



SEATTLE FOUNDATION

the heart & science of philanthropy

VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

VISION

*All Greater Seattle residents—
regardless of race, income,
neighborhood, gender or
identity—are able to thrive.*

Our region is not only growing but also changing. To achieve greater equity and opportunity for all, we need to ensure that the benefits of regional prosperity are shared by the diversity of people who call Greater Seattle home. Too often access to opportunity is determined by a person's ZIP code, race or income. Supporting those being left behind or pushed out of our region requires targeted strategies that increase equity and opportunity, as well as increase the vitality of the region as a whole.

As the face of our region changes, we need new approaches to match our changing demographics. We are committed to supporting community-identified goals that build an opportunity-rich region and positively influence policies, systems and practices. We support building power in communities where residents are best positioned to understand their neighborhood's needs, gather its assets and spearhead change.

Supporting community leadership in change efforts that directly impact those communities leads to more effective results and improved sustainability of long-term progress. Our ability to create a more equitable future

in Greater Seattle requires supporting and sustaining our skilled and informed community partners. Their leadership is crucial to truly democratic processes.



Working Toward a Healthy Community

Seattle Foundation established the Healthy Community Framework to delineate the essential elements of a thriving community, and focus

philanthropy where it can have the greatest impact. Built on eight elements, the framework acknowledges the complex and interwoven nature of the challenges and assets in our community and allows philanthropists to consider more strategic investments in the causes they care about most.

■ For each element, we provide a vision for change, high-level context and analysis, recommended priorities, and proven actionable approaches to effective giving informed by research, data, community insight and technical expertise. These are designed to stimulate thinking and generate new approaches to making Greater Seattle a stronger, more vibrant community for all.

3 Priorities for Impact

1 Amplify the voice and influence of underrepresented communities to increase community-led advocacy and policy-change efforts.

APPROACHES

- Support targeted leadership development efforts that increase the representation of communities of color and other underrepresented populations
- Strengthen community organizing and other movement-building efforts to increase community engagement
- Support nonpartisan civic activities that engage residents in political and social processes
- Advance community-led advocacy and campaigns to influence local policy

2 Build grassroots capacity by strengthening the nonprofit infrastructure of organizations representing communities of color and other marginalized groups.

APPROACHES

- Build the capacity of grassroots organizations led by underrepresented communities
- Strategically target resources to historically under-resourced neighborhoods and communities
- Support technical assistance and training programming for small and grassroots nonprofits

3 Increase community connections within and across communities to build collective power for change.

APPROACHES

- Invest in place-based approaches that bring residents together across geography to create locally-designed and led solutions
- Support engagement activities that bring historically underrepresented communities into planning processes and strengthen relationships with local leaders and policymakers
- Support partnerships and coalition-building to connect mutual interests of diverse communities
- Provide immigrants and refugees with the tools and resources necessary to successfully engage in community-change efforts