

MCF CORPORATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Collaborative Presentation

8.20.18



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WHAT IS THRIVENT?

- Not-for-profit fraternal benefit society
- Serves more than 2 million Christian “members” across the United States
- Fortune 500 organization offering financial products and services
- Mission is to help Christians on their “Wise with Money” journey so they can live content, confident, and generous lives.

The organization’s mission is expressed in many ways in our communities:

- Member- and workforce-led service projects
- Skills-based volunteerism
- Generous charitable gift matching
- Community partnerships through the Thrivent Foundation

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WHAT IS THE THRIVENT FOUNDATION?

Our Vision	We see a day when communities come together to advance shared economic well-being for all members of our society.
Our Mission	Our mission is to change the odds for people who struggle to advance economically in our communities. We are committed to ensuring that those experiencing the most substantial barriers and disparities can achieve family-sustaining employment and build durable financial assets. We believe in the power of inclusive, community-based action to accelerate change in the institutions and systems that ensure all people are economically secure and mobile.
Our Values	Our foundation is guided by the Thrivent Way and the core values derived from the rich history of Thrivent and the communities we serve. As members of the communities we serve, the Thrivent Foundation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acts with a deep sense of accountability for results. • Collaborates with humility and transparency. • Chooses the most equitable path. • Listens and is responsive to the voices of those most impacted by our work. • Focuses on long-term, sustainable impact. • Remains grounded in learning and continuous improvement
Outcome Areas	The Thrivent Foundation focuses on two primary outcome areas that we believe are necessary conditions to achieve shared economic well-being for all people: Family-Sustaining Employment and Durable Financial Assets.

WHY COLLABORATIVES?

- For Thrivent, collaboratives:
- Are very much in the spirit of our company’s roots
 - Increase likelihood, depth, and breadth of impact
 - Center learning and improving at the forefront of our decisions
 - Provide the space to learn alongside others and from those most impacted by the issues we want to address

OUR COLLABORATIVES

Minneapolis St. Paul Workforce Innovation Network (MSPWin) – Part of the National Fund for Workforce Solutions, focused on strengthening the workforce in the 7-county metro region

- \$50,000 annual investment
- 6 meetings/year

Northside Funders Group/Center for Economic Inclusion (NFG/CEI) – Corporate, private, and community foundations focused on closing educational and economic opportunity gaps on the North Side of Minneapolis.

- \$50,000 annual investment
- 6 meetings/year + committee involvement
- Pooled and/or aligned funding opportunities
- Program called “North @ Work”

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OUR COLLABORATIVES

East Side Funders Group (ESFG) – A coalition of corporate, private, and community foundations focused on workforce and economic development on the East Side of Saint Paul.

- \$25,000 annual investment
- 6 meetings/year

Aspen Forum for Community Solutions – Supports “innovative, place-based, collaborative solutions to reconnect opportunity youth” to education and employment across 24 American cities.

- Initial investment under review
- 2 convenings/year

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WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

- Every opportunity is different, and we look to both derive and create value as a member through various forms of capital.
- We're guided by inquiry and ask ourselves tough questions to assess fit and understand our potential role within the collaborative:
 - What is the objective or focus for this collaborative? How does it intersect or align to our foundation outcome areas?
 - How does collaboration unfold within this collaborative? Is it reflective of our commitment to equity?
 - Is this a funder collaborative deeply inclusive of those most impacted by the issue(s) it is trying to address?