



## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION BETWEEN FUNDERS & PARTNERS**

Each table shared their top 3 opportunities for collective impact verbally and at the conclusion of the event, each participant was given three dot stickers and asked to vote for the three opportunities with the most promise for transformative impact. Fifty-four attendees voted.

Participants were asked to vote again during the online evaluation. At that time, opportunities with common themes were combined. The results of the online voting mirrored those of the on-site voting. The outline below is a categorized list of the opportunities offered by each table and the percentage of people who ranked that item in their top 3.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGIES**

- **Quality of Life:** Focus development on building a strong quality of life environment in North Minneapolis; View it as a destination **(4%)**
- **Neighborhood Branding:** Create a new communications/ marketing plan highlighting North Minneapolis' assets and successes **(2%)**
- **Capacity for Resident Engagement:** Building capacity for non-profits to complement the services offered with high-touch resident engagement. **(2%)**
- **Leverage Racial Diversity as an Asset:** Tap into the rich diversity and racial cultures in North Minneapolis; Tap into the spirit and assets that exist in the community. **(0)**

### **SKILL- SPECIFIC**

- **Digital Literacy:** Integrate digital literacy and inclusion into everything that we do to achieve digital equity, particularly among immigrant communities. **(8%)**

### **FUNDING & COLLABORATION**

- **Comprehensive Funding:** Shift from funding focused on issues/ obstacles/ challenges) to holistic and comprehensive funding streams that remove the burden of silo' d funding objectives on nonprofits. **(4%)**
- **Framework for Collaborations:** Re-design funding goals for collaborative work to ensure adequate resources are available for equitable, and outcome driven partnerships **(.6%)**
- **Cross-Sector Partnerships:** Continue working together; define the collective challenges, strategies and agenda. **(0)**

### **POLICY & ADVOCACY**

- **Focus on Policy:** Work collectively to advocate for more flexible policies for MFIP and MNSURE dollars. **(10%)**
- **Engage Policy Makers:** Collectively influence the next round of city council people and the new mayor to ensure continued commitment to and engagement in North Minneapolis. **(2%)**

## **SKILL BUILDING & PLACEMENT**

- **Invest in Infrastructure Development:** Infrastructure for Jobs & Skill Development to address the gap; Focus on career pathways **(15%)**
- **Continuum of Opportunities:** Work together to assess strategies at every stage of the *(skill sets and access) continuum* **(10%)**
- **Offender Employment:** Funders should work collectively with providers to develop realistic strategies that slowly transition convicted felons seeking jobs to a livable wage. **(9%)**
- **Construction:** How does North Minneapolis become a part of the construction boom? **(8%)**
- **Reduce Institutional Barriers:** Funding, Policies that impact re-entry employment, Affordable childcare for job seekers **(7%)**
- **Measurement:** Develop common indicators of success and collective measurements and milestones **(6%)**
- **Youth Engagement:** Increase youth employment and opportunities that increase safety, income & wealth and achieve college readiness **(6%)**
- **Access to Credit:** Re-shape the environment around credit access: i.e. alternative data for evaluating credit worthiness and address challenges that are hindering financial sustainability. **(4%)**
- **Program Coordination:** Increase coordination and collaboration to ensure that people benefit from our coordination. I.e. Dual enrollment in program tracking systems. **(1%)**
- **Housing Development & Construction Training:** Become a hub for developing construction talent for the whole region **(0)**

## **BUSINESS ATTRACTION**

- **Non-traditional Business Attraction:** Innovation Avenue on West Broadway: Pop-up businesses (i.e. Travail) **(2%)**

## **POST-EVENT EVALUATION SUMMARY**

**Survey Participation:** Approximately 36% of participants completed the online survey.

**Overall Rating:** 93% of respondents rated the event as Very Good or Excellent

### **Achieving Event Goals:**

- 100% of respondents agree that the event helped build reciprocal relationships between the funding community and North Minneapolis partners, providers and business owners.
- 87% of respondents agree that the event helped increase attendees' collective understanding of the local context and landscape of North Minneapolis as it relates to employment and training.
- 100% of respondents agree that the event helped stimulate holistic community inquiry around issues and collective opportunities for improving outcomes in employment services and training in North Minneapolis.

## **Narrative Comment Highlights**

- **Networking Worked:** We met new people and reconnected with others. We don't tend to make time for relationship building; this was a good reminder that it's important.
- **Information Sharing Is Needed:** It would be helpful for partners to have additional information about each community-based organization, their mission, strategies and key programs and an outline of each foundations investment priorities and openness to receiving proposals.
- **Relevant Data Is Critical:** The data provided was helpful. In future discussions, we should seek more thorough and current data for examining trends in employment, wages, and leakage.
- **The Environment Was Open & Inclusive:** The intentionality of avoiding the power dynamics of the funder dance helped create real conversation. The environment felt inclusive and welcoming to diverse perspectives and stakeholders. It was good to have all of us in the same room discussing the same issues and opportunities.
- **The Event Created a Sense of Hope & Optimism:** The event created a sense of hope and optimism by outlining new and specific ways that community based organizations and funders can improve and collaborate.
- **Continue the Dialogue:** Rich discussion and energy should be captured and built upon. Don't lose the opportunity to reconvene in several weeks.
- **Explore Underlying Issues of Race, Class and Privilege:** This conversation was a good start to advancing inclusion and open dialogue, but we must address real issues to create new results.

## **NORTHSIDE FUNDERS GROUP PRIMARY OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOLLOW-UP**

The Northside Funders Group has identified the following opportunities for further exploration with our partners after reviewing all event notes, evaluations and participant feedback, within the context of our strategy and goals.

- **Continuum Map:** Funders and partners explore emerging venues where a career continuum could become real by engaging new partners to provide holistic services to job seekers.
- **Infrastructure Development & Construction:** Identify ways that funders and partners may be able to support the Twin Cities Construction Consortium to help them become a career conduit for north Minneapolis residents, leveraging the strength of several major initiatives and support efforts.
- **Policy:** Identify ways to ensure advocates for North Minneapolis are engaged in influential workforce development boards and committees.