

As competition among metropolitan areas intensifies nationally, Indianapolis must strengthen its economy and improve education, health and workforce development outcomes to remain a thriving, 21st century city.

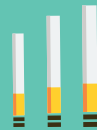
- Nearly a quarter of public high school students in Indianapolis **fail to graduate** without a waiver.



- Marion County **leads the state** in the number of **drug overdose deaths**.



- Indianapolis' smoking rate is among **the highest** of the **nation's 30 largest cities**.



- Only 41%** of adults in the Indianapolis metro area have at least an **associate degree**.



The Richard M. Fairbanks Foundation strives to advance the vitality of Indianapolis and the well-being of its people by addressing the city's most significant challenges and opportunities. We have three focus areas.



Education



Health



Vitality of  
Indianapolis

In Education, we are focused on improving Indianapolis' rankings in K-12 assessments, high school graduation rates, college remediation rates and workforce readiness.



In Health, we aim to substantially reduce prescription drug abuse, heroin use and tobacco use. We are working to reduce overdose deaths and non-fatal emergency room visits so Indianapolis can one day rank among the best of the largest cities in the U.S.



To improve the Vitality of Indianapolis, we are growing a robust life sciences cluster and expanding the STEM talent pipeline that will sustain it and help it grow. We aim to see Indianapolis ranked among the top life sciences hubs in the U.S.



To support our work across these focus areas, we implement a three-pronged approach:



Strategic  
grantmaking



Evidence-based  
advocacy



Cross-sector collaborations  
and convenings