



Franklin County  
**BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS**



Franklin County  
Board of Commissioners  
**JOB & FAMILY  
SERVICES**

## **Rise Together Blueprint Steering Committee Recommendations Fact Sheet**

The Steering Committee recommended 13 potential short-term and more than 120 long-term action steps identified in the four core areas. The 13 recommended short-term actions determined by the Steering Committee are:

- **JOBS – *Increase access to high-paying jobs by:***
  - 1) Increasing employers' engagement in neighborhoods of concentrated poverty through the creation of living wage and high-paying jobs for residents.
  - 2) Eliminating systemic class, racial, gender and disability wage gaps in employment.
  - 3) Increasing access to relevant training for credentials that meet local demand with employer commitments to hire and promote.
  - 4) Improving and increasing the delivery of supportive services for individuals to access employment.
- **HOUSING – *Stabilize housing for families near or below poverty by:***
  - 5) Stabilize housing for families near or below poverty.
  - 6) Enabling more families at or near poverty to afford quality housing, reducing the percentage of housing-cost burdened families.
  - 7) Increasing the financial resources available to implement housing supports.
- **HEALTH – *Improve physical, mental, and behavioral health, and overall well-being through increased access to care, utilization of services, and social connectedness by:***
  - 8) Improving maternal and child health among high disparity groups, struggling financially.
  - 9) Reducing the overall incidence and racial disparities in occurrences of preventable diseases and trauma, and improving the health of those living with chronic, mental, physical and behavioral health conditions among those struggling financially.
  - 10) Improving neighborhoods of concentrated poverty to improve overall environmental conditions so that they are safe, walkable, and have easy access to basic resources including access to nutritious food.
- **YOUTH – *Ensure All Young People are on Track for Long-Term Success by:***
  - 11) Increasing the number of students at or near the poverty level experiencing academic success.
  - 12) Increasing the number of children in safe and stable homes and environments.
  - 13) Strengthening partnerships with parents to increase support for young people.

**Racial disparity** was an overarching problem raised throughout the process by the Steering Committee, as well as Focus and Work Groups. To reduce poverty, committee members said it was important to have a frank conversation about the historic and current role that racial inequities play on poverty.

The Board of Commissioners will initiate racial equity training that will prompt people to look deeper into their own biases. Attendees of the initial training will include Commissioners, County Administration, Board of Commissioners and their staff, Leadership Council Chairs and other community partners. The county will then work with the area nonprofits in drafting a curriculum that can be replicated and provided to county staff, businesses and nonprofits across the county. In addition, county officials are also planning to do a review of the county's own policies and procedures to if any merit change.