

# Fighting Poverty and the Rising Cost of Living

## *Speaker Biographies*

**Eillie Anzilotti** is an assistant editor for *Fast Company's* impact section, covering sustainability, social good, and alternative economies. She is a 2018–19 Climate Solutions fellow with the New Economies Reporting Project. Previously, she wrote for *Citylab*.

**Sherrod Brown** is a United States senator for the state of Ohio. Brown serves on the Senate Committee on Finance and is the ranking member of the Senate Banking Committee. He is also the first Ohio senator in 40 years to serve on the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee. He was chairman of the Subcommittee on Jobs, Rural Economic Growth, and Energy Innovation. Prior to serving in the United States Senate, Brown served as a United States representative for the 13th District, Ohio's Secretary of State, and a member of the Ohio General Assembly and taught in Ohio's public schools and at The Ohio State University.

**Chris Hughes** is cochair of the Economic Security Project, a nonprofit working on creating equity through cash assistance and guaranteed income programs, and a senior advisor at the Roosevelt Institute, a progressive think tank working to reimagine the rules of the economy. He has led the Economic Security Project's work to rewrite federal and state tax codes to create a monthly tax credit for Americans most in need, a policy which would create a guaranteed income for working people in the United States. In 2018, he published his first book, *Fair Shot: Rethinking Inequality and How We Earn*. Before he began his work on economic issues, Hughes cofounded Facebook as a student at Harvard University and later led Barack Obama's digital organizing campaign for president. He was the owner and publisher of *The New Republic* magazine from 2012 to 2016. Hughes is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and graduated from Harvard summa cum laude with a degree in history and literature.

**Elaine Maag** is a principal research associate in the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, where she studies income support programs for low-income families and children. Before joining the Tax Policy Center, Maag worked at the Internal Revenue Service and Government Accountability Office. Maag is a member of the National Poverty Research Center's US Collaborative of Poverty Centers network of researchers. She codirected the creation of the Net Income Change Calculator, a tool that allows users to understand the trade-offs between tax and transfer benefits and changes in earnings or marital status.

**Aparna Mathur** is a resident scholar in economic policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute, where she researches income inequality and mobility, tax policy, labor markets, and small businesses. She also directs the American Enterprise Institute–Brookings Project on Paid Family and Medical Leave, for which she was recognized in the 2017 *Politico* 50 list. Before joining the American Enterprise Institute, Mathur was an instructor in economics at the University of Maryland. She has been also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's School of Public Policy (now the McCourt School of Public Policy). Mathur has been published in several top scholarly journals and in the popular press on issues of policy relevance. She has also testified several times before Congress, and government organizations, such as the Congressional Research Service and the Congressional Budget Office, have cited her work in their own reports to Congress. Mathur holds a doctorate and a master's degree in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park; a master's degree in

economics from the Delhi School of Economics; and a bachelor's degree from Hindu College at Delhi University in India.

**Mark J. Mazur** is the Robert C. Pozen director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and a vice president at the Urban Institute. His research interests cover all aspects of tax policy. From 2012 to 2017, he was the assistant secretary for tax policy at the US Department of the Treasury. Mazur served in the federal government for 27 years in various positions, including policy economist at the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation; senior economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers; senior director at the National Economic Council; chief economist and senior policy adviser and director of policy at the US Department of Energy; acting administrator of the Energy Information Administration; director of research, analysis, and statistics at the Internal Revenue Service; and deputy assistant secretary for tax analysis in the Office of Tax Policy. Before entering public service, Mazur was an assistant professor in Heinz College at Carnegie-Mellon University. He has a bachelor's degree in financial administration from Michigan State University and a master's degree in economics and a doctorate in business from Stanford University.

**Gwen Moore** is congresswoman for Wisconsin's Fourth Congressional District and the first African American elected to Congress from the state of Wisconsin. She is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, with jurisdiction over the Social Security system, Medicare, the foster care system, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, unemployment insurance, and all taxation, tariffs, and revenue-raising measures. She serves on the Oversight, Select Revenue Measures, and Worker and Family Support Subcommittees. Before serving in Congress, she was a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly and Senate. She earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Marquette University.

**Aisha Nyandoro** is the chief executive officer of Springboard to Opportunities. Springboard provides strategic, direct support to residents of affordable housing. She has more than a decade of experience developing, implementing, and evaluating programs aimed at improving the quality of life for individuals with limited resources. Prior to serving with Springboard, Nyandoro served as a program officer with the Foundation for the Mid South. Nyandoro shares her commitment to community with the various boards of directors and advisory councils to which she lends her expertise and service. She has received multiple honors, including recognition as a fellow of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Leadership Network and Ascend at the Aspen Institute. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Tennessee State University and a master's degree in community psychology and urban affairs and a doctorate in community psychology from Michigan State University.

**Dorian T. Warren** is president of Community Change and Community Change Action. He is also cochair of the Economic Security Project. A scholar, organizer, and media personality, Warren has worked to advance racial, economic, and social justice for more than two decades. He previously taught for more than 10 years at the University of Chicago and Columbia University, where he was codirector of the Columbia University Program on Labor Law and Policy. Warren also worked at MSNBC where he was a contributor, fill-in host for Melissa Harris Perry and *Now with Alex Wagner*, and host and executive producer of *Nerding Out* on MSNBC's digital platform. Warren is coauthor of *The Hidden Rules of Race: Barriers to an Inclusive Economy* and coeditor of *Race and American Political Development*. In 2013, he was included on the list of NBC's *TheGrio's* 100 People Making History Today. Warren received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois and his master's degree and doctorate in political science from Yale University.