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From: Lift to Rise <info@lifttorise.org>
Sent: September 29 23 8:15 AM
To: City Clerk
Subject: ✨ Lift to Rise heads to Washington ➤ | Lift to Rise In Review | September Newsletter

VIEW EMAIL IN BROWSER

LIFT TO RISE

SEPTEMBER 2023

IN REVIEW

[Oprime aquí para leer en español.](#)

Dear Angela,

Last week members of the Lift to Rise staff along with partners flew to Washington, DC for a series of face-to-face meetings with federal officials and policy leaders to build support for our bold plans to address inequity and housing instability.

A major moment of the week came Thursday when Lift to Rise joined U.S. Rep. Raul Ruiz for a [roundtable on Capitol Hill](#) to discuss federal policy around the intersection of housing and health. It was a key first step to developing future policy action around housing as a social determinant of health.



Rep. Dr. Raul Ruiz leads discussion during a roundtable talk on housing as a social determinant of health.

And what are social determinants of health? As defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, they are the conditions in which people are born, live, work, play, worship, and age. They play a significant role in people’s health and well-being. In fact, many experts agree that social determinants contribute more to promoting good health than medical interventions.

“The pandemic showed us that housing is the central social determinant of health and determines the trajectory of opportunity for us all,” said Lift to Rise CEO Heather Vaikona.

Ruiz and Lift to Rise are working to develop legislation that recognizes the influence housing has on other social determinants of health and supports growing the supply of quality, affordable housing for people who need it and can’t afford it. Thursday’s roundtable was an opportunity to gather ideas that could shape this future action.



Rep. Dr. Raul Ruiz and Lift to Rise were joined by leaders in healthcare, housing and philanthropy to discuss policy that intersects with housing and health.

“As a physician I have cared for many patients in the emergency room who have suffered exacerbations of disease due to inadequate shelter,” Ruiz said. “Adequate housing is an important social determinant of health.”

Lift to Rise extends a huge thank you to Congressman Ruiz for leading this important discussion. We also want to thank the representatives from the many leading national healthcare, housing, and philanthropic organizations who joined us.

To see a list of all the organizations that participated, see our [post on Instagram](#).

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



The Center for Community Investment at the Lincoln Center for Land Policy recently published a thoughtful case study of our work, including our “inside/outside” pandemic response and innovative Affordable Housing Pipeline and We Lift: The Coachella Valley’s Housing Catalyst Fund. They say our partnership has “helped community residents change the game on affordable housing.” We think that’s pretty awesome! You can read the complete case study online at the [Center for Community Investment](#).

POLICY PULSE

Coachella is the first city in the Coachella Valley to approve Objective Design Standards for new multi-family and mixed-use developments. The standards will simplify the approval process, speed up new development, and encourage beautiful new spaces for residents.

We encourage more cities to do the same!

[VIEW SOCIAL POST](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our inaugural **Lift to Rise Community Investment Awards** will be **Saturday, October 14**. Follow our social media for upcoming announcements about the individuals and organizations we will be recognizing that evening!



NEW EVENT DATE

SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 14

The First-Annual
Lift to Rise Community
Investment Awards

**We are stronger together. Thank you for
being part of our community.**