

# Worcester Mobility Mentoring Project

## Accepting New Agency Applications to Join Local Partnership

*We are Bringing EMPATH's Mobility Mentoring Model to Worcester to help more families achieve economic stability. Join us!*

### The Project:

Mobility Mentoring® is the professional practice of partnering with clients so that they may acquire the resources, skills, and sustained behavior changes necessary to attain and preserve their economic independence. Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath) is a global leader in helping low-income people reach the middle class and beyond through its science-based approach to mentoring. The approach helps families achieve dramatic gains in income, housing, education, family life. <https://www.empathways.org/approach/mobility-mentoring>

The Worcester Mobility Mentoring Project just completed a successful pilot of this model with 9 community partner organizations. We are ready to welcome new organizations to integrate this evidence-based, client-centered approach into the fabric of Worcester's social service network.

**How the Model Works:** The Mobility Mentoring approach includes four key elements, practiced by trained front-line staff:



Moving out of poverty is complex, a multi-year process that requires families to juggle maintaining their health, taking care of their kids, managing their money, gaining post-secondary education or credentials, and moving into a family-sustaining career – all at once. At the same time, the ongoing stress of poverty can compromise the very planning and organizing skills necessary for this complex juggling act.

EMPATH Coaching is effective because it allows for repeated practice of decision making and self-regulation skills, repeated reinforcement of positive identities, and regular practice of self-determination. *Coaches (known as Mobility Mentors at EMPATH) act as "human scaffolding" for building the skills and mindsets necessary for the complex task of moving out of poverty.*

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**Partnering Agencies:** Partners in this project receive a FREE self-paced 8-hour course through EMPATH and apply the model to their work with program participants. They also:

- Participate in the Worcester Community Action Council's local Community of Practice every other month.
- Utilize the model within their work, serving 3-5 families per year.
- Also includes Membership in EMPATH's Exchange portal, a network of learning with access to live webinars, resources, and discussion forums.

**The Application Process:** Please complete the brief application through this link:

<https://forms.gle/TphRqra7PHtdqww7> Please feel welcome to reach out to Charla Hixson, Chief Impact Officer, Worcester Community Action Council at [chixson@wacac.net](mailto:chixson@wacac.net) with any questions.

***We look forward to hearing from you!***