We envision a Lake County where neighbors have the resources and power to heal and generate pride within their own neighborhoods; where all individuals deserve equitable access to building generational wealth and opportunities to reimagine and create sustainable communities. We are intentionally shifting our philanthropic power, resources and focus to historically disinvested communities so that everyone has access, resource and opportunity.

PROGRAM AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT STRATEGY

ORGANIZATIONAL PROGRAM PRINCIPLES

These principles serve as the foundation, lens and guide for all of our programs and community investments. We are intentionally shifting power back to the community and will use these as guides for our decision making and strategic direction.

Trust Based Philanthropy is envisioning a world where relationships are built on vulnerability, transparency, and humility; where community and nonprofit leaders are valued, supported, and trusted; and where funders bring an awareness of power and equity to their grantmaking.

Equity is an approach that assesses resource, opportunity and access. It is a lens that considers historical and systemic factors that have disproportionately affected communities of color, and acknowledges the need for tailored, multi-faceted approaches to ensure all individuals can thrive.

This entails policies, practices and power structures to remedy complex issues. We must address the root causes of complex problems with a holistic approach to catalyze sustainable, transformational change.
ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Historically disinvested communities, which are primarily communities of color, have intentionally been excluded from wealth building through our laws, policies and practices. We believe there is a need to focus on economic development in these communities and to shift our resources specifically to communities of color.

- Small Business Growth Initiative
- Affordable and Safe Housing
- Investment in innovative strategies to decrease economic disparities

COMMUNITY OWNERSHIP

There are community members whose leadership is essential to support relationships being built, neighbors being cared for and change occurring. We want to support these community members who have ideas that bring people together, heal generations and inspire community pride.

- Community Grant Program
- Leadership Development and Capacity Building
- Investment in grassroots, community organizing and public policy initiatives

RAPID COMMUNITY RESPONSE

Communities are ever-changing and our responsibility is to be flexible so that those needs are being met with a timely and relevant response. We are committed to ensuring those who are directly impacted by systemic barriers will be the creators of reimagining a more equitable system and have the power to determine our investment.

- Basic Human Needs (BHN) Fund
- Lake County Community Crisis Relief Fund
- Lake County Funders Calls