1. United Way Oxford Resource Investments will be aligned with our priorities, strategies and outcomes based on community aspirations; leveraged to produce greater &/or collective impact, resiliency and relevance to our community; guided by our Code of Ethics; and founded on the following adopted Guiding Principles:

   o **Know our Community:** United Way turns outward to the community to gain an understanding of what the community cares about so that the United Way can act with authority, authenticity and accountability.

   o **Community Impact:** United Way’s priorities and strategies are rooted in the aspirations of the community; and our resources are invested in those priorities in order to make a positive and measurable difference.

   o **Strength Based Community Building:** United Way invests its resources to strengthen and leverage community knowledge, abilities, culture and assets to increase community capacity to work together for enduring positive change.

   o **Collaboration:** United Way invests its resources to support collaborative and partnership efforts that will accelerate its impact.

   o **Flexibility and Innovation:** United Way invests with flexibility and diversity in order to be responsive to innovative and promising approaches that address its priorities.

   o **Stewardship:** United Way is accountable to our donors and community to ensure prudent effective and efficient distribution and use of United Way resources in accordance with these principles. The role and responsibility of United Way and funded groups will be governed by agreements that reflect this stewardship role, including the United Way Oxford Code of Ethics and these principles.

2. Single agency or collaborative group applications will be considered. Multi-year funding opportunities will be available, with implementation criteria and monitoring review expectations to be established.

3. Administrative/Operational expenses will be eligible for funding within an application if deemed necessary.

4. A Partnerships &/or Collaboration Fund will be available for a limited number of large scale impact opportunities.

5. A Discretionary Fund, with no set intake dates, will be available for smaller, time sensitive investment opportunities.

6. A 2-Step application process will be implemented beginning fall of 2015 with an open invitation for Statement of Intent (including pre-application check-list); following a volunteer/staff evaluation, organizations may be invited to submit a full application for review (an invitation to submit a full application does not guarantee approval of the final application).

7. Community Volunteers will lead the review of funding applications.

8. New funding agreements, outlining expectations and responsibilities, will be developed.