

Prosperity Initiative

Reducing generational poverty and
improving community wealth



While you are waiting...
answer a few questions for us!

<http://www.menti.com>

code 2453 0179



Policy Takeaways from Pima County's Regional Plan

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The Prosperity Initiative is a **regional** partnership working to reduce generational poverty.

- **Vision:** Every **child** in every community of Pima County reach adulthood with the **skills, tools, and resources for economic stability.**
- **Goal:** Support local individuals to break the cycle of poverty by using **evidence-based approaches.**
- **Result (so far):** **13 policies and 3 cross-policy strategies** to guide aligned, coordinated investment across Pima County



Policy Reflections

Building the Framework

Policy Framework Adoption

Implementation

Takeaways of Note

Next Steps



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Building the Framework

April 2022: Tucson City Council Member Lane Santa Cruz invites expert presentation about poverty emerging from the pandemic

- Unanimous vote for a City/County Task Force focused on reducing poverty.

June 2022: Similar presentation delivered to Board of Supervisors

- Request for a detailed plan



Prosperity Initiative Mandate

Work **regionally** to develop a set of policies that guide **long-term** efforts to create community wealth by addressing **generational poverty** and improving opportunity and...

- Are based on **evidence-based research**
- Also **address the immediate needs** of those currently experiencing poverty
- For **adoption or adaptation by local governments**

Building the Framework

Fall-Winter 2022	Spring 2023	Summer 2023	Fall 2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify policy domains of community interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recruit academic and community researchers for drafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Review of policy drafts by subject matter experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Package the policies together for potential adoption
180 meetings with 750+ individuals	12 Commissions & Councils	56+ national and local experts and practitioners	A 250-page recommendation report



Prosperity Initiative Policies

1. Increase Access to Quality Early Childcare and Education
2. Increase Pathways to Post Secondary Education
3. Expand Broadband Services and Address Barriers to Digital Inclusion
4. Increase Housing Mobility and Opportunity
5. Improve Housing Stability
6. Increase Health Coverage and Reduce Medical Debt
7. Reduce Unintended Pregnancies
8. Prioritize Workforce Development for Underserved Populations
9. Improve Financial Capability
10. Prioritize Transportation Options to Jobs and Resources
11. Improve Quality of Life and Opportunity in High Poverty Areas
12. Improve Job Quality for Low-Income Workers
13. Support Small Business

Center a 2-Gen Approach

Address Climate Resilience
and Environmental Justice

Prevent and Reduce Crime



Framework Adoption



November 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Draft report posted via BoS• Advocacy opportunities circulated
December 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 comment letters• 12 Call to the Audience speakers in support• Pima County Board of Supervisors approved
January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study session review with spectators• City of Tucson's Mayor and Council approved

Implementation

Municipal-Led

- Identifying indicators (City, County, Urban Institute, nonprofits, researchers)
- Baseline spending for existing programs, plans, and policies
- Setting and aligning priorities in emerging plans

Non-Profit

- Community Coalition for Prosperity (Primavera Foundation, SVP Tucson, United Way)

Hyperlocal

- Better Together (Sahuarita/Green Valley community and municipal stakeholders)



Takeaways

Strengths

- Infusing optimism into the conversation
- Building up a bandwagon
- Legitimizing generational wealth work

Challenges

- Policy versus programs
- Rural/urban/tribal divides
- Ongoing implementation support

Next Steps

- Finalizing metrics
- Aligning funding
- Tracking concurrent efforts
- Looking beyond our region





**BEING ARCHITECTS OF CHANGE
FOR THE NEXT GENERATION
REQUIRES**

**CATHEDRAL
THINKING**

Thank you!

<https://www.pima.gov/3137/The-Prosperity-Initiative>

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