KANSAS CITY
MISSOURI

CITYSTART GRANT

Civil Rights & Equal Opportunity

June 24, 2025

Finance, Governance and Public Safety Committee

Cities For Financial Empowerment Fund

- Funded by the Bloomberg Initiative's Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund (CFE Fund)
  - The CFE Fund has disbursed over $69 million in grant support to municipal partners.
- Goals are to identify, develop, fund, implement, and research pilots and programs that help families build assets and make the most of their financial resources

Cities For Financial Empowerment Fund

- Focused on developing strategies for those historically denied opportunities to build generational wealth
- The grant is $100,000 and technical assistance to understand financial barriers affecting Kansas City's most disadvantaged population.
- The resulting product will be the creation of a "Policy Blueprint," to address barriers affecting the disadvantaged.

Overall Goal

Identify actionable steps to launch government-led financial empowerment efforts, reflecting insights from various local stakeholders, prioritizing wealth equity, and enhancing resident financial stability.

Learning Phase

FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT LANDSCAPE

- Milestones
- Stakeholder discussions
- CityStart site visit
- Story of Wealth process
- Steps
- Identify:
  - Data sources to understand disaggregated wealth data
  - Ways to catalog policies impacting wealth equity efforts
- Considerations
- Resources
- Engagement Tactics

•LEVERAGING THE STORY OF WEALTH

- Milestones
- Identify the blueprint priority areas
- Steps
- Schedule consistent updates
  - Identify the filters to narrow the priority areas
  - Identify Narrative Change steps for the municipality
- Considerations
- Further data needed?
- What is within the scope of local government?
- How are the priorities aligned with your Story of Wealth? Local government priorities?

Next Phases

DEVELOPING THE BLUEPRINT

- **Milestones**
- Draft the blueprint (May 2026)
- **Steps**
- Engage reviewers
- Present priorities and scopes to stakeholders
- Share drafts with the DBE Fund and Senior Leadership
- **Considerations**
- Who are the reviewers and decisionmakers?
- Does the blueprint address the priority wealth equity issues identified in your Story of Wealth?

RELEASING THE BLUEPRINT

- **Milestones**
- Public release of the blueprint (June to August 2026)
- **Steps**
- Determine release plan with CFE Fund guidance
- **Considerations**
- Stakeholder involvement in the release?
- Specific events to leverage the blueprint release?
- How can local government demonstrate that the blueprint will not “sit on the shelf?”

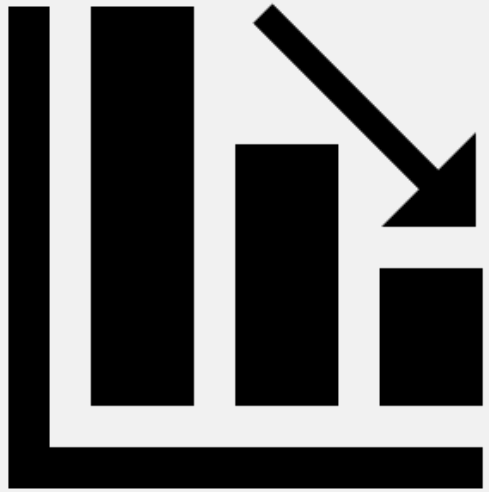
Present Day

Black people make up 25.8% of residents.

Thirty-one percent of black residents could see themselves leaving the region in the next five years as compared to 24% overall.

Thirty-two percent of black residents do not believe opportunities for professional growth exist in their community versus 21% of white people.

CHIP lists Economics as the most frequent priority area within at least nine sources.



Sources: U.S. Census, 2023
Kauffman Quality of Life 2021 Executive Summary, p. 2-3
Kansas City Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) 2022-2027, pg. 39

Questions?

Thank you!