

Overview of Post-Pandemic Financial Resiliency

Tyrone Spann – Indiana Program Officer
Asset Funders Network

Monday, June 21st

What I will be covering this morning

- Providing a brief overview of Asset Building
- Discussing the impact COVID-19 has had on Assets
- Looking at the imperative for racial equality in Asset Building

What is the Asset Funders Network

Working Together to Achieve Economic Security for All

As the only membership organization for grantmakers focused on advancing economic security, the Asset Funders Network connects philanthropic leaders to drive greater impact where it's needed most.

INFORM | CONNECT | INFLUENCE | BUILD

Working Together to Achieve Economic Security for All

Our Mission is to engage philanthropy to advance equitable wealth building and economic mobility as it relates to the following areas:

INFORM | CONNECT | INFLUENCE | BUILD

Education

Health

Employment & Income

Housing

Financial Health

The Wealth Gap

**Small Business, Co-Ops & Microenterprise
Ownership**

What is Asset Building

Asset building is how individuals, families, and communities gather the resources that will move them towards economic well-being, for now and for years to come.

With assets, people move from making ends meet to planning for their future.

Assets enable people to:

- Live with housing security
- Improve children's opportunities
- Take risks resulting in better jobs or business start-ups
- Advance through higher education
- Remain secure through financial disruptions
- Maintain good health
- Retire securely
- Pass on security to the next generation

Asset building is a strategy that enables greater access to economic security and opportunities, particularly for low-income communities and communities of color.

Assets include:

Financial Resources

- Access to Credit
- Homes
- Savings
- Retirement Accounts
- Insurance
- Business Ownership

Personal Resources

- Education
- Access to Healthcare
- Job Skills and Experience
- Vehicles
- Social Networks and Community Support
- Citizenship

COVID's Impact on Asset Building in Indiana

COVID-19/Indiana by the Numbers *

- 676,247 Hoosiers were diagnosed with COVID
- 92,731 Hoosiers had COVID related ER visits
- 47,398 Hoosiers were hospitalized due to COVID
- 12,510 Hoosiers died due to COVID related symptoms

**Data comes from the article "What did the pandemic do to Indiana" published in the IndyStar on March 21, 2021*

COVID-19/Indiana by the Numbers, Continued *

- Unemployment numbers in Indiana rose during the pandemic from a level of 4% in February 2020 to an estimated peak of about 16.9% in April 2020.
- While the current unemployment figures are back to pre-pandemic levels of 3.9%, there are some factors that will drastically impact individuals and families across the State.

**Data comes from the report, "COVID -19 Economic Crisis: By State" Ettliger, M. and Hensley, J, Carsey School of Public Policy, Univ. of New Hampshire, June 2021*

COVID-19/Indiana by the Numbers, Continued *

- About 20% of the restaurants in Indiana have permanently closed since the start of the Pandemic.
- 17% of Indiana restaurant operators state that conditions will never return to normal for their business.

**Data comes from the article "What did the pandemic do to Indiana" published in the IndyStar on March 21, 2021*

COVID-19/Indiana by the Numbers, Continued *

- The overall GDP of Indiana fell from \$337.6 Billion in February 2020 to \$327.3 Billion in April of 2021, a 3.1% drop.
- There was a 135,900 drop in the number of jobs available in Indiana during that same time period, a 4.3% change.

**Data comes from the report, "COVID -19 Economic Crisis: By State" Ettliger, M. and Hensley, J, Carsey School of Public Policy, Univ. of New Hampshire, June 2021*

COVID19/Indiana by the Numbers, Continued

- Governor Holcomb is withdrawing Indiana from the Federal program that provided an additional \$300 per week in Unemployment benefits
- These extra benefits will end starting June 19th.
- Additionally, starting June 1st, the State is reactivating the requirement that individuals will need to document they are actively searching for employment to maintain their benefits eligibility.

Where does this leave us?

- Historically, people and communities of color have not had equal access to financial resources as their white counterparts.
- This discrepancy placed them in a more vulnerable position to have the effects of the overall economic downturn from COVID-19 be multiplied and more severe.
- Therefore, any effort to reverse the negative impacts from the Pandemic must consider that additional measures will be needed in order to assist these communities begin the recovery efforts.

Things to consider

- Initiatives should not be designed as one size fits all to allow flexibility to account for historical economic and societal insufficiencies across communities.
- Initiatives should not be designed within a vacuum but with the understanding that economies and systems are interconnected in various ways that are not always obvious on the surface.
- One way to accomplish this is to consider how an initiative fits within one of the three R's: **Relief, Recovery and Rebuild.**

- **Relief** programs that immediately offer economic security help to communities in need.
- **Recovery** programs to help rebuild financial stability with low and moderate income households especially in under and unbanked populations.
- **Rebuild** equitable programs, capital investments, and policies to reduce and prevent the devastating financial strain on low and moderate income working families.

Types of Asset Resource Categories

Financial Resources

- Access to Credit
- Homes
- Savings
- Retirement Accounts
- Insurance
- Business Ownership

Personal Resources

- Education
- Access to Healthcare
- Job Skills and Experience
- Vehicles
- Social Networks and Community Support
- Citizenship

In Closing....

- Asset building makes prosperity achievable. That's why funders and community stakeholder across various sectors are investing in asset-building strategies for greater impact in low and middle income communities.
- COVID-19 effected the local, national and world economic landscape in unprecedented ways that will have long-term ramifications we have yet to discover.
- It will take new and innovative collaborations both from the public and private sectors to overcome the impact of COVID-19 in those communities that were impacted the most this past year.

Thank you for your time