Strengthening families within Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Despite its severe poverty, Central contains or is proximate to extensive educational, business, health, and community resources.



The families of Central

2,000 families with children under 18 years

1,800 families with a single parent head of household

1,000 families with mothers without a high school diploma

600 families with preschool age children

Key poverty statistics

81% of children live in poverty

50% of Central residents live in deep poverty (<50% FPL)

\$9,647 median household income

50% of 18-24 year olds did not complete HS

THEORY OF CHANGE

Since 2010, the CCPN theory of change has been to improve outcomes for the child, family, and community through three levers:



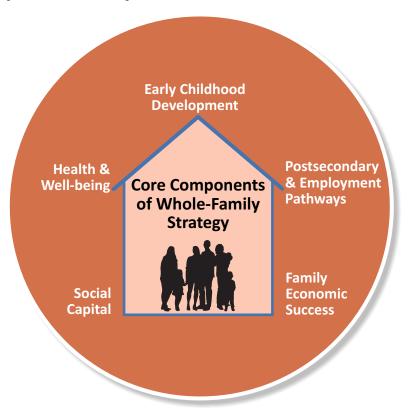
What is a whole-family approach?

Strengthening the family through integrated programs and supports for vulnerable adults and children is a whole-family approach.

At the heart of the approach is the recognition that a child's well-being and academic success is inexorably tied to family health and well-being, which in turn, are founded on family economic stability, caregiver employability, and the underlying health and support of the surrounding community.

WHOLE-FAMILY APPROACH

Going forward, our strategic goal is to break the cycle of poverty, family by family, by advancing family health, education, social capital, stability, and economics.



A lesson learned in Central is that trust and social capital are essential to every success to date.

Social capital is a key success factor of the twogeneration [whole-family] approach. Research shows that social capital manifests as peer support; contact with family, friends, and neighbors; participation in community and faith-based organizations; school and workplace contacts; leadership and empowerment programs; use of case managers or career coaches; social networks, such as cohort models and learning communities; and mental health services.

The Aspen Institute





Progress to date in Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood



First and second graders of the Read and Ride home reading program earn book, bikes, and classroom Kindles.



Promise Ambassador Jerome Baker founded Men of Central (now Men and Women of Central) to connect and empower young people.



Mother and daughter connect during joint learning activities at a Parent University special education pancake breakfast.



CAPACITY BUILDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CCPN is building capacity across the three levers of our theory of change. Infrastructure and partnerships are now in place to go beyond poverty mitigation to break the cycle of poverty. We envision an equitable community where opportunities for growth and quality of life are shared by all.

Genesis

- Sisters of Charity begin working in Central upon arrival in 1851.
- Establishment of the Foundation in 1996 extends the commitment to Central.
- Cleveland Central Promise Neighborhood planned in 2010; launched in 2012.

Engaging Residential Voice

- Over 60 volunteer Promise
 Ambassadors play a crucial role in connecting residents to partners.
- The Early Learning Network is fostering trust and social connections with and between families.
- 30-person Advisory Board provides strategic oversight, guidance, and input to the work.

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Aligning Organizations

- Over 30 community organizations coordinate their efforts in CCPN.
- Our most active partner network is comprised of early learning centers, home visiting programs, and early childhood professionals.
- CCPN works with community partners and CMSD to support K-12 teaching and learning.
- Health partners are expanding vital services to Central children and families through information sharing and program coordination.

Employing a Whole-Family Approach

- Home visits by three partner organizations are building trust and empowering caregivers.
- A growing resource bank of family supports and services is ready to be shared across the partner network.
- A planning process in 2018 has identified key challenges and opportunities for whole-family programming to foster child and adult success.

4

FAMILY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Early Childhood Development Our primary focus to date. Early learning enrollment of 3-5 year olds has increased from 41% to 66%. Eight of 13 early learning centers are now highly-rated, up from just 2 in 2010. The Read and Ride reading program now serves all 1st and 2nd graders plus the preschoolers at these high-rated centers. Extending this work into K-12, CCPN's education performance manager fosters connections with CMSD and over 30 community organizations to support learning.
- **Health & Well-being** A network of health and food partners are addressing food insecurity, active living, trauma-informed care, and access to health care.
- Social Capital Home visits, a whole-family cornerstone, are up and running for 40 families. Close relationships with trained visit staff help catalyze social connections with other families, parenting coaches, family resource staff, and Ambassadors. An advocacy education program convenes parents of special needs children while a program advising on high school transition/choice is now available for middle schoolers and parents.
- Postsecondary Education & Employment and Family Economic Success still largely in pre-launch stage.

