

Framework for Developing/Evaluating Solutions to Poverty

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Group I: Achieving Economic Self-Sufficiency

Initiatives to improve the capacity to earn income and meet families' economic needs by:

- Enhancing and increasing access to early childhood education
- Improving high school graduation rates and reducing achievement disparities
- Ensuring the access and affordability of higher education
- Providing continuing adult education
- Encouraging the creation of higher paying jobs, developing a skilled workforce
- Supporting people as they seek and maintain jobs
- Supporting entrepreneurs
- Providing tax credits and property tax refunds
- Supplementing income for those with lower earning potential
- Reducing costs of necessities (heat, food, health care)

Group II: Building assets

Initiatives to help individuals and communities accumulate and advance financial and developmental assets by:

- Supporting and bonding for affordable housing programs
- Promoting and supporting homeownership
- Providing consumer and financial education
- Promoting saving for future economic needs
- Meeting individual and community transportation needs
- Building developmental assets for youth and reducing at-risk behaviors
- Building community assets and leadership capacity
- Inspiring people to assume personal responsibility

Group III: Removing barriers

Initiatives to eliminate obstacles and barriers to rising out of poverty by:

- Eliminating racism and sexism
- Meeting emergency health, housing and transportation needs
- Improving mental health and chemical dependency treatment options
- Providing affordable, quality childcare
- Enacting public policies that support families and keep them together
- Improving public awareness about the causes and solutions for poverty

- Engaging all sectors of society in developing and implementing solutions for ending poverty
- Improving language skills and cross-cultural understanding
- Improving rehabilitation and re-entry programs for those coming out of corrections and mental health and chemical dependency treatment
- Ensuring that welfare policies support families and create incentives to moving off of financial assistance