



What Does a Community Council do?



It represents your community; advises others about your community; and directs funding to work in your community.

REPRESENT:

Each Council serves as a voice for their neighbors – representing those who are invested in building a stronger community where they live or work. They work to identify the valuable, impactful, and beneficial people, places, and groups doing work in their own backyards. These can include nonprofits, community groups, churches, parks, local schools, etc. Through regular meetings and community events, each Council provides a platform for neighbors to come together, share a meal, hear about what's going on in their area, and decide how best to support this ongoing work.

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By focusing on assets and building on our strengths, we aim to create stronger, more resilient communities.”

ADVISE:

Councils will provide critical insight and recommendations to groups that want to invest in their communities. This can include DRF's board as well as potential private and public funders and other institutions that want to make a difference. Guided by the principle that people should make decisions on things that affect them directly, the Councils will evaluate grant proposals and initiatives, ensuring those projects align with their priorities and values.

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By making recommendations and voicing concerns, we amplify the voice of the community to funders and other institutions unfamiliar with, or new to, the region.”

DIRECT:

Each Council has the ability to direct funding to nonprofits and other kinds of community groups that are making a positive impact within their community. This allows Councils to support programs that might not fit within DRF's larger grantmaking guidelines but are crucial for community well-being.

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Using our funding, we are able to invest in projects that directly address our community's priorities and needs.”