



## 2019 ADVOCACY AGENDA

### MISSION

The Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition (CNC) advances equity\* and justice in the community by strengthening the Cambridge nonprofit sector, building collective voice, and promoting collaboration.

### VISION

The CNC envisions a city where all community members have equitable access to opportunities and resources, and where the nonprofit sector is a valued partner in leading social change that addresses historical injustice, levels the playing field, and improves our community. Within the framework of our five guiding principles, **we encourage City of Cambridge officials and departments to:**

### COLLABORATION

- Actively pursue cross-sector partnerships that leverage the strength of governmental, non-governmental, corporate and institutional resources.
- Avoid and/or eliminate duplication of services between City and nonprofit programs.
- Engage in genuine cross sector program co-creation in response to emerging needs.

### INCLUSION

- Guarantee consistent and authentic representation of nonprofit organizations and, when possible, members of the Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition, in all key City wide decision making bodies at the City level that are open to the public.
- Work tirelessly in partnership with nonprofit organizations to guarantee consistent representation of underrepresented Cambridge residents on all key City wide decision making bodies at the City level that are open to the public.

### TRANSPARENCY

- Participate in honest and authentic conversation with the nonprofit sector about ingrained, persistent issues that exist in Cambridge and affect our most vulnerable residents with a specific focus on how current and proposed policies impact our collective ability to address poverty and racism, and promote equity.
- Demonstrate transparency and accountability in the stated commitment to supporting the nonprofit sector, by providing regular reports, including but not limited to planning and financial reports on the Community Benefit fund to the Cambridge nonprofit community and other City funding that supports the local nonprofit sector.

### STRATEGY

- Ensure that existing and future policies and programs, as well as Community Benefit funding decisions, respond directly to established data sources on need such as the Cambridge Citywide Needs Assessment.
- Further invest in the power and expertise of the Cambridge nonprofit sector as a means to address the City's most pressing social problems.

### LEADERSHIP

- Ensure that the investment of Community Benefit monies will be allocated at a level, and in a manner, that will have a measurable impact on alleviating poverty throughout the City of Cambridge.
- Advocate for changes in policy that enhance our collective ability to alleviate poverty, dismantle racism and advance equity.

*\* We define equity as recognizing that as a result of root causes that are historical, environmental, systemic, cultural, and political, everyone does not start at the same place – so some people will need different resources or supports to achieve the same outcome. We have a collective responsibility to work to eliminate disparities and create greater racial and economic equality.*

**Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition 2019 Steering Committee**

Maria LaPage, Agassiz Baldwin Community

Sharon Zimmerman, Cambridge Camping

Darrin Korte, Cambridge Community Center

Tina Alu, Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee, Inc.

Bob Gittens, Cambridge Family and Children's Services

Jennifer Fries, Cambridge School Volunteers

Eva Martin Blythe, Cambridge YWCA

Jane Hirschi, CitySprouts

Eryn Johnson, Community Art Center, Inc.

Michael Delia, East End House

Ben Clark, Enroot (Formerly Cambridge Community Services)

Sasha Purpura, Food For Free

Selvin Chambers, Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House

Joan Squeri, The Union Partnership for a Whole Community