

COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIES FOR BRIDGES STEERING COMMITTEES

THE BRIDGES CONTINUUM

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| | BIRTH TO 6 | K-12 | POST-SECONDARY | WORKFORCE PREP/PLACEMENT | JOB RETENTION | SELF-SUFFICIENT INCOME | SENIORS | WELLNESS | COMMUNITY PROSPERITY |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Metrics: Ending Poverty Scorecard | Ready for school Language experience, brain development, cognitive learning structures | Graduation rates GEDs | Retention rates Graduation rates Certifications | Employment rate Apprenticeships Certifications Availability of jobs Mix of jobs | 1 year minimum | Self-sufficient wage (WOW) 200% poverty guidelines goals met for households Assets established | Poverty rate. Access to housing and health care. | High resources – all eleven Balanced life Giving back to the community | Environmental Sustainability Economic viability where everyone can live well Low rates of poverty and disparity Social Health Indices are positive |
| Fallout Costs | Failure to act here means giving up the highest returns on dollars spent on interventions; for birth-to-five the returns can be as high as 15-17%. ⁱ | Dropouts from the class of 2007 will cost the U.S. nearly \$329 billion in lost wages, taxes, and productivity in their lifetimes. ⁱⁱ | Loss of income: lifetime earnings of a male with a bachelor's degree in 2004 were 96% higher than a male with a high school diploma. ⁱⁱⁱ | Young men with low earnings and employment rates are much more likely than others to engage in crime, less likely to marry, and more likely to father children outside of marriage. Crime imposes costs of as much as \$1-2 trillion per year. The savings that can be realized by preventing crime and delinquency among youth are extremely high. ^{iv} | \$5,505.08 average turnover cost for an \$8.00 an hour employee ^v | Children who live in families with an annual income less than \$15,000 are 22 times more likely to be abused or neglected than children living in families with an annual income of \$30,000 or more. ^{vi} | Individuals 55 and older accounted for 22 percent of all personal bankruptcies in 2007, compared to 8 percent in 1991. Health care costs proved to be the top reason for many of these bankruptcies. ^{vii} | Poor rankings in the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) ^{viii} | Persistent childhood poverty is estimated to cost our nation \$500 billion a year, or about 4% of GDP. ^{ix} Communities that have lost manufacturing jobs, businesses, and their tax base are not viable economically and socially. |
| Family of Strategies Using aha! Process Constructs | <i>Tucker Signing Strategies</i> <i>Reading by Age 5</i> <i>Getting Ahead</i> Develop an early childhood champion Circles | Ruby Payne schools—Framework training <i>The R Rules</i> <i>Collaboration for Kids</i> Dropout prevention Financial Literacy Circles | The white paper for administrators <i>Getting Ahead, College Edition</i> New book for faculty and instructors Circles targeting barriers and academic performance | Cascade Engineering/Quest Cincinnati Works The Source <i>Getting Ahead</i> Circles to support placement and barrier removal | Cascade Engineering/Quest Cincinnati Works The Source Getting Ahead for new employees Circles Working Bridges Employer Workgroup, VT | Employer in-house advancement strategies Bridges training Getting Ahead Cascade Engineering/Quest Cincinnati Works The Source Circles for advancement | Wider Opportunities for Women Circles | Sophisticated Service Delivery Systems – consulting CCI, Community Collaboration Inc., Northern Illinois University Community engagement models, Circles Campaign Champions by discipline Tactical Communications | Bridges Steering Committees Community Sustainability Grid Systemic change and policy issues addressed by all sectors. Circles |
| Who Takes Responsibility for Change | Families, early childhood development field | Parents, students, educators, school boards, PTAs, taxpayers | Students, faculty, administrators, boards, communities, benefactors | Employers, employees, government, colleges, chambers of commerce, economic and community developers, workforce development, high schools | Employers, employees, chambers of commerce, economic and community developers, workforce development, human services, government | Policymakers, employers, employees, workforce development, government, human services | Service providers, faith community, government, neighborhood associations, civic groups. | Faith community, civic organizations, medical community, law enforcement, neighborhood associations, political parties | Bridges Steering Committees, people and organizations from all other points on the continuum. People from all classes, races, and political persuasions. |

ⁱ Heckman, James J. "Investing in Disadvantaged Young Children is an Economically Efficient Policy." Paper presented at Committee for Economic Development, the Pew Charitable Trusts, PNC Financial Services Group Forum on "Building the Economic Case for Investments in Preschool." New York, January 10, 2006.
ⁱⁱ High School Dropouts in America, Alliance for Excellent Education, http://www.all4ed.org/files/GraduationRates_FactSheet.pdf
ⁱⁱⁱ Kirsch, Irwin, Braun, Henry, Yamamoto, Kentaro. (January, 2007). "America's Perfect Storm: Three Forces Changing Our Nation's Future." Princeton, NJ: Educational Testing Service.
^{iv} Holzer, Harry J. "Workforce Development and the Disadvantaged." The Urban Institute, Brief 7, September 2008. www.urban.org/UploadPDF/41761_workforce_development.PDF

^v Compilation of Turnover Studies, SASHA Corporation, <http://www.sashacorp.com/turnframe.html>
^{vi} American Humane, <http://www.americanhumane.org/about-us/newsroom/fact-sheets/americas-children.html>
^{vii} Health Care Costs, Economy Pushing Senior Citizens to Bankruptcy and Poverty in the U.S., Senior Journal.com. <http://seniorjournal.com/NEWS/SeniorStats/2008/20080826-USSeniorCitizensInPoverty.htm>
^{viii} Burd-Sharps, Sarah, et. al. (2008) The Measure of America: American Human Development Report 2008-2009. New York, NY: Columbia University Press.
^{ix} Center for American Progress, From Poverty to Prosperity: A National Strategy to Cut Poverty in Half, April 2007. www.americanprogress.org/issues/2007/04/pdf/poverty_report.pdf