Learning Communities Resource Center

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Whole Family Approach Transformation Stories February 6, 2019



National Community Action Partnership 1020 19th Street NW, Suite 700 Washington, DC 20036 www.communityactionpartnership.com

THE PROMISE OF COMMUNITY ACTION

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live.

We care about the entire community and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.





THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

Building Capacity to Increase Impact

Purpose: The purpose of the LCRC is to analyze Community Action outcomes and identify effective, promising, and innovative practice models that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty.

BUILD CAA CAPACITY TO FIGHT POVERTY!



The National Community Action Network Theory of Change Community Action Goals

Goal 1: Individuals and families with low incomes are stable and achieve economic security.

Goal 2: Communities where people with low incomes live are healthy and offer economic opportunity.

Goal 3: People with low incomes are engaged and active in building opportunities in communities.



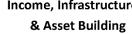
Employment





Education & Cognitive Development

Services and Strategies Income, Infrastructure







Health/Social Behavioral Development





Civic Engagement & Community Involvement

Core Principles

- · Recognize the complexity of the issues of poverty
- · Build local solutions specific to local needs
- Support family stability as a foundation for economic security
- · Advocate for systemic change
- · Pursue positive individual, family, and community level change
- Maximize involvement of people with low incomes
- Engage local community partners and citizens in solutions
- · Leverage state, federal, and community resources

Performance Management

How well does the network operate?







- Local Organizational Standards
- State and Federal Accountability Measures
- Results Oriented Management and Accountability System
- the network make:
- Individual and Family National Performance Indicators
- Community National Performance Indicators

A national network of over 1,000 high performing Community Action Agencies, State Associations, State offices, and Federal partners supported by the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) to mobilize communities to fight poverty.



Defining the Whole Family Approach

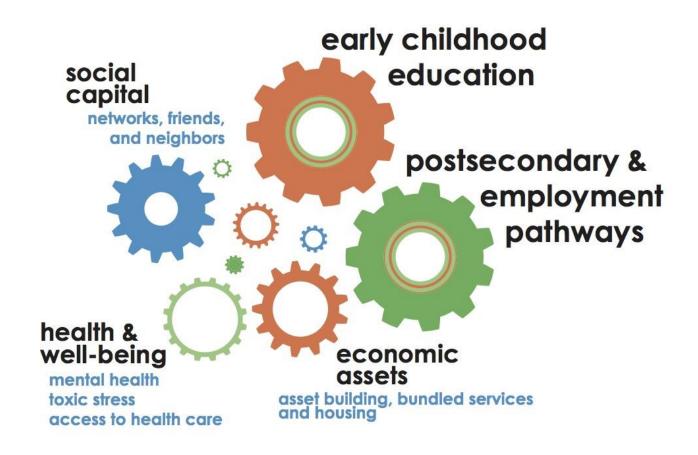




A Whole Family Approach Meets the Needs of Children and Parents *Together*.



Whole Family Approach Frameworks



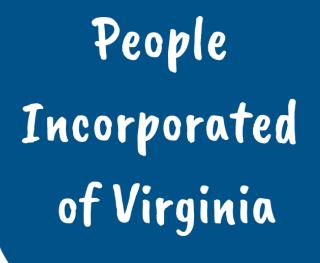
Source: Ascend at the Aspen Institute, Two-Generation Playbook



COMMUNITY ACTION ECONOMIC MOBILITY INITIATIVE

- An initiative funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation
 - dedicated to breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty through whole family approaches in Community Action
- Sponsored 10 agencies to participate in an 18-month cohort





WHOLE FAMILY





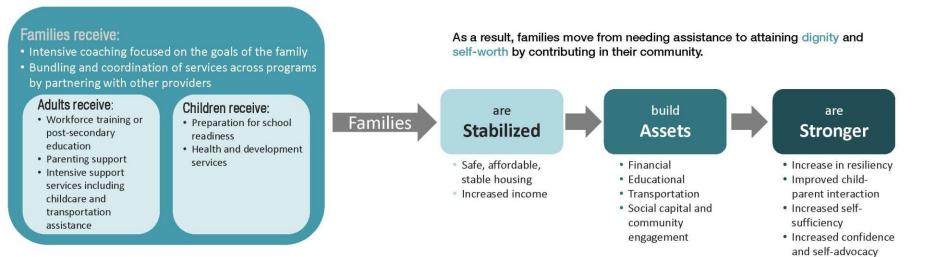
People Incorporated's Whole Family Approach

- Current programming with Whole Family potential
 - Head Start/Early Head Start
 - Comprehensive Health Investment Program (CHIP)
 - Workforce Development
 - Credit counseling and financial literacy
- Ongoing organizational work toward integrated service delivery





People Incorporated – Whole Family Theory of Change



Underlying Assumptions:

- Families are willing to give up poverty related supports as they increase their earned income
- The community can support this theory/intervention
- Our services lead to the desired outcomes
- Participants will be families who are committed and willing to actively participate in order to reach outcomes



Barriers in the shift to a Whole Family Approach

- Flexible Funding
- Community Barriers
- Organizational Change

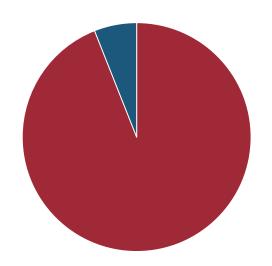


Whole Family Staff Training

- 3 trainings
- 215 staff from all departments
- Agenda designed for interaction and relationship building
 - CEO and senior leadership participation
 - Video of current client family
 - Group exercises
 - Whole Family Feud
 - Overview of whole family components
 - Staff panel
 - Action planning



Whole Family Staff Training



94% of staff said they feel more knowledgeable about Whole Family approaches as a result of this training.

"The opportunity to network with staff from other departments – this is the best way to support integrated service delivery and promote the agency as one unit."

"The relaxed atmosphere even with senior management and the availability to express our thoughts and concerns without fears of negative feedback."





2018
People
Incorporated
Annual
Report



Success in the shift to a Whole Family Approach

- Change in organizational culture
 - Employee Engagement Council
 - Shining Stars newsletter
- Improved focus
- Better way of communicating success
- Advocacy





 Finalize design for a formal Whole Family program



People Inc. Whole Family Team

- Rob Goldsmith, President & CEO, rgoldsmith@peopleinc.net
- Angie Groseclose, Chief Operating Officer, agroseclose@peopleinc.net
- Kelli Smith, Director of Planning & Evaluation, kesmith@peopleinc.net
- Donna Buckland, Director of Child & Family Development, <u>dbuckland@peopleinc.net</u>
- Linda Midgett, Director of Community Services, <u>Imidgett@peopleinc.net</u>
- Janice Belcher, Family Advocate, <u>jbelcher@peopleinc.net</u>



QUESTIONS?



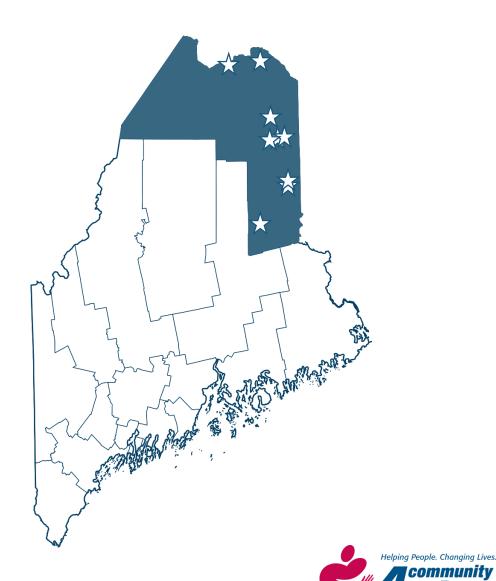






Aroostook County Action Program – Whole Family Approach

- Largest County East of the Mississippi
- 6,828 square miles
- Crown of Maine
- 9 service locations



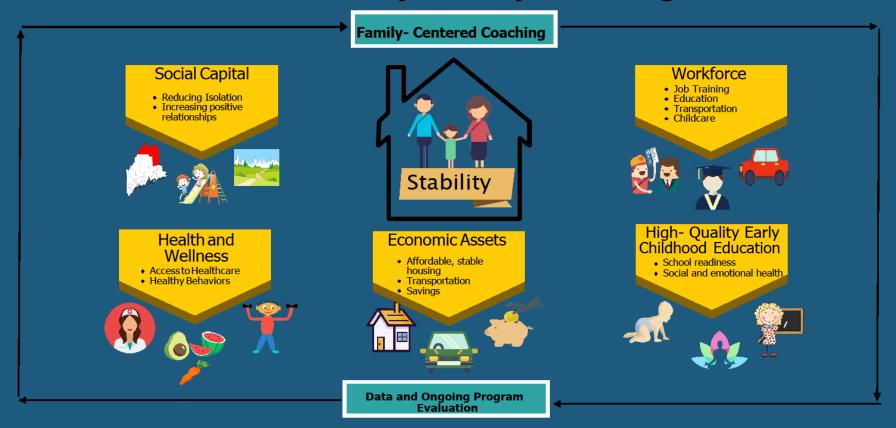
Family Council





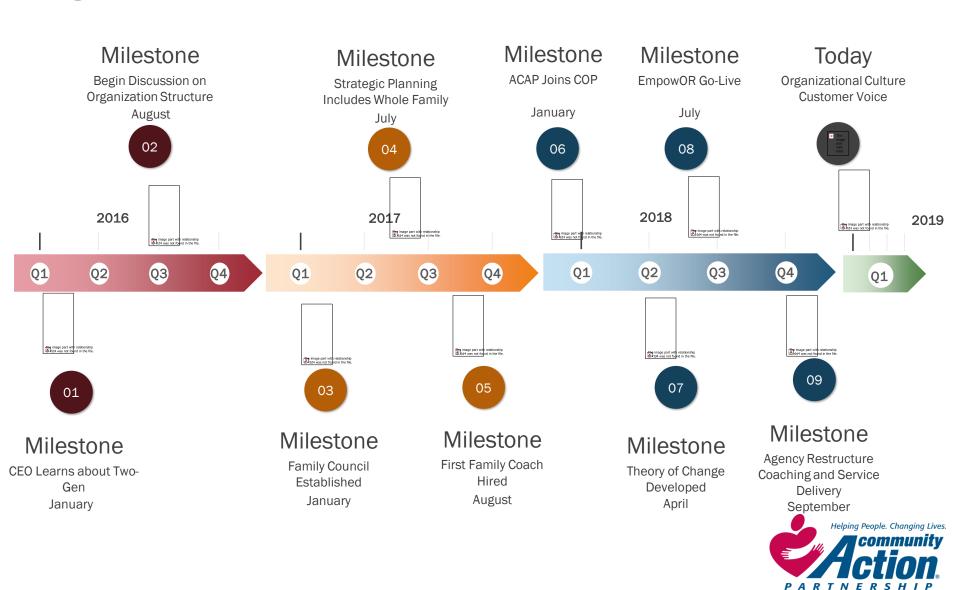


Whole Family Theory of Change



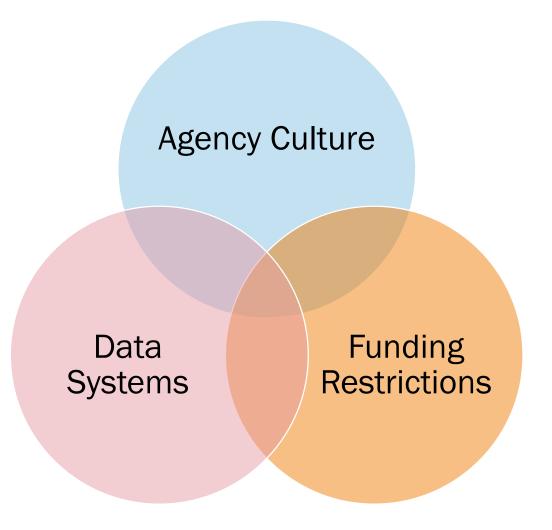


Our Transformation Timeline



LEARNING COMMUNITIES RESOURCE CENTER

Challenges and Barriers





When it all came together





Changes





What does success look like?



















Words of Inspiration







- Better capture customer voice
- Build capacity of central data system



Possibilities





Questions or Comments?

Contact

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QUESTIONS?









Our Services...



MIND

Early Head Start
Head Start
PA Pre K Counts
Adult Education
Truancy Prevention
Family Literacy
Postsecondary Transition
Computer Classes
Getting Ahead
Little Free Libraries



HOME

Foster Care
Adoption
Home Ownership
Housing Counseling
Mortgage Foreclosure
Mitigation
Child & Family Welfare
Transitional & Independent
Living



HEALTH

WIC
Senior Centers
Nutrition
Education
Meals on Wheels
RSVP
Care Management
Ombudsman



WALLET

Financial Literacy
Budget Counseling
Matched Savings
Job Development
VITA
A Little LIFT
Work-Based Learning

...and our Ah-ha moment



Theory of Change



Goal: Families become self-sufficient through engagement in early learning, adult education, family strengthening services and career pathways.

Early Learning Families

Children in Early Head Start/Head Start/Pre K Counts

Parents, caregivers, guardians of children

All household members

Services

Early Learning

Adult Education

Financial Literacy

Asset Building

Parenting Education

Family Coping ,Skill Building & Growth

Post Secondary Educa-

Career Pathways

Social Networks

Strategies

Quilted Services

Comprehensive Whole Family Plans & Focus

Barrier Elimination through community engagement

Ongoing Evaluation & Improvement

Outcomes

Children meet developmental milestones

Children increase school attendance & success

Adults increase literacy, attain GED, postsecondary education

Adults secure family sustaining jobs

Families increase coping & functioning

Families acquire assets and social connections











Our 2GEN Approach



Family & Community Well-Being



Career Pathways



Barrier <u>Elimina</u>tion



Organizational Change



Our 2GEN Project Design

Children	Parents	Family
High quality early childhood	Needs assessment &	Family success goal plan
education	goal planning	
Nutritious meals & snacks	Educational assessment, GED,	Monthly family meetings with
	adult basic education &	dinner, speaker, activities &
	computer classes	community connections
Health & developmental	Vocational assessment, career	Referral/advocacy for services
screening	pathway map & goal plan	(transportation, housing, etc.)
Mental health, disabilities,	Classes including family coping,	Barrier elimination as needed
health services as needed	financial literacy,	(to support family
	self- awareness &	advancement on goals)
	leadership skills	
Transition support to public	Job development, preparation	Participation incentives &
school, homework help &	& placement	rewards for goal achievement
other supports for school age		(gas cards, movie tickets,
children		dinner out, etc.)
		Helpin

Milestones – Year One

- 24 families actively engaged
- 2GEN Coordinator funding secured
- "Guiding Coalition" engaged
- Families Growing & Learning Together curriculum created
- Outcomes tracked & data collection system implemented



Challenges – Year One

Organizational integration

Sustainable & dedicated funds

Tactical vs. strategic efforts



Outcomes – Year One

- 4 postsecondary education enrollments
- 1 postsecondary education graduation
- 6 secured employment
- 2 gained assets



Success!









INSPIRATION

Danielle's Story

https://youtu.be/sSTQ4EUDf7A





- Family-Centered Coaching agency-wide
- Increase "Guiding Coalition" buy-In
- Morph 2GEN into an agency-wide approach vs. a program



For More Information:



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QUESTIONS?









MCAEOC Holistic Family Approach

MCAEOC, Inc. focuses on reducing and eliminating intergenerational poverty by providing holistic, wrap-around programs, services, and support to parents, children, and families.

Addressing poverty requires both immediate action to support families in need, and long-term investments in future generations.



Rural IMPACT

As a part of the Rural IMPACT pilot, MCAEOC, Inc. selected 50 families to receive intensive case management and family strengthening, in addition to other services and resources. This demonstration produced outcomes for those families and allowed our agency to take an in-depth look at how we link the success of parents, children, and families.



Mississippi County, Arkansas, Economic Opportunity Commission, Inc.

Whole Family Theory of Change for increased self-sufficiency, economic security, health and well-being, and educational success for multiple generations.

Outcomes **Target Population** Intervention Early Job Secondary Health and Social Financial Community Childhood Skills/Soft Education/ Well-Being Capital Partners Literacy Education Workforce Skills Training Families as lifelong learners and leaders. Low Income Families of Rural Underlying Assumptions: Mississippi County, Arkansas Increased Economic Security and Target families are willing to participate in intervention to reach desired outcomes Stobility Families want to move from a situation of poverty to prosperity Participants want to be self-sufficient and not dependent on Welfare and public Positive Health and Well-being assistance Academic and Career Advancement There are enough workforce and educational opportunities to support the target population

Families that thrive, create a better Mississippi County, Arkansas.



Social Capital

Milestones

- Buy in from key stakeholders and community partners (including Governor and Legislators)
- Shift in mindset of staff and management team
- Development and Implementation of Parent Empowerment
- Established One-Stop Community Service Center



Barrier to Success

-Implementing a shared tracking system for partners and key stakeholders



Ah-ha Moment!

-Looking back and allowing the families to tell how the approach has impacted their lives...



Our agency has shifted from being service providers to a multifaceted support system for upward mobility and family strengthening.



Success!!

- Families reached short, medium, and long-term outcomes with staff support.
- Participants prepared for and purchased their first home.
- Associate and Bachelor's Degrees Obtained
- New Jobs and Increased Wages
- Family Engagement Increased
- Expanded Services and Partners



We are one agency with a common agenda.

This experience has forced us to break down silos and operate as one. Overall communication and collaboration has improved. We understand that we all share a mutual goal, which is to enhance the lives of the children, parents, and families that we serve.





- Expand parent empowerment and intensive case management to every family who receives services
- Insure all staff understand the importance as well as how to implement holistic practices



Endless Possibilities

When our agency stands in the gap between deficiency and self sufficiency, children and families gain access to the resources needed to break the restraints of intergenerational poverty.

Families that thrive create a better, stronger community for us all.



MCAEOC, Inc.

1400 N. Division Blytheville, AR 72315 870-776-1054

Priscilla Johnson, Executive Director cilla.johnson@sbcglobal.net ext. 35

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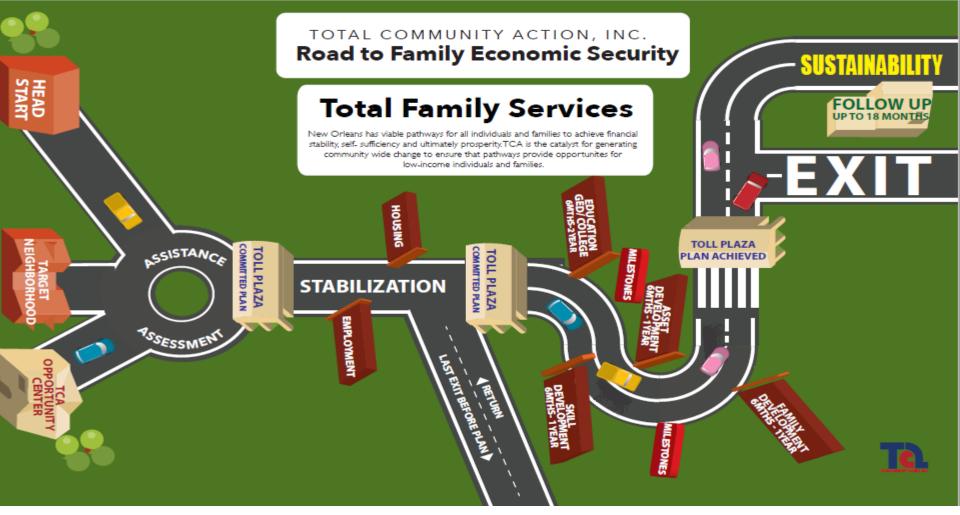
QUESTIONS?









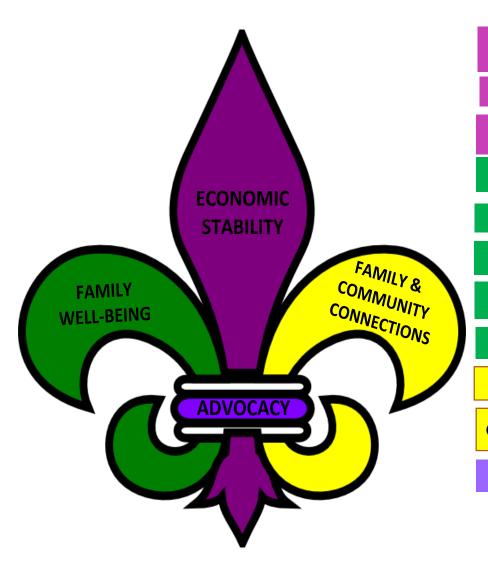


TOTAL FAMILY

Total Family is a comprehensive family empowerment service delivery system; designed to support individuals and families as the work to the achievement of sustainable economic opportunity.



Total Family Services



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT/EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

FINANCIAL FUTURES

EDUCATION/OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

HOUSING

FOOD

HEALTH

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

UTILITY ASSISTANCE/EDUCATION

PARENTING EDUCATION

CIVIC ENGAGMENT & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

POVERTY REDUCTION



Theory of Change

 The Total Community Action, Inc. Theory of Change (Total Family) is rooted in the belief that by providing low income families with comprehensive family centered case management and coaching, as well as, access to necessary family appropriate services and resources, families will commit and actively engage in goal achievement and ultimately economic security.



Implementation Milestones

- Engage family voices through journey mapping
- Increase in the number of families enrolled in Total Family
- Refined tools that support and strengthen data collection
- Expanded initial COP group
- Defined key building blocks of our two-generational approach

Logic Model

Theory of Change

- Achieved organizational acceptance of the agency's TOC
- Case Management retreat to build capacity and introduce family centered coaching
- Aligned/Expanded internal/external resources in support of families

Challenges

- Staff Turnover
- Program Silos
- Leadership and program buy-in
- Implementation
- Data collection
- Data analysis



Ah-ha

- Through peer to peer exchanges, other agencies are experiencing the same challenges in implementing and enhancing whole family approaches
- Assessment tool needs ongoing refining



What changed?

- Agency culture shifting
- Increased knowledge of outcomes rather than outputs

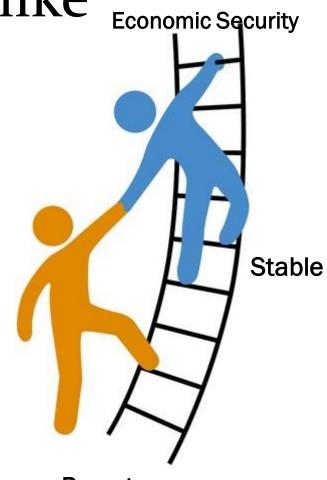
 Organizational alignment (mission, services, client outcomes)



What Success looked like



Building Staff Capacity In Family Engagement



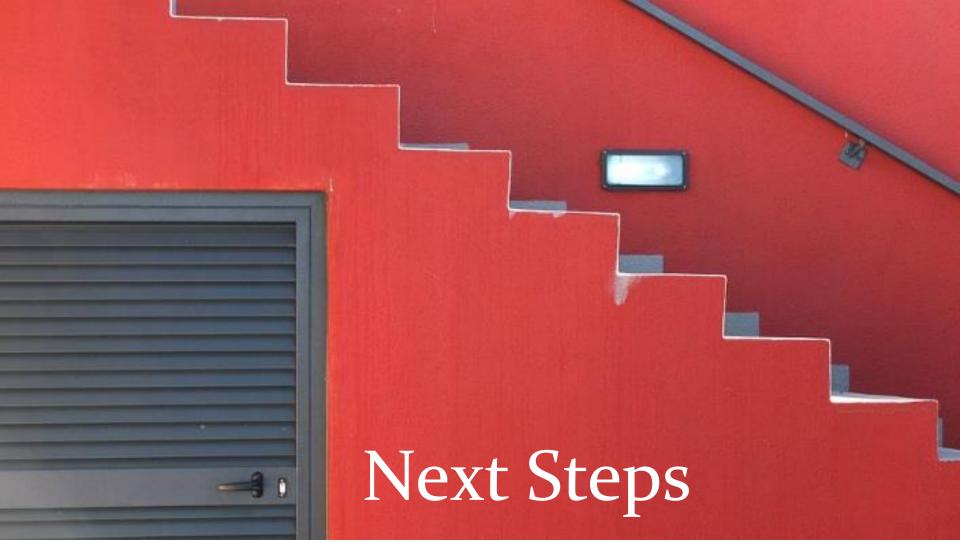




Words of Inspiration

 Celebrate success, no matter how small (the small wins)





.. Enhance common sets of standards of care for TCA family case management

Helping People. Changing Lives.

- .. Expand external collaborative partnerships/ building resources for multigenerational families
- Bi-Annual Client Assessment/Feedback process (customer-focused)

Family/Community Impact

Low- income families are economically secure and can live independently.

New Orleans has viable pathways for all individuals and families to achieve financial stability, self-sufficiency and ultimately prosperity.



Team TCA

Thelma Harris French – President & CEO thelma.french@tca-nola.org

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Sidney Monroe – Opportunity Center Manager sidney.Monroe@tca-nola.org

Jonika Julian – Family and Community Services Manager jonika.Julian@tca-nola.org



QUESTIONS?









WHOLE FAMILY APPROACH

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



MOVING WHOLE FAMILIES TOWARDS 200% FPG







Quality Higher Education + Quality Early Childhood = Whole Family Outcomes!

- Equity
- Policy change
- Family voice
- Compliance through systems, not people
- Staff work across programs
- Align high quality services across generations
 - Early Childhood
 - Economic Assets
 - Health & Wellbeing
 - Social Capital
 - Post-Secondary & Employment Pathways

Equity

- Monthly Board Discussion items / book group on diversity
- All staff encouraged to take Harvard's Implicit Bias Test
- Intercultural Development Inventory Qualified Administrator
- Friday Film Fests & Discussion on aspects of inclusion
- Agency-wide recognition Days



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Policy Change

- Formed Public Policy Committee
- Chair the MinnCAP statewide legislative committee
- Urban Institute Study with families on low-wage employment barriers
- Presentations to state officials
- Family participation at Days on the Hill in St Paul and DC

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Family Voice

- Journey-Mapping with Head Start and Housing families
- Utilizing shared governance training differently to better include family experiences
- Addressing organizational culture to be less top-down so staff closest to families are empowered to make change



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Compliance through systems, not people

Created new positions:

- Director of Administration
- Data Analyst
- Head Start Systems Manager

In process:

- Universal Intake
- Collect information once, use it many times

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Staff work across programs

- Changed seating arrangements for some staff for better coordination
- Developing crosstraining for Housing and Head Start Staff



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Account for outcomes

- Board set strategic direction, focused on moving families to 200% FPG
- Employees report increased ability to use data for making decisions (53% to 73%)



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Early Childhood

 Created new position: Child Care Collaboratives Manager

 Worked with school district to perform home visits.



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Economic Assets

 Created new position: Stabilization Services Manager

 Community education on asset-building strategies



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Health & Well-being

- Efforts to reduce staff stress
- Increased emphasis on ACEs
- Increased emphasis on reproductive health



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Social Capital

- Perham Navigator Pilot pairs families with community members for social connections
- Strategic goal of reducing stigma



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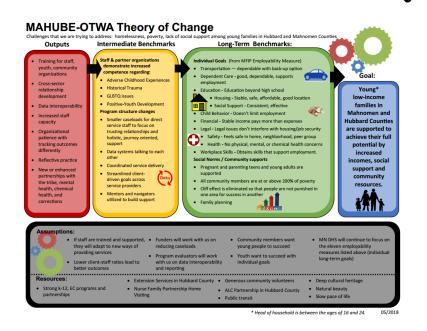
Post-Secondary & Employment

- Employability Initiative works with parents on stackable credential career pathways
- New partnerships with tech college, nursing homes, etc
- New staff position: Employment Case Worker



THEORY OF CHANGE

- Problem: emphasis has been on crisis management
- Innovation: reduce caseloads; increase relationshipbased approaches; empower frontline staff; remove hurdles; address equity; set bold goals and track outcomes



• Goal: for Head Start and Housing families that are past their immediate crisis but demonstrate commitment to goals, increase investment to set them on paths they identify that lead to 200% FP

LEARNING COMMUNITIES RESOURCE CENTER

KEY MILESTONES

- Identifying organizational values
- Board setting strategic direction
- Changes in org structure
- Change in org philosophy from highly regulative towards generative
- Increased emphasis on building intercultural awareness
- Increased emphasis on focusing on strengths of staff and families



KEY CHALLENGES

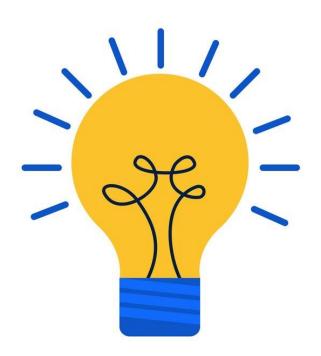


- Limited amounts of new funding means limited staff time to change systems;
- Organizational culture change takes time to ensure continuous forward momentum



AH-HA MOMENTS

 Working on culture, values, outcomes, empowerment each create small wins along this journey



 Small changes can have great impact

 Coordination across departments has resulted in small perks like reduced costs for everyone for having an agency block for conference registrations

WHOLE FAMILY TEAM

(WEEKLY 30 MIN CHECK-IN MEETINGS)

- Alice Meyer, Family Service Worker
- Angie Kent, Office Manager
- Chandler Esslinger, Family Health Coordinator
- Dana Patsie, Child Care Aware Director
- Jamie Stollenwerk, Employment Caseworker
- Jen Soule, Early Childhood Services Manager
- Jenny Hagen, Data Analyst
- Liz Kuoppala, Executive Director
- Marcia Otte, Family Development Director
- Michelle Wilkowski, Head Start Director



- Cross-training front line staff
- Agency-wide communication on Whole Family strategies / successes / setbacks



CONTACT INFO

MAHUBE-OTWA Community Action Partnership

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QUESTIONS?





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