ACHIEVING COLLECTIVE IMPACT: STRATEGIES FOR A SUBURBAN ENVIRONMENT

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Learning Objectives

◦ Understand the value of community coalitions in a suburban setting

◦ Understand how *WeGo Together for Kids* has utilized a modified model of collective impact to fit the needs and capacities of a suburban based community coalition

◦ Understand how the use of Results Based Accountability, Asset Based Community Development, and the Community School strategy can foster a holistic approach to achieving collective impact
WeGo Together for Kids

- Community Coalition that began in 2005
- Over 60 partners
- The mission of **WeGo Together for Kids** is to support and enhance the health, safety and well-being of children and families through a collaborative, coordinated and comprehensive approach for West Chicago schools and community.

**WeGo Together for Kids**
Connecting our Community...Strengthening our Families
Collective Impact

**Traditional Framework**
1. Common agenda
2. Common progress measures
3. Mutually reinforcing activities
4. Communication
5. Backbone organization

**Modified Framework**
1. Relationship development
2. Common agenda/goals
3. Shared data/data decision making
4. Communication
5. Funding stewardship
WHAT PIECE OF THE MODIFIED MODEL IS THE MOST FEASIBLE FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION?

Stir-the-Class
West Chicago

- Located in West Chicago, IL, a far western suburb in DuPage County.
- Total population approx. 27,000
- Approx. 50% Hispanic or Latino
- Over half the population are Second Language Learners
Strategies to Foster Holistic Collective Impact

Results Based Accountability

Turn the Curve Thinking

Community School

Asset Based Community Development
Results Based Accountability (RBA)

- Supports **good communication** and **aligned efforts** when determining and working towards result areas:
  - Academic Achievement
  - Youth and Family Health
  - Emergency Preparedness
  - Stable Families
  - Community Engagement

- Ensures we are always asking ourselves:
  - How much did we do?
  - How well did we do it?
  - Is anyone better off?
Community Schools

- A Community School is a place and a set of strategic partnerships aimed at promoting the conditions necessary for student success.
The Four Pillars of Community School

- Integrated students supports
- Expanded learning time & opportunities
- Family & community engagement
- Collaborative leadership & practices

Source: Community Schools: An Evidence-Based Strategy for Equitable School Improvement
WeGo Together Community School

Community School model rolled out in 7 out of 9 schools in West Chicago Elementary School District 33

**Community School building teams include:**

- Building Principal
- Community School Coordinator
- Family Liaison(s)
- Community Mental Health Clinician
- Afterschool Coordinator
WeGo Together Community School Services and Programs

Classes for parents:
- ESL
- Nutrition
- Fitness
- Monthly workshops
- Parenting education
- Financial wellness workshops
- Parent leadership

For students:
- After school program
- After school clubs
- Winter coats, supplies, eyeglasses
- Fitness
- Mentoring program
- Mental health services
Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)

- Authentic engagement

- Asking what a community would like to do vs. US telling THEM what to do

- Leverages the talents and resources of a community
  - Working from a “glass half full” approach

- What can you offer? vs. what do you “need”?
In summary…

Results Based Accountability

+ Community Schools

+ Asset Based Community Development

= Collective Impact
WHAT QUESTIONS ARE YOU LEAVING WITH?

3 Step Interview
THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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