

Huntington Bancshares commits \$40B toward community plan

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Columbus, Ohio-based Huntington Bancshares Inc. has committed \$40 billion toward a plan designed to improve financial opportunities for clients and communities across its footprint, with a focus on affordable housing, small business loans and increased capital to historically disadvantaged and low- to moderate-income areas.

After meeting with 400 community organizations, the bank identified racial and social equity, consumer and home lending, small business and community development lending and investing as key areas of need in its expanded 2021 community plan, according to a news release.

The bank said it will also place special emphasis on environmental equity initiatives and will talk with leaders to develop programs addressing environmental health challenges faced by under-resourced communities.

Announced a week after the closing of the bank's merger with TCF Financial Corp., the commitment follows previous community plans through which Huntington has assisted over 14,000 first-time home buyers, invested or lent \$962 million for 8,693 affordable housing units and provided more than \$22.7 billion in community development programs, products, loans and investments, according to the release.

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