

purpose

On May 17, 2001, the North Texas Commission's Board of Directors created the North Texas Future Fund, a 501(c)(3) corporation designed to identify, study and seek long-term solutions for issues affecting the region in the areas of education, economic development, regionalism, workforce development and population change.

operation

NTC's Executive Committee functions as the Board of Directors of the Future Fund and oversees the operation of the corporation. The North Texas Future Fund Board of Directors, along with the North Texas Future Fund Advisory Panel, select area consultants and academic researchers to help identify public policy issues critical to the future economic prosperity of North Texas, educate the public of the foregoing issues, and encourage regional cooperation to develop strategies for these issues.

research

In 2003, the first study funded by the North Texas Future Fund, *"The Evolving Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex Economy: Performance and Prospects,"* was conducted by the University of Texas at Dallas.

The study analyzes the evolution of the D/FW regional economy over the past third of a century. It suggests that for decades, the North Texas Region has relied upon its rapid population growth and central geographical location to help sustain its competitiveness. Although the region's growth prospects for the future appear positive, it cannot expect to rely as heavily on a demographic tailwind or incoming waves of business relocation and expansion to propel the economy forward. According to the study, the future of the region will depend largely on the region's ability to generate innovative opportunities and to grow new businesses.

As a result, the NTFF Board and Advisory Panel determined that education is the most important asset needed to ensure a quality workforce and a healthy regional economy in the future.

In April 2004, *"Demographic Trends and Educational Attainment in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metropolitan Area – A Shifting Composition Amid Growth,"* was completed by the Center for Economic Development and Research at the University of North Texas. This study focuses on the implications of shifting population composition amid growth in the D/FW Metroplex. The research confirmed the findings of the University of Texas at Dallas, State Demographer Steve Murdoch, and various other sources, which state literacy as the most important measure of educational attainment.

In May 2005, the University of Texas at Dallas conducted the study, *"Literacy and Learning: What Works? How Do We Know It?"* and the University of North Texas conducted another study titled *"Improving Literacy Among Diverse Populations: An Analysis of Best Practices and Recommendations for the Dallas/Fort Worth Region."* These two studies focus on necessary changes in the educational system to ensure that every child who enters kindergarten in North Texas will learn to read and write in English. National and international models of "best practices" in attaining a high literacy rate, with a special concentration on the possible uses of new technology, are emphasized. The research included the review of over 100,000 previous studies and interviews with business leaders, educational experts, as well as low and high achieving students.

In May 2006, the North Texas Future Fund in collaboration with the University of North Texas compiled a directory of literacy providers in North Texas.

action plan

An action plan was developed based on these studies, conclusions and recommendations, which includes a summit to exchange information and modify literacy teaching as appropriate among literacy providers from daycare to adult programs in both public and private school sectors. The primary objectives of the summit will be to enhance the roles and responsibilities of all literacy providers, address their needs, and create a providers' network. The NTFF Literacy Summit will be held Thursday, November 30, 2006, at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas, TX.

To obtain the latest information on events, research and the directory, visit the NTFF Web site.

“An adequate, well educated workforce supply is critical to the continued competitiveness and well being of the North Texas region. All present and future employers should be vitally interested in the success of the North Texas Future Fund Literacy initiative.”

– Dan Farell
TXU
NTC Board Chairman

reasons to invest

- Play a direct role in creating the future of the North Texas Region
- Make a significant contribution to the region's economy and quality of life for generations to come

NTFF leadership

board of directors

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mission statement

The North Texas Future Fund benefits the North Texas region by conducting research to identify issues critical to the future economic prosperity and quality of life of the Region, by educating the public of the conclusions of the foregoing studies, and by creating and leading cooperative regional forums to develop strategies and partnerships to address the issues.



NORTH TEXAS FUTURE FUND
WORKING FOR TOMORROW'S NORTH TEXAS – TODAY

contact information

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The North Texas Future Fund is an affiliate of the North Texas Commission.

improve the **OUTLOOK** of
education
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