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 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 grant-making decisions through a priority of requirements that include:
• Access and equity for all residents
• High quality strengths-based programming
• Policy and advocacy support
• 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-based Resources
Strategies
• Building household income, financial stability & wealth
• Providing navigation/connections to public or nonprofit services

Measurements
• # and % of clients who improved their credit score
• # of clients accessing public benefits
• 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 adults completing training and/or receiving certificates or credentials
• # of adults completing GEDs
• # 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
• Length of stay in shelter
• % of returns to homelessness
• % maintaining permanent housing

*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 multifamily units created or maintained that are affordable (including through subsidies and vouchers)
- # of homes built/renovated and sold to low to moderate income homeowners
- # of households moving to 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 evictions prevented through the provision of legal services or rental assistance
- # of households spending less than 30% of income on housing

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