In late 2015, the Ruth Mott Foundation asked north Flint residents what issues mattered most to them. Four priorities stood out: Youth, Safety, Economic Opportunity, and Neighborhoods. Residents identified areas to focus on within each priority. These shaped what kinds of grants we will fund going forward. The Ruth Mott Foundation is committed to positive change in north Flint. To be accountable, we need to track what changes related to these priorities happen in north Flint.

To figure out what to measure, we developed theories of change. A theory of change is a way of mapping long-term goals you expect to achieve if you carry out certain kinds of work. It includes indicators that help track whether the expected changes happen. Of course, forces beyond the Ruth Mott Foundation also shape what happens, and we will take that into account as well.

Each priority identified by residents has its own theory of change. The specific areas to focus on are shown in green boxes. Long-term outcomes we expect to achieve are in black boxes. We will track the indicators shown in purple to see if we are making progress. We chose indicators that have public data sources for north Flint. We plan to revise these theories of change as we learn more about what works and what does not, and we will revise this document accordingly.
Youth

- Kids meet developmental milestones
- Kids have quality ECE experience
- Kids ready for Kindergarten
- Kids achieving 3rd grade Math and ELA proficiency & attending school
- Kids achieving 8th grade Math and ELA proficiency & attending school
- Kids have access to quality OST activities
- Youth have access to job training and employment
- Youth achieve high school readiness for post-secondary education or employment

Abbreviation Key
- ASQ – Ages and Stages Questionnaire
- ECE – Early Childhood Education
- ELA – English Language Arts
- OST – Out of School Time

Updated 3.31.2017
Safety

Community policing used

People trust police officers
- Police can be trusted
- Police respect residents

People report crimes more often
- Number of 911 calls/Calls for service
- Likelihood to call police for crime

Community members outside more often
- Resident participation in crime watch
- Resident participation in neighborhood clean up
- Resident participation in reporting neighborhood problems

Reduced crime (Violent, property, and arson)
- Violent, property, and arson crime rates

Crime reduced using environmental design

Neighborhood has lighting
- % of working street lights

Neighborhood has improved property conditions
- Average property conditions

Neighborhood has maintained properties & lots
- % of vacant lots

Community-level Indicator
- Resident participation in crime watch
- Resident participation in neighborhood clean up
- Resident participation in reporting neighborhood problems

Working Draft Updated 3.31.2017
Economic Opportunity

Key
Strategy
Outcomes
Community-Level Indicator

- New businesses come to north Flint
  - Businesses are supported in north Flint
  - Training and social supports available to people, including ex-offenders, in north Flint

  New and existing businesses are sustained or grow
    - Number of new and existing businesses
    - City of Flint business income taxes & gross income

  People have appropriate education and skills to obtain and retain jobs
    - Educational attainment

  Reduce resident recidivism
    - Recidivism rates

  People obtain and retain jobs
    - Unemployment rate
    - City of Flint individual income taxes
    - Number in the workforce

  Increased household financial stability
    - Median household income
    - Population at poverty level (%)
Neighborhoods

Investment made to improve housing conditions for residents

Neighborhoods have neighborhood centers and community schools

Civic engagement
  • Voting participation
  • Resident engagement in neighborhood groups
  • Resident engagement in churches, schools, or other

Housing is affordable
  • Mortgage & rent affordability
  • Most of the residents own the home they live in
    • Owner/renter occupied housing

Housing is well-maintained externally and internally
  • Housing violations

Neighborhood residents are within walking distance of park(s), neighborhood center(s), or community school
  • % of residents within .5-mile radius of park, neighborhood center, or open community school

Neighborhood public outdoor space is well-maintained and inviting
  • Code enforcement
  • Property quality rating
  • % parks active in adopt-a-park

Neighborhoods are stable and supportive to residents
  • Length of time in residence
  • Resident satisfaction with quality of life

Key Outcomes
Strategy
Community-Level Indicator

Updated 3.31.2017