



Foreword

How can our government ensure economic opportunity for all?

That question has long been the guidepost for LISC’s federal public policy efforts. For more than 40 years, we have drawn on our community investment experience to advance policies that fuel affordable housing, economic development, health, education, safety, and jobs, all designed to help families and communities thrive. While government tools and resources, on their own, are not sufficient to address the nation’s interconnected challenges, we know from experience that federal programs are critical, helping attract private capital to places it might not otherwise flow, and creating pathways to opportunity for families and communities.

In this document, we provide a revised federal policy blueprint, updated from our original report issued in 2020 for building a broadly shared prosperity. Much has changed since 2020, as we’ve navigated from emergency COVID-19 responses back towards our sustained push for economic equality and social justice. With Republicans securing control of the House of Representatives, we are also now working with a divided federal government, placing an even greater emphasis on finding bipartisan solutions.

There is no one-size-fits-all solution, of course, which is why these recommendations span 17 federal agencies. Our hope is to offer the Administration and Congress a view of what works to expand economic opportunity—from rural broadband to small business support and affordable child care to homeownership—based on our \$29.7 billion in community investments to date throughout the country.

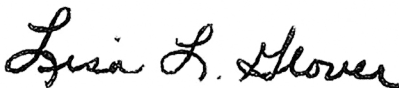


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And still, we know much more is needed. We are committed to pursuing action on the items highlighted in this document, as well as to identifying additional opportunities for policy development and advocacy in the coming months and years.

We are proud of our work over the years, as we have tested new ideas, developed new partnerships, and tied the lessons we have learned to new programs and policy approaches. We continue to leverage the expertise of our staff in 38 local LISC program offices and a rural investment program that reaches more than 2,200 counties in 49 states, as well as that of LISC affiliates focused on affordable housing, community facilities, and businesses nationwide.

An effective base of federal policies is critical to our national economy and to the well-being of all Americans. We invite you to read through these policy proposals, consider the opportunities they present, and join us in advocating for a strong and growing economy that works for everyone.



Lisa L. Glover
LISC CEO



Matt Josephs
LISC SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
FOR POLICY



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