November 10, 2023

Stanford Institute of Economic Policy Research

366 Galvez Street

Stanford, CA 94305

To Whom it May Concern:

I am applying to the position of Postdoctoral Fellow at the Stanford Institute of Economic Policy Research.

**Research Interests**

My research agenda, including my job market paper, published work, and work in progress, is comprised of work in applied microeconomics. My fields of interest are public economics, labor economics, applied econometrics, and urban economics.

My job market paper, *Beyond the Local Impacts of Place-Based Policies: Spillovers through Latent Housing Markets*, proposes an approach to study spillover effects of local policies that propagate non-spatially through latent markets. I exemplify the approach with a place-based policy and estimate spillover effects within latent housing markets. The empirical findings inform conclusions on overall effectiveness and redistribution that differ from analysis using only direct treatment effects. While the approach is particularly relevant for place-based economic development, it can be adapted to other contexts.

**Relevance of Research for Economic Policy**

Place-based policies are common instruments that policymakers use to target spatially distributed inequality. Evaluations of place-based policies tend to focus on the direct treatment effects within the targeted area. However, policymakers may be concerned the impact on a larger region beyond the targeted area. The empirical results of my job market paper illustrate that non-spatial spillover effects within housing markets can be substantial and negative even from a locally effective policy. The approach provides researchers a tool to evaluate non-spatial spillover effects of place-based policies, as well as consider such spillover effects in other contexts (e.g., spillovers in product markets).

**Possible Interactions at Stanford**

My current and planned research touches several fields in applied microeconomics, allowing me to learn from, collaborate with, and contribute to the larger applied microeconomics group at Stanford. If afforded the opportunity, I would be particularly interested in collaborating with Juan Carlos Suárez Serrato (with whom I interacted at Duke) and Rebecca Diamond.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anna Ziff