

# Thrivism

*Thrive!* - Path To Thriving Future For All

# Thrivism

*Thrive!*

Gary "Chris" Christopherson  
Founder, Thrivism, Thrive!<sup>®</sup> & Thrive! Endeavor<sup>®</sup>

Nelson, WI

University Park, MD

# Thrivism

## Thrive! - Path To Thriving Future For All

**Thrivism** (*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>) is 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](http://Thrivism.World) [AllThriveForever.org](http://AllThriveForever.org)

**Vision** - A thriving future for all. [“All” is all humans, all other creatures, and Earth and beyond.]

**Mission** – Help a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth strive for and achieve a surviving and thriving future. The human endeavor.  
[ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.org)



**Foundational Belief** – Humans, as person and people, have a unique need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a sustainable future world.

**Thrivism** (*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>) is a person and people striving to achieve surviving and thriving future. It 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.

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

# Thrivism

*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup> - Path To Thriving Future For All



by

Gary “Chris” Christopherson  
Founder, Thrivism, *Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>, Thrive Endeavor<sup>®</sup>

Nelson, WI

University Park, MD

Copyright © April 2021 Gary “Chris” Christopherson

All rights reserved.

ISBN: 9781653350988

## 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. [AllThriveForever.org](http://AllThriveForever.org) [Thrivism.world](http://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](http://Amazon.com) or [ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.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; [HealthePeople.com](http://HealthePeople.com)), **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](http://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](http://Amazon.com) or [GChris.com](http://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.

# 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 [Thrive@thrivingfuture.org](mailto:Thrive@thrivingfuture.org)

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*, **Thrive! Endeavor**, **HealthPeople** and **GChris Sculpture**, is on Mississippi River bluffsides 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](http://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](http://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.

## Table of Contents

About Chris, Founder of Thrivism and <i>Thrive!</i> .....	v
The Thrive! Center.....	vi
Table of Contents .....	viii
Thrivism [Overview] .....	x
Thrivism [ <i>Thrive!</i> ] - Path to Thriving Future for All.....	1
Our best future is <i>Thrive!</i> . Thrivism is the path.....	1
What is Thrivism?.....	2
What is Thrivism’s context? .....	6
What are Thrivism’s foundational belief, key elements and questions?.....	7
What are the human endeavor and the ideal? .....	7
What are key elements and questions? .....	9
Thrivism in real life. ....	11
Is Thrivism understandable?.....	11
Is Thrivism usable?.....	13
Is Thrivism sustainable? .....	17
Is Thrivism valuable?.....	18
Thrivism’s value to all. ....	20
Appendix. Thrivism and Thrive! Media - Websites, Blogs & Books .....	23



The  
small  
“Green Book”



## Thrivism [Overview]

### Thrivism (*Thrive!*) - Path to Thriving Future for All

**Thrivism** (*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>) 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](http://Thrivism.world)  
[AllThriveForever.org](http://AllThriveForever.org)

**Vision** - A thriving future where all thrive forever.<sup>1</sup>

**Mission** – Help a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth strive for and achieve a surviving and thriving future. The human endeavor. [ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.org)

**Foundational Belief** – Humans, as person and people<sup>2</sup>, have a unique need to survive and 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 and 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 depends on other persons (people) for survival and thriving,
- Need to survive and desire to thrive apply to current and future world,
- Person’s and people’s future survival and thriving depends on there being a thriving future world, and
- Thriving future world must be sustained long term to meet human need and desire.

---

<sup>1</sup> “All” is all humans, all other creatures, and Earth and beyond.

<sup>2</sup> “People” is a group of persons such as a family, community, country, world.

**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 nature, as person and people, is our need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.
- Our relationship 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 knowledge of our selves and the world comes from 1) inputs<sup>3</sup> resulting from striving to survive and thrive and 2) the mind processing inputs to achieve greater knowledge.
- Our actions 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.”<sup>4</sup> To succeed, person and people must:

- Strive for and achieve higher level of positive motivation and ability (including knowledge).<sup>5</sup> 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 independence and interdependence in joint pursuit of surviving and thriving.

---

<sup>3</sup> “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.

<sup>4</sup> The human endeavor is also known as the Thrive! Endeavor. [ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.org)

<sup>5</sup> 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 nonlinear path 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](http://Thrivism.world)

**Facebook: Thrivism** - Path to Thriving Future for All  
[Facebook.com/Thrivism](https://Facebook.com/Thrivism)

**Blog: Thrivism** - Path to Thriving Future for All [Thrivism.blog/](http://Thrivism.blog/)



## **Thrivism [*Thrive!*] - Path to Thriving Future for All**

**Thrivism** (*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>) 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](http://Thrivism.world)  
[AllThriveForever.org](http://AllThriveForever.org)

**Vision** - A thriving future where all thrive forever.<sup>6</sup>

**Mission** – Help a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth strive for and achieve a surviving and thriving future. The human endeavor. [ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.org)

**Foundational Belief** – Humans, as person and people<sup>7</sup>, have a unique need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world

### **Our best future is *Thrive!*. Thrivism is the path.**

This best future is *Thrive!* and is a bold vision and mission.

**Thrivism** is the path to that future

.

What your life and your world will be in a thriving future where all survive and thrive forever, to the maximum extent possible.

This future is a better life now and for the near and long term future for all of you and for future generations.

- For you and your family and friends.
- For you and your community.
- For you and your country.
- For you and all people, all other creatures and Earth.

---

<sup>6</sup> “All” is all humans, all other creatures, and Earth and beyond.

<sup>7</sup> “People” is a group of persons such as a family, community, country, world.

- For all that you and we care about, it is much better life and future with less vulnerability, and with surviving and sustained thriving.

***Thrive!***, a thriving future, is different and arguably better than anything tried or achieved in human history.

- Not just getting by or achieving a surviving future. A surviving future is necessary but not sufficient.
- It is this future for all people and all future generations, a "50+ generation" strategy. Not just for some people or just for the current and next generation.
- It is this future forever, a 1000+ year strategy. Not just for today or just 100 years.
- It is also for all creatures and Earth on which we live and depend. Not just for people.

## **What is Thrivism?**

**Thrivism** is a path to and vision of a thriving future for all. It is a positive belief system. It is a positive way of life.<sup>8</sup>

It is that “a person and people need to survive and desires to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.”<sup>9</sup> Its mission is, via the human endeavor, help a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth strive for and achieve a surviving and thriving future.

**Thrivism** is built on the foundational belief that humans, as person and people, have a unique need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.

---

<sup>8</sup> By design, this book, the small “Green Book”, on Thrivism does not go into great detail. Rather, it starts down a path. It lays out the basics. It lays out the underlying assumptions and arguments for Thrivism. It very briefly addresses several of Thrivism’s key elements. Finally, it lays out Thrivism’s potential uses in real life.

<sup>9</sup> A “people” is a group of persons such as a family, community, country, world.



“Thriving” for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth is the human endeavor and the ideal. As the ideal, “Thriving” is “a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth surviving and thriving together.”

The human endeavor is “lifelong (person) and never-ending (people) striving to survive and thrive in current world and surviving and thriving future world.”<sup>10</sup> To succeed, person and people must:

- Strive for and achieve higher level of positive motivation and ability (including knowledge).<sup>11</sup> 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 independence and interdependence in joint pursuit of surviving and thriving.
- 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 nonlinear path 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.

---

<sup>10</sup> The human endeavor is also known as the Thrive! Endeavor.

[ThriveEndeavor.org](http://ThriveEndeavor.org)

<sup>11</sup> This striving and increasing ability is evident in human development to date.



**Thrive!** (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 nature, as person and people, is our need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.
- Our relationship 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 knowledge of our selves and the world comes from 1) inputs<sup>12</sup> resulting from striving to survive and thrive and 2) the mind processing inputs to achieve greater knowledge.
- Our actions 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.

Can we achieve a thriving future for all by following **Thrivism** and being **Thrivists**?

- We can if we act now. It is still our choice to make. But time has almost run out.
- We can if we use our full ability. We have the ability as we are most able in all human history.
- We can if we care enough about self, everyone, everything else and Earth. We must stop selfishness.
- We can if we care enough about both near- and long-term future. We must stop shortsightedness.

---

<sup>12</sup> “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.



## **What is Thrivism's context?**

**Thrivism** is a human creation. It is unique to human beings as they strive to understand themselves in their current and future world. It is unique to human beings as they strive to best live in their current and future world.

Throughout human history, views have been offered on reality, knowledge and life's guiding principles. While this work contributed much to current knowledge and thinking, it has not always been defensible, has often been difficult to understand, has been difficult to apply to real life, has limited sustainability, and has often had limited value to real life.

**Thrivism** is designed to be defensible, understandable, usable, sustainable and valuable for person and people in the current world and a thriving future world.

## **What are Thrivism's foundational belief, key elements and questions?**

**Thrivism** is that "a person and people need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world." Meeting this need and desire depends on meeting five conditions:

- Person and all people need to survive and desire to thrive,
- Person depends on other persons (people) for survival and thriving,
- Need to survive and desire to thrive apply to current and future world,
- Person's and people's future survival and thriving depends on there being a thriving future world, and
- Thriving future world must be sustained long term to meet human need and desire.

## **What are the human endeavor and the ideal?**

"Thriving" for all humans, all other creatures, and Earth is the human endeavor and the ideal. As the ideal, "Thriving" is "all humans, all other creatures, and Earth surviving and thriving together."

As the human endeavor, **Thrivism** is “the lifelong (person) and never-ending (people and the world) striving to survive and thrive in the current world and a survivable and thriving future world.” A person and people strive for and can achieve a high level of motivation and ability (including knowledge).<sup>13</sup> That achievement is the foundation for striving for and achieving even higher levels of ability and motivation and even higher levels of survival and thriving.

A person’s and people’s striving for a survivable and thriving future is motivated by needs and desires and enabled by experience, knowledge, and thinking (for example, creativity and reasoning).

During the striving, there are successes and failures. There are progress and regress. All contribute to achieving and continuing “Thriving”. Over time and as a person and people strive and grow, successes should exceed failures and progress should exceed regress.

Striving follows a nonlinear path through a complex world toward the ideal.<sup>14</sup> The nonlinear path makes life more challenging and more interesting. But there is a negative risk during the nonlinear progression toward the ideal. A particular regression can be so severely negative as to end progression.<sup>15</sup> Human existence, for all practical purposes, can end before the ideal can be reached.

Within **Thrivism** and ideally, a person and the rest of the world are continuously and simultaneously striving with the best combination of independence and interdependence in joint pursuit of survival and thriving. This is also true for people and the rest of the world.

---

<sup>13</sup> This striving and increasing ability is evident in overall human development to date. It can be argued that people will achieve that high level of ability over time.

<sup>14</sup> “Nonlinear” means not going in a straight line or not continuously progressing or regressing.

<sup>15</sup> The risk is that in the progression toward the ideal, a regression (for example, loss of natural resources, death of people and/or the world) may be so severe as to end the progression.

**Thrivism** strives to achieve a survivable and thriving future for the world and the people who live in it. Its ultimate aspiration and ideal is “Thriving”, the achievement of a survivable and thriving future for person, people and the world.



## **What are key elements and questions?**

**Thrivism** addresses key elements and related questions. It briefly addresses these as follows.

**What is the nature of being and the world?** The nature of human being (and becoming) is that a person (and people) needs to survive and desires to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world. These are life’s drivers. Through successes and failures and progress and regress, these drivers produce a desired nonlinear progression of person, people and the world toward a survivable and thriving future.

However necessary and desirable, achieving a survivable and thriving future is not inevitable. **Thrivism's** aspiration is reached when what a person is and is becoming are in harmony at very high levels and a person is still moving to higher and higher levels. This is also true for people.

**What is the nature and scope of knowledge?** A person's knowledge of one's self, of people and of the world is the combination of a) inputs resulting from striving to survive and thrive and b) the mind processing those inputs to achieve knowledge and future thinking. This recognizes that knowledge cannot be gained by the mind by itself alone or by only sensing the world. Knowledge comes only when a mind interacts with the surrounding world, receives inputs from the world, and successfully processes those inputs.

**How should a person and people act?** A person's actions are driven by one's need to survive and desire to thrive but are influenced by a) the surrounding world and b) the need and desire for a thriving future. This sustainability applies to one's self. This also applies to people (for example, family and friends and community) and the world (for example, people, plants, animals and Earth) with which a person has a personal bond. This also applies to people and world on which a person depends for survival and thriving. Though striving to survive and thrive has the potential to become selfish and destructive, it becomes non-selfish and constructive when there is recognition of the personal bond with other persons and the world. It also becomes non-selfish and constructive when there is recognition that survival and thriving depend on other persons and the world. This is especially true when moving beyond the short term future to a thriving, long term future. This governs much of how a person and people should and will act.

**What is the relationship of a person and a people to other persons and government?** A person's relationship with other persons (including family, community, state and country) and the rest of the world is driven and governed by a person's need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world. This is affected by a) a person's current and future personal bond with other persons and the world and b) a person's current and future dependency on other persons and the rest of the world for surviving and thriving. The government's relationship to its people is driven and governed by the people's need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world. The government's relationship is also affected by the government's current and future dependency on the rest of the world its and its people's survival and thriving.

### **Thrivism in real life.**

To meet the full need and provide the full value desired, **Thrivism** must be defensible and it must be understandable to, usable by, sustainable for and valuable to essentially all persons. The defense (the underlying assumptions and arguments) of **Thrivism** has been laid out previously.

### **Is Thrivism understandable?**

The first test of "real life" understandability is whether or not a person who creates, teaches, or analyzes finds **Thrivism** understandable. This is the "expert". The second and more important test of "real life" understandability is whether or not a person who wants to use it in real life finds it understandable. This is the "public". While **Thrivism** is designed to pass both tests, the final determination will be made by the "experts" who analyze it and by the "public" who tries to use it in real life.

In real life, **Thrivism** is understandable because it is what a person lives and understands every day. From the moment that a person awakes in the morning and throughout most of each day, ensuring survival drives a person's life. A person eats, drinks and practices hygiene to survive. A person works or otherwise obtains resources (for example, income) to acquire the basic survival necessities such as food, shelter, knowledge, and health. A person acquires these basic survival necessities throughout most of their life.<sup>16</sup> A person acquires and develops relationships with other persons in order to gain survival necessities. This may be related to social needs, resource acquisition needs, and/or survival necessities. A person acquires and develops relationships with the surrounding world (for example, the state) as the person strives to survive. This might be to a) get a driver's, vehicle or a professional license, b) obtain a permit to build or renovate shelter, c) buy food and clothing, d) obtain health care, or e) meet societal/legal obligations (for example, pay taxes).

Unless survival is all consuming, a person also desires to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world. A person desires a better, preferably thriving life. This may be better food, health, knowledge/skills, recreation, shelter and/or relationships. The latter may take on the form of a better relationship with existing family (for example, parents and siblings) or acquiring a family (for example, a spouse and children). This desire to thrive can take on a longer term perspective because a person generally does not want life to end and wants a sustainable, thriving future. A person may want a family, a people, a community, a state, a country and/or the world to continue into the future. The strength of the desire for a sustainable thriving future by a person, people, a community a state, a country and the world will determine the strength of the drive to build a sustainable, thriving future.

---

<sup>16</sup> To some extent, the exceptions are very young children and other persons with very limited cognitive ability.



This is not new or difficult to understand. It emerges in early childhood and matures throughout life. It is essentially what a person and a people know and live.

## **Is Thrivism usable?**

**Thrivism** can be used to help a person understand one's self, other persons and the world as the person survives and progresses through life. To successfully survive and progress through life, it is critical to understand the power of the need to survive for one's self and for other persons. Until and unless that survival need is ensured, a person (or a people) is highly unlikely to a) relate well to other persons (even those upon whom the person (or people) depends for survival), b) think about or act on the long term future, or c) think about or act on moving beyond surviving to thriving. Until basic, real and physical necessities are ensured, it is difficult to impossible for the person and other persons to focus on and strive toward a sustainable, thriving future. If and when a person does focus on and strive toward a sustainable, thriving future, **Thrivism** can help a person understand how the desire to thrive drives self behavior and other persons' behavior.

It can be used to better understand and manage the nonlinear (progress and regress) nature of life and a person's own needs (survive) and desires (thrive), and a person's own aspirations and ideals. If a person understands that life is nonlinear and will likely include many instances of progress (good things; going forward toward meeting needs and desires) and regress (bad things; going backward on meeting needs and desires), the person has context in which to think and act. Consistent with needs, desires, aspirations and ideals, a person can think through and act to avoid, stop, minimize and/or manage bad things and regress. Similarly, a person can think through and act to seek, start, maximize and/or manage good things and progress. These thoughts and actions help produce a better outcome (for example, less negative impact from regress, more positive impact from progress, and greater knowledge). Very importantly, it helps produce more knowledge for future thought and action. [See Figure 1. Building a Thriving Future.]

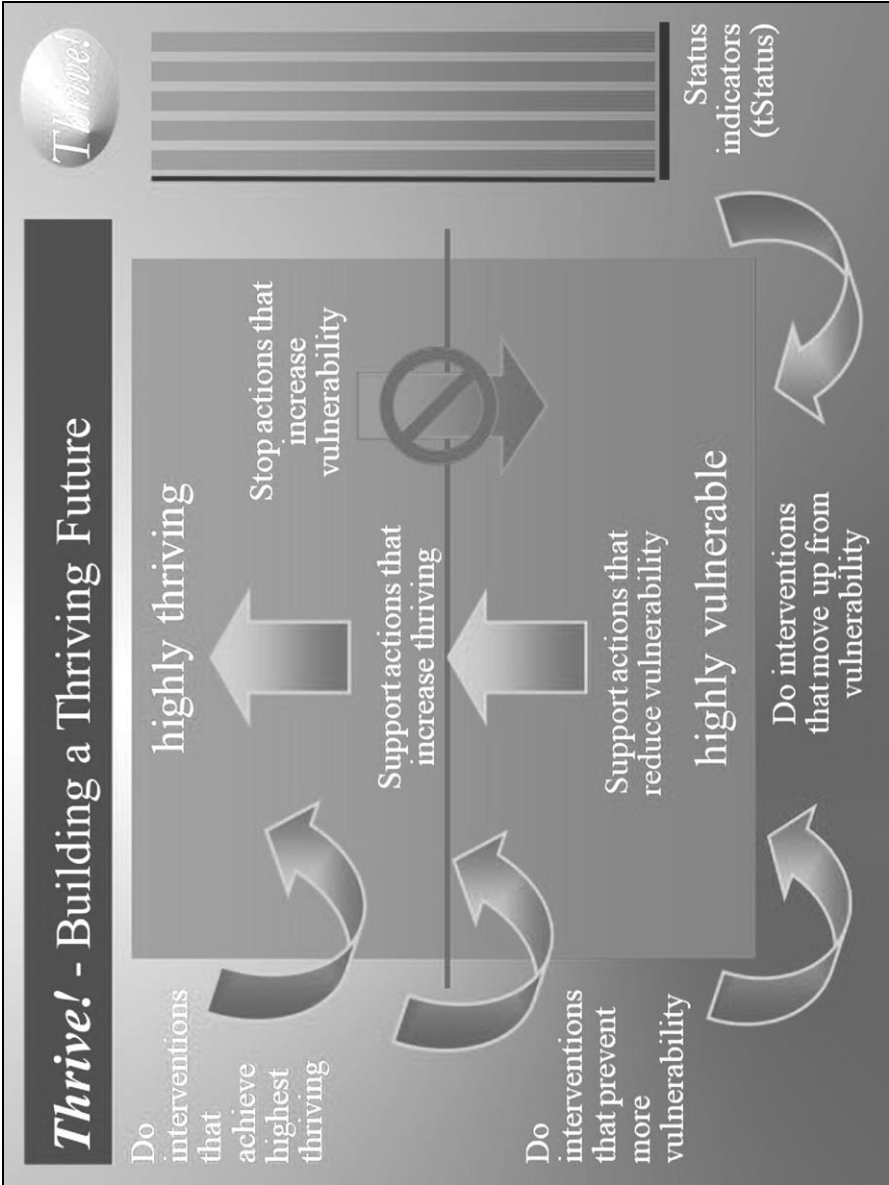


Figure 1. Building a Thriving Future.

**Thrivism** can be used to design and manage a person's own path through an ever-changing life. A person can better design and manage a more positive path once the person a) better understands the need to survive and desire to thrive, b) better understands other persons and the surrounding world, c) better recognizes and accepts a changing world, and d) better understands the desire for a sustainable thriving future. A person can better use the needs, desires, aspirations and ideals to design the future path. A person's future path should ensure survival in a changing world and, at the same time, strive toward a thriving future. A path should be flexible to adapt to a nonlinear world and the changing future. A path should adjust as a person's needs and desires change. A path should be adjusted or a new and better path created if and when the world changes and/or when a path does not seem to be on track. While on a path, there should be ongoing scanning of other persons and the surrounding world for changes affecting a path.

It can be used to understand and manage a person's relationship with those with whom there is a personal bond (for example, friends and family). Once a person understands that a person with whom there is a personal bond has thoughts and behaviors driven by their own need to survive and desire to thrive, the relationship with the other person is more understandable. Relating to the other person is easier, more positive and more likely to succeed. There is also the opportunity to jointly and cooperatively act in ways that are more likely to be successful and produce better outcomes for both.

**Thrivism** can be used to understand and manage relationships with that upon which a person depends for surviving and thriving. That includes other persons (for example, family, friends, co-workers, employers, government, educators, health care providers, food suppliers) and the world. Once a person understands that a person upon whom the person depends for one's own success has thoughts and behaviors driven by the need to survive and desire to thrive, the relationship with the other person is more understandable. Relating to the other person is easier, more positive and more likely to succeed. There is also the opportunity to jointly and cooperatively act in ways that are more likely to be successful and produce better outcomes for both. Similarly, a person needs to understand that the world (for example, people, plants, animals, and other natural resources<sup>17</sup>) upon which the person depends also needs to survive and is better if it thrives. With that understanding, the person's relationship with the surrounding world can be more mutually beneficial.

It can help a person understand and deal with today and the near and long term future. It helps a person understand the strong driving force of a person's needs today and in the near term, foreseeable future. It helps a person understand that the failure to successfully address today's and near term needs is likely to result in the failure to address the long term future and build a sustainable, thriving future. As a result, the first action of a person, a people or a state is to ensure survival today and for the near term, foreseeable future. Recognizing this, one option is to build a sustainable, thriving future that includes survival for today and the foreseeable future. Another option puts off action to build a sustainable, thriving future until near term survival is ensured in real and perceived terms. The first option is better for the long term and possibly even for the short term. Short term survival actions should never be at the expense of long term survival and thriving.

---

<sup>17</sup> This argues for relying on renewable and reusable resources to the extent feasible. Non-renewable resources by definition will not last forever and require careful use or no use.

**Thrivism** can help a person understand and help build a sustainable, thriving future for one's self, other persons and the world. A person can better understand how to create more effective paths to a survivable future and, preferably, a sustainable, thriving future. A person understands better what drives one's own and other persons' thoughts and behavior. As a person better understands a) one's own needs and desires, b) other persons' needs and desires and c) the surrounding world, a person is more able to build one's own sustainable, thriving future. Likewise, a person is more able and motivated to jointly build a survivable and sustainable, thriving future for a people and the surrounding world.

## **Is Thrivism sustainable?**

**Thrivism** is designed specifically to be sustainable. It should have a high probability of being sustainable because it is designed to be a defensible, understandable, usable, sustainable and valuable philosophy for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth for today and a sustainable, thriving future. It is defensible in that it builds upon preceding efforts and builds upon the basic nature of a person and a person's need to survive and desire to thrive on a sustained basis.

It is adaptable in that it recognizes that the world changes and that to be sustainable philosophy, it must retain defensibility, understandability, usability, sustainability and value throughout those changes. Change is inherent to **Thrivism**. Striving to survive and thrive by a changing person among a changing people in a changing world is inherent to **Thrivism**.

## Is Thrivism valuable?

*Thrive!*, a thriving future and the vision of **Thrivism**, is different and arguably better and more valuable than anything tried or achieved in human history.

- Not just getting by or achieving a surviving future. A surviving future is necessary but not sufficient.
- It is this future for all people and all future generations, a "50+ generation" strategy. Not just for some people or just for the current and next generation.
- It is this future forever, a 1000+ year strategy. Not just for today or just 100 years.
- It is also for all creatures and Earth on which we live and depend. Not just for people.

**Thrivism** is valuable because it can help improve life for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth. It is most valuable when it is applied synergistically to all three. It does that. In real life, it can provide a better understanding of life's driving forces and how those forces affect near and long term behavior. It can provide a better understanding of how to use those driving forces to improve human behavior and improve human behavior's outcome - an improved life for a person, people and the world.

It is more valuable because it can help a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth survive together on a sustained basis. In real life, it can help a person and a people better understand the need to survive. It can help with understanding real need to survive versus perceived (but not real) need versus desire to thrive. It can help with understanding the conditions necessary to survival. It can help create and effectively execute an adaptable path to near and long term survival in an ever changing world.



**Thrivism** is most valuable because it can help a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth thrive on a sustained basis. In real life, it can help a person and people better understand the desire to thrive. It can help with understanding the desire to thrive on a sustained basis. It can help with understanding the conditions necessary to a sustainable, thriving future. It can help create and effectively execute an adaptable path to achieving a sustainable, thriving future in an ever changing world.

### **Thrivism's value to all.**

**Thrivism** is that “a person and people need to survive and desire to thrive in the current world and a thriving future world.” It is built on the underlying assumption that “a person needs to survive and desires to thrive.”

“Thriving” for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth is the human endeavor and the ideal. As the ideal, “Thriving” is “a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth surviving and thriving together forever.”

**Thrivism** is “the lifelong (a person) and never-ending (people and the world) striving to survive and thrive in the current world and a survivable and thriving future world.” The human endeavor.

**Thrivism's** mission is to “help a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth achieve a survivable and thriving future.” It strives to help achieve a survivable and thriving future for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth for the foreseeable future. Its ultimate aspiration and ideal is “Thriving”, the achievement of a survivable and thriving future for a person, all humans, all other creatures, and Earth.



It is defensible, understandable, usable, sustainable and valuable for a person and people for today and the future. Its value lies in improving life for a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth. Its greater value lies in helping a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth survive together on a sustained basis.

**Thrivism's** greatest value lies in helping a person, all people, all other creatures, and Earth thrive together on a sustained basis.

**Thrivism** (*Thrive!*<sup>®</sup>) is a person and 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



*Thrive!*

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

### **Websites:**

[Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future](#) – 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. [Thrivism.world](#)

Children Thrive Forever! - Aspire to future when children thrive forever.

[ChildrenThriveForever.org](#)

All Thrive Forever - Aspire to better future when all thrive forever. [AllThriveForever.org](#)

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

[WeAreVulnerable.org](#)

The Thrive! System - Helping you and your community survive and thrive. [TheThriveSystem.org](#)

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever - Play" strategic game in real-life. [ThriveForever.org](#)

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. [Xtinct.org](#)

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

[HealththePeople.com](#)

GChris Sculpture - Thrive! sculpture supporting endeavor to build thriving future. [GChris.com](#)

### **Thrive! Blogs:**

Thrivism Blog - Blog key messages and suggested actions.

[Thrivism.blog](#)

T! Blog - Blog key 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!](#)

[Facebook Thrive!](#) [Includes Thrive!, Thrivism, All Thrive Forever, HealthPeople, GChris Sculpture]

[Twitter Thrive!](#)

[YouTube Thrive!](#)

[Tumblr Thrive!](#)

[Flickr Thrive!](#)

[ello Thrive!](#)

[MySpace Thrive!](#)

[Pinterest Thrive!](#)

[Medium Thrive!](#)

## **Sculpture:**

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](#).

Thrive! - Building a Thriving Future For All. Manual providing greater depth on strategy and tools. Available as [free download](#)

People's Guide To A Thriving Future [For All Forever]. More user-friendly guide. Available as [free download](#)

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

Thrive! Endeavor - All Thrive Forever. Joint Thrive! Endeavor and call to action builds thriving future for all forever. Available as [free download](#)

The Thrive! System - Achieving Thriving Future For All. System for people and communities to help achieve thriving future for all. Available as [free download](#).

The Thrive! Philosophy - All Thrive. Underlying philosophy of Thrive!  
Available as [free download](#)

Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Building thriving future using  
Behavior Effectiveness Model (BEM). Available as [free download](#)

Thrive! - All Thrive Forever What will you do? The game. The  
challenge. Available as [free download](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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.

Story of Thrive! Center and Thrive! Park. Available as free download  
[ThriveEndeavor.org](#)

**Books - Science Fiction and Children's: Available via [Amazon.com](#)  
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](#).

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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](#)

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

Angel - Thriving Creator of Artful Things. Children's paperback fiction book on thriving and creativity featuring the world of Whimseys. Available as [free download](#)

