Working to create a stronger and brighter future for Arizona

Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan “do-tank” driven by the mission of bringing Arizonans together to create a stronger and brighter future for our state. Founded in 2003 from a love for Arizona and a desire to help our state succeed, we endeavor to make our great state a place where all Arizonans, now and in the future, thrive and enjoy sustained prosperity, unmatched quality of life, and real opportunity.

CFA is uniquely positioned to focus on the greater good for Arizona and what matters most to our community. Through our survey research & reports, Arizona Progress Meters, and impact initiatives & programs, we listen to Arizonans to learn what matters most, share trusted data about how Arizona is doing, bring critical issues to public attention, and work with communities and leaders to solve public problems.

Advancing The Arizona We Want

The Arizona We Want is a shared vision of success around what matters most to Arizonans that expresses their highest aspirations and hopes for the future. CFA developed The Arizona We Want over a decade of close listening to Arizonans across the state. This vision is comprised of seven Shared Public Values identified by a broad and representative majority of Arizonans.

Arizona’s Shared Public Values

Defined by where 70 percent or more of Arizonans across the vast expanse of the state, in cities, towns, and rural communities, across age, race and ethnicity, education, and political affiliations overwhelmingly agree.

1. Education
2. Health and Well-Being
3. Jobs and Economic Opportunity
4. Environment and Sustainable Future
5. Civic Engagement and Leadership
6. Fair, Just, and Equitable Systems
7. Immigration Reform
CFA in Action

All of our work is to ensure that the public values Arizonans share are realized for all. We champion the voices of Arizonans and address complex challenges with positive, innovative, and collaborative solutions.

By the Numbers

- 330,000+ students impacted
- 14,700+ teachers impacted
- 650+ education leaders trained
- 160+ communities engaged
- 75+ business and industry partners engaged in ongoing education and workforce initiatives

Identifying Shared Priorities of Arizonans

Through community engagement efforts and longstanding survey research with highly regarded local and national partners, CFA identifies what matters most to Arizonans and puts the voices of our state's people at the forefront of decision-making.

Measuring Arizona’s Progress and Mobilizing Data Into Action

CFA created the Arizona Progress Meters to measure how Arizona is doing and our collective progress in areas critical to achieving The Arizona We Want. The Arizona Progress Meters provide valuable data on education, jobs, healthcare, environment, civic engagement, infrastructure, and young talent to support policymakers and other leaders’ data-driven dialogue, decision-making, and action.

Advancing Economic Prosperity, Quality of Life, and Opportunity for All

CFA leads impact initiatives and programs across the state alongside hundreds of partners to achieve real change in our communities and thousands of fellow Arizonans' lives every day. These efforts are:

- Driving equity and excellence across the education system
- Building civic leaders and thriving communities
- Strengthening workforce & increasing economic opportunity