



SUPPORTIVE SYSTEMS

CREATING CONDITIONS THAT FOSTER HEALTH, EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY



Our Donors invest in families, communities and nonprofit sector systems to improve outcomes for vulnerable people

Our Donors believe families, communities and the nonprofit sector are the primary systems that support people on their journey to education, health and economic self-sufficiency. Effective family functioning results in positive outcomes for both children and parents. Community initiatives can solve complex problems and address systemic issues at the root of poverty. A strong and well-resourced nonprofit sector can improve the human condition with the delivery of effective programs and services. When supportive family, community and sector systems foster individual initiative, economically disadvantaged people move toward prosperity.

Eligible Target Populations

Economically Disadvantaged Families

- Our Donors define economic self-sufficiency as the point at which a youth or parent can consistently cover his or her basic costs of living without government subsidy or financial aid. Within the US, the benchmark for economic self-sufficiency is 300% of FPL or the approximate equivalent of 110% of average state-wide Median Household Income. In Canada, the benchmark is 200% of LICO or MBM for a given location. Under extraordinary circumstances, an applicant can articulate another relevant measure to verify the target population being served has yet to attain economic self-sufficiency.
 - Applicants should articulate the process by which income is verified.
 - Applicants should be able to verify at least 80% of those served have not yet attained economic self-sufficiency.

- Savings and assets are encouraged. Populations only become ineligible when savings and assets exceed the equivalent of three months of income at the FPL/LICO thresholds noted above.
- In special circumstances, when a higher income threshold is appropriate, or an alternate measure is being used, applicants should provide a clear rationale for doing so.
- Parents are the person or persons actively caring for a child or children, which can include guardians, custodians, foster parents and others not related to the child.
- Families are one or two parents or guardians with dependent children age 18 and younger; pregnant mothers; and, when family reunification is a focus, parents who have lost custody of their children.
- Efforts designed to benefit a universal audience or target population other than listed here are not eligible for Donor support.

Economically Disadvantaged Communities and Community-Driven Partnerships

- Defined geographic areas acknowledged to be economically disadvantaged including cities, towns, neighbourhoods or regions designated by the federal, provincial/state, or municipal government as an identified high needs area (e.g. Promise Zone) or with some other external verification of economic disadvantage.
- Disadvantaged remote and isolated, rural communities with limited access to services and defined by lower population levels (typically 10,000 or fewer residents), reduced population density and verified indicators of economic disadvantage.
- Community-driven, multi-sectoral partnerships or issue-driven community-led initiatives designed to address an issue relevant to the Donors' Investment Framework.

Nonprofit and Sector Serving Organizations

- Sector-serving umbrella organizations whose mission is to improve sectoral effectiveness and/or encourage philanthropy. These organizations typically do not provide direct service to individuals and may include United Ways, community foundations and nonprofit management or consulting organizations and associations.
- Nonprofit organizations that have content or issue expertise and are working to scale proven models and improve sector practice.
- Preference is given to organizations serving charities working in areas connected to the broader Investment Framework and contributing to our Donors' vision.

Donor Priority Areas

Strong Families

Effective parents build good family systems. Children need strong, stable and resilient caregivers. Those responsible for raising a child need skills, knowledge, support and guidance. Caregivers who nurture children's physical, emotional, mental, linguistic and social development with warmth and love help them realize their full potential – to be educated, healthy and economically self-sufficient. Our Donors believe the family shapes who children become – that the relationship between caregiver and child – the family system – is a powerful way to improve outcomes for both.

Resilient Communities

A person's postal/zip code can be a primary determinant of health, education and employment outcomes. People who live in economically and socially disadvantaged neighbourhoods don't have the same opportunities as their advantaged peers. Issues such as homelessness, poverty and low performing schools can block the path for individuals and families trying to reach their full potential. Our Donors believe communities can mobilize to tackle underlying conditions contributing to disparities and provide an environment that allows for individuals and families to thrive. All initiatives must address issues connected to the broader Investment Framework and provide opportunities for economically disadvantaged people to move toward health, education and/or economic self-sufficiency.

Effective Sector

Strong nonprofit organizations catalyze growth and opportunity. Sector-serving organizations enhance the ability of nonprofit agencies to attract investment, build core organizational infrastructure, ensure growth and leadership development and help disseminate and scale proven interventions. Our Donors believe in a strong sector that results in nonprofit organizations having the resources, support and information they need to improve outcomes for the people they serve.

Sample Outputs & Outcomes

Strong Families

Sample Outputs

- 800 unique parents will have completed the Parenting Program during the program year.
- 90 families will complete the Family Stability program.

Sample Outcomes

- 560 of 800 (70%) unique parents who participated in the Parenting Program during the April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019 period will have demonstrated improvements in one or more of the measures tracked using the ABC Survey:
 - parenting knowledge,
 - parenting skills,
 - stress levels,
 - enhanced confidence,
 - increased satisfaction, or
 - available resources.

- 2,900 of 3,625 (80%) parents served will demonstrate the proficiency necessary to contribute to children's safety, health, nurturance, development and stability as measured by a protective factors survey and accountability questionnaire.

Resilient Communities

Sample Outputs

- The Rural Community Partnership will have created 20 new community gardens and opened a community cooperative food market for 350 residents living without access to a supermarket.
- The Neighbourhood Collective, servicing 5,000 residents, will have replaced 500 streetlights and removed seven blighted and nuisance properties.
- By December 31, 2021, the Anyplace Poverty Reduction Strategy will have implemented at least five of the seven strategies included in its strategic plan.

Sample Outcomes

- The Anyplace Poverty Reduction Strategy will have achieved the following milestones in its effort to reduce poverty: families living below the Low-Income Measure will have been reduced from 15% to 5%; Emergency Food Bank use will have been reduced from 3,500 unique users to 1,000 unique users annually; and the social housing waitlist will have been reduced to 125 from the baseline of 500.
- The Neighbourhood Collective will reduce property crime incidents by 20% using community police service data, from 1,413 to 1,130; and increase in property values of at least 4%, from \$95,000 to \$98,800.

Effective Sector

Sample Outputs

- The organization will have created 10 new resources for its 450 member organizations.
- The Domestic Violence Collaborative (including six organizations) will have implemented a common intake process in order to better serve 350 clients.

Sample Outcomes

- 250 members will access and use the new resources to make measurable changes in their organizations; increasing annual revenues; decreasing staff turnover; or increasing the number of volunteers actively participating in the organization.
- 10 organizations will have completed the training curriculum and adopted best practice to improve client outcomes in one or more of the following ways: opened a bank account; established a credit score; increased their credit score by 35 points or more; saved at least 2% of their monthly income; or eliminated personal debt.