



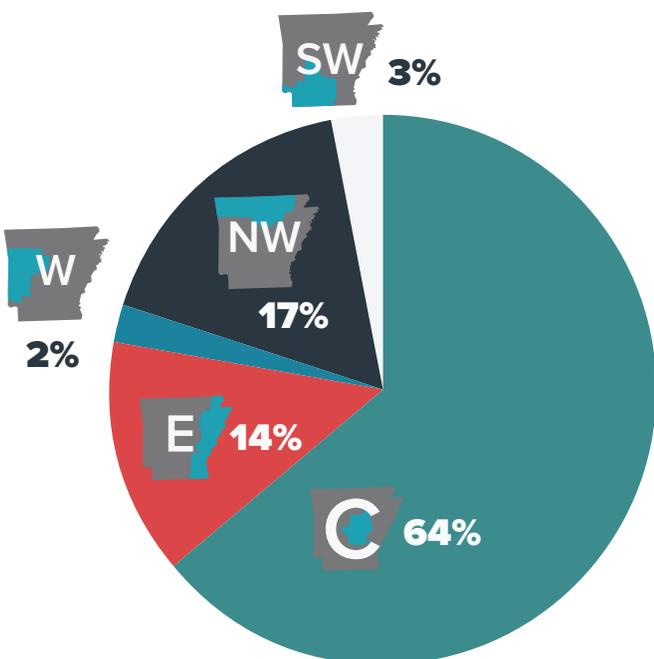
Charting the Course for Change

Reflections from the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation's 2017 Biennial Grantee and Stakeholder Convening

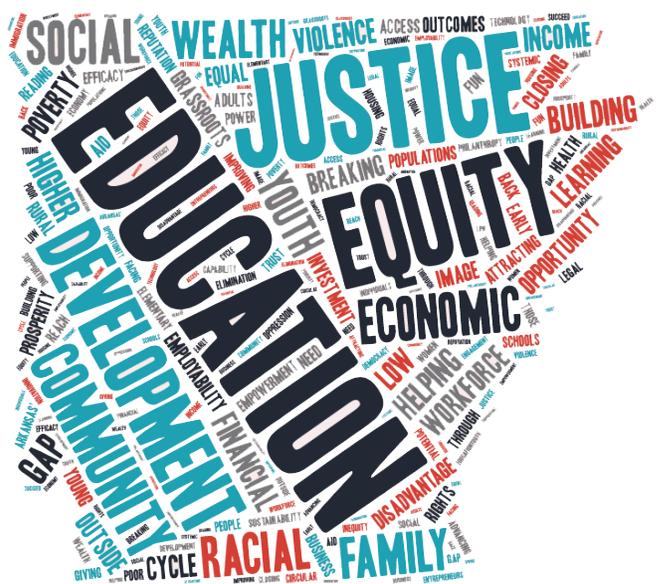
In September 2017, atop beautiful Petit Jean Mountain, the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation (WRF) boldly asked more than 100 of its partners an important question: **“What will Arkansas look like in the future if each of us do our part to improve the lives of all Arkansans?”** WRF was in the midst of its Reflection, Analysis, and Planning (RAP) process, and it was time for Board and staff members to hear directly from the Foundation’s network and share what they had learned about Asset Framing and Futurism as powerful tools for change.

Over the course of the day, the Foundation and its partners **framed, processed, and envisioned** a better future for Arkansans. WRF’s Board members immediately put what they learned to use the next day as they started the strategic planning process, **charting the course for change in Arkansas.**

Where partners came from:



Partners were passionate about:



A New Frame

National thought leaders took center stage and shared more about what the Foundation had started exploring throughout its RAP process to **frame** WRF's strategic direction.

Trabian Shorters

Asset Framing



When we acknowledge the people we serve as the heroes of their own stories—rather than victims that need to be saved—we are better able to serve and support them in achieving their full potential.

Trista Harris

Futurism



The future is easier to understand than most people think. All we have to do is **STOP** loving our problems, **LOOK** for signals about where we are heading, and **GO** create the future we want for our families and communities.

Daryn Dodson

Rural Economic Development



Investment in women, minorities, and rural communities should represent the diversity of our nation. More equitable investment will increase opportunities for all of us in the future.

Mike Malone

Arkansas's Economy



Economic headlines in Arkansas are great, but we have to expect more. The state's educational attainment, income, and health outcomes are among the lowest in the nation, but we have an opportunity to create a dramatically brighter future for all Arkansans.

An Informed Process

Reflecting on insights gained from listening to national thought leaders, WRF partners, Board, and staff **processed** the new framework WRF was using to begin crafting its strategic direction.

How partners will apply **asset framing** to what they do:

“Approach every situation I encounter by first seeing the value of the individuals involved.”

“Update our mission and our work from an asset perspective.”

“Start by agreeing that everyone has worth.”

“Change how we describe our ‘at-risk’ kids.”

“Enthusiastically think about equity.”

“Community engagement in OUR plan, which is rich in assets we have defined together.”

A Bold Vision

After taking time to process how Asset Framing and Futurism can be applied to improving the lives of all Arkansans, WRF's partners, Board, and staff **envisioned** what education, economics, and social justice should look like in the state a decade from now.

What attendees would create if WRF didn't exist:

"Public funding for public good"

"A public advocacy organization"

"An incubator for local projects"

"An impact bank"



What education in Arkansas should look like in a decade:

"Great schools with visionary leaders"

"Research-proven solutions of ForwARd"

"Ensure the system helps all students"

"STEM - think for the future"

What Arkansas's economy should look like in a decade:

"Invest in innovation"

"Opportunity in rural areas"

"Entrepreneurship skills and jobs"

"Establish universal income for all"



What social justice should look like in a decade:

"Advocate for criminal justice reform"

"Come together to eliminate social injustice"

"Inform, educate, and mobilize residents"

"Quality education for all"

And above all, continue to be innovative and bold.



What will Arkansas look like in the future if each of us do our part to improve the lives of all Arkansans?

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