PLUS in Berkeley: Creating a Collaborative Model through Promising Practice Research

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Whole Child Principle of 2020 Vision Requires “Shifting the Discourse” of Collaboration

Berkeley’s 2020 Vision
An Institutional and community collaboration to close the achievement gap in Berkeley by 2020, eliminating the racial predictability of low performance

Focus on the *whole child* requires collaboration of all institutions, programs, and communities touching youth in Berkeley

Previous equity initiatives in Berkeley have failed to maintain rich collaboration during implementation phases
  – Reputation vs. Reality
  – Past Youth Initiatives
Several Issues Underlie Ineffective Collaboration Toward Equity Goals

- Racism
  - Institutional
  - Privilege and entitlement

- White Liberalism
  - Democracy used to keep status quo

- Insularity
  - Sacred Cows

- Lack of Trust

2020 Vision Leadership for Equity Institute led by BAYCES began important conversations among stakeholders about these issues and laid the groundwork for deeper and more critical thinking about how to collaborate for equity in Berkeley
The PLUS Project: Common Framework and Presentation Process Critical to Power of Conclusions

- Inspiration/History/Mission
- The Basics: Population and Programs
- Internal Organizational Structure
- External Relationships: Partners and Family/Community Engagement
- Funding
- Evaluation
- Tools to Support Collaboration
- Discussion: What Does this Mean for Berkeley?

Harlem Children’s Zone
SUN Service System
Community Schools
Alignment Nashville
Common Themes Across Best Practice Research Suggest Future Areas of Focus for the 2020 Vision

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Culture/Alliances</td>
<td>Design a process through which new group members can be assimilated into the common culture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership</td>
<td>Cultivate leadership of missing groups: ground level leadership and business community</td>
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<td>Evaluation System</td>
<td>Build a data infrastructure: data system shared across collaborators, FTE devoted to evaluation of the 2020 Vision, university partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Infrastructure</td>
<td>Assess future need for communication, development, administrative support, facilitation; identify sustainable funding to support</td>
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| Place-based strategy      | Consider the role of place in the 2020 Vision: What does place mean within this context and what benefits can a place-based strategy bring?
Thank you!