Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund





Contact Person

Katie Plat kplat@cfefund.org

General Overview

Approach

Part of a broader financial well-being investment strategy

Target Age Groups

- 14-18 years old
- 18-24 years old

Target Populations

- · College students
- · Immigrant youth
- · LGBTQ+ youth
- Opportunity youth (young people, typically aged 16 to 24, who are not engaged in school or employment)
- System-involved youth (e.g.—child welfare, juvenile justice, homelessness, mental health)
- · Transition-age foster youth
- Young parents
- · Youth with disabilities

Geographic Focus

- Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, & PA)
- East North Central
 (IL, IN, MI, OH, and WI)
- West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, and SD)
- South Atlantic (DE, DC, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, & WV)
- East South Central (AL, KY, MS, & TN)
- West South Central (AR, LA, OK, & TX)

- Mountain
 (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, & WY)
- Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, and WA)
- National

Financial Well-Being Investment/Interest Areas

Direct Services

Educational Programs

Investing in financial education, financial capability, job readiness, or mentorship programs that benefit youth

Cities for Financial Empowerment Fund



Research and Pilots

Program Evaluation

Funding evaluations of existing programs to measure impact and identify best practices

Needs Assessments

Supporting research to understand the specific needs and challenges of youth populations in various communities

Data Collection and Analysis

Investing in studies that gather data on youth outcomes and financial well-being

New Initiatives

Funding pilot programs or innovative approaches to addressing youth financial well-being, such as new technologies, financial tools, or peer-led programs

Policy and Advocacy

Advocacy

Supporting efforts to inform local, state, or national policies that improve youth access to education, employment, and financial stability

Systems Change

Investing in initiatives that seek to reform systems (education, criminal justice, child welfare) to create better opportunities for youth

Capacity Building

Nonprofit Support

Providing funding to build the capacity of organizations that serve youth, improving their ability to deliver high-quality services and reach more young people

Community Engagement

Youth-Led Initiatives

Funding programs that empower youth to design and lead initiatives addressing issues that affect them directly

Family and Community Support

Supporting programs that engage young parents, families, and communities in fostering youth development and financial well-being

Collaboration

Partnerships

Funding collaborations between nonprofits, schools, businesses, and government agencies to maximize impact on youth development and financial well-being

Peer Learning and Exchange

Supporting networks or platforms where youth-serving organizations can share knowledge, resources, and best practices

Other Youth/Young Adult Financial Well-Being Services

We support Summer Jobs Connect (SJC), which embeds banking access and targeted financial education into municipal Summer Youth Employment Programs in 41 cities and counties.

Stage of Grantmaking

Supporting and Sustaining (Growth Phase)

Providing support to nonprofit partners (e.g., technical assistance, communications, advocacy, policy work), and sustaining the work through peer learning, narrative change, and more

Approximate Level of Investment in The Last 12 Months

\$1,000,000+

