THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

Strategies for Multi-field & Cross-sector Collaborations
May 25, 2010
Convergence Partnership Webinar Series
Kresge history and background

- Founded 1924 by Sebastian Kresge, an entrepreneur who established the S.S. Kresge five-and-10-cent stores, which became Kmart
- The Kresge Foundation is not affiliated with Kmart
- One of the nation’s first generation of philanthropic institutions
Kresge grantmaking history

- Challenge grants for bricks and mortar were the sole grantmaking tool for most of Kresge’s history.
- The primary goal was to help nonprofits build their fundraising capacity.
- Grantmaking initiatives, such as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Initiative and the Special Opportunities Initiative were also focused on fundraising capacity.
The Kresge Foundation

A $2.8 billion private national foundation that seeks to influence the quality of life for future generations through six fields of interest:

- Health
- Environment
- Community Development
- Arts and Culture
- Education
- Human Services
Our values criteria

- Creating opportunity
- Community impact
- Institutional transformation
- Risk
- Environmental conservation
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Underserved geography
- Diversity

New Kresge values lens
Fostering healthy, equitable communities

Sustainable determinants of health

- Environment
- Access
- Equity
Safety-net Enhancement Initiative

- Schools
- Community Development
- Health care system
- Public health
- Human services

Community Clinics

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Fostering healthy environments for vulnerable populations
Safety-net Enhancement Initiative

Community Clinics

- Schools
- Community Development
- Public Health
- Human Services
Fostering healthy environments for vulnerable populations

Green & Healthy Housing Initiative - Multi-foundation partnership with HUD, DOE, EPA & CDC

Environment
- Climate change
  --- Energy efficiency

Health
- Environmental health
  -- Healthy housing

Community Development
--- Affordable housing

Green & Healthy Housing

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Fostering healthy environments for vulnerable populations
New food initiatives: Eastern Market food hub, Detroit Fresh Food Access Initiative, Community Grocery Store Initiative