



## RAISE Texas Strategic Plan for 2021 & 2022

***The mission of RAISE Texas is to advance equitable policies and programs that foster financial security and economic mobility for low- and moderate-income Texans.***

**We are a statewide coalition** of nonprofit organizations, financial institutions, post-secondary programs, public agencies, community leaders and social service providers, including financial coaches and counselors, financial aid counselors, community health workers, social workers and case managers, all united around the common goal of building financial security for low- and moderate-income Texans.

**Our vision** for building financial security in Texas starts with understanding the reality that too many Texans work hard every day to provide for their families but can barely make ends meet. We acknowledge the pervasive systemic racism that has exacerbated the racial wealth divide and left families to struggle financially through no fault of their own. Within this framework, RAISE Texas is focused on providing the tools, resources and support to help Texans overcome the many barriers to becoming financially resilient, while also addressing the systems and policies that keep Texans from getting ahead, building assets and achieving economic mobility.

**We equip, innovate and advocate** to reduce racial wealth disparities, remove barriers and build opportunities for low- and moderate-income Texans to have financial security and economic mobility.

### **WE EQUIP.**

RAISE Texas will continue to equip our statewide coalition with trainings, convenings, best practices and resources needed to improve financial health in Texas communities. In 2021 and 2022, we will:

- Provide statewide trainings on timely topics that support financial health.
- Identify and create practical resources and tools to navigate barriers to financial health.
- Build a statewide community of practice to address the shared determinants of health and wealth.
- Manage the statewide Financial Coaching Hub and continue to provide trainings, professional development opportunities, and an on-going support network for financial coaches across Texas.
- Convene stakeholders through our Community Leadership Team Meetings and Summit.

### **WE INNOVATE.**

RAISE Texas is known for developing innovative pilot programs, providing technical expertise and elevating best practices for statewide implementation. As resources allow in 2021 and 2022, we will:

- Provide technical assistance for the development and growth of savings programs, such as the Dollars for College Program led by United Way of Metropolitan Dallas and Communities Foundation of Texas, and the Earn to Learn pilot program in Texas.
- Identify core competencies and develop resources for social service providers to help clients manage medical debt and navigate the barriers and costs associated with healthcare.

### **WE ADVOCATE.**

Since its founding, RAISE Texas has been advocating for more asset building opportunities and against predatory financial products. We must strengthen our ability to listen to and mobilize the many community-based organizations and community leaders in our coalition on legislative and policy priorities. Prior to the next legislative session in Texas, we will:

- Identify legislative priorities for the 2023 Texas Legislative Session.
- Work with national networks advocating on federal policies that impact the financial health of Texans.
- Develop tools to effectively engage community-based partners to influence state and federal policies.