

Theory of Change



HOME REGION PROGRAM: NORTHWEST ARKANSAS

Northwest Arkansas is growing rapidly, bringing exciting opportunities and mounting challenges. This growth puts pressure on the systems, structures and relationships that help communities thrive.

The Walton Family Foundation envisions a region where all residents feel connected, can shape the future of their communities and access opportunities to succeed. Through 2030, the Home Region Program will support local communities to strengthen infrastructure, expand opportunity and foster a strong sense of belonging.

What we plan to do



Invest in civic infrastructure for a strong and future-ready region



Enhance economic opportunity

How we plan to do it



Ensure physical infrastructure meets the needs of a growing population by supporting land-use planning, affordable housing initiatives, transportation projects and more.



Encourage residents to connect and engage by investing in community spaces, fostering civic engagement and growing community champions.



Grow main street businesses and knowledge-intensive young firms that create good jobs through greater access to capital and technical assistance.



Enable residents to attain high-quality jobs and succeed in the evolving global economy.

Why we do it



Accelerated planning and development of critical infrastructure will be necessary for the region to be a vibrant and welcoming place for all.

Northwest Arkansas needs to catch up to peer regions in venture and early-stage capital. New and growing businesses will require access to innovative financing options and technical assistance to ensure success over the long term.

The more residents engage and connect with one another, the more they care about and contribute to their community.

There is an urgent need to ensure the region's workforce is educated and trained to meet existing and new employment opportunities to fully benefit from the region's growth.

