What Works Cities

ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVE

There is a strong demand among local leaders for new, more effective ways to address rising income inequality and declining economic mobility. This initiative aims to help cities identify, pilot and measure the success of local strategies designed to accelerate economic mobility for their residents.

THE CITIES AND THEIR PROJECTS

CINCINNATI, OH

Low-income workforce support and services

DAYTON, OH

Parental engagement in early childhood education

DETROIT, MI

Tenant support and services in affordable housing

LANSING, MI

Financial empowerment tools for residents

NEW ORLEANS, LA

Career readiness services for youth

NEWARK, NJ

Reducing eviction rates

RACINE, WI

Career readiness via high school equivalency diplomas

ROCHESTER, NY

Matched savings program for income-eligible families

TULSA, OK

Career education and job training for older youth

WHAT RESULTS DO WE EXPECT TO SEE?

- Progress on short-term indicators of improving economic mobility for participating cities' most vulnerable residents
- Cities using data and evidence to make decisions that promote economic mobility
- An improved understanding of what works to improve economic mobility through local government and community partners

HOW ARE WE DOING THIS?

Launched in Spring 2019 as an 18-month initiative, each city is receiving:

Flexible funding and expert support to develop, test, and evaluate the early impact of a locally-led pilot program

Technical assistance from What Works Cities partner organizations to grow the city's capacity to use data more effectively and pilot innovative approaches to increase economic mobility

Access to a professional network of colleagues from cities who committed to sharing lessons from their pilot interventions

A platform to share what they have achieved and learned with their residents and with leaders and communities nationwide

MEET THE PARTNERS

What Works Cities, a Bloomberg Philanthropies initiative, is a national collaborative of five partner organizations that helps cities tackle their most pressing challenges and improve residents' lives, by building their capacity and skills to use data and evidence in decision-making.













These organizations play critical roles in ensuring we meet our goals. Results for America manages the Economic Mobility Initiative, and the Behavioral Insights Team provides expert support to the cities for their pilot projects. All What Works Cities partner organizations are matched with cities in the Initiative to help them achieve citywide economic mobility goals by growing their capacity to use data more effectively.

In addition, Opportunity Insights, a non-profit organization that conducts scientific research on economic mobility over time and place to inform future policy and program decisions, is providing tailored data analysis and advisory support.

To learn more about the Economic Mobility Initiative, please contact economicmobility@results4america.org.

To learn more about What Works Cities, please visit whatworkscities.bloomberg.org.