

# a new way FORWARD

our journey of transformation towards just and thriving communities



# WHAT'S CALLING US TO TRANSFORMATION?

The social sector today exists because of **unequal power dynamics**, **systemic racism** and other forms of **oppression**. Those with privilege have used oppressive systems to exclude, discriminate against, and bar "others" from power.

> Today's leaders and changemakers have inherited organizations and systems that

our theory of change





# Primarily focus our energies on downstream issues;

## Perpetuate competition and scarcity mindsets;

## Lacks vision and hope;

## Requires labor and tasks that can lead to burnout;

Underestimates the significance of tools, systems, and structures that enhance organizational effectiveness

# WHAT ARE WE CALLED TO? ...........

We are calling in and working alongside **mission-driven** people, organizations, and communities in Southeast Michigan to prioritize the care, needs and desires of those most impacted by the issues: - BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and **People of Color**) -LGBTQIA+ -People with disabilities, and other historically marginalized **communities** - in that work.

our theory of change



We believe achieving a just and thriving society requires turning towards each other, harnessing our collective power by *breaking the 'bad' while also "building the new".* 

This calls us to transforming systems, structure, and culture in order to advance proactive and long-lasting solutions for equity and justice.

We're here to shift the dominant narrative of lack, towards one rooted in a just transition that includes space for learning & unlearning, new ways of leading, being and working.

## WHAT DO WE LONG FOR? Our Vision

### FLOURISHING ORGANIZATIONS

### VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

## theory of change

### EMPOWERED LEADERS

# HOW WE'LL GET THERE

#### **BUILDING POWER AND LEADERSHIP**

to ensure decisions are made by and with the communities they impact. We convene cohorts focusing on collective knowledge and leadership at the individual, interpersonal and organizational levels. Leaders build relationships while co-learning skills, strategies, and tactics to cultivate a more just future.

#### NURTURING ORGANIZATIONS **AND CULTURES**

to disrupt traditional nonprofit management paradigms. Our consultants provide trusted guidance, inspiring resources, and practical tools to foster change and transformation in strategy, governnance and cultures.

#### STRENGTHENING OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

to enable values-driven organizations to achieve their missions. Our back-office supports include tools and guidance in finance and information technology. Our co-working and meeting spaces are a phyical embodiment of vision and values for our sector.



#### **INFLUENCING SYSTEMS**

to shift ways of thinking about and taking action towards social change. We leverage our platforms and network to uplift the voices of others and bring people together to bring about the transformation of our sector.



# HOW WE'LL KNOW WE'RE ON TRACK

## We'll see more...

#### A DEEPER SENSE OF BELONGING

within organizations and communities in our ecosystem

## **MUTUALITY & SOLIDARITY**

amongst people of different backgrounds and identities

### QUALITY SYSTEMS, TOOLS, AND PROCESSES

in organizations led by and serving BIPOC people

#### **COMMUNITY POWER**

led by the communities most impacted by injustice

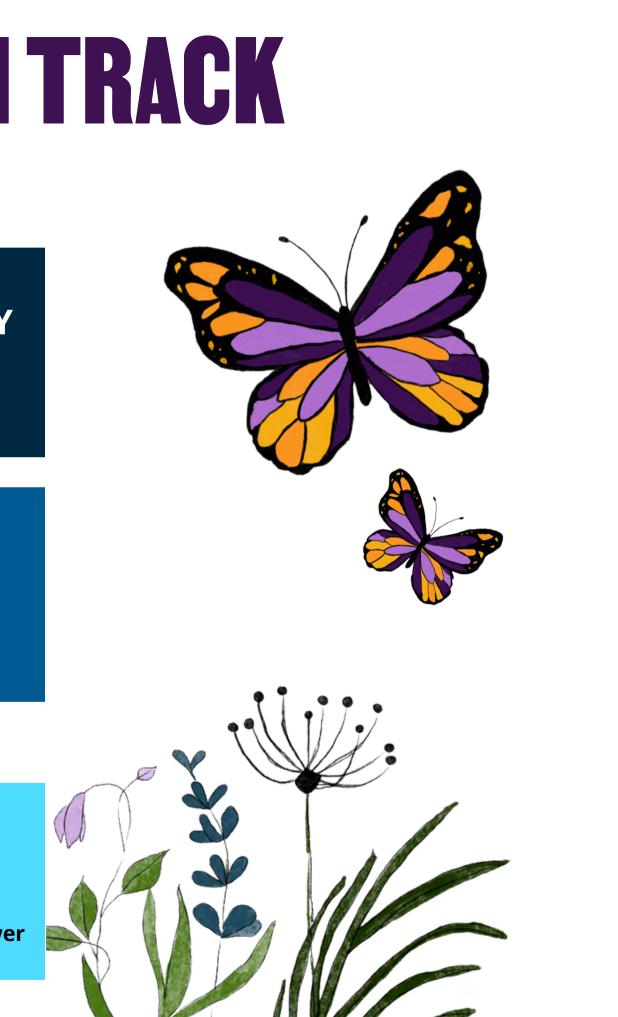
## sharing of ...

#### KNOWLEDGE AND PERSPECTIVE

between organizations and communities in our ecosystem

### DATA-INFORMED DECISION MAKING

within organizations and positions of power





## **OUR VISION**

**FLOURISHING ORGANIZATIONS VIBRANT COMMUNITIES EMPOWERED LEADERS** 

## HOW WE'LL GET THERE

By working with **mission-driven people**, organizations, and communities in Southeast Michigan.

By prioritizing those most impacted by the issues - BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) and other marginalized communities - in that work.

## WHERE WE'RE AT

The social sector today exists because of unequal power dynamics, systemic racism and other forms of **oppression**.

Today's leaders and changemakers have inherited organizations and systems that:



#### Focus on short-term solutions

Encourage competition and scarcity mindsets



Limit access to tools, systems, and structures



NURTURING

**ORGANIZATIONS** 

**AND CULTURES** 

to disrupt traditional

nonprofit

management paradigms.

#### **BUILDING POWER AND LEADERSHIP**

to ensure decisions are made by and with the communities they impact.

#### INFLUENCING **SYSTEMS**

to shift ways of thinking about and taking action towards social change.

## STRENGTHENING **OPERATIONS**

to enable valuesdriven organizations to achieve their missions.

## **NEW THEORY OF CHANGE**

our journey of transformation towards just and thriving communities



**COLLABORATION AND** BELONGING

**QUALITY SYSTEMS, TOOLS, AND PROCESSES** 

> **KNOWLEDGE AND** PERSPECTIVE

**DIALOGUE AND DISCOVERY** 

**COMMUNITY BUILDING** 

**DATA-INFORMED DECISION MAKING** 

AND **INFRASTRUCTURE**