

Pathway to Sustainability

A Focus Guide for Organizations and Boards

Why We Created the Pathway to Sustainability

Our vision is to end generational poverty. We believe that is only possible by working with one client at a time and making intentional investments to break down barriers to progress. We know we can't do it alone. We work with a variety of community partners who share our vision to close service gaps and help our participants move toward self-reliance.

We started the Community Connections project to help create a community wide collaborative care network that now has almost 200 organizations working together on our network. The next step is to create a community model to help each organization on the network find a focus and work in their area of strength. We hope that, as a result, we will all better serve our clients, reduce duplication of services, and leverage community resources.

Using inspiration from change models in other communities, we have created the Pathway model with input from local organizations. We hope the model will start a community conversation about focusing on what we each do best as we work together to help our clients progress toward self-reliance.

Finding Your Focus

No one organization can meet all of any one client's needs. It takes a collaborative effort to help clients progress on the Pathway. Use the following questions to help your board and staff identify your place on the Pathway and how you can work with others to help clients move forward.

- What do we do? How do we do it?
- What challenges do our clients experience most often? Which Pathway Phase best describes that experience?
- Where should we intentionally focus our time, effort, and resources? How can we make the greatest impact?
- Who can we work with to leverage our impact?
- How can we help our clients make progress on the Pathway? How can we help them not need us anymore?

Use the following chart to help find your focus area.

Organization Strengths	Client Strengths
Organization Challenges	Where our clients tend to be on the Pathway
Our Focus Areas What we do best (<i>No more than 3</i>)	What we can do to help clients move forward
Other organizations that can partner with us	What we do to help our clients not need us anymore