

## Recognizing the Multidimensional Aspects of Poverty

**WHEREAS**, Policy practitioners strive to consult people with direct experience of poverty in designing policies, but the measurement of poverty itself has not benefited from the guidance of people who have experienced it; and

**WHEREAS**, In response to this need, ATD Fourth World, a global movement aimed at ending poverty and protecting human rights and dignity, partnered with the University of Oxford to design and implement a participatory research project with over 2,000 participants, a majority of whom have experienced poverty; and

**WHEREAS**, This research launched the “Poverty in All Its Forms: Determining the Dimensions of Poverty and How to Measure Them” international participatory research project, with research teams in Bangladesh, Bolivia, France, Tanzania, the United Kingdom, and six regions or cities in the United States: Appalachia, New York, New Orleans, Boston, Oakland, and Gallup, New Mexico; and

**WHEREAS**, The *Multidimensional Aspects of Poverty (MAP)* has been developed from this research and, since March, 2019, has been made available for researchers and practitioners to advance knowledge about the nature and characteristics of the poverty dimensions through the report “Pushed to the Bottom: the Experience of Poverty in America”; and

**WHEREAS**, Because those who have lived in poverty were central advisors in the task of defining poverty and creating the *MAP* dimensions, its use will not only promote a less technocratic analysis of poverty, it will also improve our understanding of poverty and our policy responses to it; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Massachusetts State Legislature acknowledge the *Multidimensional Aspects of Poverty (MAP)* in designing policy interventions to poverty and policies to support those living in poverty; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of the House of Representatives to ATD Fourth World.