

ReThink () Health A RIPPEL INITIATIVE



Vital Conditions for Health & Well-being Interact for Health

February 25th, 2025

Welcome!

Please introduce yourself in chat by sharing:

- Your name, organization (if applicable) and where you're calling from
- Name one thing in Greater Cincinnati that is VITAL to your well-being







OUR HEALTH, OUR OPPORTUNITY

UNLOCKING POSSIBILITIES FOR A HEALTHY, THRIVING GREATER CINCINNATI

INTERACT FOR HEALTH

Read the report at: www.ourhealthouropportunity.org

Every person deserves the opportunity to live their healthiest life.

To achieve this, we must commit to advancing health justice and changing community conditions so that no group is exposed to conditions that undermine their health. Greater Cincinnati is home to 2.4 million people of various races, incomes, geographies, abilities, religions, political affiliations, sexual orientations, and so on.

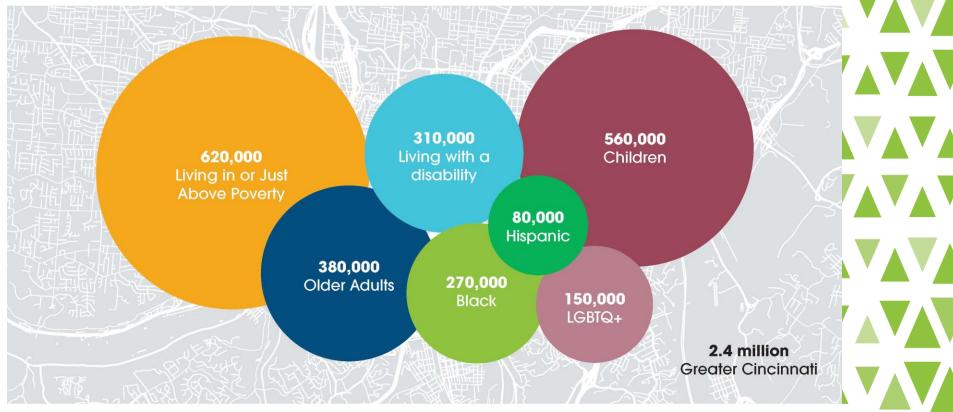


Figure 1. U.S. Census Bureau (2018-2022) ACS 5-Year Estimates; Interact for Health (2022) Community Health Status Survey.

What are your hopes & dreams for a thriving community?

These quotes were collected from community members throughout our region.

A thriving community, in my opinion, is one where there is a sense of **unity**, **support**, and **equality** among community members. It is a place where everyone feels included and has access to essential resources and opportunities. -K

- 66

To me, a thriving community looks like a place where there's equal access to resources for all people...abundant green spaces that are accessible to everyone...affordable health care...excellent education...affordable housing...community spaces with lots of resources, like libraries...community programs where community members can come and get to know one another. -MA

It's our community's health.

We have the power to improve it today and for generations to come.



Many in our region do not have the **vital conditions for good health** in the places where they live, learn, work, and play.

Systemic **racism and discrimination** remain prevalent.



Social isolation and loneliness are taking a toll on mental health, especially for young people.



Too many people feel **powerless to effect change** in their community.

Narrative Shifts

Fatalism

Health inequity

Individualism

Optimism

Health justice

Collectivism

Meet the Rippel Team



Verinda Sood Program Associate



Anna Creegan Director, Systems Change



Bobby Milstein Director, Systems Strategy





Today's Session

- Introduce the Vital Conditions for Health & Well-being
- Moving from scarcity to abundance
- Four key drivers of well-being and well-being portfolios











Thriving together through shared stewardship

We join with others to realize a unifying and measurable expectation: all people and places thriving together—no exceptions.

Our health and well-being relies on a system that is not yet built for everyone to thrive. But even systems fraught with poverty, racism, and other forms of injustice can be transformed through shared stewardship.







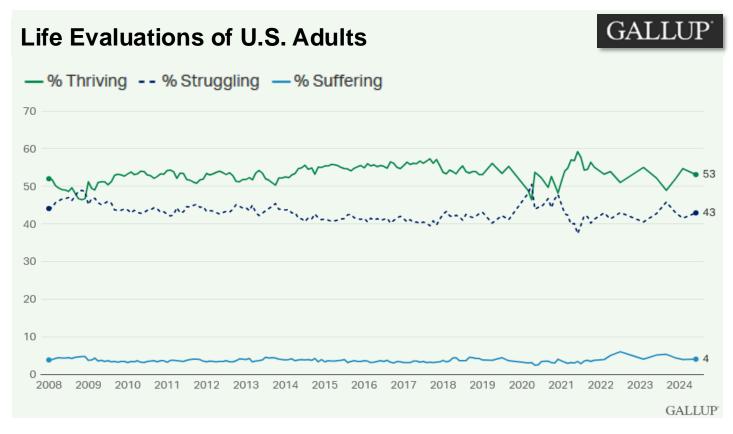
Learning about building vital conditions through shared stewardship gave me a whole new vocabulary to talk about health disparities...now it's part of the vocabulary at our organization. The language gives you a way to shift the culture.

-Project Participant





Our Quest to Thrive Together



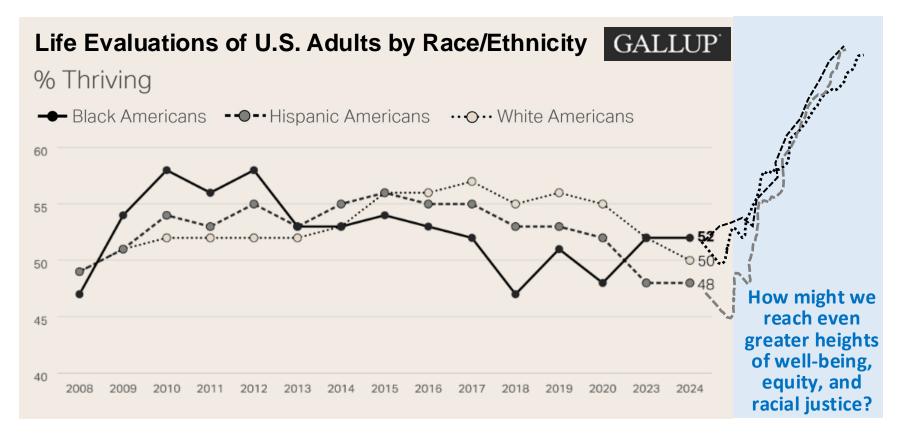
One of our best measures of well-being reveals who feels they are thriving, struggling, or suffering.

Gallup's Life Evaluation Index https://www.gallup.com/394505/indicator-life-evaluation-index.aspx





Our Quest to Thrive Together



One of our best measures of well-being reveals who feels they are thriving, struggling, or suffering.

https://paynecenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Black-Thriving-in-America-2024.pdf





A Snapshot of Well-Being in Hamilton County

Compared to the nation, overall well-being is slightly lower in Hamilton County and its structurally disadvantaged neighborhoods (priority zones) – yet **more people here are hopeful for a better, thriving life in the future.**

General Life Evaluation	U.S. Adults		Hamilton County Overall	Priority Zones* (within Hamilton County)
% Thriving		52.6%	50.0%	45.1%
% Suffering		4.2%	2.1%	2.8%
% Positive View of Life Today		64.8%	66.9%	58.1%
% Anticipate Better Life Five Years from Now		63.4%	62.7%	66.2%

What will it take to make the hope we have here a reality?

*Priority Zones: Structurally disadvantaged neighborhoods in Hamilton County based on a variety of metrics such as poverty rate, percent on public assistance, median household income, percent without health insurance, high school graduation rate, and housing vacancy rate (based on Census data).

2024 Q4 Hamilton County Community Survey









Greater Cincinnati can become a place where all people thrive together —no exceptions

- A. Strongly agree
- B. Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Disagree
- E. Strongly Disagree









Who Are Stewards? https://rippel.org/shared-stewardship/

Amplifying Stewardship http://bit.ly/AmplifyingStewardship

Pulse Check on Shared Stewardship: https://rippel.org/pulsecheck/

Thriving Together Through Shared Stewardship: http://tiny.cc/SharedStewardshipVideo

STEWARDS

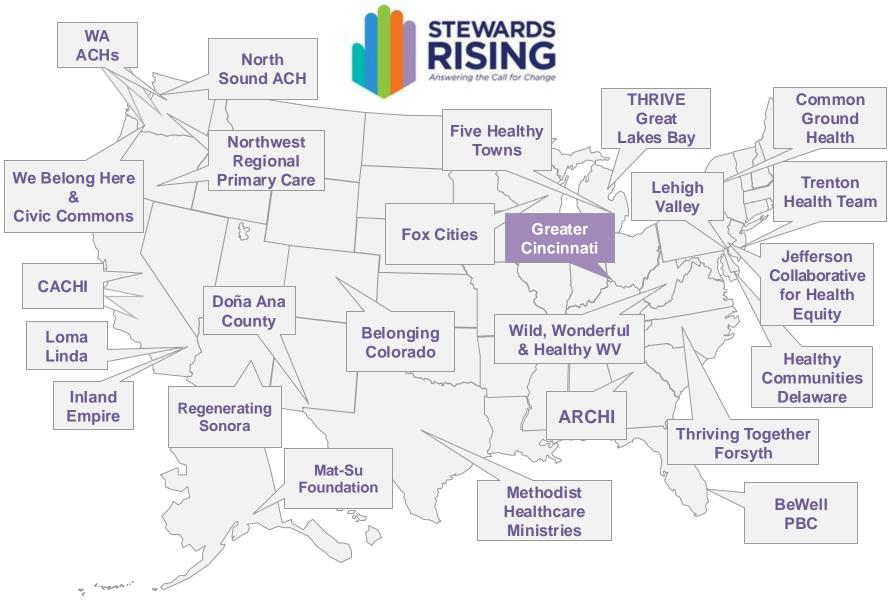
Stewards are people, organizations, and networks who work with others to create conditions that everyone needs to thrive together, beginning with those who are struggling and suffering. Everyone can be a steward.











A growing cadre of organizations now explicitly focus on establishing the vital conditions.





Organizing Around Vital Conditions

A Framework for Turbulent Times



As Systems Collapse, People Rise

This single dynamic explains how people with a just cause can transform failing systems for the better

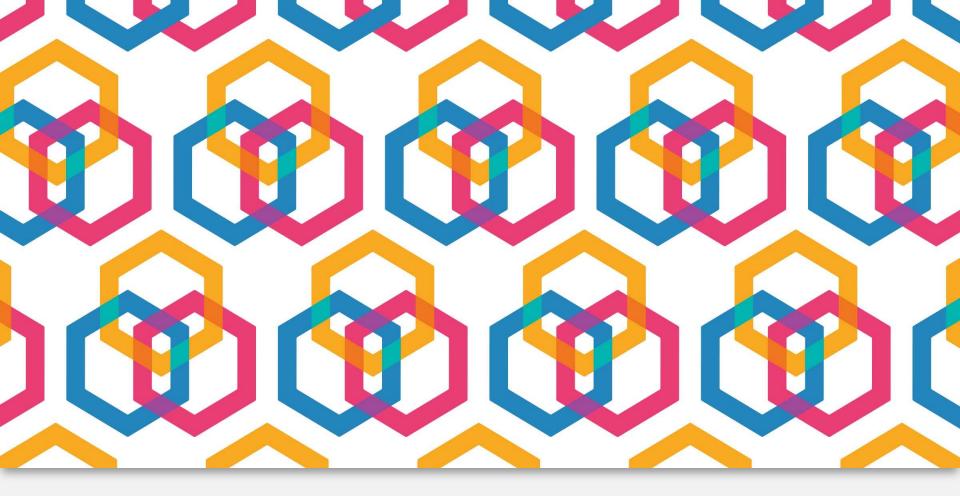
-Thriving Together Springboard, quoting Otto Sharmer

Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.

Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being: https://rippel.org/vital-conditions/ Webinar: Belonging and Civic Muscle: https://rippel.org/events/rethink-health-toolbox-webinar-cultivating-belonging-and-civic-muscle/ Milstein, et.al. <u>Organizing Around Vital Conditions Moves The Social Determinants Agenda Into Wider Action</u>. *Health Affairs Forefront*. Feb 2, 2023







Vital Conditions for Health & Well-being

Poll

How familiar are you with the vital conditions for health and well-being?

- A. Extremely familiar
- B. Somewhat familiar
- C. Slightly familiar
- D. Not at all familiar















"Public health is what we, as a society, do collectively to assure the conditions in which [all] people can be healthy."

-Institute of Medicine (1988, 2002)

More than three decades later, we are beginning to agree on what those conditions are!

Institute of Medicine. *The future of public health.* Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, 1988. Institute of Medicine. *The future of the public's health in the 21th century.* Washington D.C.: National Academy Press, 2002.





Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being



Vital conditions are properties of places and institutions that shape everyone's potential to thrive.

They encompass an array of opportunities, obstacles, exposures, and choices that we each encounter from birth to death and across generations.

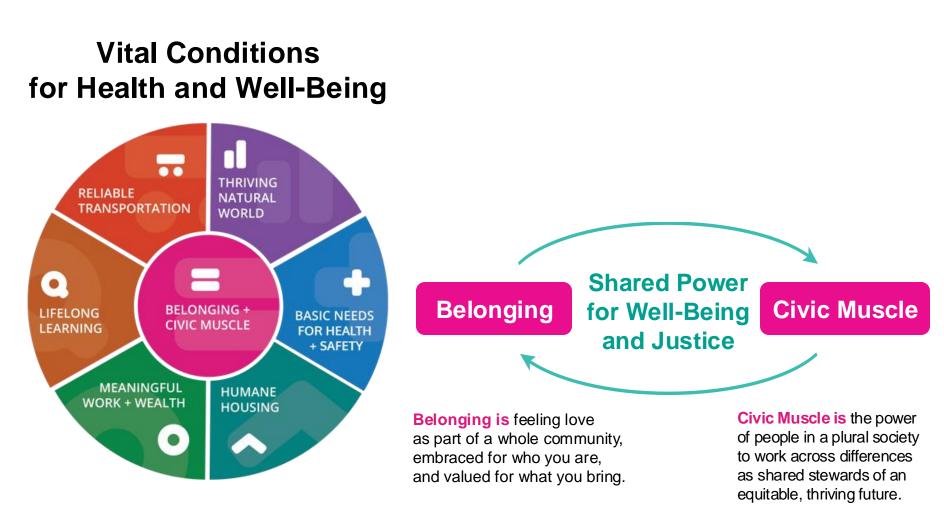
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Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.

in a common quest to thrive together."

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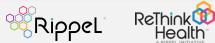


Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being	THRIVING NATURAL WORLD	Sustainable resources, contact with nature, freedom from hazards Clean air, water, soil; healthy ecosystems able to sustainably provide necessary resources; accessible natural spaces; freedom from the extreme heat, flooding, wind, radiation, earthquakes, pathogens
	BASIC NEEDS FOR HEALTH + SAFETY	Basic requirements for health and safety Nutritious food, safe drinking water; fresh air; sufficient sleep; routine physical activity; safe, satisfying sexuality and reproduction; freedom from trauma, violence, addiction and crime; routine care for physical and behavioral health
RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION NATURAL WORLD	HUMANE HOUSING	Humane, consistent housing Adequate space per person; safe structures; affordable costs; diverse neighborhoods (without gentrification, segregation, concentrated poverty); close to work, school, food, recreation, and nature
C LIFELONG LARNING LIFELONG LARNING MEANINGFUL WORK + WEALTH O O O O O O O O O O O O O	O MEANINGFUL WORK + WEALTH	Rewarding work, careers, and standards of living Job training/retraining; good-paying and fulfilling jobs; family and community wealth; savings and limited debt
	Q LIFELONG LEARNING	Continuous learning, education, and literacy Continuous development of cognitive, social, emotional abilities; early childhood experiences; elementary, high school, and higher education; career and adult education
	RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION	Reliable, safe, and accessible transportation Close to work, school, food, leisure; safe transport; active transport; efficient energy use; few environmental hazards
Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.	BELONGING + CIVIC MUSCLE	Sense of belonging and power to shape a common world Social support; civic association; freedom from stigma, discrim- ination, oppression; support for civil rights, human rights; civic agency; collective efficacy; vibrant arts, culture, and spiritual life; equitable access to information; many opportunities for civic engagement (voting, volunteering, public work)

Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being: https://rippel.org/vital-conditions/

Webinar: Introduction to Vital Conditions: https://rippel.org/events/webinar-an-introduction-to-the-vital-conditions-for-health-and-well-being/

Milstein, et.al. Organizing Around Vital Conditions Moves The Social Determinants Agenda Into Wider Action. Health Affairs Forefront. Feb 2, 2023





Las condiciones vitales para la prosperidad de las personas y los lugares

En Español UN MUNDO TRANSPORTE NATURAL FIABLE PRÓSPERO • NECESIDADES **APRENDIZAJE** BÁSICAS DE LA PERTENENCIA **DE POR VIDA** SALUD Y YEL MÚSCULO CÍVICO SEGURIDAD TRABAJO Y RIQUEZA SIGNIFICATIVO VIVIENDA DIGNA

Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.

-1	Recursos sostenibles, contacto con la naturaleza, libre de peligros			
	Aire, agua, suelo limpios; ecosistemas saludables capaces de proporcionar de manera sostenible los recursos necesarios;			
MUNDO NATURAL PRÓSPERO	espacios naturales accesibles; sin calor extremo, inundaciones, viento, radiación, terremotos, patógenos			
_	Requisitos básicos para la salud y seguridad.			
NECESIDADES BÁSICAS PARA LA SALUD Y SEGURIDAD	Alimentos nutritivos, agua potable, aire fresco; dormir suficiente; actividad física regular; sexualidad y reproducción seguras y satisfactorias; una vida sin traumatismos, violencia, adicciones y crimen; atención de rutina para la salud física y mental			
	Vivienda humana y constante			
VIVIENDA HUMANA	Espacio adecuado por persona; estructuras seguras; costos asequibles; diversidad en las vecindades (sin aburguesamiento, segregación, pobrezaconcentrada); cerca del trabajo, la escuela, alimentos, recreación y lanaturaleza			
0	Trabajo, carreras y niveles de vida gratificantes			
TRABAJO VALIOSO Y RIQUEZA	Capacitación/reentrenamiento laboral; trabajos bien remune- rados y satisfactorios; riqueza familiar y comunitaria; ahorros y pocas deudas			
	Aprendizaje, educación y alfabetización continuos			
APRENDIZAJE VITALICIO	Desarrollo continuo de habilidades cognitivas, sociales, emoc onales; experiencias de la primera infancia; educación prima ria, secundaria y superior; educación profesional y de adulto			
	Transporte confiable, seguro y accesible			
TRANSPORTE CONFIABLE	Cerca del trabajo, la escuela, los alimentos, tiempo libre; transporte seguro, transporte activo; uso eficiente de la energía; pocos peligros ambientales			
	Sentir que pertenece a la comunidad y poder para dar forma a un mundo común			
INTEGRACIÓN Y PODER CÍVICO	Apoyo social; asociaciones cívicas; libre de estigmas, discriminaciór y opresión; apoyo a los derechos civiles y a los derechos humanos; representación cívica; eficacia colectiva; artes vibrantes, cultura y vida espiritual; acceso equitativo a información; muchas oportunida-			

des para participar cívicamente (votar, voluntariado, trabajo público)

http://Thriving.US; https://go.rippel.org/VitalConditions: Spanish translation courtesy of Methodist Health Ministries

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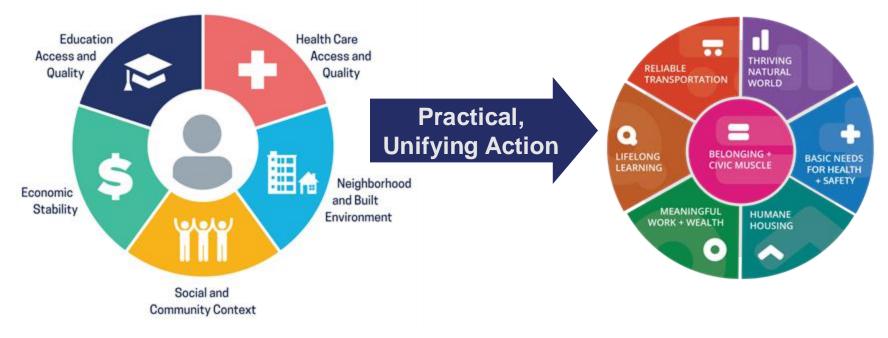


Moving "Social Determinants" Into Wider Action

The vital conditions framework renders SDOH concepts in a form that is clear, concise, and built for concerted action.

Social Determinants of Health

Vital Conditions



Milstein, et.al. Vital Conditions Move the Social Determinants Agenda into Wider Action. Health Affairs Forefront





Insights from Champions

NAMUL

TATEWIDE

SUO

CIVIC Muscle

and with

A.

Addiction and Recover cervices

> Criminal Justice, Violence and Emergencies

Environmental Clean-Up

Pose of the state

LEND

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Legacies for Living Together



"Some of the most inspiring champions of the vital conditions are showing us how to counter racism and other forms of inhumanity with love—coupled with the civic muscle necessary to establish systems that are fair by design."

What legacies would make us "good ancestors" for generations to come?

Milstein, et.al. Vital Conditions Move the Social Determinants Agenda into Widespread Action. Health Affairs Forefront. http://tiny.cc/VitalConditionsHA





Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being



Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.

All people and places thriving together—no exceptions

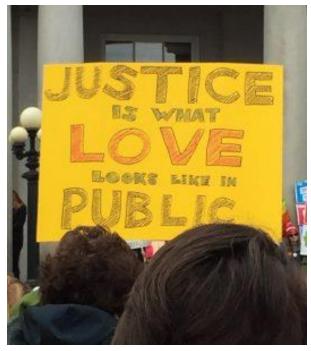


Image: https://bonnieharris.com/when-child-feels-worry-despair/

Cornell West

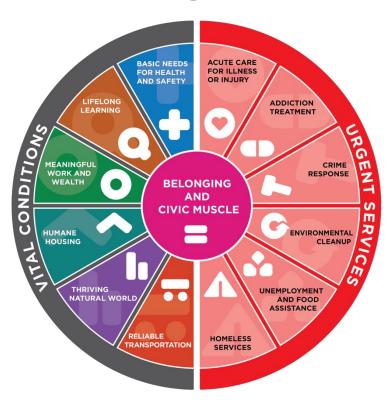
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Well-Being Portfolio



The well-being portfolio helps us consider intergenerational dynamics that drive well-being and justice in our plural society.

Anyone experiencing adversity may need urgent services to alleviate suffering and regain their health and well-being. But urgent services cannot produce the experience of thriving.

The <u>path</u> to thriving goes through vital conditions.

Belonging & Civic Muscle is at the center because it is both a vital condition and a practical capacity that is necessary for equitable success in every other kind of work.

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Investments Express Values



We are witnessing big systems shifting existing investments, staying mindful of cross-sector collaboration and alignment of resources, and breaking from business-as-usual to re-imagine our health system so that solutions are co-designed with the community we serve."

Lauren Zuchman
BeWellPBC

https://www.bewellpbc.org/media/impact-reports/ Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwZxdsxS0ac

RippeL





BeWellPBC

How have they used the Vital Conditions framework?

- Identified which Vital Conditions they are already investing in where and they wanted to invest more
- Agreed to invest in and expand Belonging and Civic Muscle through all activities
- Developed a shared set of simple rules (i.e., norms) to guide interactions, activities, and investment priorities

Simple Rules for Building Civic Muscle and Belonging

are isolated and alone.





LISTEN Honor th

Honor the community's voice before you plan and do the work.

Reach out to everyone, especially those who









Cut the red tape and focus on things that keep people healthy and out of trouble.

CONNECT

INNOVATE

Rely on relationships to build power. Don't go it alone.

COMMIT

Acknowledge power dynamics and commit to partnering with community to dismantle racism.



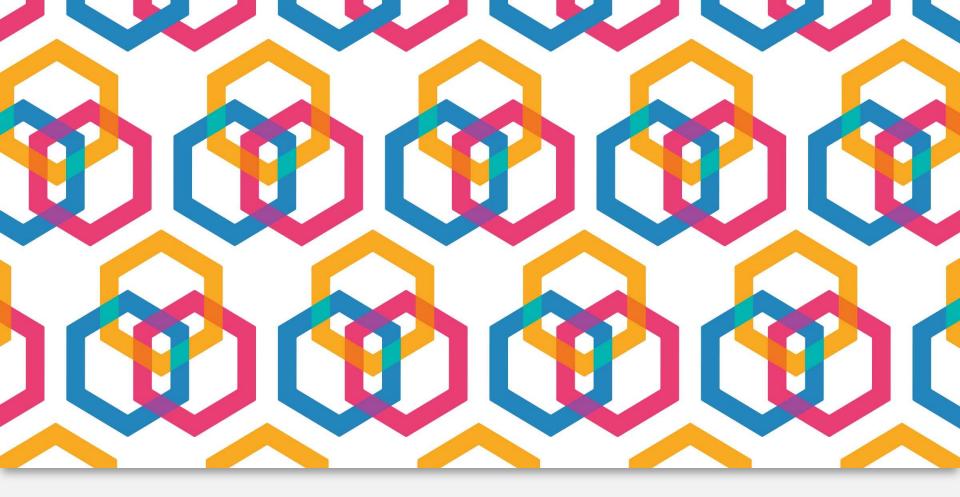












Well-being Portfolio

Celebrating Local Stories and Work

HealthAffairs

Cultivating Vital Conditions For Perinatal Well-Being And A Sustained Commitment To Reproductive Justice

Alison Stuebe (astuebe@med .unc.edu), University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Anna Creegan, Rippel Foundation, Morristown, New Jersey.

Francoise Knox-Kazimierczuk, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Meredith C. Smith, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Sabia Wade, The Black Doula, Atlanta, Georgia.

Kristin Tully, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. ABSTRACT Perinatal mental illness is a leading cause of death during pregnancy and the first postpartum year in the United States. Although better acute care services for mental health conditions are desperately needed, urgent services alone cannot create the conditions to thrive. Cultivating well-being requires a sustained commitment to reproductive justice, "the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities." To support reproductive justice for pregnant and birthing people, the Rippel Foundation's Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being framework offers a holistic approach comprising seven domains: a thriving natural world; basic needs for health and safety; humane housing; meaningful work and wealth; lifelong learning; reliable transportation; and, central to all of these, belonging and civic muscle. Here we review the evidence for each of the vital conditions as key drivers of perinatal mental health, and we outline how this public health approach can advance well-being across generations.

Mama Certified Equity Centered Maternal Care

Mama Certified is a **collective impact** approach to maternal and infant health equity. We provide Black parents-to-be with a way to assess and understand **the maternal equity-related efforts of Cincinnati-area birthing hospitals.**



Queens Village is "a supportive community of powerful Black women who come together to relax, repower and take care of themselves and each other". Queens Village invests in community leadership, hosts community events, and celebrates Black women's voices.

https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hlthaff.2023.01452





Celebrating Local Stories and Work





- Importance of elevating youth well-being
- Investing in the future
- Creating a system of support
- Creating a sense of Belonging

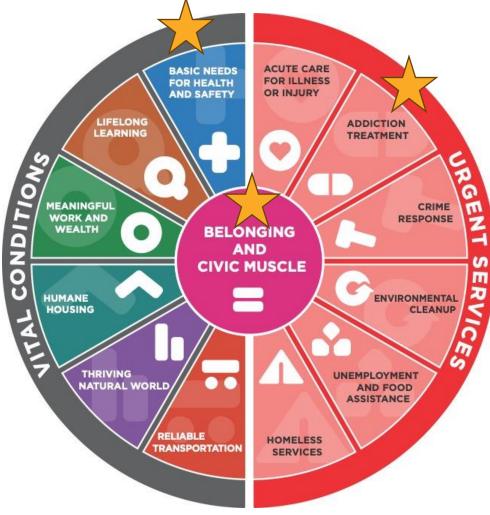




Identifying Initiatives Across the Well-Being Portfolio

Add to the chat:

An initiative, program, etc. from your own work and/or where you live



Well-Being Portfolio Definitions: https://www.dropbox.com/s/4myij6uscq77wkv/RTH-WellBeingPortfolio_Definitions_1152023-1.pdf?dl=0





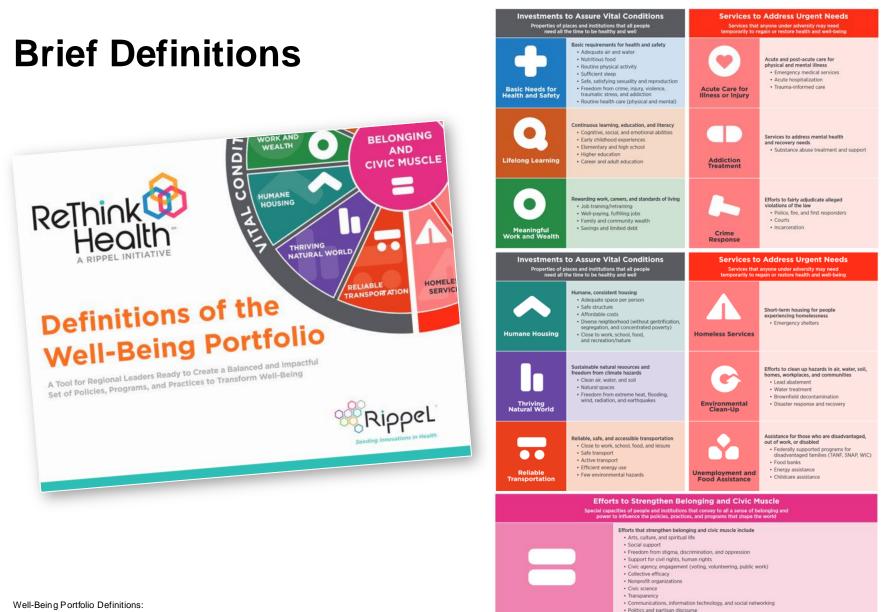
Breakouts

- Have one volunteer to share about an initiative they're working on
- As a group, think about how the initiative is addressing different vital conditions and/or urgent services
- If time remains, try it on with another initiative!









https://www.dropbox.com/s/4myij6uscq77wkv/RTH-WellBeingPortfolio_Definitions_1152023-1.pdf?dl=0

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How can we use the whole portfolio to address systemic priorities?

Each part of the portfolio is distinct and indispensable. Together, they form an interdependent system that shapes the chances for people and places to thrive.



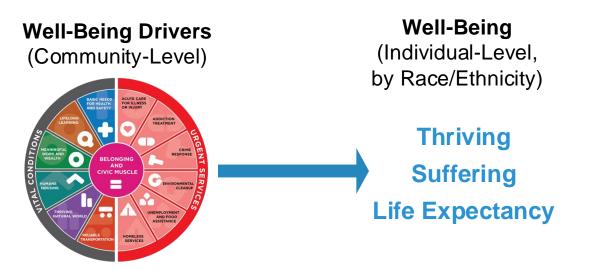
Vocabulary (practical and normative) **System Stories**

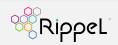
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Shared Stewardship



Balancing Investments in Well-Being







Balancing Investments in Well-Being



Fairness in System Design explains the pattern of equitable opportunities and outcomes

Fairness in System Design describes the extent to which there is fair and just inclusion for all people versus systemic exclusion (e.g., across color, class, gender, ethnicity, and other human differences).





Balancing Investments in Well-Being

Investment Portfolios Across Four Drivers of Well-Being

Investment Priorities (Stewardship Choices) Well-Being Drivers (Community-Level)

Well-Being (Individual-Level, by Race/Ethnicity)



Milstein B, Homer J, et.al. How Can the United States Make a Great Stride Toward Multiracial Well-Being? PLoS One (under review).

Milstein B, Homer J, Soderquist C. How Can a Community Pursue Equitable Health and Well-Being after a Severe Shock? Ideas from an Exploratory Simulation Model. Systems. 2022;10(5):158. <u>https://www.mdpi.com/2079-8954/10/5/158</u>

ReThink Health. Thriving Together Theater: https://rippel.org/thriving-together-theater/





Drivers of Well-Being







The Magic of Multisolving



Dare to imagine that problems might be easier to solve together rather than one by one.

-Elizabeth Sawin

How would we invest as interdependent stewards and multisolvers, not typical program planners?

Sawin E. The Magic of "Multisolving". Stanford Social Innovation Review https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_magic_of_multisolving The Multisolving Institute: https://ssir.org/articles/entry/the_magic_of_multisolving

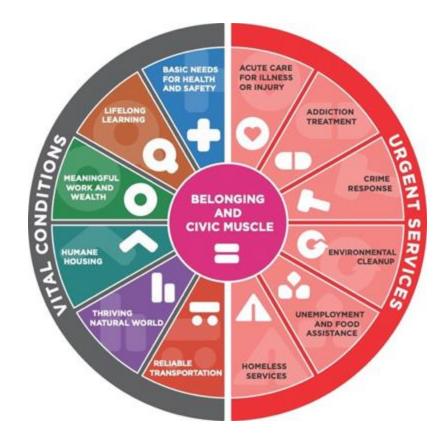




Types of Capital

All Sources That ___ Affect a Region

- Financial
- Social
- Intellectual
- Human
- Spiritual
- Physical







Eastside Thrive Community Revitalization Plan

Learn more about the project and take chances to provide feedback here!





THE VITAL CONDITIONS FOR HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND EQUITY

EASTSIDE







About Healthy Communities Delaware STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

FIELD BUILDING

HCD invested \$359,000 to coordinate efforts across the state to support thriving communities.



Vital Conditions for Health & Well-Being Framework

Introduced the Framework to Delaware

to coordinate local efforts and align them with the Federal Plan for Equitable Long-Term Recovery and Resilience (Federal Plan for ELTRR)

Aligned State Health Assessment and State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) with Framework

to address social determinants of health equity in partnership with $\ensuremath{\mathsf{State}}$ departments

Vital Conditions Data Portal

a free tool for assessing opportunities and tracking changes at the census tract and community levels

Vital Conditions Youth Toolkit

in development to help youth explore the impact of community conditions on well-being and embrace their power to make change

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Community Development Trainings

from NeighborWorks and Mid-Atlantic Community Development Institute for organizations statewide to support the creation of stronger neighborhoods

Community Development Scholarships

23 awarded by HCD to professionals advancing equity



No star

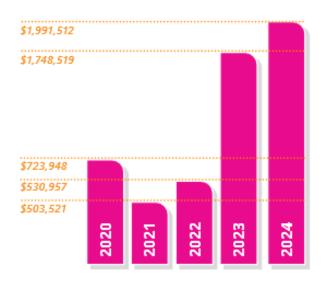
Creative Placemaking Field Trip

35 attendees joined HCD in Philadelphia to learn and be inspired together

Equity Action Summit

two-day convening of 400+ attendees to learn about and explore opportunities to advance equity across the state

HCD COMMUNITY INVESTMENTS BY FISCAL YEAR

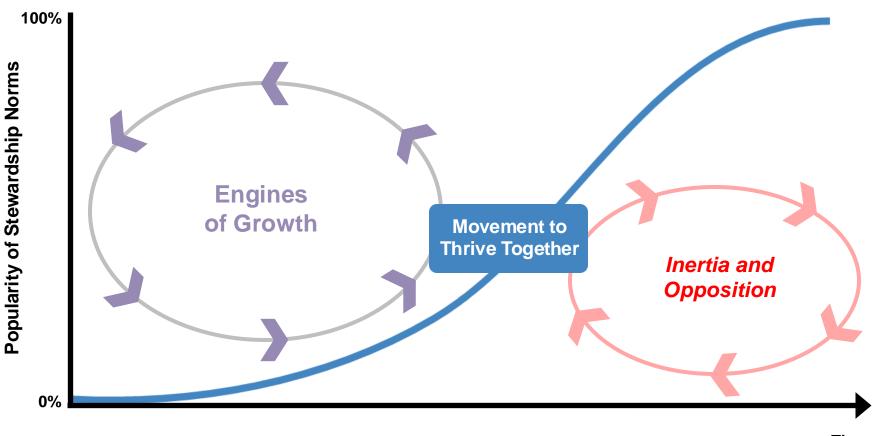


https://healthycommunitiesde.org/impact





Investing in a Rising Movement to Thrive Together

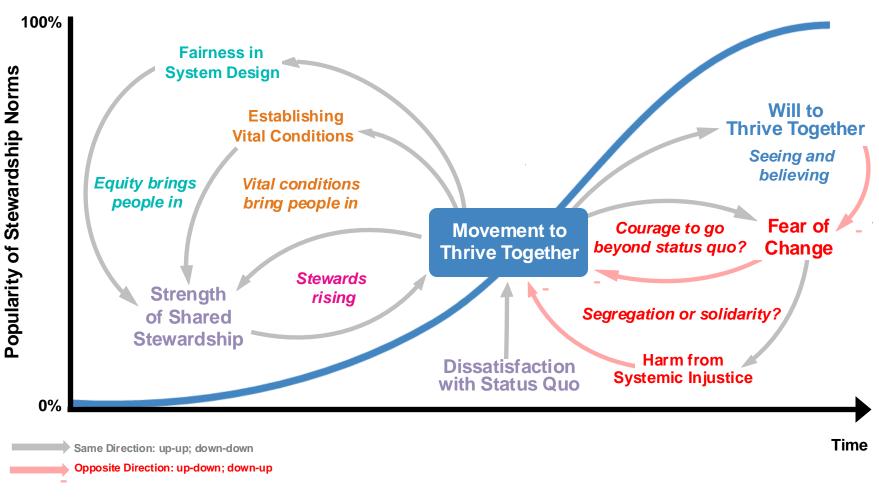


Time





Investing in a Rising Movement to Thrive Together



Thriving Together Theater: https://rippel.org/thriving-together-theater

Rippel

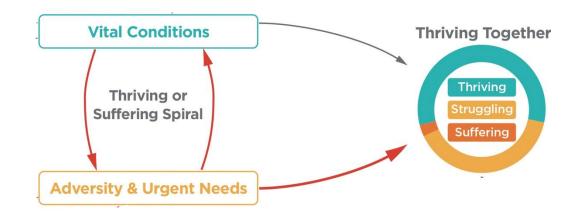




What opportunities or obstacles do you see for generational investing in Greater Cincinnati?







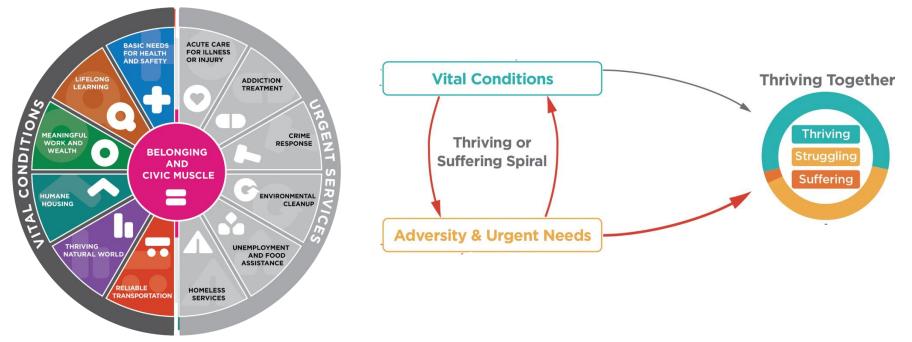
Vital conditions produce the experience of thriving, whereas adversity and urgent need produce the experience of struggling or suffering

Milstein B. Thriving Together through Shared Stewardship. ReThink Health, January 2021. <u>http://tiny.cc/SharedStewardshipVideo</u> Erickson J, et.al, Action Learning Synthesis of ReThink Health's Amplifying Stewardship Together Project. 2023. <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UNWHU4_Xk-_eQaXwu-4ghgmZwWuXSf16/edit</u>





Well-Being Portfolio

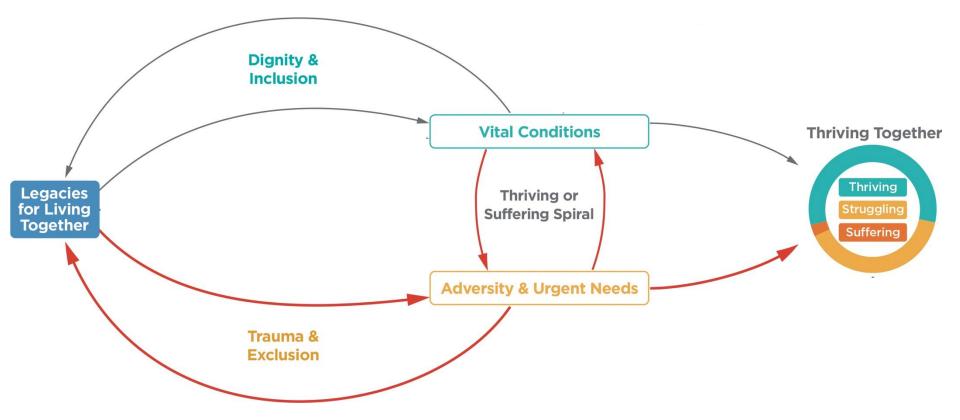


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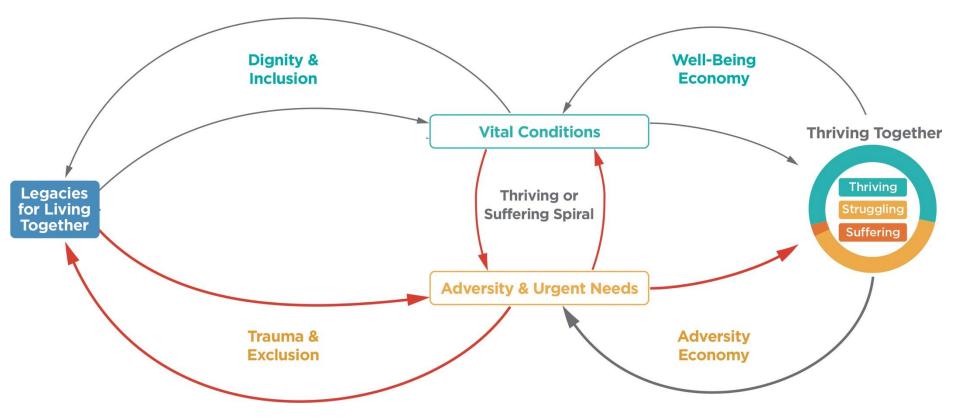


Vital conditions produce the experience of thriving, whereas adversity and urgent need produce the experience of struggling or suffering both of which are invariably tied to our legacies for living together (i.e., how we work across differences in a common world). Those legacies either affirm dignity and inclusion or inflict trauma and exclusion.

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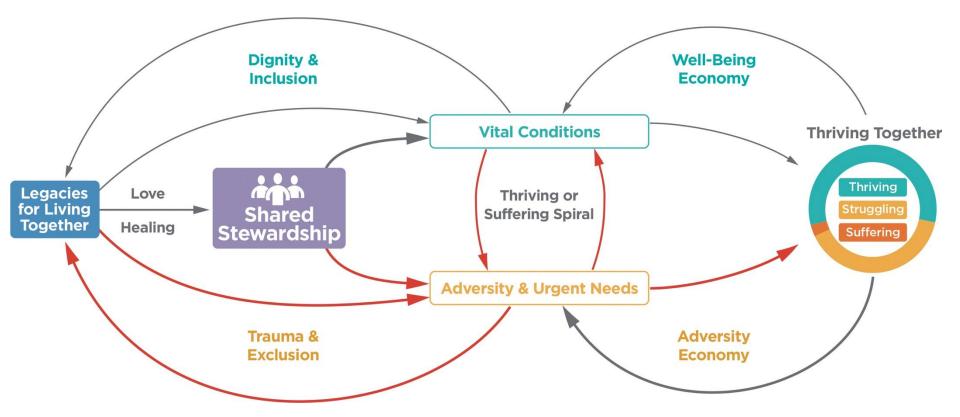


Mounting adversity diverts resources from vital conditions, which causes them to decline further, driving even greater adversity. Over time, an adversity economy forms when large fractions of people who are struggling and suffering create markets for urgent service industries. Urgent services are indispensable. But it is dangerous to over-rely on large industrial complexes built around adversity. Instead, we can grow a well-being economy with incentives for just purpose and profit that focus on the value of expanding vital conditions to unlock everyone's full potential.

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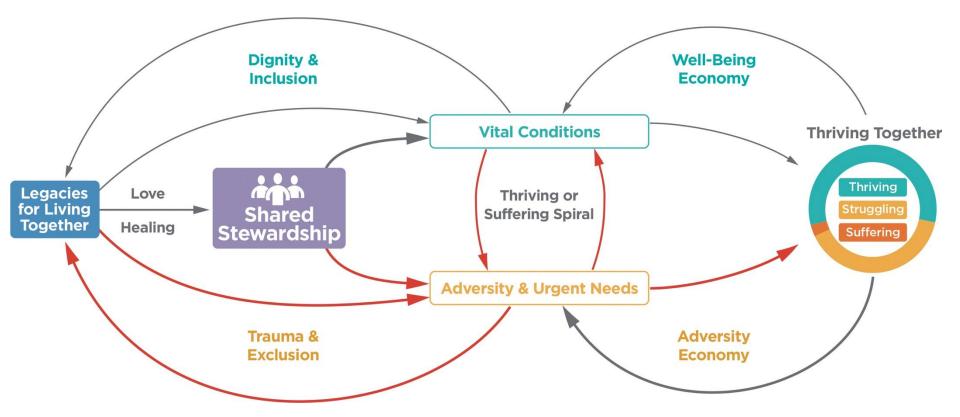


Shared stewardship can steer this system toward an equitable, thriving future. Stewardship is inherently grounded in love and healing, which bring us closer to creating a thriving commonwealth. But when we harm each other and turn a blind eye to inhumane adversity, we fall into a self-defeating trap that pulls everyone down.

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Shared stewardship unifies the means and ends for navigating toward the north star of thriving together.

This figure explains how ordinary people can become better stewards of the systems that shape our lives. It shows the practic al dynamics that affect who thrives, struggles, and suffers over generations in a diverse, plural society.

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