



Thriving Communities Initiative

The Initiative Foundation's Thriving Communities Initiative (TCI) program partners with Central Minnesota hometowns to engage local leaders and citizens in planning for the future. The Foundation believe that courageous leadership, positive community dialog and civic engagement are the keys to a thriving community.

Throughout this program, each group is challenged to examine how to integrate community development to ensure all segments are appropriately represented. Based on the premise that everyone who is affected by a decision should have an opportunity to be involved in the decision-making process, inclusive community dialog is critical to the visioning and planning processes across generations and ethnicities. This 90- to 120- day program helps communities identify their unique assets, challenges and goals in five steps:

- **Step 1:** Core team training (6 hours)
- **Step 2:** Community input meeting (3 hours)
- **Step 3:** Review and discuss community priorities (2 hours)
- **Step 4:** Organize and train task force members to carry out implementation (3 hours)
- **Step 5:** Ongoing technical assistance and grants for implementation (ongoing)

PROGRAM

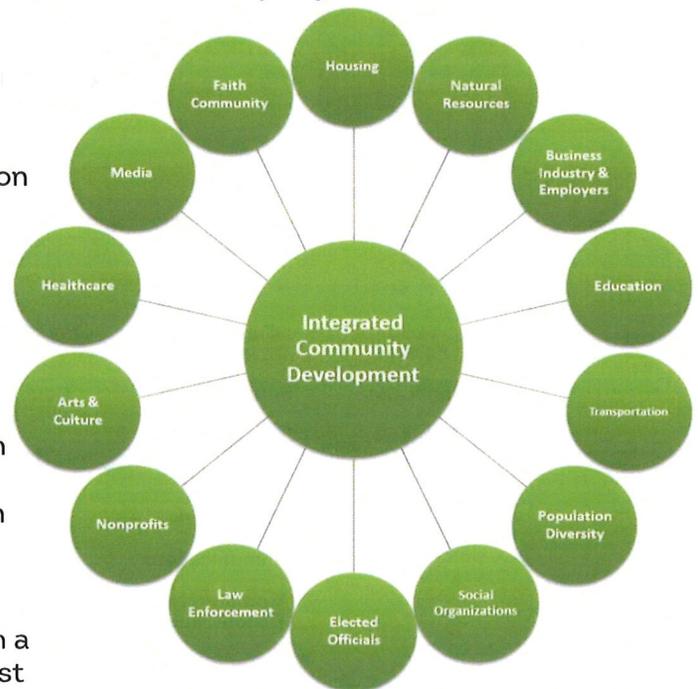
The Initiative Foundation provides each community with training, technical assistance and resource referral. Because participants work in concert to achieve goals, identified at the grassroots level, the Initiative Foundation will help identify matching funds to move community projects forward.

PROCESS

TCI begins by providing innovative training to diverse leadership teams dedicated to involving citizens in building a brighter future for their community. Each team is responsible for leading their community through a place-based process that results in the development and implementation of a locally shared vision and action plans.

PARTICIPATE

Participation in this program is offered annually through a competitive selection process. Eligible communities must be located within the Foundation's 14-county region.



For more information, contact:

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Thriving Communities Initiative Timeline

