



November 2, 2022

[slingshotmemphis.org](https://slingshotmemphis.org)

## 2022 Q3 STAKEHOLDER REPORT

### Executive summary

- Uncovered several unanticipated poverty-fighting benefits associated with having access to private transportation.
- Launched a transformative project with MDRC focused on understanding and resolving workforce challenges from the perspective of those who are experiencing poverty.
- Completed an additional 6 impact studies and started 13 new impact studies.
- Introduced our new board chair, John Sims, SVP & CFO of Sylvamo Corporation.
- Welcomed 3 new impact analysts and 1 new impact associate to our growing team.

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## INSIGHTS

**Unanticipated benefits of private transportation.** Access to private transportation produces direct improvements in income and health. First, private transportation allows individuals to work longer hours, at uncommon schedules, and to access jobs that are harder to reach. One [study](#) found when households transition from zero to one vehicle, they experience an average \$8,000 increase in income. Benefits also occurred when households transition from one to two vehicles, with a \$6,000 increase observed. In addition, *access to private transportation also has measurable health benefits as a [study](#) found that patients are more likely to seek preventative care and about 50 percent less likely to miss a medical appointment if they have their own transportation.*

**Components of effective technical training programs.** In conducting the benefit-cost analysis on several technical education programs, we identified several components that produced significantly greater benefits for program graduates. Some of these program attributes include: *designed in partnership with employers most likely to hire the program graduates, incorporated an apprenticeship model to learn from experienced professionals, and included paid-internships as part of the curriculum.*

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## MOVEMENT

**Project MemWorks.** Slingshot launched a workforce development project in partnership with [MDRC](#), a premiere national research and policy institution. This project will help ensure that the voice of workforce participants who are experiencing poverty is comprehensively understood and included in decision making. The project is studying workforce challenges and opportunities from the perspective of those who are experiencing poverty. This includes building a comprehensive evidence map based on data analysis and primary research to identify the challenges that inhibit employment pathways to technical careers. We will develop action plans with workforce development stakeholders to implement evidence-based solutions to address the identified needs of those experiencing poverty.

**Participate in the poverty-fighting revolution.** Changing poverty levels in Memphis requires something revolutionary. We invite you to invest at least a portion of your 2022 philanthropy through Slingshot's [Accelerate Impact Fund](#) to know that your philanthropy is making a difference. 100 percent of these funds are invested in the 41 organizations we study, with more funds allocated to the organizations that are most effective. Since inception, over 930 individuals, families, and organizations have joined the revolution by investing. [Will you help us exceed 1,000 investors?](#) In 2021, the Accelerate Impact Fund produced a 1.9x poverty-fighting return on investment, which means every \$1 invested produced \$1.90 in estimated poverty-fighting benefits.

INVEST

**Accelerate Impact Fund.** An additional 140 individuals, families, and organizations invested in the fund during the third quarter. This brings our [total number of investors for the year to 277](#) as of September 30th. A recent highlight includes The Crawl, an annual golf tournament hosted by brothers Drew and Hunter Cowan. For six years in a row, The Crawl has raised funds to invest in Slingshot's Accelerate Impact Fund. This year, over 130 investors invested in poverty-alleviation because of The Crawl, collectively investing over \$20,000.



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## IMPACT STUDIES

**Impact Study progress.** We completed 6 impact studies (1 baseline and 5 updates) and commenced another 13 impact studies in the third quarter. The reports from completed impact studies can be viewed at the links below:

- [Advance Memphis](#)
- [Alpha Omega Veterans Services](#)
- [Juvenile Intervention and Faith-based Follow Up \(JIFF\)](#)
- [LIFEline to Success](#)
- [MyCityRides](#)
- [Tech901](#)
- [A Way out Ministries](#) (completed in Q2; published in Q3)
- [Just City](#) (completed in Q2; published in Q3)

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## ORGANIZATIONAL

**New board chair.** John Sims, Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer at Sylvamo, assumed the role as chair of Slingshot's board of directors as Justin Miller's term concluded. We are grateful for the vision Justin brought to life and all that he contributes to Slingshot's mission. Justin will now serve as a Board Advisor, providing support on strategic initiatives.

Justin said of John, "Slingshot will greatly benefit from his mind and his tenacity. He is built to help us strategize, identifying both gaps and opportunities. At Sylvamo, John thinks about the most effective ways to expand all day long. This requires endless measurement capabilities. The timing is perfect for these skills at Slingshot."

John shares his passion for Slingshot in this [one minute video](#).



*John Sims, Board Chair, Slingshot Memphis*

**First annual Principal Investor meeting.** On August 30th, we hosted past and present [Principal Investors](#) to share a behind-the-scenes look at what their support has helped build and the impact it is creating in the community. The evening shared highlights of Slingshot's first five

years, an overview of the state of poverty-fighting in Memphis, and the vision for Slingshot over the next 3-5 years. Breakout sessions shared examples of impact, powerful poverty-fighting insights, and details about how Slingshot conducts impact studies. We celebrate these Principal Investors who have helped ignite the poverty-fighting revolution. Please contact [Jared Barnett](#) if you would like to become a Principal Investor.



*Principal Investors and Slingshot's board directors and team*

**New Slingshot team members.** As Slingshot continues to grow, we introduced a new role to expedite the impact study process. Three new impact analysts, [Hannah Bullock](#), [Clair Mulvihill](#), and [Detario Yancey](#), are exceptional people who bring varied professional and academic experience that will help us be more effective and efficient. [Josh Gettys](#) also joined Slingshot as an Impact Associate, bringing deep experience in education. We are always looking for exceptional, mission-driven people to join our team. Please share our current [open roles](#) with those you think would be a good fit.

Sincerely,

Jared Barnett  
CEO

### **About Slingshot Memphis**

Slingshot Memphis is a poverty-fighting center of influence that's igniting a movement to revolutionize the way we fight poverty. To turn our mission into reality, we work alongside poverty-fighting organizations to study their effectiveness, identify opportunities to enhance their outcomes, and invest directly to amplify high-impact programs and services.

Slingshot cannot achieve this mission on its own. You can revolutionize poverty-fighting by:

- Investing in Slingshot's [Accelerate Impact Fund](#) to support organizations based on their effectiveness to know your philanthropy is making a difference.
- Using the [reports and insights](#) on Slingshot's website in your poverty-fighting efforts and encourage others to do as well.