Growth & Opportunity Impact Assessment

2017

Summary of Findings:
Stark County
# Impact Assessment: Overall Findings

| Job Creation | • Growth in the traded sector of the economy is critically important for our region’s economic health.  
• Job creation grantmaking outcomes exhibit the Fund’s strategic focus on growing this sector. |
| Job Preparation | • Fund grantees are helping to create jobs for residents with a variety of educational attainment backgrounds. These jobs tend to be in the traded sector and most pay living wages.  
• To fully realize the expanded opportunity that these jobs represent, we must remove barriers to employment and increase access to support services. |
| Job Access | • The geographic patterns of growth, both within the Fund’s portfolio of outcomes and across the broader economy, create transportation and access challenges for residents. |
Impact Assessment: Stark County Findings

| Job Creation | • Grantee-supported growth in Stark County is concentrated in fast-growing industries of the traded sector, especially in industrial industries. |
| Job Preparation | • Stark County’s fastest growing office and industrial industries tend to pay living wages, while growing service industries and many health care industries often pay below living-wage levels.  
• Grantee-supported growth is often accessible and clustered around the living-wage levels. |
| Job Access | • Stark County faces similar job access challenges as other parts of the region, but has opportunities to better connect residents living in areas of economic distress that are proximate to regional job hubs. |
Many growing industrial jobs are accessible and pay living wages

**Wages and Educational Requirements**
Top 25 Industries by Jobs Created; Stark County; 2010-2016; size based on jobs added

% of Jobs in Industry Accessible with Associate’s Degree or Less

Source: EMSI
Outcomes supported by Fund job creation grantees look similar

Wages and Educational Requirements
FFEF grantees; industries with more than 20 jobs created; Stark County; 2010-2016

Office / Professional  Industrial

$140k
$120k
$100k
$80k
$60k
$40k
$20k
$0k

% of Jobs in Industry Accessible with Associate’s Degree or Less

Living Wage Benchmark ~$35k

Source: Average educational attainment requirements by industry from EMSI; average salary per job as reported by grantees based on jobs and payroll
Connecting distressed areas with job hubs will improve job access

Job Access for Residents Living in Economically Distressed Tracts

Stark County Job Hubs

Source: 2014 LODES; economically distressed census tracts are those with labor force participation rates below 65 percent and median household income in the bottom quartile

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