



200 Vesey Street, 23rd Floor  
New York, NY 10281-2103  
Tel: 212 532 3200  
Fax: 212 684 0832  
www.mdrc.org

475 14th Street  
Suite 750  
Oakland, CA 94612-1900  
Tel: 510 663 6372  
Fax: 510 844 0288

11965 Venice Blvd.  
Suite 402  
Los Angeles, CA 90066

750 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 501  
Washington, DC 20006

## **Rise Up Cambridge Study Overview**

### **Who is MDRC?**

MDRC is a nonprofit social policy and research organization. MDRC conducts studies to learn what programs and policies work best to support low-income families. You can learn more about MDRC at [www.mdrc.org](http://www.mdrc.org).

### **What is the Rise Up Cambridge Program?**

The Rise Up Cambridge program was launched in June 2023. The program aims to support families with children in Cambridge earning 250% of the federal poverty level, which is about \$75,000 for a family of four. Families in the program receive \$500 in cash per month for 18 months to spend how they want.

### **What is the Rise Up Cambridge Study?**

The study of the Rise Up Cambridge uses mixed methods to understand the role that cash transfer payments play in the lives of families enrolled in the initiative while the cash payments are in effect. The study runs from June 2023 to December 2025. The study is sponsored by the City of Cambridge the Cambridge Community Foundation (CCF). The Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC) is also involved with the study and program.

### **What questions does the Rise Up Cambridge study attempt to answer?**

The study seeks to answer questions such as:

1. What outcomes does the Rise Up initiative generate for families?
2. What are households' perspectives about the program and cash payments?
3. How do families with different characteristics and experiencing different circumstances benefit and experience the program? Do some families benefit more than others?
4. How is the initiative implemented and what is the policy context around this program in Cambridge?

### **How will data be collected?**

MDRC will be collecting data through interviews and focus groups with Rise Up participants, staff interviews at key organizations, storytelling sessions with participants, intake data from those who agreed to be in the study, and two surveys of Rise Up participants.

### **Who can I reach out to with questions?**

If you have any questions about the Rise Up Cambridge study, please contact Victoria Quiroz Becerra at MDRC at [RiseUp@mdrc.org](mailto:RiseUp@mdrc.org)