

Dear Project 20/20 Members,

A huge dose of gratitude to each and every one of you who have worked to fulfill Project 20/20's compelling mission to champion ideas and initiatives that move this community toward excellence. Your participation in Project 20/20's listening and learning sessions, sharing rich and diverse perspectives, and/or providing essential funding has allowed us to accomplish a great deal together over the past several years

Project 20/20's beginnings occurred in 2006 when a loose coalition of community members recognized a common concern--we were working on the same pressing issues year after year but not getting hoped-for results. We wanted to make things better.

Since then, we continued to find what was working and supported those efforts. With your help, over time we have learned to identify and build upon community assets and foremost, to accelerate efforts by increasing understanding and broadening the base of support.

To build community, we worked to establish a shared understanding of our challenges and concerns, to provide a format for interaction, to connect individuals and organizations, to build a network of leaders (positional and grassroots), and to share ideas and strategies for success.

We aspired to be a unified network, a group of creative problem solvers, people who can look at the community holistically to accomplish results. And now, Project 20/20 has grown to over 700 people.

Since Project 20/20's inception, we have:

- Coordinated over 100 Community Conversations, with various community partners, to promote greater understanding of activities, issues and goals, and identify opportunities to work together in areas of economic development, education, healthcare, leadership, youth engagement and more.
- Worked with more than 30 partners to incorporate the voices of thousands of residents, business leaders, community leaders and youth into local decision-making processes and initiatives like:
  - the Downtown Transformation Initiative to ensure the plan included the aspirations and actions that were important to the community, and to turn the tide toward positive support for the project
  - the Generation E Institute's efforts to expand youth entrepreneurship so that the community's suggestions about additional locations and volunteers were identified
  - the Battle Creek City Manager Search to ensure the community's aspirations and suggestions were used to select the best candidate

- the City of Battle Creek Inspections Department’s current efforts to ensure their policies and practices are more business friendly
- the City of Battle Creek Police and Fire Department’s efforts to gather input from the community regarding their facilities
- the Consolidated Planning process to ensure community development funds are aligned with resident priorities
- the BC Vision process so that over 7 years of public voice could inform the community economic development plan
- the Great Start Collaborative so that residents and the businesses in the community could learn about the value of early childhood to improve education outcomes, workforce development and economic prosperity
- Calhoun Community High School and Project Starfish to apply learnings and strategies to boost high school graduation rates among at-risk students
- Facilitated conversations with over 500 community stakeholders to help the Lakeview School District Board of Education better understand the community’s aspirations and concerns regarding educational success.
- Created a campaign designed to inform the Battle Creek community about the outstanding work that’s emerged from the conversations, interactions and collaborative efforts of our education partners – innovation in the classroom, new and creative approaches to learning, pockets of effectiveness in education and more.

In July, we sent out a survey to 364 of our most active members. To review the survey results, please visit our website at <http://www.bcproject2020.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/p2020-Member-Survey-Summary-July-2015.pdf> or go to [www.bcproject2020.com/about-us](http://www.bcproject2020.com/about-us) and scroll to the bottom of the page to click on the link. The link to the survey results are near the bottom of the page.

Again, a sincere thank you to both funders and participants who make Project 20/20 work. We look forward to working together to accelerate all that is positive in the greater Battle Creek area. We encourage you to visit the website, [www.bcproject2020.com](http://www.bcproject2020.com), to stay in touch regarding future plans.

Sincerely,  
 The Project 20/20 Advisory Committee  
 Kelly Boles Chapman  
 Talia Champlin  
 Pete Christ  
 Preston Hicks  
 Nelson Karre  
 Amanda Lankerd  
 Mac McCullough  
 Laura Otte  
 Cheryl Peters  
 Chris Sargent  
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