

Geographic Inequality

Introduction

- Huge shifts in equality of both income and opportunity
- The longer people live in communities with fewer resources and opportunities, the worse their chances of achieving economic stability
- Privilege cannot be understood without the context of place
- Safe housing and neighborhoods, good schools, and opportunities for pro-social engagement are largely influenced by the community in which one is born, raised and resides
- For many, geography is destiny and this is especially true for children



Indicators of Communities in Distress

- Low high school graduation rate
- High housing vacancy rate
- High unemployment rate
- High poverty rate
- Low median income compared to state income
- Decrease in available jobs
- Decrease in neighborhood business establishments



City of Norfolk – Commission on Poverty Reduction Recommendations

- Seed money to begin long-term commitment
- Early Childhood Development
- Youth Education and Career Pathways
- Adult Workforce Development
- Neighborhood Revitalization and Support
- Recommendation for the future
 - Housing Trust Fund



Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority

- THRIVE Initiative -
Total **H**ousing **R**einvention for
Individual Success, **V**ital Services
and **E**conomic Empowerment
- Linking residents to services and programs offered by other county agencies or non-profit organizations
- “Moving to Work” (MTW) agency
 - Creates a housing continuum that seamlessly joins together the county’s housing programs
 - Housing instability



Peter Paul Development Center – Richmond, VA

- The Youth Program
 - Helps students attain success in school and prepares them for a life after high school graduation
 - After School Learning Immersion Program and Summer Promise
 - Richmond Promise Neighborhood
 - Food Distribution Program



Virginia Early Childhood Foundation Initiatives

- Smart Beginnings
 - Connects diverse partners, assets and efforts at community level
 - Benefits approximately 100 cities/counties
 - Tracks/documents indicators of increased school readiness
- Virginia Star Quality
 - Voluntary system to assess, improve and communicate level of quality in early care and education settings
 - Designed to help families identify and assist programs in providing high quality early care/education
 - Of the 5,424 eligible programs, 8% participated in 2014; target for 2016 is 15%



Centers for Disease Control Initiatives

- Legacy for Children
 - Program model developed by the CDC
 - Core belief is that parents can have a significant effect on child development, regardless of socio-economic circumstances
 - Evidence based study
 - Goals – Improve child outcomes by promoting positive parenting among low-income mothers of infants and children
 - Intervention program study conducted in Miami and Los Angeles focusing on education for mothers of kids born into poverty
 - Followed children from birth to age 5
 - Kids were evaluated on language, thinking ability, behavior, social skills and physical health



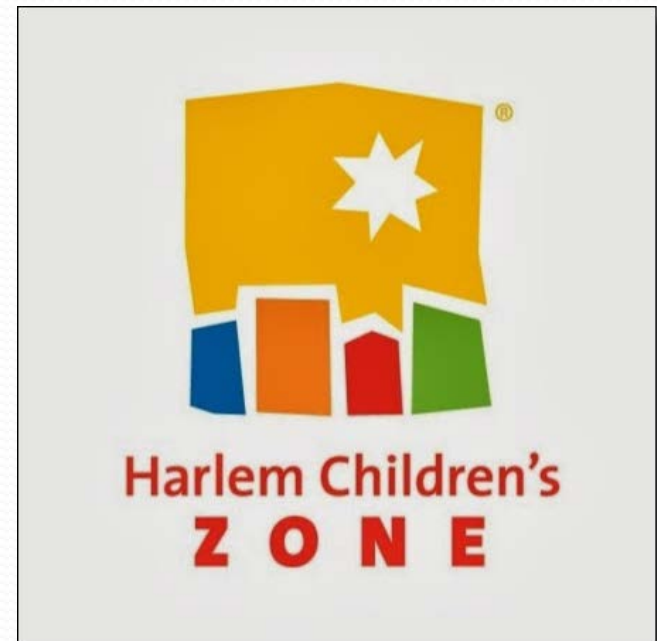
Race To The Top Early Learning Challenge

- Federal grant program targeted to children with high needs
- 20 states participating
- Common Success Factors



Harlem Children's Zone

- Non-profit founded in 1970 that designs, funds, and operates a holistic system of education, social services and community building programs in Harlem from birth to college
- Fundamental Principles
 - Help kids early in life and build a critical mass of adults that understand what it takes for children to succeed



Keys to Consider

Location influences economic and social mobility

- Collaboration
- Broad stakeholder engagement
- Alignment of policies and resources
- Evaluation
- Visit national models

