connect rural communities**

Mike's plan includes improving rural America's connection to growth centers – for example, by investing in rural broadband access. He will empower a single authority to coordinate various federal assistance programs. He also will provide an extra incentive for businesses to locate and employ people in distressed communities, through a placed-based Earned Income Tax Credit that lowers costs for employers.