

Announcing Our New Strategic Vision

Letter from Our Leadership



Jillian Racoosin
Executive Director

Edward Garcia III
Founder and Board Chair

A Refocused Mission, Vision, and Plan for Growth and Impact

After months of thoughtful planning and invaluable input from our Board, team, funders, and partners, we are proud to announce the launch of our 2024-2027 Strategic Plan. This plan represents our collective aspirations and sets a clear path forward for the next three years.

Our Mission

Advance social connection nation-wide rooted in evidence for our collective well-being.

Our Vision

A vibrant society where social connection is at the heart of how we live.

Since our founding in 2020, we have been committed to educating the public, raising awareness, and contributing to the development and implementation of evidence-based strategies for fostering connection. Over the last four years, we have published a number of reports and toolkits translating evidence into action, expanded our network of partners to more than 200 high-impact institutions, and increased our staff and budget by more than 500%. And with this growth, we recognize an opportunity to refocus our efforts and our impact. Our new 3-year strategic plan focuses on scaling research and practice, expanding our network and partnerships, improving our storytelling and communications, and enhancing our operational capacity to bring our mission and vision to life.

Our strategic pillars and corresponding goals include:

Research and Practice

- Build the **evidence base** for **effective strategies** to positively impact social connection.
- Create **tools and written supports tailored for our audiences** to contribute to the greater good of **advancing social connection work**.
- Build the translation from **evidence to practice** through **specialized advisory**.

Network and Partnerships

- Grow the Foundation's **networking and convening** power to **support and coordinate** efforts within the ecosystem to advance social connection **across diverse sectors and disciplines**, grounded in the elements of the **SOCIAL Framework**.
- Create and foster **long-term partnerships** to achieve the Foundation's goals.

Storytelling and Communications

- Shift the national narrative around social isolation, loneliness, and connection to one that **acknowledges evidence-based messages** and **prioritizes social connection** as essential to broad-scale well-being.
- **Enhance the Foundation's communications strategy** to advance brand awareness and name recognition.

Operational Excellence and Capacity Building

- Create the **organizational infrastructure** to hire and retain a **highly qualified** staff with a **variety of experiences** and perspectives who are passionate about the organization's mission.
- Create a financially **sustainable** organization with a **diversified funding base**.
- Build a governing board with a **variety of experiences and perspectives** willing to invest their time and talents to advance the organizational mission and vision.
- Leverage **collective impact** by developing **formal collaborations** with key entities to achieve the **greatest impact for all entities**.

Organizational Structural Changes

Over the past six years, the Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness (CESIL) and the Foundation for Social Connection have thrived, driven by their shared mission and strategic pillars—policy, advocacy, awareness, research translation, practice, and partnership development. Recognizing the strength and influence of each element, we see a real opportunity to further align these efforts, streamlining relationships, resources, operations, and governance for an even greater impact.

We're taking an exciting new step in realigning these sister organizations to maximize our impact nationwide. The Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness will evolve into the **Foundation for Social Connection Action Network (F4SC-AN)**, serving as the advocacy arm of the Foundation. This change will streamline our operations and governance, ensuring our efforts are more aligned and effective in achieving our shared goals.

Some things that will remain the same in this transition:

- Foundation for Social Connection (F4SC) will remain a [C3 entity](#), and the newly named Foundation for Social Connection Action Network (F4SC-AN) will remain a [C4 entity](#).
- F4SC-AN will stay committed to advocacy. It will create a quarterly advocacy plan that includes grassroots, state, and federal efforts to achieve policy goals

each year. This plan will also feature our signature events like Hill Day and Global Loneliness Awareness Week.

- F4SC-AN will continue to handle government affairs by coordinating all federal and state policymaker interactions and managing requests to connect with policy and practice experts within the F4SC-AN and F4SC networks.
- F4SC-AN's policy and advocacy experts will also continue to create detailed policy proposals that consider political feasibility, U.S. regulations, and other essential factors. These proposals will be generated from F4SC's evidence-informed policy framework and the missions of the 501(c)4 members.

Some changes that will occur:

- F4SC-AN's practice working groups will be reorganized under F4SC's Network and Partnerships Strategic Pillar.
- F4SC-AN will create committees to meet the needs of the policy and advocacy agenda.
- F4SC-AN will host monthly membership meetings focused exclusively on advocacy, Hill and Administration speakers, federal policy, and local coalition updates.
- While F4SC (C3) and F4SC-AN (C4) will have separate executive leadership, Jillian Racoosin Kornmeier (Executive Director, F4SC) and Andrew MacPherson (Executive Chair, F4SC-AN) will be working closely together to achieve the organization's mission and visions.

We're thrilled about these changes and look forward to sharing updates on the new branding and mission of the Action Network in the coming months.

A Message from Our Founder, Edward Garcia III

As we move forward, I would like to share with you all a significant decision I have made regarding my role at the Foundation for Social Connection. As the organization has grown and stability has been achieved, upon careful consideration and reflection, I have decided to make room for new leadership of the Foundation. I firmly believe that connection is the responsibility of each of us, and no one single person can be responsible for the success of a community. The Foundation is a community with which I have had the honor to be the founder and to build a thriving roster of capable, enthusiastic Board members and staff. And it is with excitement for the future of the organization that I will be transitioning out of my position as Chair of the Board of Directors, effective October 1, 2024, and welcome a new roster of Board Officers. Our new slate of officers include:



I am immensely grateful for the support, dedication, and hard work of each member of this organization during my tenure as Chair. It has been a true honor to work alongside such a talented and passionate team. I have every confidence that F4SC will continue to grow and achieve great success under the leadership of our new Board Chair Annette Fellows, with the ongoing commitment of the team, and with my continued support as the Board Secretary.

Gratefully,

Edward Q Garcia III

Contact Us to Learn More

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. If you would like to learn more about our strategic plan, please visit our [website](#). To explore opportunities to take action and partner with us, please reach out to us [here](#).