

Explore our interactive, 3-D timeline at <http://www.thefundneo.org/newsroom/annual-reports> for more on our Fund's journey.

2002

- The "Quiet Crisis" series in *The Plain Dealer* profiles the heart-wrenching realities of our economic downturn
- The Northeast Ohio Barometer of Economic Attitudes survey shows Northeast Ohioans recognize economic times are tough, but still have a positive view of the region and hope for the future

Pre-Fund

2004

- The Fund launches at the Great Again conference
- Rob Briggs is elected chair
- The Fund conducts a civic engagement project, **Voices and Choices**, that confirms and strengthens support for a shared regional approach to building economic opportunity for families and businesses
- Members grant \$26.1 million, with the majority going to five regional economic development organizations—**BioEnterprise, JumpStart, NorTech, MAGNET, and Team NEO**

Phase 1

2006

- The Fund and Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland issue the first **Dashboard Indicators for the Northeast Ohio Economy**, which identifies key factors to economic growth and the region's performance in each factor

2005

- The Fund puts out a **request for ideas** from the community to help shape its strategic direction going forward

2007

- The Fund launches **Advance Northeast Ohio**, the region's economic competitiveness agenda
- Members award their first grants to support minority business development and talent development

Phase 2

2008

- Dave Abbott becomes chair
- The Fund and partners invite leaders to re-imagine the education of Northeast Ohio's youth through **Education Works**

2009

- The Fund becomes a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization
- The first of two **EfficientGovNow** competitions launches, catalyzing local Northeast Ohio governments to design and implement projects to collaborate helping them save money and realize new efficiencies

Phase 3

2013

- Deborah Hoover is elected chair
- **What Matters to Metros** report is published
- NEOSCC delivers **Vibrant NEO 2040**
- The Fund's work is featured in *Metropolitan Revolution*

2014

- The **Regional Economic Competitiveness Strategy (RECS)** is released
- The Fund introduces the **Growth & Opportunity (G&O)** framework and releases two reports, *Growth & Opportunity: A framework for stronger, more equitable local and regional economies* and *Growth & Opportunity: A Call to Action*

Phase 4

2015

- Brian Frederick becomes chair
- **ConxusNEO** begins
- The **Geography of Jobs** report is published

2018

- The Fund publishes *The Two Tomorrows* report, which challenges the region to strive for a more extraordinary tomorrow, where a robust, growing economy offers good jobs, residents experience rising incomes, and the ability to access opportunity is not defined by race or ZIP code. In short, a Northeast Ohio that achieves Growth & Opportunity.

Looking Ahead

2019-2021

- Building on *The Two Tomorrows* priorities, our Fund will focus its time, reputation and funding in its next phase on several issues critical to our region's future, including a regional Growth & Opportunity agenda, systemic racial inclusion, strong local strategies, job creation, job preparation, job access, and the strength of our collaborative.

2010

- Staff grows to six and the Fund moves into its own office
- The **Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC)** launches
- The **PRISM** model is developed
- The Fund launches the **Civic Commons**

2011

- The Fund issues its **100th grant**
- Ohio Third Frontier awards \$14 million in grants to Northeast Ohio organizations, including Team NEO and JumpStart

2012

- The **WorkAdvance** pilot begins
- The Fund supports the agriculture-bioscience industry cluster (Ag-Bio)
- Team NEO is identified as a regional intermediary for Jobs Ohio

2016

- **TalentNEO** is advanced
- WorkAdvance results are released
- The **Collaboration Handbook** is published
- Members support additive manufacturing cluster development work by the Youngstown Business Incubator (YBI)
- The Fund advances an economic growth strategy for the **Opportunity Corridor**
- Staff moves to a new office

2017

- **Mark Samolczyk** becomes fifth chair
- Members award \$50,000 to MAGNET's ECEC program
- Stark Community Foundation releases **Strengthening Stark**
- Fund **Akron Entrepreneurship Fellow** Heather Roszczyk is hired by the city of Akron for new Bounce innovation hub
- Impact assessment determines if jobs, payroll and capital gains of job creation grantee partners advance G&O
- Team NEO is highest performing of six JobsOhio regions
- Members support YBI additive manufacturing cluster
- **Racial Equity Institute (REI)** trainings take place as part of the "Year of Awareness Building"
- The Fund defines and identifies the region's **job hubs**
- CoverMyMeds becomes Ohio's first "unicorn"
- Opportunity Corridor land acquisition progresses

Funders

Voting members, those who contribute \$100,000 or more over three years, include:

- Abington Foundation
- Akron Community Foundation
- Brad and Amy Whitehead
- Briggs Family Funds
- The Bruening Foundation
- Burton D. Morgan Foundation
- Case Western Reserve University
- Cleveland Neighborhood Progress
- Community Foundation of Lorain County
- COSE/Greater Cleveland Partnership
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Cuyahoga County
- Deaconess Foundation
- Elizabeth Ring Mather and William Gwinn Mather Fund
- ESP Charitable Ventures LLC
- FirstEnergy Foundation
- Forest City Realty Trust
- Fred A. Lennon Charitable Trust
- GAR Foundation
- The George Gund Foundation
- The George W. Codrington Charitable Foundation
- John Huntington Fund for Education
- Katherine and Lee Chilcote Foundation
- Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust
- Kent State University Foundation
- Lorain County Community College Foundation
- McGregor Foundation
- Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED)
- The Raymond John Wean Foundation
- Reinberger Foundation
- Saint Luke's Foundation
- Sisters of Charity Foundations of Canton and Cleveland
- Stark Community Foundation
- Summa Health System
- Third Federal Foundation
- Trumbull 100/Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley/The Youngstown Foundation
- Wayne Growth Partnership
- Westfield Insurance Foundation

Non-voting funders, those who provide initiative-specific support or contribute less than \$100,000 over three years, include:

- The Catherine L. and Edward A. Lozick Foundation
- The Cleveland Foundation
- FIT Technologies
- Frederick W. and Janet P. Dorn Foundation
- Hollington Family Fund
- JPMorgan Chase Foundation
- Meisel Family Foundation
- Racial Equity Institute
- Robert and Sarah Jaquay
- Robert W. Briggs Fund of the Akron Community Foundation
- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Sears-Swetland Family Foundation
- Thomas and Shirley Waltermire
- United Way

Leadership

Mark Samolczyk | Chair
Stark Community Foundation

David Abbott
The George Gund Foundation

Christine Mayer
GAR Foundation

William H. Gary, Sr. | Vice Chair
Cuyahoga Community College

Marcia Ballinger
Lorain County Community College

Steve Millard
Greater Cleveland Partnership

Anne Goodman | Vice Chair
Saint Luke's Foundation

Jani Groza
Westfield Insurance

Suzanne Rivera
Case Western Reserve University

Bill LaPlace | Treasurer
Kent H. Smith Charitable Trust

Shari Harrell
Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley

William R. Seelbach
The George W. Codrington Charitable Foundation

Adam Briggs | Secretary
Briggs Family Funds

Deborah D. Hoover
Burton D. Morgan Foundation

Kirstin Toth
GAR Foundation

Robert Jaquay
The George Gund Foundation

Deborah Vesey
Deaconess Foundation

Staff

Brad Whitehead | President

Kevin Alin | Vice President

Bethia Burke | Vice President

Sara McCarthy | Director of Communications

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