



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

Kristen Ferris, PLUS Fellow, MPP Candidate Goldman School of Public Policy

Angela Gallegos-Castillo, Ph.D., Assistant to the City Manager

Lisa Warhuus, Ph.D., Manager, Family and Community Partnerships



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
GOLDMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

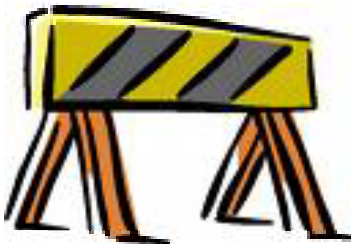
Whole Child Principle of 2020 Vision Requires “Shifting the Discourse” of Collaboration

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

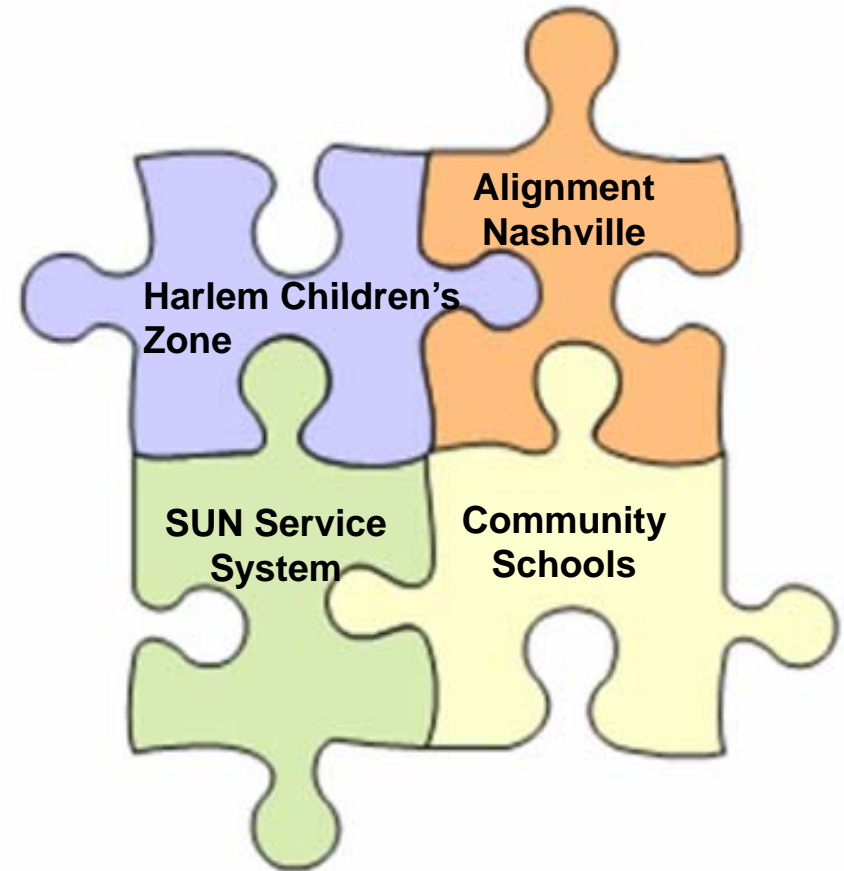


Ineffective
Collaboration

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?



Common Themes Across Best Practice Research Suggest Future Areas of Focus for the 2020 Vision

Common Culture/
Alliances

Design a process through which new group members can be assimilated into the common culture

Leadership

Cultivate leadership of missing groups: ground level leadership and business community

Evaluation
System

Build a data infrastructure: data system shared across collaborators, FTE devoted to evaluation of the 2020 Vision, university partnership

Other
Infrastructure

Assess future need for communication, development, administrative support, facilitation; identify sustainable funding to support

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?



Center for Cities & Schools · Institute of Urban and Regional Development · University of California, Berkeley · <http://citiesandschools.berkeley.edu>

Thank you!

