Neighborhood Supports of Young Children

Early Childhood Summit 2013
Boston, MA
### Anti-Poverty & Community Change Efforts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Decade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1960s</td>
<td>War on Poverty, Gray Areas, Earliest CDCs</td>
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<td>Place-based, comprehensive, local empowerment</td>
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<td>1970s–80s</td>
<td>Trend toward more categorical approaches</td>
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<td>Advances in know-how around jobs, housing, etc.</td>
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<td>1990s–2000s</td>
<td>Comprehensive community building initiatives (CCIs)</td>
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<td>2010s</td>
<td>Alignment to achieve long-term change</td>
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<td>Building capacities for community, public sector and private sector alignment</td>
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<td>around the hard work of long-term community change</td>
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What are CCIs?

- Bridging people- and place-based strategies (social, economic, physical)
- Defined geography: Neighborhood, town, county
- Comprehensive and complex
- Aiming at the entire population
- Tailored to community circumstances and context
- Participatory and collaborative
- Empowerment and community building objectives
- Incorporate attention to racial diversity and racial equity
- Ambitious and long-term outcomes
- Complicated to evaluate
Promise Neighborhoods

Families/children segmented by need

Low Need

Medium Need

High Need

Aligned City/Regional Infrastructure and Leadership

Effective Community Services

High-Performing Schools and Academic Programs

Strong Family Supports

PN students meet outcomes, prepared for college and career. Distressed communities are transformed.
PN Background

RESOURCE LEVERAGING, INTEGRATION, AND TARGETING

Private funding (individual, corporate, philanthropic)

New Promise Neighborhoods funding, support (ED)

Other public funds, programs (ED, HUD, HHS, Justice, Labor, USDA, State, local, etc)

Improve outcomes shared by leaders and members of community

Increase capacity of organizations focused on achieving results and building a college-going culture in neighborhoods

Build continuum of solutions from cradle through college to career

Early Learning \(\rightarrow\) K-12 \(\rightarrow\) College/Career

Integrate other community supports: housing, health, etc.

Integrate programs and break down agency “silos”

Support efforts to sustain and “scale up” proven, effective solutions

Learn about the impact of Promise Neighborhoods and about relationship between particular strategies and student outcomes
BPI recognizes that the work we are embarking upon is generational work.

Therefore, BPI must consider that early efforts are meant to catalyze the transformation that we seek. Efforts in the middle years should help the neighborhood reach critical tipping points that ensure propel the neighborhood toward transformation. In the later years, we expect to realize the neighborhood transformation we envision.
All children growing up in the Dudley Promise Neighborhood have access to effective schools and strong systems of family and community support that will prepare them to attain an excellent education and successfully transition to college and career.

0 to 24 years  Cradle to Career
Neighborhood is a 21st Century Campus

- A village campus is a learning community
- No child goes homeless, hungry, é .
- Every child is grade ready
- All the children are our children
- All children see and realize a positive future
- All adults are leaders in families, schools & community
- All families have access to economic opportunities
Overarching Themes for DVC

Basic needs met [housing, health, Economic…]

Quality Schools & pathways

Caring consistent adults

Access to wider world

Positive peer group
Building a complete continuum of cradle-to-career solutions of both educational programs and family and community supports, with great schools at the center;
Cradle-to-Career Solutions

Birth to School Entry
- Dudley Children Thrive
- Associated Early Care Learning Center
- Countdown to Kindergarten

Kindergarten to High School Graduation
- Innovation School
- Partnerships in Turnaround Schools
- Extended Learning Opportunities
- GOTCHA Youth Jobs Collaborative

Multiple Pathways to College & Career
- Success Boston
- Dudley Workforce Committee Best Practices
- Project Hope
- Youth Council

Active Citizenship in a Global Community

Family and Community Supports connected continuum for all children and families in the Dudley neighborhood.
Integrating programs and breaking down agency “silos” so that solutions are implemented effectively and efficiently across agencies;
Dudley Children Thrive:
Dudley Children Thrive (DCT) is part of a citywide initiative that supports and empowers families with young children (ages 0-5) in the Dudley Village Campus (DVC) to prepare for school success.
DCT Family Facts

- 436 Families enrolled
- 669 Children under 5 years old
- 722 Adult members
  - 394 Mothers
  - 144 Fathers
  - Other adults include grandparents, aunts, uncles & etc.
Focuses on:

- Parent Empowerment
- Family Support
- Community Partnerships
Parent Empowerment

- Parents as first teachers
- Parents as advocates
- Parents as community builders
- Parents as leaders
Family Support

Share information

- Monthly newsletter in 3 languages
- Activity/event calendar
- Email blasts with updates (i.e. school registration, health notices, immigration, etc.)
Family Support

- Share Provide/promote high quality interactive learning opportunities
  - DCT monthly events
  - Literacy and bonding opportunities (playgroup, library activities)
  - Nutrition (Pop up Museum)
  - Wellness (Dudley Town Common Tree Lighting)
  - Creative & concrete steps on interactive freestyle learning opportunities at home (Parent Points System)
We build their world when we build their words
Family Support

Connect to resources

- Basic needs & holiday support
- Free & reduced price access to services and amenities
- Housing, legal, immigration support
- Nutritional support
DCT Highlights

- Parent Leadership Pathway
- Mind & Body Wellness
  - BCYF Mason Pool: All kids swim ready
  - Healthy Child, Healthy Future: Open gym
- Family Cooking Classes
  - Boston Medical Center
  - The Food Project
- Boston Public Library Engagement Partnership
  - Underwater Bubble Party
  - Safari in the City
The Points system is an incentivizing mechanism that supports parents as first teachers. Parents receive points for engaging in interactive freestyle activities/events with their children in the areas of literacy, nutrition & wellness. Parents also receive points for participating in leadership opportunities.
Developing the local infrastructure of systems and resources needed to sustain and scale up proven, effective solutions across the broader region beyond the initial neighborhood; and
DSNI Neighborhood Within the Circle of Promise
In partnership with the schools, we are focusing on:

- Partnership alignment
- Extended learning opportunities
- Attendance
- Family engagement

Additional work is being done on the college process, vision/mission, translations, on school governance, etc.
Learning about the overall impact of the Promise Neighborhoods program and about the relationship between particular strategies in Promise Neighborhoods and student outcomes, including through a rigorous evaluation of the program.
What will it take for a tipping-point number of poor and low-income families in a targeted geography to get and sustain themselves on an irreversible path to greater economic prosperity and the middle class?
Previous efforts to achieve population-level change have been elusive, despite massive investment of public and philanthropic resources.

We can service people out of poverty through short-term, single-dimension, low-dosage programs.

Past single-service interventions, comprehensive community change initiatives, and public policy efforts set the stage for future innovation.
Å Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative: Backbone for planning and convening throughout the design and planning phase

Å Interaction Institute for Social Change: Facilitate Design Team and Working Group sessions, document content and results

Å Root Cause: Coordinate and overall design and planning process, facilitate or co-facilitate meetings as appropriate, assemble an implementation-ready business plan