

## **Reducing poverty**

Philadelphia is the poorest big city in America. Facing a 26% poverty rate, the most meaningful thing we can do to bring families out of poverty is to improve the education of our children. At the same time, the City is proposing investments to ensure there are opportunities for our students when they graduate high school. The City is also working to ensure Philadelphians can stay in their homes.

## What the Mayor's FY19 Budget Supports

**Protecting homeowners:** We will increase the homestead exemption from \$30,000 of assessed value to \$45,000, to provide relief for Philadelphia homeowners in light of growing home values. We will also invest \$2.5 million in foreclosure prevention programs.

**Investing in Neighborhoods:** We will increase funding by \$3.8 million for the Philadelphia Land Bank to help it fulfill its mission of returning vacant property to productive use.

**Workforce development:** We will invest in our workforce development plan, which serves as a launching point for the bold steps needed to align education and workforce systems to the talent that our businesses need.

**Community College of Philadelphia**: This budget proposes increasing the Community College of Philadelphia's funding by \$1.5 million annually. The College will direct funds to workforce training, reentry support, and college classes for high school students. It will open doors for thousands of our high schoolers.

**Supporting jobs and apprenticeships:** The proposed budget funds apprenticeships in the Office of Fleet Management, provides a living wage to seasonal employees in the Department of Parks and Recreation, and maintains the Fair Chance Program, which supports jobs for returning citizens.

**Protecting our most vulnerable kids:** The Plan invests \$1.5 million more annually in child welfare, matched by almost \$9 million in federal and state grants. Increases will cover actual costs for providers, and fund additional staff. Family Empowerment Services will gain 16 additional case managers to help keep kids in their homes.

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