A Thrivist Tale

Path To Thriving Future For All



Gary "Chris" Christopherson Founder, Thrivism, Thrive! & Thrive! Endeavor Sculptor, Thrive! Sculpture by GChris

Nelson, WI

University Park, MD

A Thrivist Tale Path To Thriving Future For All



From above, a faraway set of eyes try to understand what is happening on Earth.

They are sad for the child thrivist. A child so hopeful. So committed to pursuing the thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are saddened by those around the child who continued to be selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

By the actions by those around the child, they destroy their future, other creatures' future, and Earth.

So much damage by just one species.

They should have listened to the child thrivist. Followed breadcrumbs spread by the child. Followed the child's example.

Took the thrivist path. But the humans did not.

The end?

The child cries inconsolably.

Or

From above, a faraway set of eyes try to understand what is happening on Earth.

They are happy for the child thrivist. The child is so hopeful. So committed to pursuing the thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are encouraged by those around the child who stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

By actions of the child and those around the child, they begin building a surviving and thriving future for themselves, other creatures, and Earth.

All humans survive and thrive. All other creatures survive and thrive. Earth thrives.

The child embraces those around the child as they embrace the child. The child embraces other creatures as they embrace the child. The child embraces Earth as Earth embraces the child. A thriving future for all.

The child smiles.

A Thrivist Tale

Path To Thriving Future For All



by

Gary "Chris" Christopherson Founder, Thrivism[®], *Thrive!*[®] ,Thrive Endeavor[®] Sculptor, Thrive! Sculpture by GChris

Nelson, WI

University Park, MD

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About Chris, Founder of Thrivism and Thrive!

Chris (Gary (Chris) Christopherson) works on building thriving future, improving health, and reducing vulnerability. At **The Thrive! Center** he founded, he develops strategy and policy for creating and managing large positive change and building a thriving future for all (*Thrive!*). **Thrivism** is latest effort to build thriving future. All Thrive Forever.org

Thrivism.world He wrote several nonfiction books, including Thrive!
Building a Thriving Future and Thrivism (Thrive!) - Path to Thriving

Future for All available @ Amazon.com or Thrive Endeavor.org.

Thrive! and **Thrivism** draw on his 30+ years' experience creating, managing and sustaining large positive change at national and local levels in public and private sectors. He founded **HealthePeople** (building healthy and thriving future; <u>HealthePeople.com</u>), **Thrive Endeavor** (creating large positive change) and **Vulnerable** (minimizing vulnerability).

He served as senior leader, manager and policymaker responsible for multi-billion dollar policy, programs and budgets and thousands of employees. Public service includes: Associate Director, Presidential Personnel, Executive Office of the President, White House; Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs and Senior Advisor, Department of Defense; Senior Fellow, National Academy of Public Administration; Senior Advisor to Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Director for the Quality Improvement Group, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, DHHS; Senior Advisor to Under Secretary, Veterans Health Administration, VA; Senior Fellow and Scholar-In-Residence, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences; Chief Information Officer, Veterans Health Administration, VA; Director of Health Legislation, House Select Committee on Aging, U.S. House of Representatives; and Deputy Director, Municipal Health Services Program (funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; based at John Hopkins Medical Institutions).

He is a sculptor of abstract art, over 150 mobile and stabile sculptures. GChris Sculpture at GChris.com. He wrote science fiction books, including black box and The Thrive! Endeavor and illustrated children's books, including Angel, Thriving Creator of Artful Things. All are available via Amazon.com or GChris.com.

He received his bachelor's in political science and his master's in urban and regional planning from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. He did doctoral work in health policy and management at John Hopkins University School of Public Health.



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A Thrivist Tale

From above, a faraway set of eyes try to understand what is happening on Earth.

They are sad for the child thrivist. A child so hopeful. So committed to pursuing the thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are saddened by those around the child who continued to be selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

The child cries inconsolably.

Or

From above, a faraway set of eyes try to understand what is happening on Earth.

They are happy for the child thrivist. The child is so hopeful. So committed to pursuing the thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are encouraged by those around the child who stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

The child smiles.

From Faraway, Earth's Endangered Future Is Seen.

A faraway set of eyes try to understand is happening on Earth.

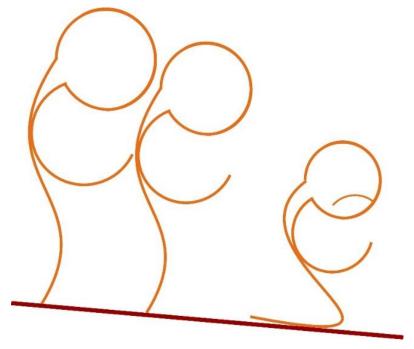
They are sad for the child thrivist. A child so sad.

But a child thrivist so hopeful. So committed to pursuing thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are saddened by those around the child. Humans who don't stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

Saddened by actions of those around the child who fail to begin building a surviving and thriving future for themselves, other creatures, and Earth.

So much wasted potential by just one species.





Chapter 1. What If Those Around The Child Thrivist <u>Do Not</u> Listen To The Child.

The child thrivist stops. Eyes forward. Darkness.

"Early extinction. There it is. I can see it. It is so clear. It is so bad!"



"Why can't the others see it? Are they not looking? Do they choose not to see?"

"I can even hear it. So very, very bad!"

"Why can't the others hear it? Are they not listening? Do they choose not to listen?"

It is dark. It is foreboding. It is frightening.

"I have to stop it. Our whole future will be lost."

"We and our future sit on razor's edge."



The child thrivist spins around to see the other humans near and far.

But few humans, so few, are changing their behavior to prevent the impending doom.

Sadly, many are hastening the coming of the doom.

"Do they not care?"

"Do they only care about their today? Not care about their tomorrow? Not care about other creatures' tomorrow? Not care about Earth's tomorrow?"

"It is so clear now. We have met the enemy and it is us." (Credit Pogo.)



"But I can still envision a thriving future beyond the darkness. I still believe."



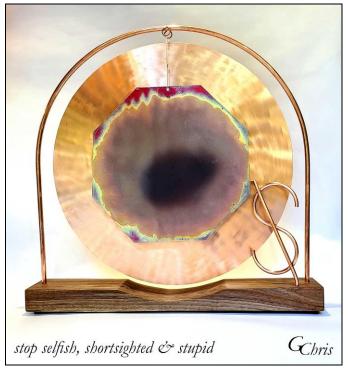
But the envisioned thriving future is fading. Fading quickly.

The child thrivist is frustrated. Angry.

"We all could still survive. Could still thrive."

"But we have to all change. We have to all work together. All change our behavior positively and for the long term."

"We must all stop being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid!"



Knowing how unlikely to succeed, the child still starts down the thrivist path. The path to a thriving future.

Not willing to give up, the child continues bravely down the thrivist path.

Hope does not spring eternal. But hope, though a fading hope, still springs within the child thrivist.

As the child sees the other humans on other paths, the child calls out to them.

The child explains. The child tries to persuade. Tries to warn. Tries to get others to switch to the thrivist path.

Few join the child thrivist. Not enough join the child.

"Humans are such an undeserving species."



The darkness grows. The darkness draws nearer.

"I find it harder and harder to envision the light. A thriving future beyond the darkness."

Still the child goes on. Even leaving breadcrumbs that others might find and then follow the child's example.

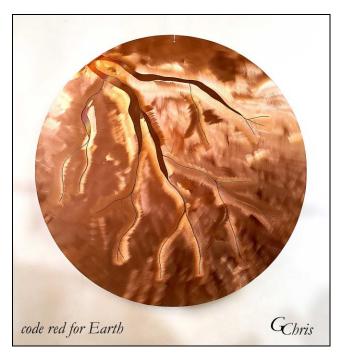
"I grow tired. I am losing hope. Losing hope rapidly."



Still the child thrivist goes on. Still the child will go on until the child can no longer go on. Till the end.

But the end is near.

Darkness now envelops all humans. Envelops all other creatures. Envelops Earth. Earth and all its inhabitants are now "code red".



The child cries inconsolably.

[&]quot;The end?"

From Faraway, Earth's Endangered Future Was Seen.

They are saddened by those around the child. Those humans who continued to be selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

Being selfish, they cared only for themselves. Being shortsighted, they didn't see and didn't protect the future. Being stupid, they badly used their mental capabilities, as huge as they were.

Thrive! That is what didn't happen.

First signs were only more and more negative signs. Most humans did worse. All other creatures did worse. And more creatures went extinct. Damage to Earth increased rapidly.

By the actions of those around the child, humans destroyed their future and other creatures' future. Did great damage to Earth.

So much destruction and damage by just one species.

But what if humans had listened to the child thrivist. Followed breadcrumbs spread by the child. Followed the child's example. Took the thrivist path.

What if.

Or

From Faraway, Earth's Thriving Future Is Seen.

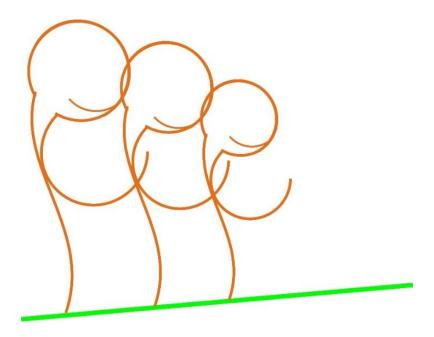
From above, a faraway set of eyes tries to understand what is happening on Earth.

They are happy for the child thrivist. The child is so hopeful. So committed to pursuing the thrivist path. So committed to building a thriving future for all.

They are encouraged by those humans around the child who stopped being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid.

By actions of the child and those around the child, humans begin building a surviving and thriving future for themselves, other creatures, and Earth.

So much positive change and action by just one species.





Chapter 2. What If Those Around The Child Thrivist <u>Do</u> Listen To The Child.

The child stops. Eyes forward. Light.

"There it is. I can see it. It is so clear. It is so good!"

"I envision Earth embraced, sustained and thriving."



"Can the others see it? Are they looking? Do they choose to see?"

"I can even hear it. So very, very good!"

"Can the others hear it? Are they hearing? Do they choose to hear?"

It is comforting. It is hopeful.

"I have to continue the thriving path. Our whole future can and must be thriving."

The child spins to see the other humans near and far.

Many, so very many, are changing their behavior to prevent the impending doom.

Many are hastening the coming of the thriving future.

"They care. They care about their today. Care about their tomorrow. Care about other creatures' tomorrow. Care about Earth's tomorrow."

"I envision a thriving future beyond the darkness. No longer is the thriving future fading."

The child thrivist is enheartened. Happy.

"We all will survive. Will thrive."



"We all changed. All changed our behavior positively and for the long term. We work together."



"We stopped being selfish, shortsighted, and stupid!"

Knowing how difficult it is to succeed, the child still started down the thrivist path. The path to a thriving future.

Even with all the challenges, the child still continues down the thrivist path.

Hope does spring eternal. Hope, a growing hope, springs within the child thrivist.

As the child sees the other humans on other paths, the child calls out.

The child explains. Persuades. Encourages.

Tries to get more and more of others to switch to the thrivist path.

Many, many join the child. More than enough join the child. Their spirits join on path to thriving future.



"The future light grows. The light draws nearer."

"It is easier and easier to envision the light. A thriving future beyond the darkness."

The child goes on. Leaving breadcrumbs that others might find and then follow.

"I am gaining hope. Gaining hope rapidly."

The child thrivist goes on. The child will go on until there is a thriving future.

"The thriving future is near. I can see it."

"The light now envelops all of us known as humans. Envelops all the other creatures. Envelops Earth."

"We will escape early extinction for ourselves and other creatures. We will reverse the damage to Earth."



"The thriving future is now."

The child smiles.

A thriving future for all forever?



From Faraway, Earth's Thriving Future Is Seen.

Thrive! That is what is happening.

Instead of being selfish, they care for all. Instead of being shortsighted, they see and protect the future. Instead of being stupid, they positively use all their mental capabilities, as huge as they are.

The future starts to change. Starts to change in a very positive direction.

It doesn't change to a thriving future immediately. But humans stop building a bad future. Start to build that thriving future.

First signs are fewer negative signs. All humans do better. All other creatures do better. Fewer other creatures go extinct. Damage to Earth slows.

Then come many positive signs. All humans do much better with a better and longer future. All other creatures do much better with some creatures moving from near extinction to a better and longer future. Damage to Earth begins to show signs of reversal.

Then comes the thriving future. All humans survive and thrive for a very long time. All other creatures survive and thrive for a very long time. Earth thrives for a very long time.

The child embraces those humans around the child as they embrace the child. The child embraces other creatures as they embrace the child. The child embraces Earth as Earth embraces the child.

A thriving future for all.





Appendix A. Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All

Thrivism (*Thrive!*®) is a path to, belief in, and vision of thriving future for all – all thrive forever. It is hopeful path. Inspiring vision. Positive belief system. Positive way of life. Thrivism.world All Thrive Forever.org

Vision - A thriving future where all thrive forever.1

Mission – Help a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth strive for and achieve a surviving and thriving future. <u>The</u> human endeavor. <u>ThriveEndeavor.org</u>

Foundational Belief – Humans, as person and people², have a unique need to survive <u>and</u> desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.

Being a **Thrivist** is actively living the **Thrivism** path, belief system and way of life. A **Thrivist** actively helps build and sustain a thriving future with and for all – each person, all people, all other creatures and Earth.

Thrivism is built on the foundational belief that "humans need to survive <u>and</u> desire to thrive." Meeting this need and desire depends on meeting five conditions:

- Person and all people need to survive and desire to thrive,
- Person <u>depends on other persons</u> (people) for survival and thriving,
- Need to survive and desire to thrive apply to current <u>and</u> future world.
- Person's and people's future survival and thriving <u>depends on</u> there being a thriving future world, and

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¹ "All" is all humans, all other creatures, and Earth and beyond.

² "People" is a group of persons such as a family, community, country, world.

• Thriving future world must be <u>sustained long term</u> to meet human need and desire.

Thrivism - as a path, a positive belief system, and a positive way of life for a person and people for today and the future - addresses four key elements:

- Our <u>nature</u>, as person and people, is our need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.
- Our <u>relationship</u> with other persons and the surrounding world is driven and governed by our need to survive and desire to thrive in current world and thriving future world.
- Our <u>knowledge</u> of our selves and the world comes from 1) inputs³ resulting from striving to survive and thrive and 2) the mind processing inputs to achieve greater knowledge.
- Our <u>actions</u> are driven by our need to survive and desire to thrive but influenced by 1) other persons and surrounding world and 2) our need and desire for a long term, thriving future.

Thrivism is "lifelong (person) and never-ending (people) striving to survive and thrive in current world and surviving and thriving future world." To succeed, person and people must:

- Strive for and achieve <u>higher level of positive motivation and ability</u> (including knowledge).⁵ That achievement is foundation for striving for and achieving even higher levels of ability and motivation and even higher levels of surviving and thriving.
- Strive continuously and simultaneously with the best combination of <u>independence</u> and <u>interdependence</u> in joint pursuit of surviving and thriving.

³ "Inputs" include the "senses" (sight, hearing, smell, taste, touch, pain, balance, motion/acceleration, time, temperature, direction) as well information from and experiences with other persons and surrounding world.

⁴ The human endeavor is also known as the Thrive! Endeavor. ThriveEndeavor.org

⁵ This striving and increasing ability is evident in human development to date.

- Stop being selfish and shortsighted. People must care enough about self, everyone, everything else and Earth. People must care enough about today and both near- and long-term future.
- Strive on a <u>nonlinear path</u> through complex world toward thriving.
 As person and people strive and grow, successes should exceed
 failures and progress exceed regress.

Only then will human need to survive and desire to thrive fully cause all to survive and thrive.

Thrivism (*Thrive!*) is a person and all people striving to achieve surviving and thriving future. **Thrivism** succeeds only if it remains positive, is sustained long-term, and produces thriving for all.

Thrivism's ultimate aspiration is achievement of thriving future for all - all people, all other creatures, and Earth.

Thrivism eMedia

Website: Thrivism - A Path to Thriving Future Thrivism.world

Facebook: Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All

Facebook.com/Thrivism

Blog: Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All <u>Thrivism.blog/</u>





Appendix B. Thrivism and Thrive! Media - Websites, Blogs & Books

Overall Thrive! Strategy. Thrive! vision, mission, strategy and supportive tools help create and sustain large, positive and timely change and build a thriving future for all forever. To build a thriving and surviving future:

- Vision: All thrive forever. All includes you, your communities, and our world.
- Mission: Large, positive, timely change achieving surviving and thriving future for all forever.
- Strategy: A joint Thrive! Endeavor and call to action builds a thriving future for all forever.

Websites:

<u>Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future</u> – Core and foundational website supporting websites and blogs.

Includes supporting strategy/tools/books to build better future.

ThrivingFuture.org

Thrive! Endeavor - Join endeavor to build thriving future.

ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrivism - Join Thrivism to build thriving future for all. <u>Thrivism.world</u> Children Thrive Forever! - Aspire to future when children thrive forever. Children Thrive Forever.org

All Thrive Forever - Aspire to better future when all thrive forever. All Thrive Forever.org

We Are Vulnerable - Reduce and avoid vulnerability for better future. We Are Vulnerable.org

The Thrive! System - Helping you and your community survive and thrive. <u>TheThriveSystem.org</u>

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever - Play" strategic game in real-

life. <u>ThriveForever.org</u>

Endangered Future - Endangered more than ever before in our history. EndangeredFuture.org Xtinct – Current path is early extinction for humans and other creatures and great damage to Earth. <u>Xtinct.org</u>

HealthePeople - Use Thrive! to build healthy and thriving future.

HealthePeople.com

GChris Sculpture - Thrive! sculpture supporting endeavor to build thriving future. GChris.com

Thrive! Blogs:

Thrivism Blog – Blog on path to thriving future for all. <u>Thrivism.blog</u>

T! Blog - Blog key Thrive! messages and suggested actions.

ThriveBlog.org

T! Blog - Blog asking and challenging "What will you do?"

ThriveBlog.net

T! Blog - Thrive! sculpture and thoughts/messages. [WordPress Blog] ThriveSculpture.com

T! Blog - Thrive! sculpture and thoughts/messages. [Website Blog] ThriveSculpture.org

eMedia:

LinkedIn Thrive!

<u>Facebook Thrive!</u> [Includes Thrive!, Thrivism, All Thrive Forever, HealthePeople, GChris Sculpture]

Twitter Thrive!

YouTube Thrive!

Tumblr Thrive!

Flickr Thrive!

ello Thrive!

MySpace Thrive!

Pinterest Thrive!

Medium Thrive!

GChris Sculpture Website:

GChris Sculpture - Hundreds of Thrive! sculpture by GChris supporting thriving future. Acquisition payments support Thrive! Scholarship Fund. GChris.com

Book on Chris:

Book on Chris - A Life in Pursuit of Thriving for All. This is story of and by Chris [Gary "Chris" Christopherson] and his lifelong pursuit of a thriving future – all thrive forever. Available in paperback and eBook via Amazon.com or free download GChris.com

Books - Non-fiction: Available via **Amazon.com** usually as paperback and eBook.

Thrivism - Path to Thriving Future for All [aka the small "Green Book"] Lays out path to, belief in, and vision of thriving future for all. Available as free download. Thrivism.world

Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future For All. Manual providing greater depth on strategy and tools. Available as free download <u>ThrivingFuture.org</u> People's Guide To A Thriving Future [For All Forever]. More user-

friendly guide. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrive! - Quick Guide To A Thriving Future [For All Forever]. Quick, more user-friendly guide. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Thrive! Endeavor - All Thrive Forever. Joint Thrive! Endeavor and call to action builds thriving future for all forever. Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Early Extinction or Thriving Future. Which future do we choose for humans, other creatures, and Earth? Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

Stop Selfish, Shortsighted, and Stupid. Thought piece challenging humans to stop being selfish, shortsighted and stupid as way to avoid early extinction and build thriving future for all. Available as ThriveEndeavor.org

On Razor's Edge - If Humans Have The Will, Human Behavior Can Change To Avoid Early Extinction And Build Thriving Future. Available as free download <u>ThriveEndeavor.org</u>

Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Building thriving future using Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Available as free download ThriveEndeavor.org

The Thrive! System - Achieving Thriving Future For All. System for people and communities to help achieve thriving future for all. Available as free download ThrivingFuture.org.

The Thrive! Philosophy - All Thrive. Underlying philosophy of Thrive! Available as free download ThrivingFuture.org

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever What will you do? The game. The challenge. Available as free download
ThriveForever.org">ThriveForever.org

HealthePeople - Achieving Healthy People, Communities, Countries and World via Thrive!. Policy and how-to book on how to achieve healthy people and a healthy future. Available as free download HealthePeople.com

First People Thriving Health Systems - Achieving healthy and thriving First People. Policy and how-to book on how to achieve healthy First People. Available as free download HealthePeople.com

Thrive! Sculpture & Thought: Sculptural Vision of a Thriving Future for All Forever. Thoughts and sculpture that challenge you to think about future and help build, achieve and sustain thriving future for all forever. Available as free download GChris.com

Story of Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park. Available as free download https://doi.org/10.2016/j.nc.2016.2016.2016

Books - Science Fiction and Children's: Available via <u>Amazon.com</u> usually as paperback and eBook.

The Thrive! Endeavor. Science fiction novel with vast human endeavor seeking thriving future for all forever. Available as free download GChris.com

black box. Science fiction novel explores a mysterious and powerful black box and its enormous impact on the world's people and their politics, religions, science and militaries. Available as free download GChris.com

Early Extinction – Angel Comes To Save Earth. Illustrated science fiction book explores threat of early extinction for humans and many other creatures and great damage to Earth. Angel, a Whimsey, comes to help save Earth. Available as free download GChris.com

Extinction - The Failure To Thrive. Illustrated science fiction book explores what happens when human species and Earth become extinct and why it happened so quickly and so completely. Available as free download GChris.com

Thrive! - Escape From Extinction. Illustrated science fiction book explores what happens when human species and Earth almost become extinct and the human species tries to escape extinction and achieve all, including Earth, thrive forever. Available as free download GChris.com

Xtinct – Universal Justice for Earth. Illustrated science fiction book explores moment when universal justice is applied to Earth and human species faces early extinction. Early extinction for humans? Or a thriving future for all of Earth? Available as free download GChris.com

Thrive Or Not To Thrive? - Tale Of Two Tomorrows. Children's paperback fiction book where the good Angel and T!rrific battle the selfish Wily and T!rrible for the future of Whimseys and Whimsey World. Will it be a thriving future for all or not? Available as free download
GChris.com">GChris.com

T!rrific [terrific] - What will you do to thrive? Children's paperback fiction book where T!rrific helps Whimseys achieve thriving future. Available as free download GChris.com

Angel - Thriving Creator of Artful Things. Children's paperback fiction book on thriving and creativity featuring the world of Whimseys. Available as free download GChris.com



Appendix C. The Thrive! Center

Those who want to learn more about **Thrivism** and **Thrive!** may want to visit **The Thrive Center** and/or communicate with Chris.

Email GChris@GChris.com

Phone 301 318 3760

Mail

Chris [Gary "Chris" Christopherson]

Founder

The Thrive Center E298 Cleveland Street Nelson, WI 54756

The Thrive! Center, home of Thrivism, *Thrive*! Endeavor, Healthe People and GChris Sculpture, is on Mississippi River bluffside in restored 1885 farmhouse, barn and beehouse above Village of Nelson (WI). It is surrounded by Thrive! Park, a 25+ acre, bluff side, public park donated by Chris.



What can you do at The Thrive! Center?

- Thrive! Sculpture by GChris. Want to experience and interact with 200+ abstract sculptures. Copper and wood. Sizes from foot to dozen feet. Some make sounds. Some move physically or conceptually. Sculptor's payments donated to Thrive! Scholarship Fund. GChris.com
- Thrive! Want better future for your family and friends, community, world? Want more, a thriving future? Thrive! Endeavor is call for better, thriving future for all. Thrive! vision and mission for those wanting to build thriving future for all. All Thrive! services free. ThriveEndeavor.org
- **Thrivism.** Want to live on path to, belief in, and vision of thriving future for all? It is hopeful path. Inspiring vision. Positive belief system. Positive way of life. All Thrivism free. Thrivism
- **HealthePeople.** Want healthy future for your family and friends, community, country and world? Want best personal, community or country health system? HealthePeople vision, integrated strategy and effective reform to build accessible, affordable and high-quality health systems for all everywhere. All HealthePeople services free. HealthePeople.com
- Thrive! Park. Want to see great scenic views of Mississippi River valley. Walk/hike extensive bluff side/top roads and trails year-round. Experience goat prairie and forest restoration on bluff sides and tops. Hiking roads go along bluff side. Hiking trails go to restored bluff and prairie areas. ThrivePark.org
- Historic 1885 Era Bluffside Farm. Want to tour fully renovated/restored house, barn and beehouse with views of Mississippi River and bluff. Great scenic views. Learn about life on small bluffside farm in 1880s. Visit Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park. ThriveEndeavor.org ThrivePark.org

