

Economic Prosperity

Goal: The region's resources are sustainable and its residents are economically stable and secure.

Together, we want to ensure that:

- Residents access and maintain safe and affordable housing in thriving, sustainable communities.
- Residents have the financial knowledge, skills and resources to support themselves and are able to access to career and economic opportunities.

Our Investment Approach

The Community Foundation's grantmaking will focus on activities that are directly tied to increasing opportunity for low-wealth residents. We will approach our grantmaking decisions through a priority of requirements that include:

- Access and equity for all residents
- High quality programming
- Collaboration with public, private, and other nonprofit partners

We support local nonprofit organizations in providing effective programming and operations, advocacy and systems change, and capacity building. Our partners help ensure regional economic prosperity through the following strategies and activities listed on this page.

Neighborhood Development

Strategies

- Building household income, financial stability & wealth
- Revitalizing neighborhoods
- Engaging residents to self-advocate

Measurements of Success

- # and % of clients who improved their credit score
- Average hourly wage increase for clients
- Reduction of debt

Adult Workforce Development

Strategies

- Training & education that leads to workforce preparation, certifications, credentials & degrees
- Reducing employment barriers
- Increasing access to transportation & wraparound services to maintain employment

Measurements of Success

- # of adults completing training and/or receiving certificates or credentials
- # of adults who are hired into a job
- # of adults who are hired into a higher quality job (at higher pay, with benefits, or so they are no longer in need of public assistance)
- # of adults who maintain employment
- # of adults who report improved well-being

Homelessness Reduction

Strategies

- Avoiding homelessness through shelter diversion
- Providing emergency shelter
- Facilitating rapid re-housing & exits to permanent housing

Measurements of Success

- Length of homelessness

**The measures above are examples only; this list is not intended to be all-inclusive*



Safe & Affordable Housing

Strategies

- Creating housing units or preserving affordability of existing units
- Offering wraparound services to maintain housing
- Assisting older adults to age in place

Measurements of Success

- # of householders gaining knowledge about housing and finances
- # of units created or maintained that are affordable (including through subsidies and vouchers)
- # of households in high opportunity neighborhoods
- # of affordable housing units maintained by at least one critical home repair/renovation to increase safety and/or efficiency
- # of householders which experience higher quality of life as a result of services, feel safer at home, or report satisfaction with services (repairs, support, classes, etc.)
- # of households in safe housing for at least one year
- # of affordable housing units spending less than 30% of income on housing

**The measures above are examples only; this list is not intended to be all-inclusive*

Focus on Regional Indicators

We are focused long-term on affecting regional indicators that we believe are key strategies for helping our region thrive. Aligning with our community partners, like the Capital Region Collaborative, these indicators include:

- **Unemployment Rate**
- **Poverty Rate** (percent living below the federal poverty line)
- **Household Income** (median)
- **Transit Coverage** (share of working-age residents near transit stop)
- **Job Access** (share of jobs reachable via transit in 60 minutes)
- **Homelessness Rate** (percent of the population that is homeless at a point-in-time)
- **Cost-Burdened Households** (percent of the population paying 30% or more of income on housing)
- **Cost of Living Index** (measure of prices that affect consumers' well-being)