

**Common Good Initiative
Lincoln Park**

Allegheny Franciscan Ministries

**Evaluation Report
June 2017**

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Introduction

In late 2011, the Allegany Franciscan Ministries Board of Trustees began a process to identify a new strategic opportunity that would allow the organization to more deeply fulfill its mission, be more open to new and innovative ways to create healthier communities, provide for the highest and best use of available funding, promote systemic change, and continue to energize our community, volunteers and staff. In December 2013, the board of trustees approved a new strategic initiative called the Common Good Initiative. In keeping with the mission to serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities, Allegany Franciscan Ministries has identified one community in each of the three regions it serves and will work with its citizens and stakeholders to create opportunities, develop strategies, and make investments that lead to positive health outcomes.

The initiative has multiple interrelated goals: to build collaboration, advocacy capacity, and resident leadership; to influence system changes and through those changes, long-term health and wellness indicators; and to ensure sustainability. Activities to achieve these goals include convening and engaging, investing, Councils for the Common Good, partnering, and others. Allegany Franciscan Ministries obtained community input to identify priorities, each council then identified strategies to address priorities. A snapshot of the work to date in Lincoln Park is shown below in Figure 1; details are provided in the body of the report.

The first column lists the overall goal. The second column summarizes investments to date for that goal but does not reflect total funding. For reporting purposes, investments that addressed a community priority and community capacity were categorized under the community priority. In addition, not all investments are included in this table as some are related to emerging opportunities. The third column lists desired accomplishments. The final column provides an example from the early results, both quantitative and qualitative; additional results are in the body of the report.

Figure 1: Common Good Initiative snapshot

Goal	Investments to date for the goal (not total funding)	What do we hope to accomplish?	Example from the early results
Community priority: Lincoln Park residents will live in a safe and healthy community	18 investments totaling \$612,301.	Access to healthy food, increased feelings of safety, and decreased chronic health conditions	Through monthly community meetings, the police department is strengthening the relationship with the community.

Goal	Investments to date for the goal (not total funding)	What do we hope to accomplish?	Example from the early results
Community priority: Lincoln Park residents will have access to quality jobs and livable wages	3 investments totaling \$15,000.	Increased employment, increased wages, and improved job-related education	Although not an employment investment, clients served by the gang initiative are improving their education and have obtained employment.
Initiative: Build collaboration, advocacy capacity, organizational capacity, and resident leadership	4 investments totaling \$26,470. Convened stakeholders to support renovations to the Boys and Girls club.	Improved collaboration, stronger organizations, increased advocacy capacity, more resources, and resident leadership	20 agencies signed MOUs to collaborate and coordinate services to reduce gang activity.

Progress to Date

This section presents the progress toward the goals listed above. It first presents data on implementation and investments, then the goals. Data in this section come from multiple sources: monthly and board reports of initiative activities and investments made, investment results from partner reports, and interviews with staff and stakeholders.

How is the Common Good Initiative being implemented?

In the past six months, the Common Good Initiative continued to develop the council, researched investments, and developed investment recommendations. Interviewees also noted partnering with the city and the county as significant accomplishments. One person said, “I think our collaboration with the police department and assisting them with being able to service the community with community policing, I think that has been beneficial.” Another said that an accomplishment is “having the county at the table with us, supporting us, and providing information that we normally wouldn’t have on important things. We are looking at how we can align and leverage our funding with things that are already going on.” Figure 2 presents Common Good Initiative planning and council milestones. Please note that some activities continue through the present time.

Figure 2: Common Good Initiative milestones

Timeframe	Milestones
June 2014	Determined the Common Good Initiative neighborhood.
June 2014 through December 2014	Gathered community input. Identified potential priorities.
January 2015 through December 2015	Finalized potential priorities. Conducted a community visioning session. Researched strategies (continues). Explored possible investments (continues). Began investments (continues).
January 2016 through June 2016	Established the Council for the Common Good (continues). Confirmed strategies with the council.
July 2016 through December 2016	Finalized strategies and identified system changes and long-term indicators. Worked with partners on strategies (continues). Continued to make investments.
January 2017 through June 2017	Finalized grant and grant-related investments for strategies.

Implementation, however, also encompasses Allegany Franciscan Ministries' approach to the work. The board provided clear direction that the Common Good Initiative should work with the community and help build capacity. The project has not kept to the original timeline due to the deliberate and intentional engagement with the community. See the initiative-wide report for data on this aspect of implementation.

What have been the investments to date?

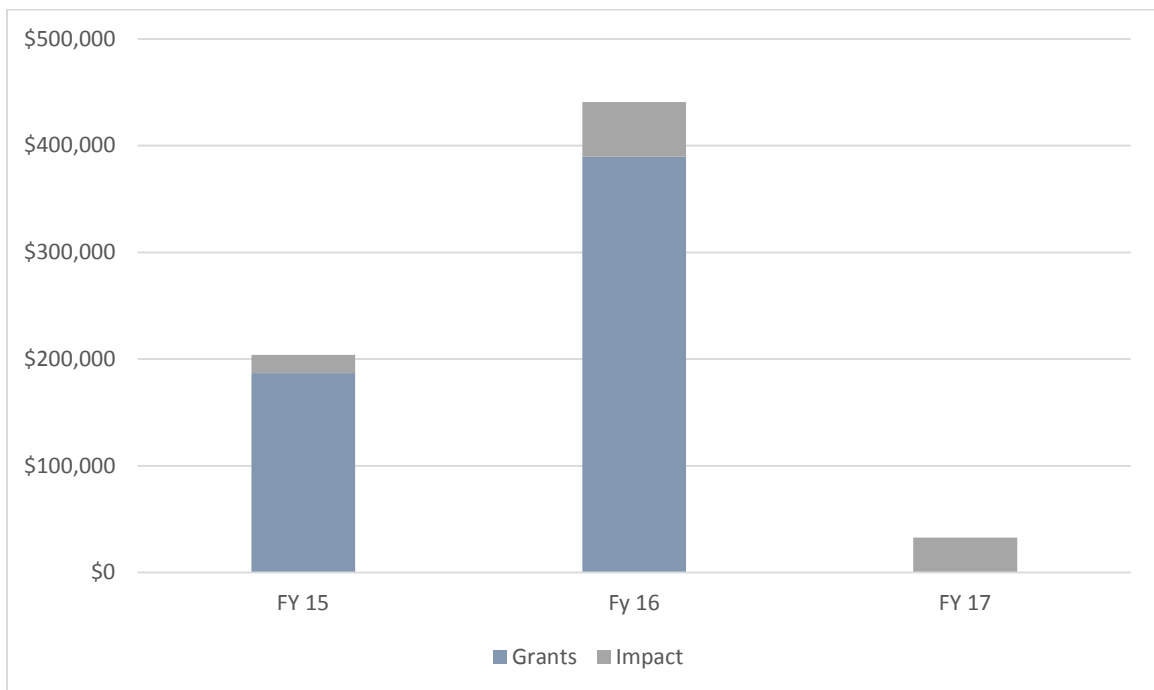
To date, the Common Good Initiative has made two types of investments: impact funds and grants and grant-related investments. Impact funds are discretionary grants that support goals, address community needs, and/or communicate Allegany Franciscan Ministries' commitment to the community. Grants and grant-related investments address priorities and/or system change. To date, over \$677,000 has been invested: \$100,000 in impact funds and \$577,000 in grants and grant-related investments. Listing of grants and grant-related investments appears in the Appendix. The following types of projects have been supported.

Figure 3: Grants and grant-related investments made

Fiscal Year 2014-2015	Fiscal year 2015-2016	Fiscal year 2016-2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Street outreach worker positions for the Gang Initiative - A resource guide and materials to support community mobilization - A youth summit - Summer youth programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For the Fort Pierce Police Department to decrease crime, improve community relationships, and increase transparency - A collaboration to address infant mortality 	<p>None at this time; recommendations are being reviewed by the board at the June 2017 meeting</p>

Figure 4 provides the impact funds and grants and grant-related investments, by fiscal year.

Figure 4: Impact funds and grants and grant-related investments, by fiscal year



The next three sections provide early results in each of the three goal areas; however, please note that not all early investments neatly align with the final strategies as presented in this report because strategies were still being developed by the council.

What has been the progress in Lincoln Park residents will live in a safe and healthy community?

Eighteen investments totaling over \$612,301 have been made under the goal of safe and healthy neighborhoods. Results are not yet available for all investments; however, as noted above, the Gang Initiative has documented outcomes for clients: 83% of clients have been connected to at least one service to address risk factors. In addition, through a matching grant from the City, 3,500 youth were served in summer programs. The City of Fort Pierce Police Department has been having monthly meetings in the community to improve transparency between the police department and the community. Finally, the Common Good Initiative provided funding for the Restoring the Village entrance sign. As one interviewee noted, "That sign has put a lot of value about Lincoln Park. People love that sign. That sign has not been vandalized. That sign has been taken care of."

What has been the progress in Lincoln Park residents will have access to quality jobs and livable wages?

Three investments totaling \$15,000 have been made. No grants or grants-related investments have been made for this priority at this time. However, although the Gang Initiative investment does not fall under this category, initial results include job-related employment and education. Per the most recent report, 16 of 17 juvenile clients are now enrolled in and attending high school regularly. Ten clients have attended employment skills training through employment partner CareerSource Research Coast and are currently employed. The grant partner notes that the majority of these clients had never been employed before. Finally, the gang initiative reports that three clients are currently enrolled in GED programs, and one of client just graduated and enrolled in college at Indian River State College. In addition, several impact funds have been made in this area. For example, the Boys to Men Foundation is providing career building by offering job shadowing, and an impact investment was made to the Boys and Girls Clubs' Diploma to Degrees program.

What is the progress in building community capacity and sustainability?

This section provides highlights in building neighborhood capacity and sustainability. Desired outcomes for this work are improved collaboration, increased capacity for advocacy, increased organizational capacity, additional resources, and more resident leaders. Data in this section are from monthly reports provided by the vice president of each region, board reports, investment reports, and interviews with stakeholders. The Common Good Initiative has made investments to

achieve these outcomes but also engages in activities such as convening, developing partners for strategies (including non-traditional partners), building relationships, and advocating. Results are as follows:

- **Supported collaboration:** With Common Good Initiative funding for the Restoring the Village Gang Initiative, the Roundtable of St Lucie County is building a collaborative infrastructure, establishing an intervention team of 13 agencies, implementing MOUs with 20 partners, and building a referral network.
- **Advocacy:** With Common Good Initiative funding, the Lincoln Park Advisory Council hosted a meeting with Chief Probation Officer Wydee'a Wilson around issues of disproportionate minority contact and the civil citation process.
- **Supporting collaboration and increasing resources:** The DOH infant mortality review has established a 25-member case review team to address infant mortality.
- **Building capacity and leadership:** One resident was supported in starting a new 501c3 and has taken on a leadership role in the community.

From a stakeholder:

"I hear Allegheny's name a lot, so I feel like they're in the forefront of some of the positive things that's happening in the Lincoln Park community."

Conclusions

There are several items of note in this six-month report:

- The council has identified investments for the employment priority, the initiative has developed non-traditional partnerships, and investments are being designed to promote sustainability.
- Over \$677,000 has been invested in Lincoln Park by Allegany Franciscan Ministries.
- Initial results from activities and investments are promising.

Please see the initiative-wide report for lessons learned and for feedback on the initiative from stakeholders in each community.

A final note: As the initiative has evolved, so has the evaluation. With this report, the focus is beginning to shift from process to early results. As the work of identifying priorities, determining strategies, and choosing investments has developed, the evaluator is working each council to fine-tune measurements and then working with grant partners on their success measures. This will allow aggregation over time so that Allegany Franciscan Ministries will be able to answer the question, "What have we accomplished?"

Appendix A: Listing of grants and grant-related investments

The table below provides a listing of grants and grants-related investments to date. Please note this does not equal total funding.

Organization	Project description	Amount
Roundtable of St. Lucie County, Inc.	Funding to support three street outreach worker positions for the Gang Initiative (\$120,000). An additional \$15,000 for the Lincoln Park Advisory Committee to create a resource guide for Lincoln Park residents, a memorial garden in memory of victims of violence in Lincoln Park and materials to support LPAC's community mobilization activities.	\$135,000
St. Lucie County BOCC	For the Lincoln Park Community Center: A Time to C.H.I.L.L. youth summit.	\$10,000
City of Fort Pierce	Matching grants to nine organizations for summer youth programming in the Lincoln Park community.	\$41,950
Fort Pierce Police Department	Funding to decrease crime, improve community relationships and increase transparency, through equipment, technology, and a community relations efforts (matched by the City of Fort Pierce).	\$250,000
Florida Dept. of Health in St Lucie County	To decrease infant deaths by hiring a registered nurse to assess, monitor, and improve the service system for women and infants.	\$140,000

Appendix B: Data Sources

Interviewees

Interviewees included seven stakeholders. While most interviewees were repeated from the first set of interviews, some substitutions have been made. The design is not longitudinal but cross-sectional, so any substitutions must represent the same community sector. The vice president also participated in a formal interview.

Documents & other

- Monthly reports from the vice president
 - Documents forwarded from the vice president (e.g., meeting summaries)
 - Board reports
 - Information obtained through e-mail updates and staff meetings.
 - Investments made
 - Grantee reports
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