



THE CININNATUS ASSOCIATION

Committed to citizenship and Cincinnati

CININNATUS ASSOCIATION REORGANIZATION PLAN

November 2015

FOCUS

Cincinnati will select one to three areas to focus on for three-year periods, with occasional re-assessments during those periods to fine tune and adjust the focus areas when new issues and changed understandings arise. The Association will attempt to balance long-term objectives and goals with the need to engage members through tangible shorter-term progress. The focus areas will be decided by the entire membership, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee. The focus areas will guide the efforts of the panels so that all panels tackle various aspects of the same focus areas, heightening the Association's effectiveness.

NEXT THREE YEAR FOCUS

The focus of the Cincinnati Association for the Years of 2016-2019 is in essence a focus on the American dream of working hard, earning a decent living, buying a home, and saving for retirement. Poverty in Greater Cincinnati is high and should be a priority for improvement. The Cincinnati Association believes there is much going right in the region, but when an entire class of citizens is nowhere close to achieving the American dream, we have a problem. For example, Cincinnati has the second highest childhood poverty rate in the nation. This difference between our citizens has a tremendous impact on so many aspects of the community. Likewise, part of the solution lies in local government, education, and inclusion; three traditional focuses of the Cincinnati Association. Reducing the poverty rate, increasing income across the region, improving educational opportunities and quality, and developing and growing our economy all will reduce this disparity.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee, especially the officers, will take a stronger role than it had in recent years in deciding which projects -- as well as the number of projects -- the entire association will undertake. The Executive Committee and the officers also would take a stronger role in leading the Association's efforts related to the focus areas. At present, decision-making and leadership is largely in the hands of the panels, hampering the ability of Cincinnati to engage all of our members in key projects. Panel chairs will be important in helping the officers and Executive Committee with decision-making and other leadership roles related to the focus areas.

While the Association pursues the major focus areas, the panels could continue to undertake more specific projects that do not need the attention of the entire association. The projects undertaken by the entire association would be jointly overseen by the officers, the executive committee and panel chairs. Ad hoc groups could be appointed, as needed, to accomplish the association-wide projects. This approach would centralize leadership for major projects.

The Executive Committee will undertake an annual assessment of the Association's progress in accomplishing goals and objectives related to the focus areas by preparing a Report Card to the membership.

MEETINGS

All topics at general membership meetings of the Association will be tied to the focus areas of Cincinnati as a whole.

IMMEDIATE MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

This proposed reorganization plan will be presented to the full membership in November 2015. Beforehand, in September and October, the Executive Committee will decide on several proposed focus areas.

VISION

All Greater Cincinnatians will live the American Dream.

MISSION

We initiate, participate in and promote actions that improve the quality of life for all Greater Cincinnatians.

VALUES

- Cincinnatians members believe in, support, and demonstrate the following values:
- Awareness and understanding of the critical issues facing our region
- Belief that a well-educated and informed citizenry is essential for a strong democracy
- Commitment to engaging others to work with us to improve our community
- Leadership in educating citizens, creating collaboration, and promoting positive change happen
- Trustworthiness, honesty, independence of thought, and appreciation of diverse views
- Initiate action on important issues