

# **Memphis Social Impact Strategy**

Helping to reduce poverty through inclusive economic opportunity



**FedEx Cares** is how we carry out our responsibility to the communities where we live and operate. We believe the investments we make in our communities today set the stage for a brighter tomorrow.

## **The Opportunity**

Memphis, Tennessee is home to our World Headquarters and to innovative small businesses; renowned universities and health systems; and vibrant music, arts, and culture.

Memphis has its share of challenges. Our poverty rate is higher than the national average – and worse for children. Our small businesses are struggling, and unemployment is high. In the wake of the pandemic, these challenges have exacerbated.

In 2021, in collaboration with stakeholders from across the city, FedEx developed a plan to help create a more inclusive local economy for those facing the greatest barriers to upward mobility and more secure livelihoods. Our Memphis Social Impact Strategy seeks to reduce poverty and help families in crisis by increasing economic opportunity.

## **Our Approach**

Through strategic relationships with nonprofits and based on the input and direction of community stakeholders, we are directing our resources – including cash, and expertise - to three interconnected focus areas. Each plays a critical role in creating economic opportunity, and together they have tremendous potential to accelerate our city's efforts to reduce poverty.

#### Access

By harnessing our local talent and connecting people to the skills local employers need, we can help more Memphians secure and thrive in well-paying jobs. This work will include investing in our own pipeline and providing training and capital for local entrepreneurs.

## **Mobility**

Memphians need access to reliable transportation to attend trainings, interviews and jobs, and nobody knows the logistics of transport like FedEx. We will lend cash and expertise to address our city's complex mobility challenges and help connect people to opportunity more efficiently and equitably.

## **Stabilization**

Without basic needs such as food, housing, and childcare, people struggle to remain and thrive in the workforce. Our support of wrap-around services and through volunteer programs like Purple Tote collections, we aim to help provide a more solid foundation upon which Memphians can grow their careers and build financial security.