

Kresge Foundation Funding Opportunity in Memphis: Approaches We Will Fund

Kresge is primarily looking to make investments in organizations that integrate arts and culture, community development, education, health and/or human services through the following four approaches:

Supporting the Articulation of Community Priorities to Inform Decision-Making

Identifying key barriers to social and economic opportunity in Memphis through research, data collection, analysis or compilation

Convening to help establish a shared, evidence-based understanding of key barriers to social and economic opportunity

Collecting, making available or sharing key data and information needed to inform community decision-making related to land use, blight mitigation, health and human service provision or neighborhood development

Convening to help establish a shared, resident-informed understanding of key community priorities for change

Determining Plans for Action

Convening to help establish shared agendas across community organizations, funders and other civic actors on key community issues

Creating ambitious, community-informed plans for acting on community priorities

Enhancing the Capacity for Transformative Change

Forming or strengthening multi-sector collaborations or supporting efforts to integrate across disciplines that deliver outcomes for communities with low income

Forming or strengthening collaborations between health care, public health, and community partners that promote health equity and reduce healthcare costs

Strengthening the community investment system through capacity building of financial intermediaries and borrowers involved in neighborhood revitalization; the development of plans and studies that seek to identify investable opportunities aligned with community priorities in neighborhoods

Improving the effectiveness of community development approaches through bringing regional or national experts to speak, present, train or consult in Memphis; supporting local practitioners traveling to other communities, attending conferences and/or trainings to connect to national networks, best practices, innovative ideas and thought leadership

Strengthening Neighborhoods and Systems of Opportunity

Developing healthy built environments through efforts that support healthy and affordable housing development, healthy housing policies, and land use and transportation policies and practices that promote health

Creating and supporting a resilient human services ecosystem with effective policies and practices that are person-centered, outcomes oriented, integrated and holistic

Increasing College Access and Graduation through creating clearer pathways to and through college, increasing institutional capacity of colleges serving low income and first generation students and increasing coordination of sectors and partners to improve college access and success rates

Integrating arts, culture, and community-engaged design into comprehensive community development or urban planning approaches in order to increase social cohesion and agency among residents, strengthen internal and external community narratives and catalyze positive physical transformation of neighborhoods

Supporting neighborhood-level community development initiatives to improve conditions in core city neighborhoods.