

## Berkshire Leadership Impact Council

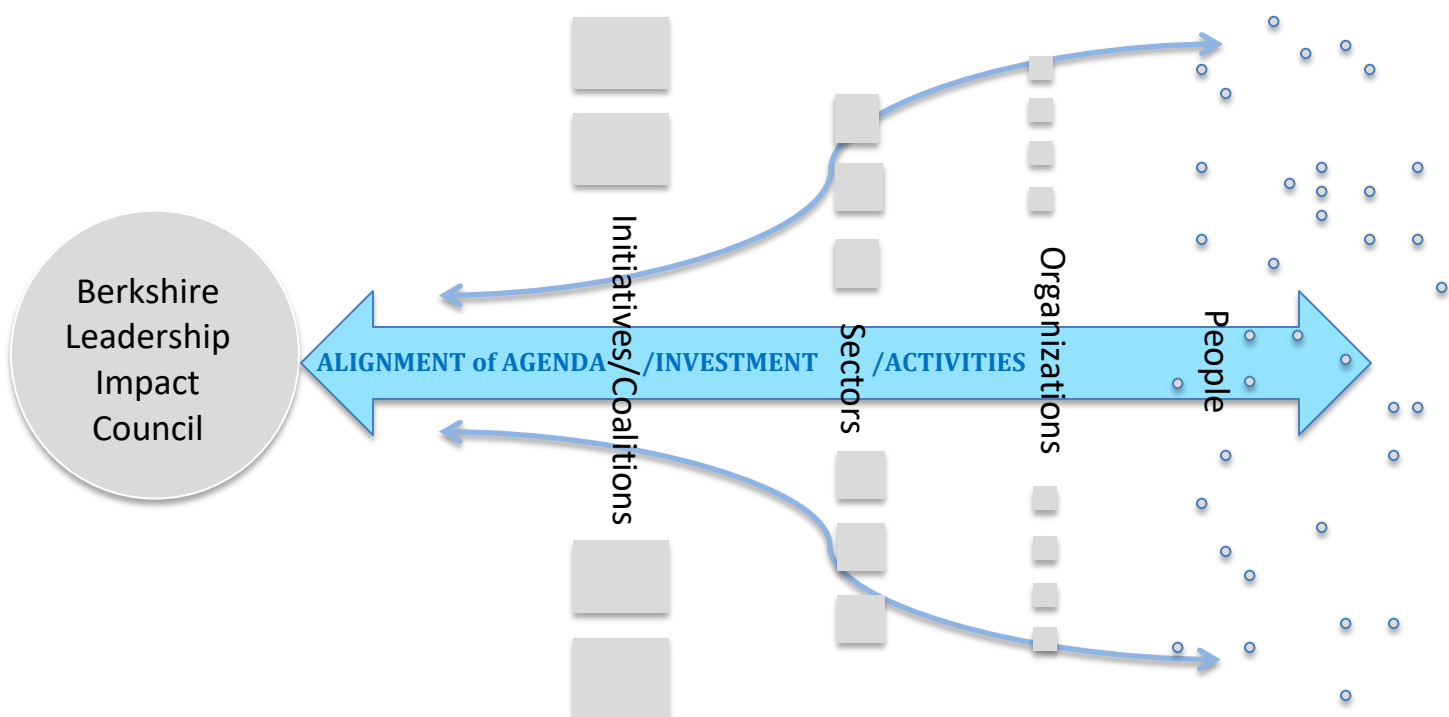
**Background:** Based on collectively adopted aspirations and objectives, the Berkshire Strategic Workgroup has committed to assembling, organizing, and launching the **Berkshire Leadership Impact Council**. This council will be formed to:

*Advance opportunities and align efforts pertaining to economic development, equity, quality education, strong government, wellness, safe and protected environment, and promotion of the Berkshires as a destination. In doing so, we will proactively preserve and improve the quality of life so that every individual and family can live, work, play and thrive. Collectively we can and will respond to emergent regional challenges and position our community for the future.*

**Aspiration:** It is expected that the Berkshire Leadership Impact Council will support adopted Workgroup aspirations. As such the Council will:

- **Adopt** a shared vision/common agenda for the county that can be embraced by organizations and individuals across the region,
- **Strengthen** the regional web of relationships, networks, and communication,
- Further **align** and advance efforts that increase collaboration across sectors,
- **Improve** efficiencies through better coordination of resources, strategies, and actions,
- **Advance** the quality and range of services available,
- **Retain** current and **attract** future residents, investors, and visitors.

**Schematic:** The Berkshire Leadership Impact Council will serve as a county-wide organization that is representative of key organizations, sectors, and initiatives regionally. It will serve as a resource, facilitator, connector, and guide for the many exceptional efforts (individually, organizationally, and collectively) current and aspirational.



**Composition:** The Berkshire Leadership Impact Council will be composed of 16-20 individuals who represent organizations, sectors and initiatives regionally. The group will include the following commonly accepted (16) community sectors:

Agriculture	Housing and development
Arts, Culture, Tourism	Human Services
Business/Economic Development	Infrastructure: transportation, internet access
Education	Law Enforcement/Justice
Environment	Media
Faith-based	Philanthropy
Government	Sports, Recreation, Leisure
Health	Youth Development

Of Note: Immigration Population was added in July 2017

It is expected that representatives from each sector will be influence/decision makers, yet also able to actively attend and participate. Thus, they may be CEO level or fully empowered designees.

**Responsibilities.** Members identified as participants will be expected to commit to both attending and regularly participating in all meetings. Additionally, they will be asked to compile, share, and present information about their organization/sector/initiative, and then share information from the Council back out to their respective networks. Members are expected to be passionate members of the community who are willing to (systems) think beyond their personal/organizational interests in advocating for adaptive and shared regional solutions based on identified priorities/interdependencies. Of course, members will need to have burning patience and relentless (optimistic) persistence.

**Timeline:** The Berkshire Leadership Impact Council will meet quarterly (day/time TBD at first council meeting). The meetings will be held/hosted at Berkshire Community College or another central location.

**Facilitation/Backbone:** In order for the Berkshire Leadership Impact Council to function effectively, facilitation and backbone/administration functions will be provided by the Berkshire United Way, Berkshire Community College, and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. These organizations will:

- Maintain membership lists
- Coordinate all meeting logistics and communication
- Manage meeting agendas (with chair) and minutes (record, compile, archive)
- Schedule presenters, reporting, data, mapping
- Communicate with organizations and the community-at-large

At the first meeting, a chair and vice-chair will be selected. The chair will manage meeting agendas and coordinate with the backbone facilitators. As directed, skilled facilitators (volunteer or contracted) may be secured to support meeting/topic planning and delivery.

**Tasks:** The Berkshire Leadership Impact Council will, early in its development:

- Review key data and trends from across the county
- Map current initiatives and efforts from across sectors, organizations, initiatives
- Identify 3-5 key pressure points that serve as both challenges and opportunities
- Develop a theory of action that focuses on a subset of priorities that are high leverage and high yield (this becomes the shared agenda, co-created goals)
- Articulate alignment maps and actions that advance the priority areas
- Set targets, outcomes and measurements
- Communicate with key community stakeholders (both those directly involved in corresponding work and those impacted by the work)

**Berkshire Leadership Impact Council Members**

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>Barbara Zheutlin</b>
	Berkshire Grown
<b>Arts, Culture, Tourism</b>	<b>Van Shields, Exec. Dir.</b>
	Berkshire Museum
<b>Business/Economic Development</b>	<b>Jonathan Butler, Pres. &amp; CEO</b>
	1Berkshire
<b>Education</b>	<b>Dr. Howard "Jake" Eberwein</b>
	Berkshire Compact
<b>Environment</b>	<b>Tad Ames, Pres.</b>
	Berkshire Natural Resource Council
<b>Faith-Based</b>	<b>Rabbi Josh Breindel</b>
	Pittsfield Area Council of Congregations
<b>Government</b>	<b>Jason Hoch, Town Mgr.</b>
	Berkshire Town Managers
<b>Health</b>	<b>Amelia "Lia" Spiliotes, CEO</b>
	Community Health Program
	<b>M. Christine Macbeth, ACSW, LICSW</b>
	Brien Center for Mental Health & Substance Abuse
<b>Housing &amp; Development</b>	<b>Elton O. Ogden</b>
	Berkshire Housing Service
<b>Human Services</b>	<b>Kristine Hazzard, CEO/Pres.</b>
	Berkshire United Way
<b>Immigrant Population</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Infrastructure: transportation, internet access</b>	<b>Nat Karns, Exec. Dir.</b>
	Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
<b>Law Enforcement/Justice</b>	<b>Sheriff Thomas Bowler</b>
	Sheriff's Department

<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>Chief Michael Wynn</b>
	Berkshire Law Enforcement Council
<b>Media</b>	<b>Ms. Marcie L. Setlow, Publisher</b>
	The Berkshire Edge
<b>Philanthropy</b>	<b>Lori Gazzillo, VP Foundation Dir.</b>
	Berkshire Bank, Funder's Roundtable
<b>Sports, Recreation, Leisure</b>	<b>Randy Kinnas CEO/Exec. Dir.</b>
	Berkshire Family YMCA
<b>Youth Development</b>	<b>Ananda Timpane, Executive Dir.</b>
	Berkshire Youth Development Program
<b>At Large Members:</b>	
<b>John Bissell, Pres.</b>	Greylock Federal Credit Union
<b>Dr. Jamie Birge, Pres.</b>	MCLA
<b>Brenda Burdick, Sr. Mgr. 1 Mktg &amp; PR</b>	General Dynamics
<b>Senator Adam Hinds</b>	State Senator
<b>Dr. Ellen Kennedy, Pres.</b>	Berkshire Community College
<b>Fred Puddester, VP of Administration &amp; Finance</b>	Williams College
<b>Darlene Rodowicz, CFO</b>	Berkshire Health Systems