

# Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis

## Memphis HOPE

**Launched:** 2004

**Public Partners:** City of Memphis, Memphis Housing Authority, and Housing and Community Development.

The Women's Foundation for a Greater Memphis (WFGM) joined forces with the City of Memphis, the Memphis Housing Authority (MHA), and national nonprofit Urban Strategies to implement US Memphis HOPE, a model public-philanthropic partnership dedicated to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty for Memphians. Since 2004, the partnership has secured \$88 million in grant funds under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development (HUD) HOPE VI program for the community revitalization of three public housing locations – Lamar Terrace/University Place, Dixie Homes/Legends Park and Cleaborn Homes. The transformation of Memphis' languishing public housing became the keynote project of this partnership.



WFGM raised and leveraged partnerships totaling more than \$22.2 million in public and private resources over the past seven years to build a two-generation model for comprehensive community supportive services (CSS) for women and children. The supportive services component ensured that the nationally-recognized US Memphis HOPE initiative provided viable means and expandable approaches to neighborhood revitalization, while offering holistic wraparound services that produce measurable outcomes of employment and economic self-sufficiency.



Currently, US Memphis HOPE has increased the number of families supported from 700 in 2004 to nearly 3,000 public housing families of MHA housing communities. WFGM is

**Woman's Foundation for a Greater Memphis:** Founded in 2004, the foundation's mission is to encourage philanthropy and foster leadership among women and support programs that enable women and children to reach their full potential.  
[www.wfgm.org](http://www.wfgm.org)

the first women's foundation in the nation to lead fundraising for a HUD HOPE VI human capital development.