Profile: The Cleveland Foundation

As the world’s first community foundation and the nation’s third-largest today, the Cleveland Foundation profoundly impacts the lives of Greater Clevelanders through grantmaking and leadership on vital issues. As one of the largest cumulative donors to Case Western Reserve University, the foundation consistently partners with the university to advance these goals.

Many of the foundation’s grants at Case Western Reserve demonstrate the foundation’s forward-thinking approach about initiatives and research that can be tied to economic development for the city and region. Together, The Cleveland Foundation and Case Western Reserve are tackling some of the most significant issues of our time—and building the region’s quality of life and economic capacity.

Addressing Poverty  Cleveland Foundation funding has allowed the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences to address the problems of persistent and concentrated urban poverty by putting data and expert analysis in the hands of policy-makers, elected officials, and neighborhood residents.

Decoding Disease  The Center for Proteomics at the School of Medicine studies proteins and their changes to identify the causes and potential treatments of human disease. With the support of the foundation, it is also building the infrastructure around proteomics research that is attractive to start-ups.

Innovating Energy  Funding from the foundation will enable The Great Lakes Institute for Energy Innovation (see cover story) to recruit a world-class executive director, as well as up-and-coming faculty in emerging fields.