



BUILDING FAMILY RESILIENCY THROUGH BETTER POLICY

Resilient Families Program Strategy Overview

We catalyze and sustain opportunities to ensure that community resources meet families' needs and empower parents to implement their vision for the healthy development and well-being of their families.

GRANTEE PARTNER: POLICY MATTERS OHIO

Policy Matters Ohio is a think tank working to create a more vibrant, equitable, sustainable and inclusive Ohio through research, strategic communications, coalition building and policy advocacy. Strong public policy promotes resilient families. Policy Matters highlights how innovative policies strengthen Ohio families and pursues strategies to make strong public policy a reality.



WHAT WE FUNDED

The Foundation's grant (\$375,000 from 2014-2016) provides operating support to enable Policy Matters Ohio's continuing education and advocacy for policies which support families' abilities to access concrete resources in times of need, ensure opportunities for families to be self-sufficient and support all family members to achieve their full potential and productivity.

GOALS FOR THIS GRANT

- Asset building: Reasonable regulations to help families earn and save, avoid unfair loans, and build a better future for themselves and their children
- A fair economy: Good jobs, workers' rights, and a state budget that can support programs that help families;
- Decent public structures: Adequate and fair taxes to support schools, transit and social service infrastructures;
- Sustainable communities: Sustainable investments in transit, renewable energy, conservation and other solutions that create jobs and support communities.

THE APPROACH WE SUPPORT

- Policy Matters Ohio responds to emerging threats to vulnerable families and drives and supports a conversation about real challenges and opportunities to support family resilience through better public policy.
- Shaping public policy through:
 - Research;
 - Media work;
 - Coalition building;
 - Policy advocacy.

IMPACT

- Generate reports illustrating implications of budget and tax policy for family resilience. Data shows that Ohio is investing in (or divesting from) work supports, human services, a state Earned Income Tax Credit, jobs, job quality and asset protection;
- An abundance of press stories cite Saint Luke's Foundation-funded research and explain how Ohio policies help or fall short for families;
- Most importantly, Policy Matters is changing policy, with support from the Foundation. The group's work has helped improve childcare support for poor working families; has helped restore medical benefits for pregnant women; and has helped preserve funding for vital services for families.