

**The James Irvine Foundation has identified three distinct ways that community foundations grow and emerge. The Community Foundation of the Ozarks has been identified as an exemplary foundation using a leveraged approach for regional growth. Based on information from the Irvine study, what should we begin thinking about to prepare for our futures?**

*“Growing Smarter” Strategies*

*Long range considerations for regional community foundation growth:*

- Strategic planning necessary
- Overall/ongoing evaluation of foundation growth and programs
- Focusing on social capital—what “gets done” because of foundation
- Celebrate victories with donors and community
- Educating the public
  - Newspapers
  - Public speaking
- Involving youth in local community foundation (i.e. YEP programs)
- Board diversification/partnerships; succession important
- Focusing on relocated people with potential to make an impact
- Community awareness
- School partnerships are vitally important
- Business/corporate involvement
- Engaging nonprofit sectors