

Pathways Past Poverty **Prioritized Goals Master Document**

Pathways Past Poverty is a long term effort. Our community must dedicate its energy and resources to addressing the root causes of poverty to accomplish sustained change in our community.

Our commitment is not only to address the needs of those living in poverty now, but to also create long term solutions and opportunities for Larimer County residents to attain and maintain self-sufficiency.

A four pronged focus will be required in strategy development for each of the prioritized goals. To create systemic change- each goal will be treated as the hub of a wheel that extends out strategically to address individual, community, agency and policy systems change.

Measurement of success is a fundamental principle required for goal implementation. Pathways Past Poverty is a transparent and accountable initiative that understands this process is about results.

Additionally, efforts are now underway to develop a Community Health Index to further measure key Larimer County indicators to better understand the health of our community on a macro level.

Goals are listed in the order they were prioritized. Prioritization was based on input from Larimer County citizens at our Community Forums as well as a Larimer County Asset Map that guided the Steering Committee on what efforts were already underway to address each goal. It is essential that this initiative does not duplicate efforts.

Prioritization serves to focus Pathways Past Poverty's resources to effectively support our commitment to successful implementation. As strategy development and implementation progress, additional goals will be integrated into the initiative's focus.

GOAL 1: Ensure families in Larimer County have access to quality child care that they can afford, that supports their children's development, and supports their ability to be present and productive at work, school and/or training (including when children are sick).

GOAL 2: Significantly increase the availability of, access to and quality of job training, critical life skills and education opportunities that lead to self-sufficiency.

- Goal 2A: Identify critical skill sets required for self-sufficient employment in Larimer County; (*strategy* under the goal)
- Goal 2B: Identify and increase self-sufficient job training opportunities which teach critical skill sets and increase the participation in this job training; (*strategy* under the goal)
- Goal 2C: Identify and create synergistic support systems which enable members of our community to successfully participate in critical skill set job training (*strategy* under the goal)

GOAL 3: Develop and implement a multi-dimensional approach to low-income housing to help ensure that no persons or families lack access to adequate housing.

GOAL 4: Provide better jobs for residents in Larimer County (better jobs are jobs that have a sustainable wage; value employees as people; and are long-term, career oriented)

GOAL 5: Ensure that families facing poverty will have the opportunity to take part in a community supported process that enhances their own individual and family resources. In this process, individuals take responsibility for building their future as they identify their goals and assess their resources (financial, emotional, mental, spiritual, physical, support systems, relationships and role models, and knowledge of the hidden rules of class). They continue with the process by making choices and creating plans to enhance their resources. (Definition of families includes, but is not limited to two parent families, single parent families, grandparents raising grandchildren, foster families)

GOAL 6: Develop and implement a multifaceted integrated health care, wellness & preventative system to help ensure that every resident of Larimer County has access to quality mental, dental, physical, and vision services throughout their lifespan.

GOAL 7: Increase awareness of diversity and poverty to create an inclusive and involved community that honors the value of all people in Larimer County

GOAL 8: Engage a broad range of community stakeholders in examining policies and implementing best practices that support children, youth and families.

- GOAL 8A: Raise community awareness of the economic benefits of investing in and supporting children, youth and families. (proposed *strategy* under the goal)
- GOAL 8B: Have every governmental body in Larimer County place the health and well-being of children and youth as a top priority, demonstrated through budgetary processes, policy decisions and awareness efforts. (*strategy* under the goal)

GOAL 9: Develop and implement a seamless, affordable, integrated multi-modal transportation system, providing uninterrupted coverage for the area from Wellington to Berthoud and including Timnath, Windsor and Johnstown.

GOAL 10: Increase the academic success of all youth in Larimer County.

- 10A: Ensure that schools have necessary supports to educate children and families in poverty. (*strategy under the goal*)
- 10B: Provide supportive programming for children and their families to improve school readiness and participation. (*strategy under the goal*)

GOAL 11: Level out the playing field for those in poverty. (Financial justice.)

GOAL 12: Increase the level of financial literacy and stability in the community.

- 12A: Encourage people to have savings of 3 – 6 months of expenditures to create a cushion for emergencies such as job loss or health issues. (*strategy under the goal*)