

The ESPRI Workgroups and the Steering Committee have identified the following projects and themes that should be addressed by the Anti-Poverty Initiative. This list is designed to serve as a guide with concrete examples of the type of programs that have been endorsed by various stakeholders. Applicants may wish to take responsibility to further develop one of these concepts, or they may serve as a stimulus for your own best thinking about how you can help achieve the goal of reducing the poverty rate of village residents.

Additional examples may also be found in the complete Phase I Report that is available at <https://villageofhempsteadespriorg.files.wordpress.com/2018/03/phase-i-report.pdf>

Workforce Development

- Help residents to obtain information about available resources and services regarding employment, training (in both hard and soft skills) and apprenticeship opportunities.
- Develop job training and coaching partnerships that will establish a “talent pipeline”; one that is informed by the real needs of area businesses and industries.

Health and Wellness

- Integrate a school-based mindfulness program into the school day; one that offers students (and their educators) practical skills for self-care and connection to others.
- Train a cadre of community health workers that will partner with local agencies, non-profits, and faith-based programs to educate residents about healthy eating habits – using train-the-trainer, chronic self-management and trauma resiliency models.
- Establish a farmers’ market and Community Supported Agricultural (CSA) program to make fresh produce available to village residents on a year round basis.

Education

- Develop a Career and Technical Education (CTE) curriculum that will help students achieve necessary skills to obtain jobs and careers that will sustain them and their families.
- Offer long-term mentoring relationships from middle school onward.
- Help students and their families to navigate the systems required to apply for financial aid, scholarships, and other available resources to assist them attain their educational goals.
- Support after-school programming that will enrich the overall learning experience beyond the traditional school day/year and provide culturally responsive role models and social-emotional supports that will help them connect to post-secondary education and/or CTE programs.
- Consider use of evidence-based programs such as Junior Achievement, which offers a K-12 curriculum of age appropriate lessons on financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Projects and Themes by Priority Area

Economic Empowerment

- Provide programs to enhance family financial literacy and numeracy so that individuals and families can attain an appropriate level of financial fitness; allowing them to develop savings plans, access lines of credit, etc.
- Consider the use of an evidence-based program such as Junior Achievement which offers a K-12 curriculum of age appropriate lessons on financial literacy and entrepreneurship.

Justice

- Provide youth programming to help prevent entry into the criminal justice system. Use a train-the-trainer model to engage older youths to become mentors to younger residents and help them to develop critical life skills and a desire for success in the future.
- Assist older youth, young adults and those returning from incarceration to become job ready. Provide help to motivated individuals to navigate the resources available, develop job search/interview skills, and help to create networking opportunities that will lead to gainful employment and careers.