**Analyzing Strategies and Opportunities**

Throughout the planning process, the Community Foundation asked: “What matters most to our key stakeholders as we make strategic decisions or consider new opportunities?” The ideas and options that the Community Foundation considered were analyzed utilizing the following decision-making criteria and screening matrix that was developed through stakeholder input, task force discussion and full board/staff review and revisions.

This critical tool will also be used in ongoing decision-making by the foundation for operational planning and as unanticipated strategic opportunities/decisions arise.

**Threshold Question**

Do we clearly understand the question and decision?

**Vision and Values**

Does this decision exemplify and advance equity?

Have the people who will be affected been involved in the decision?

Will this improve the lives of vulnerable and marginalized members of our community?

Do we feel powerfully compelled to do this?

**Impact**

Is this a top community issue?

Is this decision fact-based?

Is it achievable?

Will we be able to tell if it’s effective?

Can we live with the opportunity costs of what we’ll give up in order to do this?

**Resources**

Are we the best people to take this on?

Have we engaged the key people, including donors to inform this decision?

Do we have the resources—finances, staff, relationships—to deliver on the desired outcomes?

If not, can we acquire the necessary resources?

Will this help us to increase donations?