

# Our Strategic Plan

2026-2028



**COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION**  
for Mason County



## Our Mission

To engage donors and connect them with opportunities to make a lasting impact, build community endowment, provide leadership on key issues, and make grants that reflect the communities we serve.

## Our Vision

Be a leader in community philanthropy to build a vibrant community with great opportunities for all.

## Our Values

We pursue continuous improvement and meaningful outcomes through these core values:

- **Collaborative:**  
We bring people and organizations together to build stronger solutions for greater impact in our community.
- **Transparent:**  
We earn trust through honesty, accountability, and openness.
- **Inclusive:**  
We listen and lead with empathy and respect, valuing every voice and fostering a community where all can thrive.
- **Impactful:**  
We steward resources strategically to create meaningful, lasting change for our community.
- **Adaptive:**  
We remain flexible and creative for our community's present and future.

# Our Strategic Grantmaking Priorities

Anchored in our mission and vision, our strategic grantmaking priorities define our commitment to building a stronger, more vibrant community. These specific areas of focus guide our investments in community initiatives. By targeting these key priorities, we strive to grow opportunities and help make Mason County an ideal place to live, work, and thrive.

## Our Priorities in Focus





# Priority I:

## **EDUCATION: WORKFORCE AND LEARNING READINESS**

The Community Foundation for Mason County supports educational opportunities at every age and stage of life. Our strategic grantmaking focuses on removing barriers to education and strengthening pathways from learning to meaningful careers. We prioritize programs that support career exploration, work-based learning, and alignment between education and local workforce needs—helping residents gain the skills, credentials, and experiences needed for long-term success.

### **Our Commitment**

- Create a career education culture across multiple pathways—college, trades, certificates, and apprenticeships.
- Increase equitable access to high-quality learning opportunities for all ages.
- Advance talent development initiatives that align learning with workforce needs.



## Priority II:

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: WORKFORCE SUPPORTS**

The Community Foundation for Mason County prioritizes economic development strategies that strengthen the workforce and remove barriers to financial independence. Our grantmaking supports essential workforce infrastructure—such as housing, transportation, and related supports—that enable residents to access and retain employment. By responding to real-time community needs, we aim to ensure that Mason County’s talent pool remains competitive, that job opportunities are strong, and that quality housing is safe, available, and affordable, thereby fostering long-term economic stability and shared prosperity.

### **Our Commitment**

- Develop innovative, attainable housing solutions.
- Advance transportation infrastructure and accessibility.
- Remove barriers to financial independence.



# Priority III:

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT: RECREATION & QUALITY OF LIFE**

The Community Foundation for Mason County supports initiatives that enhance recreation and quality of life across the community. Strategic grantmaking prioritizes the development and connectivity of new and existing trails, the creation and enhancement of inclusive and engaging public spaces, and access to diverse recreational activities. We also invest in arts and culture opportunities that strengthen community identity, encourage participation, and contribute to a vibrant, welcoming Mason County.

### **Our Commitment**

- Promote the development of new, existing, and interconnected trails.
- Increase and enhance inclusive and engaging public spaces and recreational activities.
- Foster vibrant, diverse, and sustainable arts and culture opportunities.

# Our Organizational Focus Areas

## ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

**Ensure the Foundation operates with excellence, transparency, and sustainability.**

- Build and grow organizational capacity through investments in people, systems, and workspace.
- Plan thoughtfully for leadership transitions at the board and staff level.
- Foster a culture of learning, inclusion, and continuous improvement.
- Communicate clearly and consistently with stakeholders.

## ENDURING PHILANTHROPY

**Inspire giving and strengthen endowment funding to build long-term resources for our community.**

- Deepen relationships with current and prospective donors and help align their charitable passions with meaningful community outcomes.
- Offer regular impact reports and intentional stewardship touchpoints.
- Foster a spirit of giving among younger generations.

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & COLLABORATION

**Serve as a trusted convener and voice for collaborative problem-solving of critical local priorities.**

- Cultivate strong, lasting relationships with nonprofits, businesses, and government and civic leaders.
- Engage diverse community voices and build a culture of belonging.
- Serve as a neutral facilitator.
- Support and lead collective impact initiatives that bring cross-sector partners together.
- Provide our nonprofit community with capacity-building opportunities (professional development).

## COMMUNITY CAPACITY

**Invest in nonprofits, community organizations, and programs that build community vibrancy.**

- Maintain alignment between strategic grantmaking priorities and community needs and opportunities.
- Balance responsive grants with strategic, multi-year initiatives that target root causes of local challenges.
- Assess the impact of funded projects.



**COMMUNITY  
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for Mason County

**For good. For ever.**

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[Mason-foundation.org](http://Mason-foundation.org)