

The strength of American cities—and the nation as a whole—depends on generating inclusive growth for people of all races, ethnicities, and incomes. Yet even in our most economically vibrant cities, not all residents are benefiting from or contributing to that growth, resulting in stark racial and economic disparities that are even more extreme in distressed communities.

In response, local leaders across the country are innovating new strategies to promote inclusive growth. Many are producing positive but isolated outcomes. To deliver on the ultimate goal of shared prosperity, we hypothesize that cities could benefit from additional resources and support, including the opportunities to learn from one another, secure unlikely allies, and advance scaled solutions within states, across states, and at higher levels of government.

In that spirit, the Shared Prosperity Partnership—a collaboration of the Kresge Foundation, the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program, the Urban Institute, and Living Cities—seeks to support and accelerate local efforts by adding resources and connecting local leadership with national practitioners and researchers. By promoting inventive and actionable ideas, the Partnership aims to strengthen existing efforts and inform urban policy and practice, ultimately increasing economic mobility and decreasing disparities across races, ethnicities, and genders.

Specifically, the Partnership is focused on three primary goals:

Engage with cities to better understand the most pressing challenges they are facing to building a more inclusive economy.

Work with local leaders to collaboratively determine if, where, and how the Shared Prosperity Partnership can provide meaningful support to advance shared prosperity.

Elevate what we learn by sharing insights with other leaders, both locally and nationally, to inform the broader field of urban practice.

The Partnership works locally to convene leaders in a select number of communities across the United States to discuss each community's unique challenges to inclusive growth and, where appropriate, provide data, research, and access to national experts, networks, and financial resources. Nationally, the Partnership elevates promising models through publications, public forums, and a national summit to spark dialogue amongst practitioners and advance supportive policy reforms at the state and national levels.

At a time of national challenge, the Shared Prosperity Partnership leverages the innovative work of local leaders across the United States to offer a hopeful vision for American civil society, economic competitiveness, and individual well-being.