

Kansas Poverty Conference

National Community Action Partnership



Denise Harlow, CCAP
National Community Action Partnership
1020 19th Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
धारlow@communityactionpartnership.com
@PartnershipCEO
www.communityactionpartnership.com

The Promise of Community Action



*Community Action changes people's lives,
embodies the spirit of hope,
improves communities, and
makes America a better place to live.*

*We care about the entire community, and
we are dedicated to helping people
help themselves and each other.*

Vision Statement

The vision of the Community Action Partnership is a nation that creates opportunities for all people to thrive, builds strong, resilient communities, and ensures a more equitable society.



Value Statements



We believe all people should be treated with dignity and respect and recognize that structural race, gender, and other inequities remain barriers that must be addressed.



We believe that this nation has the capacity and moral obligation to ensure that no one is forced to endure the hardships of poverty.



We believe that with hope, adequate resources and opportunities, everyone can reach their fullest potential, and we are committed to achieving that vision.



We pledge ourselves to creating an environment that pursues innovation and excellence through multi-sector partnership and collaboration.

**“The opposite of poverty isn’t wealth.
The opposite of poverty is justice”
Bryan Stevenson**

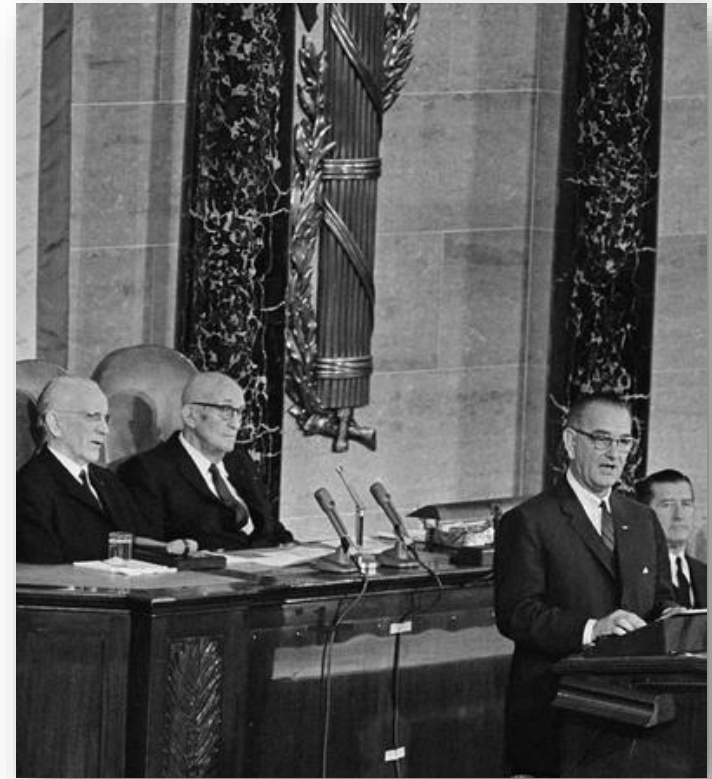


President Lyndon B. Johnson

“The administration today, here and now, declares unconditional war on poverty in America, and I urge this Congress and all Americans to join me in that effort. It will not be a short or easy struggle, no single weapon or strategy will suffice, but we shall not rest until that war is won.

The richest nation on earth can afford to win it. We cannot afford to lose it.”

-State of the Union, January 8, 1964



President Lyndon B. Johnson

"It is, therefore, the policy of the United States to **eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty** in this Nation by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity. "

Our Catalytic Mission

Title II, Section 201 (a), of the Economic Opportunity Act

The basic purpose of Community Action is:

*"to stimulate a better focusing of **all available** local, state, private, and Federal resources upon the goal of enabling low-income families, and low-income individuals of all ages, in rural and urban areas, to attain the skills, knowledge, and motivations, and secure the opportunities needed for them to become self-sufficient."*

Also Created as Part of the EOA

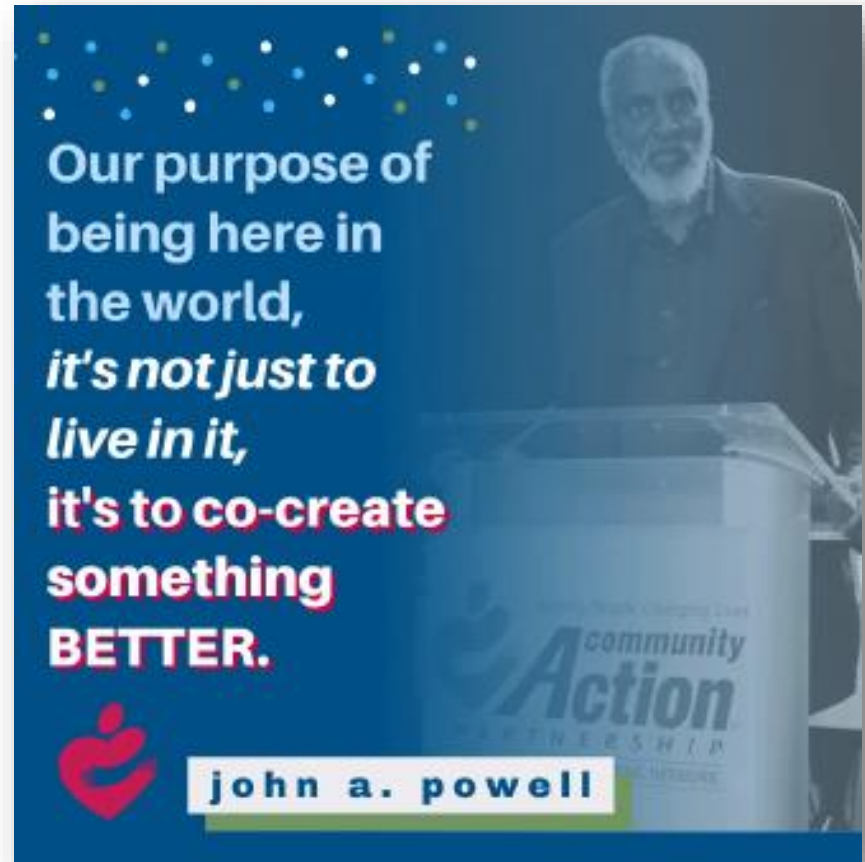
- VISTA
- Job Corps
- Neighborhood Youth Corps
- Head Start
- Adult Basic Education
- Family Planning
- Community Health Centers
- Congregate Meal Preparation
- Economic Development CDCs
- Foster Grandparents
- Legal Services



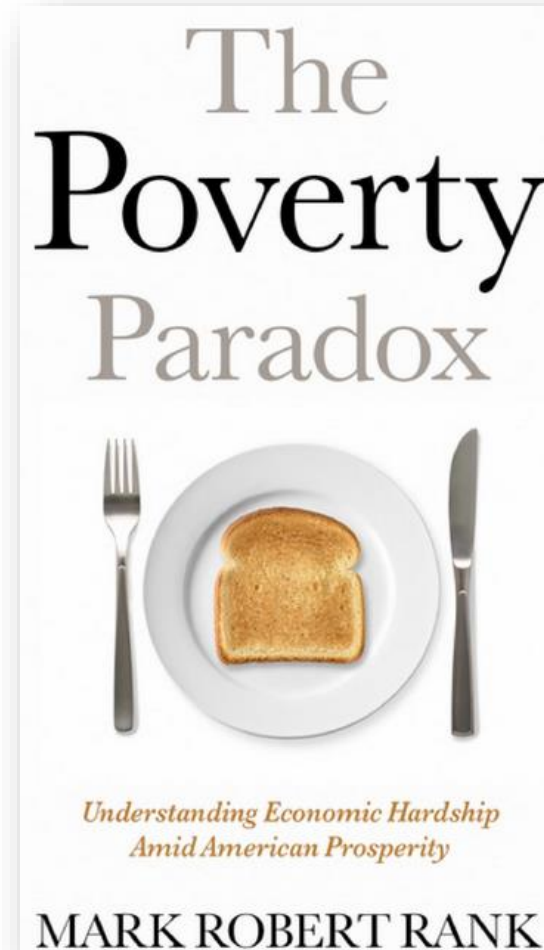
- RSVP
- Legal Services
- Neighborhood Centers
- Summer Youth Programs

Poverty Today

- Income Disparities
- Wealth Disparities
- Racial Inequality
- Education Disparities
- Health Disparities
- Affordable Housing
- Aging of America

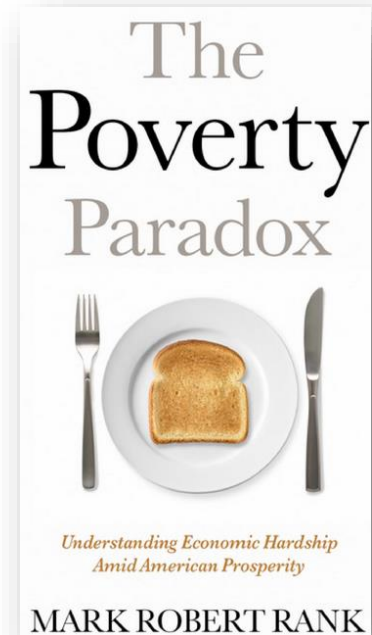


Poverty Today



Cumulative Inequality

- Geography of disadvantage
- Race and ethnicity
- Schools and education
- Jobs and earning
- Health disparity
- Older adults



Rank Metaphors and New Term

- Monopoly
- Riding your bike into the wind
- Musical Chairs
- Intergenerational elasticity statistic (aka Poverty is sticky)

Life Course Risk of poverty

- Between age 20 and 75, nearly 60% of Americans will spend a year living in poverty
- 75% will experience poverty or near poverty (150%)
- Between ages 25-60, 79% of Americans will experience economic turmoil such as unemployment or accessing safety net services
- Between birth and age 17, 34.1% of American children will spend a year in poverty, 40.5% near poverty (125%)
- 40.4% of those between the ages of 60 and 90 will experience at least a year in poverty and 47.7% at least a year near poverty (125%)

Annual Cost of Child Poverty

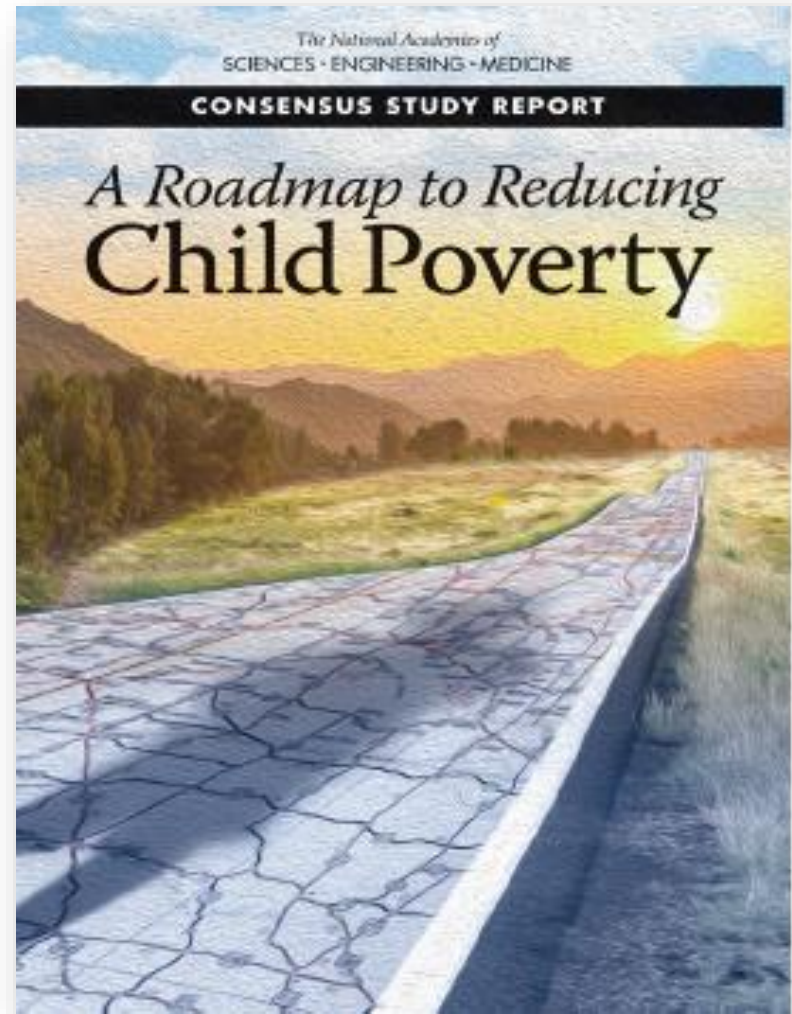
Type of Cost	Dollar Amount (in billions)
Reduced Earnings	294.0
Increased street crime victimization costs	200.6
Increased health costs	192.1
Increased corrections/crime deterrence costs	122.5
Increased child homelessness costs	96.9
Increased social costs due to incarcerations	83.2
Increased child maltreatment costs	40.5
Total Cost of Child Poverty	1,029.8

Rank, *The Poverty Paradox*

Cut Child Poverty in Half in the U.S. in 10 Years

**New Consensus Study:
The National Academies
of Science, Engineering,
and Medicine**

It is possible...

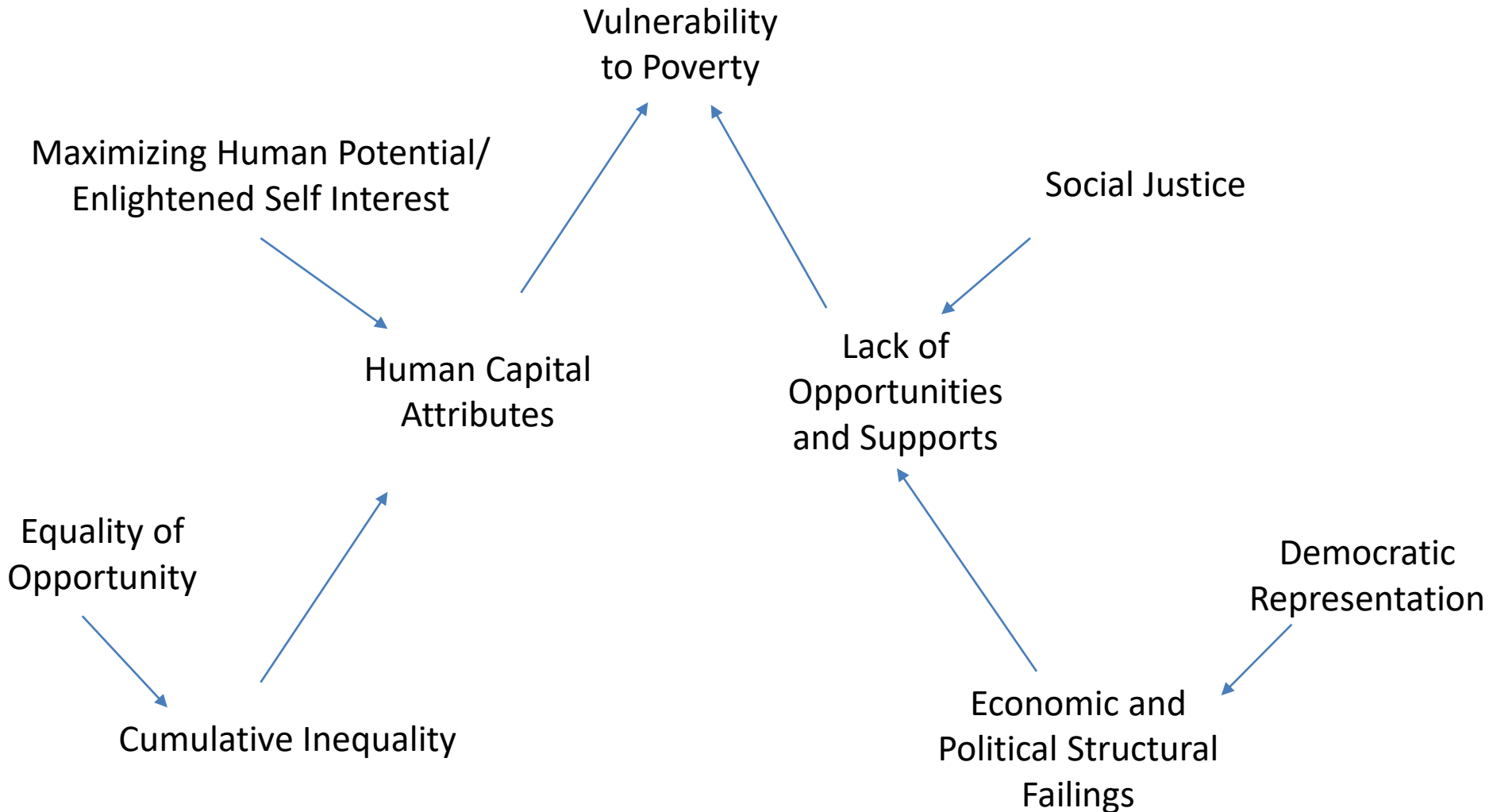


Composition and Impacts of Program and Policy Packages

	Work-oriented package	Work-Based and Universal Support Package	Means-tested supports and work package	Universal supports and work package
Expand EITC	X	X	X	X
Expand Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit	X	X	X	X
Increase the minimum wage	X			X
Roll out WorkAdvance	X			
Expand housing voucher program			X	
Expand SNAP benefits			X	
Begin a child allowance		X		X
Begin child support assurance				X
Eliminate 1996 immigration eligibility restrictions				X
Percent Reduction in the number of poor children	-18.8%	-35.6%	-50.7%	-52.3%
Percent Reduction in the number of children in deep poverty	-19.3%	-41.3%	-51.7%	-55.1%
Change in number of low-income workers	+1,003,000	+568,000	+404,000	+611,000
Annual cost, in billions	\$8.7	\$44.5	\$90.7	\$108.8

The National Academies of SCIENCES, ENGINEERING, and MEDICINE

Structural Vulnerability Model with Underlying Values- Mark Rank, *The Poverty Paradox*



Rank, *The Poverty Paradox*

Rank Recommendations

- Strong Safety Net
- Invest in Schools
- Healthcare access
- Housing
- Jobs
- Universal Basic Income
- Organizing for social change

Desmond

- How do we make the poor in America poor today?
 - We exploit (e.g wages, housing, banking)
 - We prioritize the subsidization of affluence over the alleviation of poverty
 - We create prosperous and exclusive communities



Desmond Recommendations

- Deepen investments in economic stability and dignity
- Access to benefits/Rebalance the safety net
 - CTC/EITC
 - Housing/Rental
 - Education
- “Empower the poor”
 - Reign in exploitation
- “Tear down the walls”
 - Turn away from segregation
- Turn away from “scarcity diversion” and toward a “recognition of this nation’s bounty”

Desmond, *Poverty, by America*

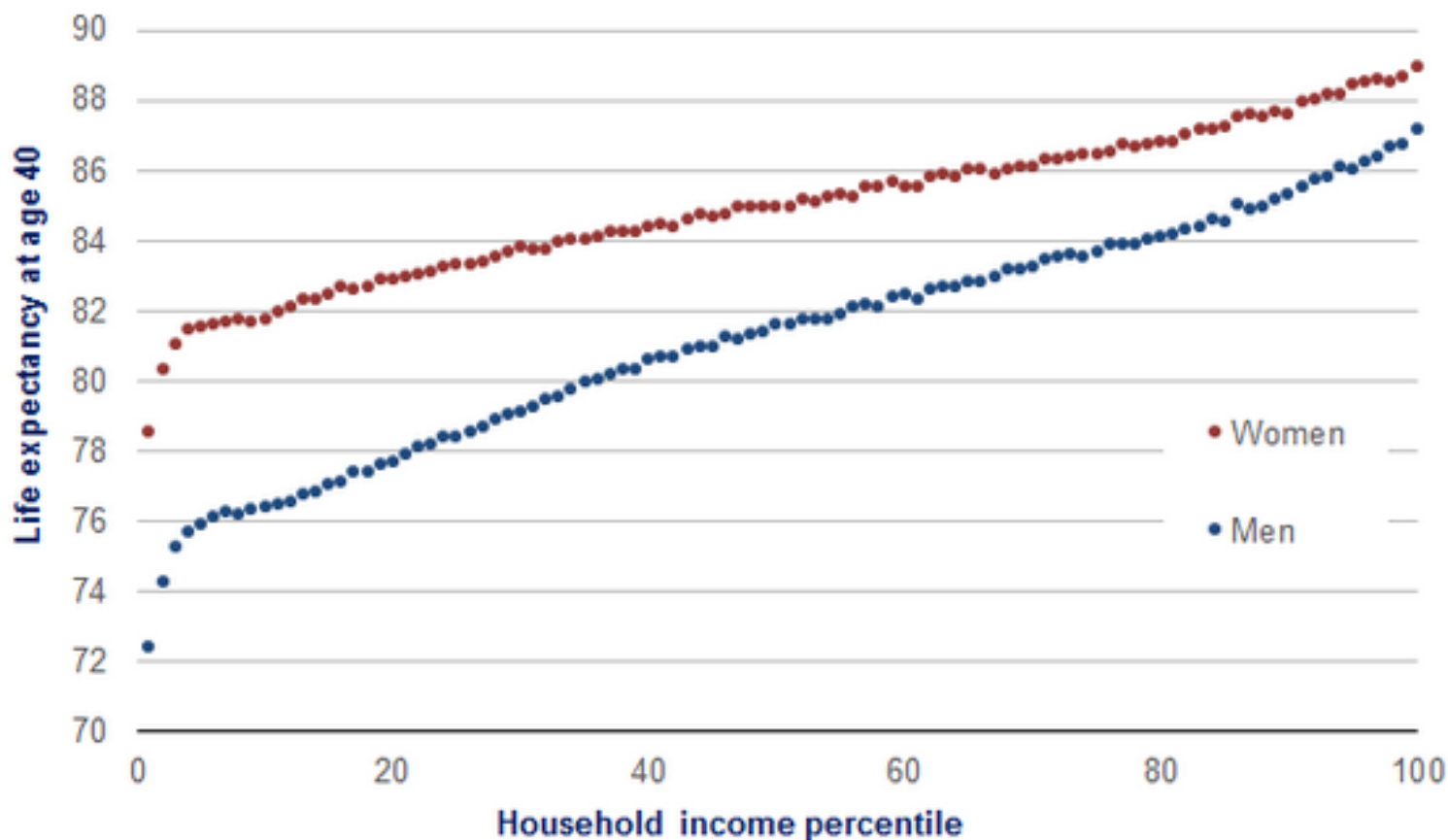
Matthew Desmond

“Glancing at the price tag of some program that would cut child poverty in half or give all Americans access to a doctor, they suck in their teeth and ask, ‘But how can we afford it?’ *How can we afford it?* What a sinful question. What a selfish, dishonest question, one asked as if the answer wasn’t staring us in the face. We could afford it if we allowed the IRS to do its job. We could afford it if the well-off among us took less from government. We could afford it if we designed our welfare state to expand opportunity and not guard fortunes.”

Desmond, *Poverty, by America*



Poor men die a decade earlier

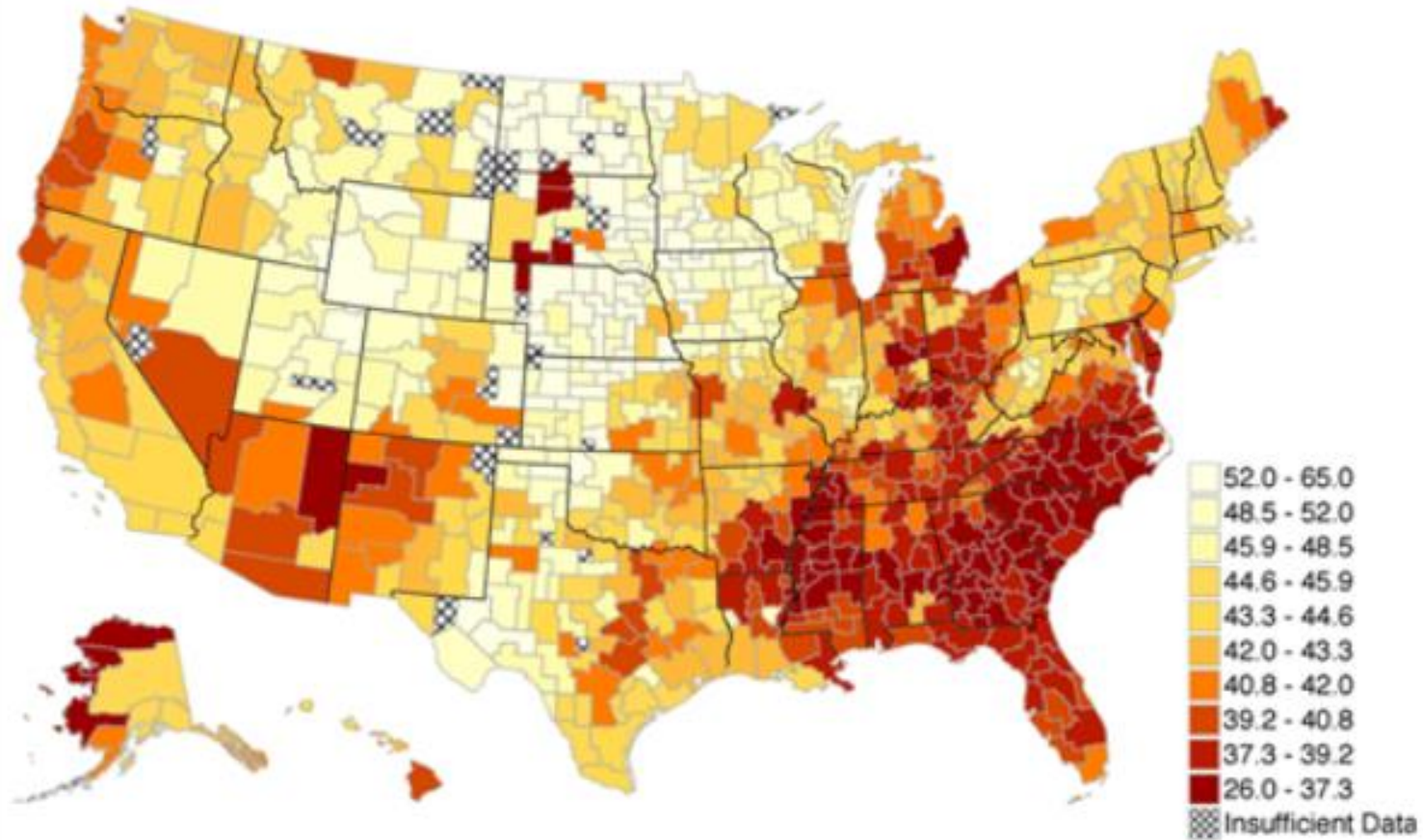


Source: Chetty et al., "The Association between Income and Life Expectancy in the United States, 2001 - 2014," Online data table 1

BROOKINGS

The Geography of Upward Mobility in the United States

Mean Child Percentile Rank for Parents at 25th Percentile (Y_{25})

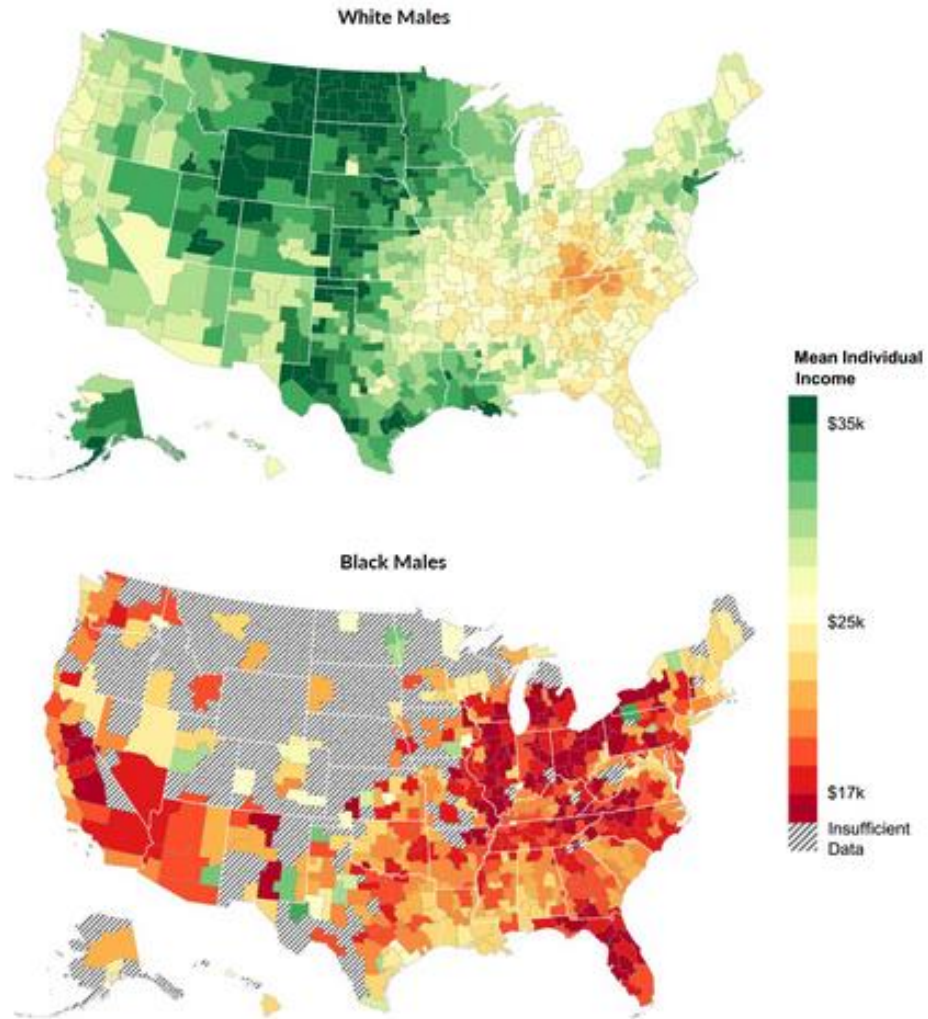


Note: Lighter Color = More Absolute Upward Mobility

Source: Equality of Opportunity Project

Two Americas: Upward Mobility for White vs. Black Children

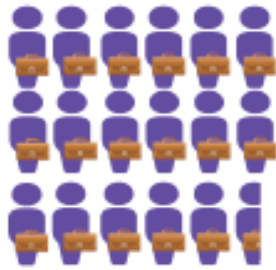
Average incomes of children growing up in low-income (25th percentile) families



Source: Equality of Opportunity Project

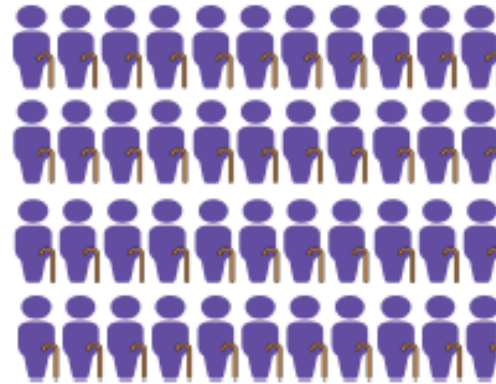
U.S. Workers Face Downward Mobility in Retirement Increases in Old-Age Poverty, 2012-2022

Poor and Near-Poor Workers
Aged 55-64 in 2012



10 Years Later

Poor and Near-Poor Retirees
Aged 65-74 in 2022



THE NEW SCHOOL
SCEPA

Each character with a briefcase represents 100,000 workers who are currently poor or near poor.
Each character with a cane represents 100,000 of those who were working that will be poor or near poor in retirement.

Source: SIPP 2008 panel, waves 10 and 11, see entire source and methodology in Appendix

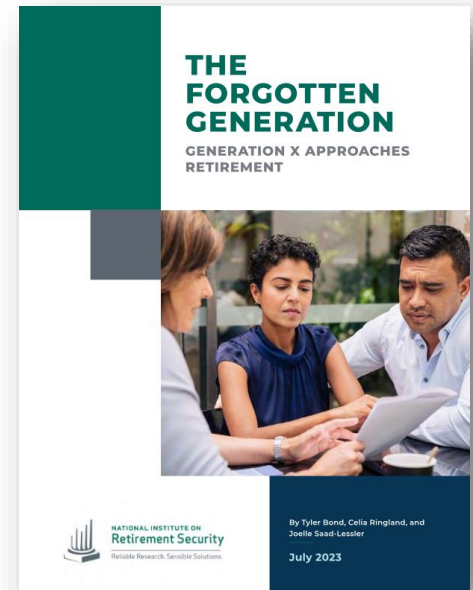
Suggested Citation: Ghilarducci, T. and Knauss, Z. (2015) "More Middle Class Workers will be Poor Retirees." Schwartz Center for Economic Policy Analysis and Department of Economics, The New School for Social Research, Policy Note Series.

- 59 percent (or about 614,700) of the over 1 million older workers who were near poor in 2012 will experience downward mobility and be poor retirees.
- 16 percent (2.6 million) of the 16.8 million older workers who were not poor or near poor in 2012 will be poor or near-poor retirees.

On the Horizon...My Gen X Colleagues

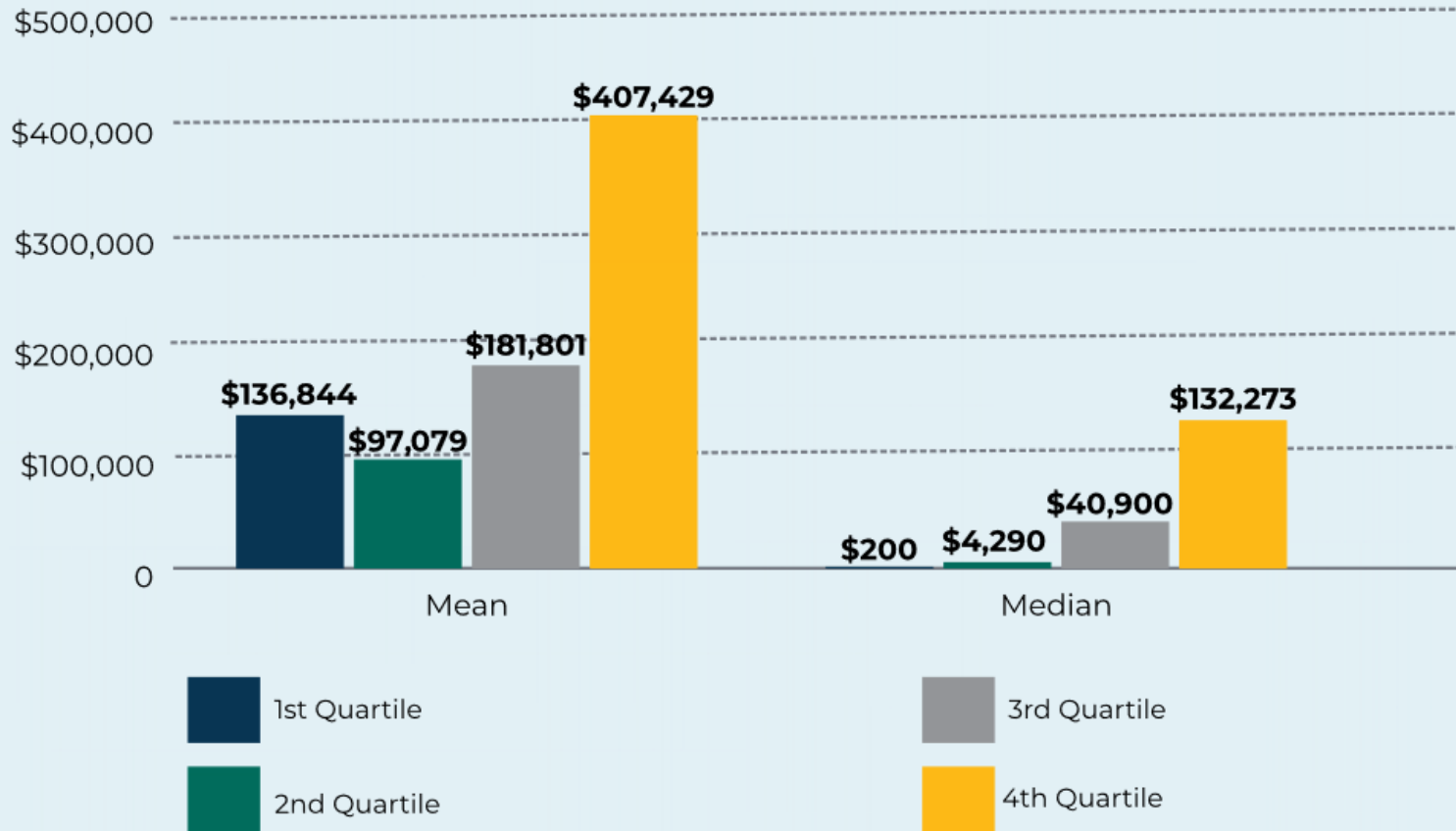
Board 1965-1980

- Changes in access to unions and pensions
- Impact of Great Recession
- Large discrepancy between average/mean and median amounts of retirement savings.
 - Holds true across gender, race, income, and other measures
- Typical Gen X household has only \$40,000 in retirement savings in private accounts
- Only 1/3 of Hispanic GenXers are participating in employer-sponsored plans
- Most Gen X failing to meet savings targets
- Shoring up Social Security and other policy recommendations



Median is Key

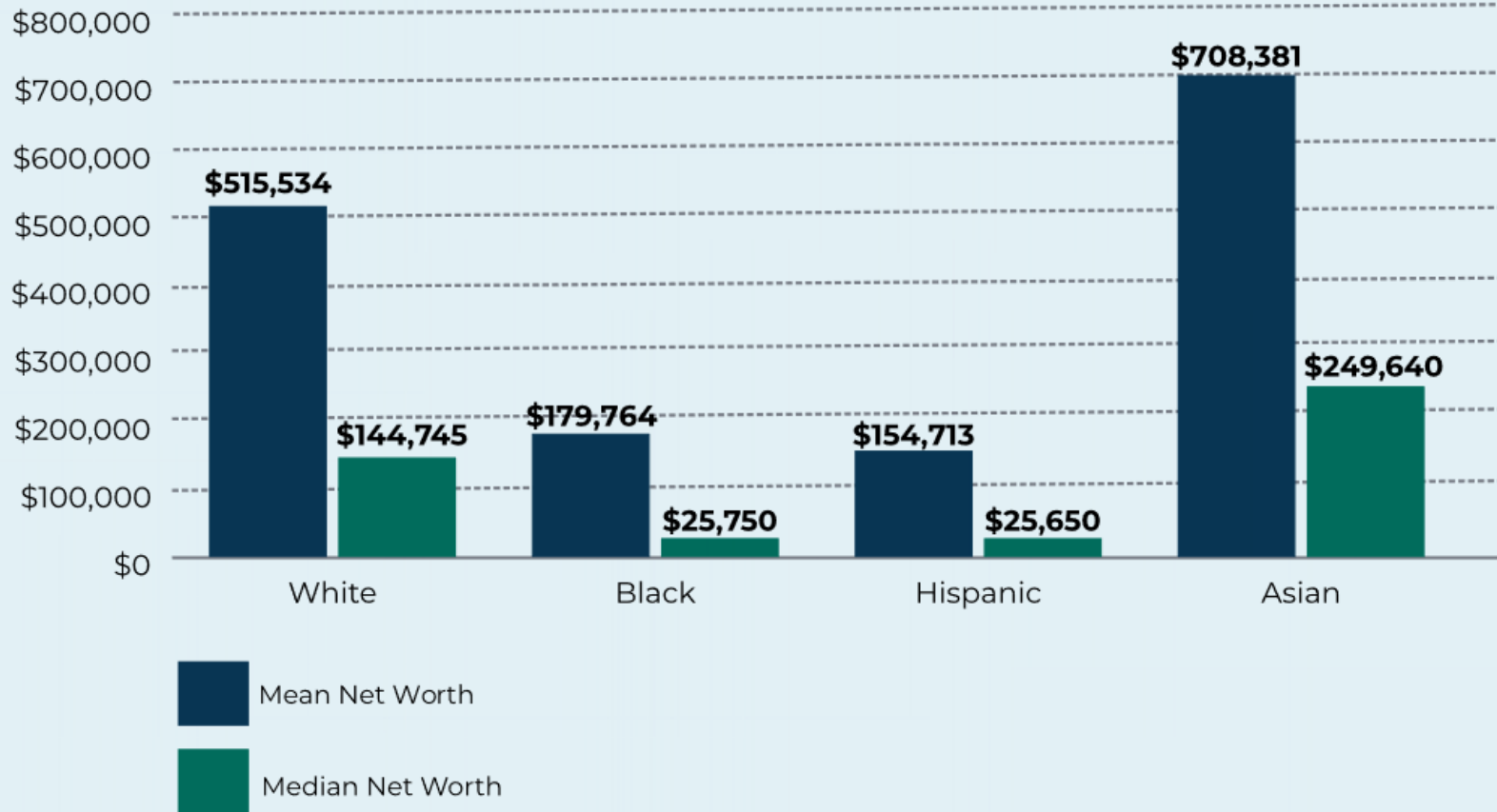
Figure 10: The Bottom Half of Gen X Households Have Very Little Retirement Savings



National Institute for Retirement Security, The Forgotten Generation: Generation X Approaches Retirement

Disparities by Race in Net Worth

Figure 15: Net Worth Varies Markedly by Race Among Gen X



National Institute for Retirement Security, *The Forgotten Generation: Generation X Approaches Retirement*

What is Social and Economic Mobility?

Social mobility is the movement of individuals, families, and households between social strata. It relates to being valued in community and equitable, sustained access power and autonomy.

Economic mobility is the ability of an individual, family, or some other group to improve their economic status – usually measured in income, but also potentially including other assets and resources.



-Kresge Foundation

Accelerating Social and Economic Mobility for Families

This requires deeper engagement with families, being data driven, person-centered, deep grounding in equity starting with racial equity, innovation, and achieving greater impact.

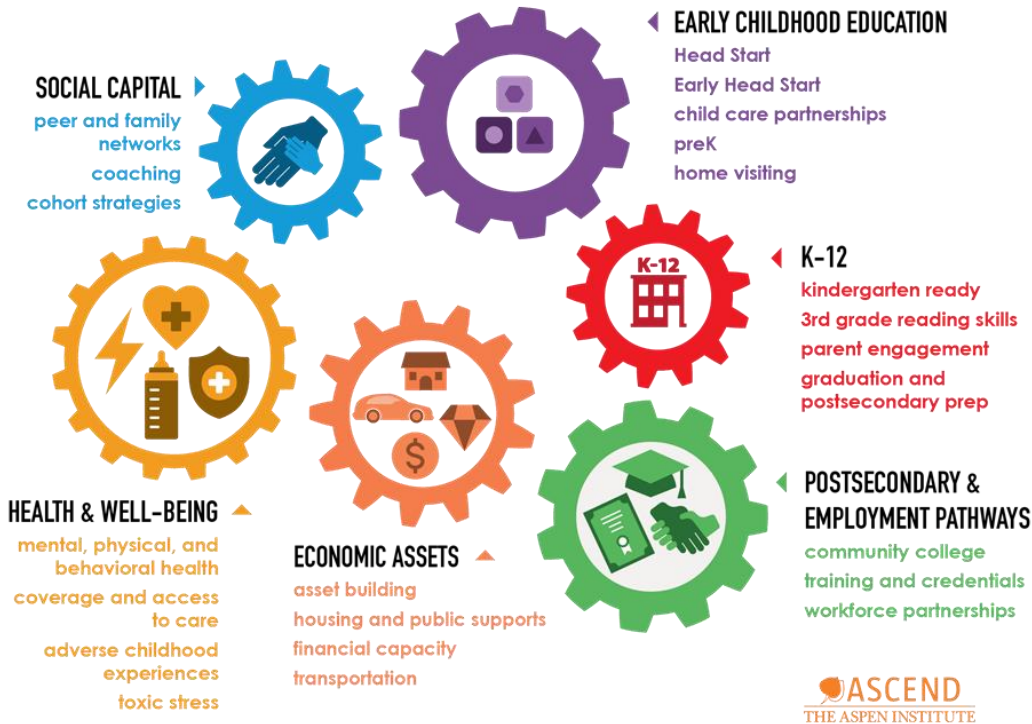


2Gen/Whole Family Approach Concepts

THE 2GEN CONTINUUM



2GEN CORE COMPONENTS



HALLMARKS OF THE 2GEN/WHOLE FAMILY APPROACH

- Center on families
- Integrate services
- Remove barriers
- Incorporate coaching
- Develop partnerships
- Center in equity, starting with racial equity
- Measure parent, child, and family outcomes
- Apply science and evidence while continually improving
- Attend to core life skills for children and parents
- Incorporate strategies that build family resiliency (trauma-informed focus)
- Provide high-quality services
- Deliver services of sufficient intensity, duration, and dosage to enable families to achieve social and economic mobility

Why a 2Gen/Whole Family Approach?

Research shows that supporting children and their caregivers together has an outsize impact **for generations.**



A college degree doubles a parent's income.



A \$3,000 increase during early childhood yields a 17% increase in adult earnings.



The brains of new parents undergo major changes.



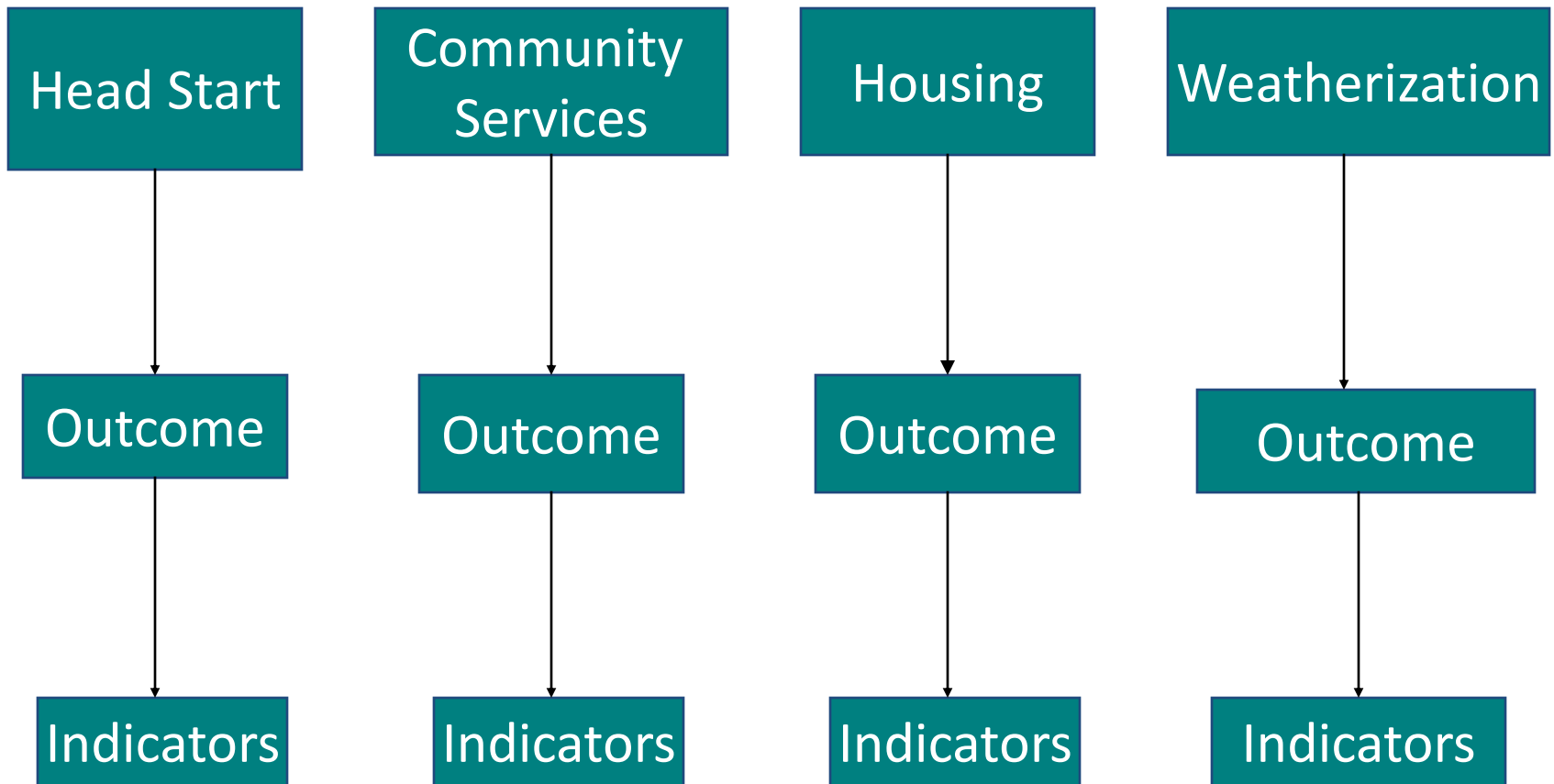
Research demonstrates a 13% ROI in high quality early childhood education.



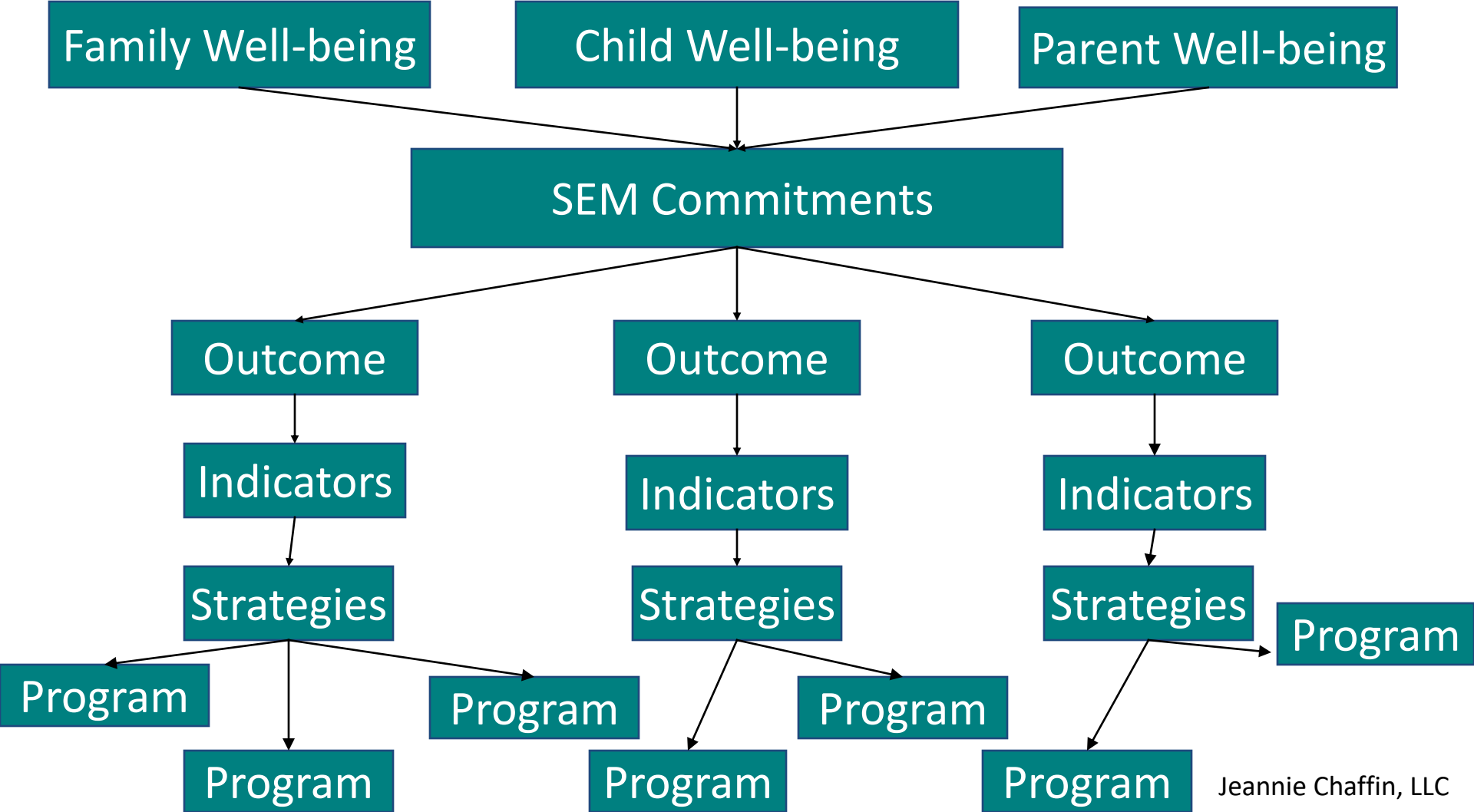
Parents with health insurance are more likely to seek care for their children.

 **ASCEND**
THE ASPEN INSTITUTE

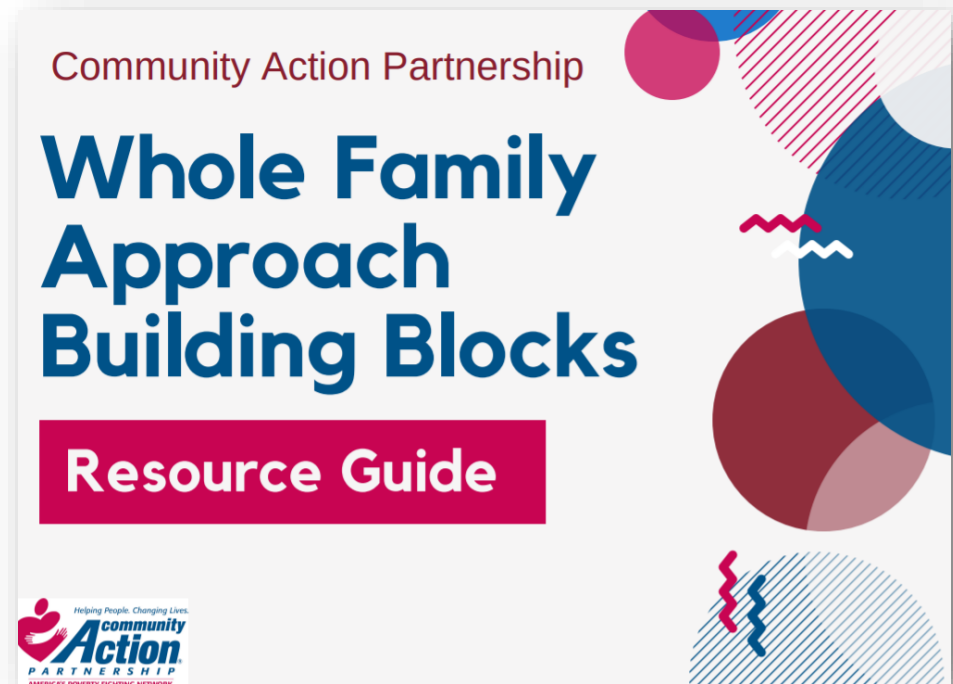
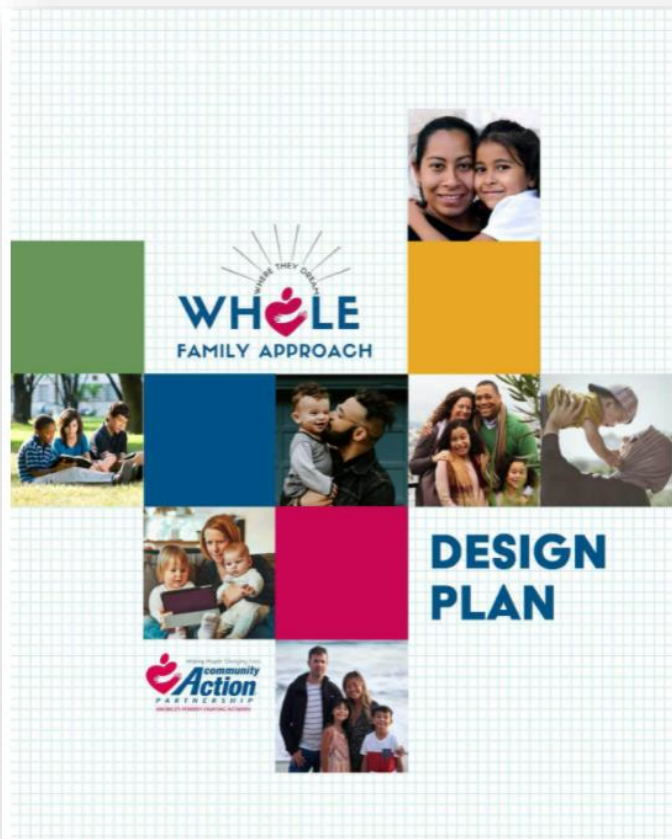
A Grants Management Business Model



Whole Family Approach Model



Advancing WFA in Community Action



<https://communityactionpartnership.com/community-action-economic-mobility/>

Whole Family Approach Design Briefs

This series highlights examples of how CAA's from across the United States have put concepts into practice that build family well-being and social and economic mobility by working with children and their parents together.

Featured Agencies:

- Aroostook County Action Program (Presque Isle, ME)
- Blueprints (Washington, PA)
- Community Action, Inc. (Topeka, KS)
- Community Action Project of Tulsa County (Tulsa, OK)
- Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County (Santa Rosa, CA)
- MAHBUE-OTWA Community Action Partnership (Detroit Lakes, MN)
- People, Inc. (Abingdon, VA)



Today

- Economy
- End of pandemic-era supports
- Staffing/Personnel Shortages
- Head Start Challenges
- Polarization



How will you prepare for the 60th Anniversary of the Economic Opportunity Act and Community Action (2024)?

- Staff and Board Appreciation
- Share Impact
- Advocate for change
- Convene conversations on poverty
- Personally commit to the Code of Ethics
- Consider the Excellence Program
- Become a CCAP
- So many other ways!



Community Action Code of Ethics

Refreshed 2023



Remain Focused on Mission

- Recognize the chief function of the Community Action movement at all times is to **serve the best interests of people with lower incomes** which, in turn, serves the best interests of the entire community. Seek to **empower people and revitalize communities**. Engage in activities that move us closer to mission achievement and further our positive outcomes.

Be Outspoken Advocates and Educators

- Actively **inform the community and decision-makers** about issues affecting those with lower-incomes. **Courageously confront and dismantle myths** about social and economic inequality. Participate in promoting policies that support social and economic mobility, which reinforce the values of an equitable society.

Community Action Code of Ethics

Refreshed 2023



Inspire Confidence and Trust in the Community Action Movement

- Lead and serve with **professional competence** and be up to date on **emerging issues** in our field. Practice the highest standards of personal integrity, confidentiality, respect, honesty, and fortitude in all we say and do. Bravely confront any behavior or practice that could erode public trust in Community Action or disregard the struggle of people living with low incomes.

Practice Service Above Self

- Acknowledge service to the mission, vision and collective values of Community Action is **beyond service to oneself**. Avoid real and perceived **conflicts of interest** and ensure undue personal gain is not realized from the performance of professional duties.

Community Action Code of Ethics

Refreshed 2023



Be Leaders, Support Leaders, and Create Leaders

- **Actively engage people with low incomes** in realizing and developing their own leadership skills. **Respect and support other leaders**, particularly the Community Action board of directors, by providing facts and advice as a basis for policy decisions and upholding and dutifully implementing policies adopted by the board. Personally practice open-mindedness, effective communication, inclusiveness, and self-care. Encourage and facilitate the professional and personal development of associates.

Strive for Performance Excellence

- Habitually opt for **moving beyond mere compliance**. Exercise our influence to inspire excellence through implementation of best practices, maximizing efficiencies, practicing innovation, providing outstanding, trauma-informed customer service, and honestly and robustly evaluating the outcomes of our work.



Where Will Your Excellence Journey Begin?

With the National Community Action Partnership's Pathways to Excellence Program, you can start your journey toward Excellence in the place that's best for you and your Agency.

HERE?



Bronze Tier

The place to explore the Standards of Excellence and start building excitement among your team. Enroll anytime. The Bronze Tier can usually be completed in 3 months.

Silver Tier

The place to learn how to do a self-study, build knowledge, and explore the peer-feedback process. Enroll in February or July. The Silver Tier can usually be completed in 9 months.



OR HERE?



Gold Tier

The place to do a full self-study, receive peer-feedback, and see how you perform in every Excellence Standard. Enroll in February or July. The Gold Tier can usually be completed in 14 months.

Platinum Tier

The place to do a full self-study, on your own, and see if your peers judge your agency worthy of The Community Action Award for Excellence. The Platinum Tier usually requires 2 years to complete.



Start Here if You Know You're Exceeding All 35 Standards

Learn More

communityactionpartnership.com/pathways-to-excellence/



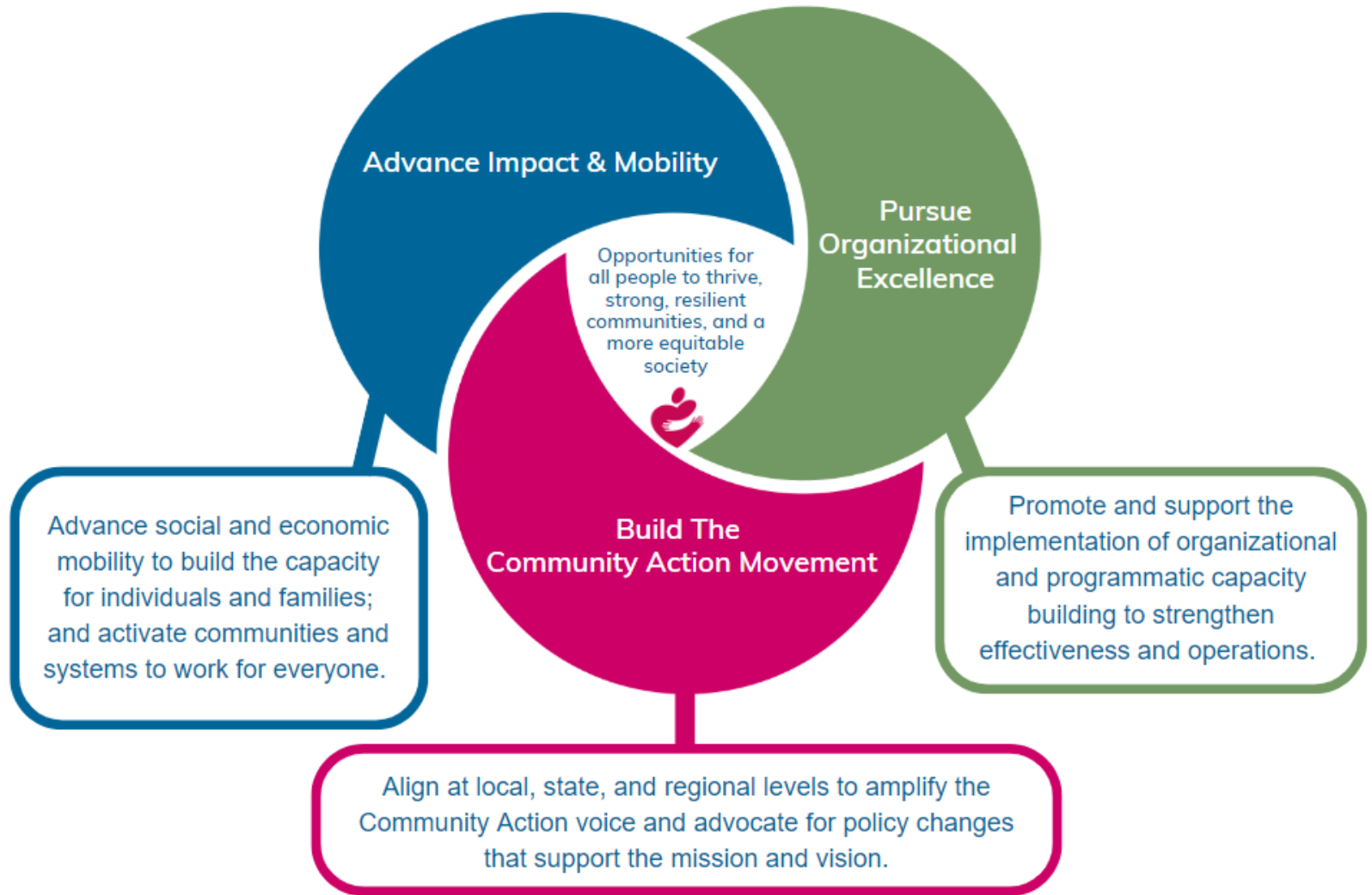
SCAN ME

Certified Community Action Professional

- Recertifications
- Class of 2023
- Class of 2024
- Personal and professional development
- 30th Anniversary Celebration



We Achieve Our Mission If We:

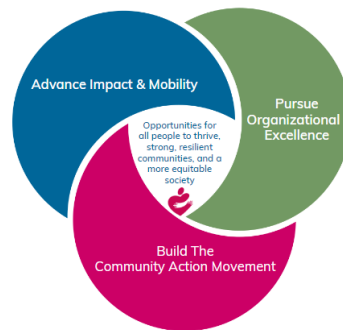


Drivers for Mission & Vision Alignment



Impact and Mobility

Advance **social and economic mobility** to build the capacity for **individuals and families**; and activate **communities and systems** to work for everyone



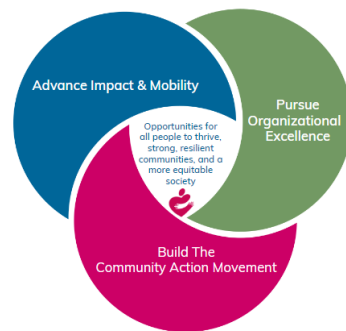
Organizational Excellence

Promote and support the implementation of **organizational and programmatic** capacity building to strengthen **effectiveness and operations**



Movement Building

Align on local, state, and regional levels to amplify the **Community Action Voice** and **advocate** for policy changes that support the mission and vision



NCAP Commissions Moving Us Forward

- Equity and Economic Mobility Commission
- Head Start Task Force
- Energy/Weatherization Task Force



Know and Engage with the NCAAP Board 2021-2023

Officer Elections This August

- Region 7 Keri McCrorey, CCAP-MO
- Chair: Dr. Dalitso Sulamoyo, CCAP - IL
- 1st Vice Chair: Ricky Baker, CCAP - KY
- 2nd Vice-Chair: Elizabeth "Biz" Steinberg - CA
- 3rd Vice-Chair: Bryan Duncan, CCAP - NC
- Secretary: Peter Kilde, CCAP - WI
- Treasurer: Dreama Padgett, CCAP - WV





NATIONAL COMMUNITY
ACTION PARTNERSHIP

PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES

2023 - 2024



Read NCAP's
2023-2024 Policy Priorities

NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP



PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY PROJECT

- 📌 Public Policy Priorities
- 📌 Monthly Policy News
- 📌 Legislative Policy Analysis
- 📌 Comments on Federal Rulemaking
- 📌 Policy Spotlight Briefs with Outreach Resources

CHECK OUT NCAP'S
PUBLIC POLICY &
ADVOCACY
WORK

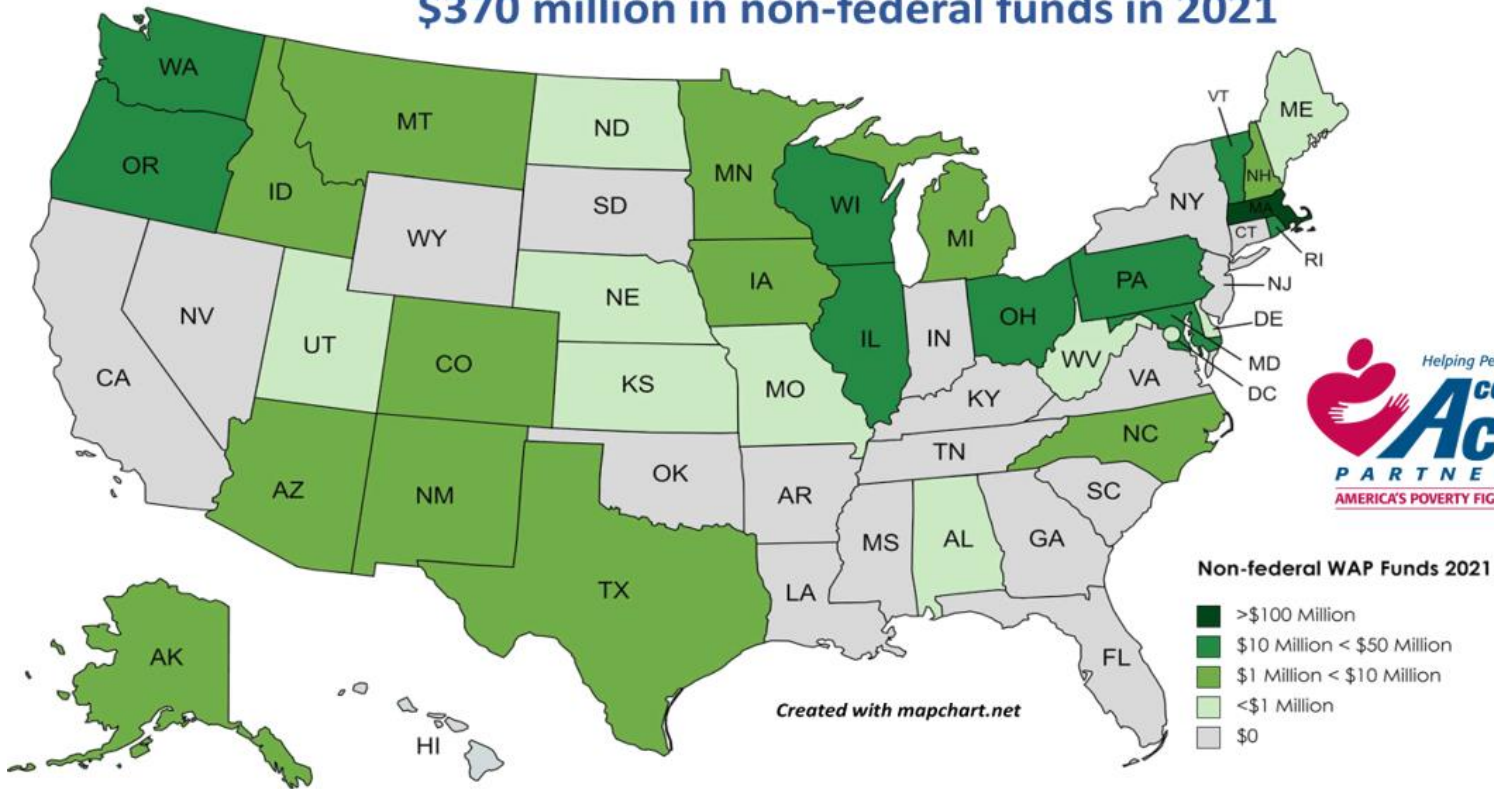


ENERGY

AFFORDABILITY.
SUSTAINABILITY.
EQUITY.



Weatherization Programs in 22 states leveraged more than \$370 million in non-federal funds in 2021



Non-federal WAP Funds 2021

- >\$100 Million
- \$10 Million < \$50 Million
- \$1 Million < \$10 Million
- <\$1 Million
- \$0

communityactionpartnership.com/energy-partnerships



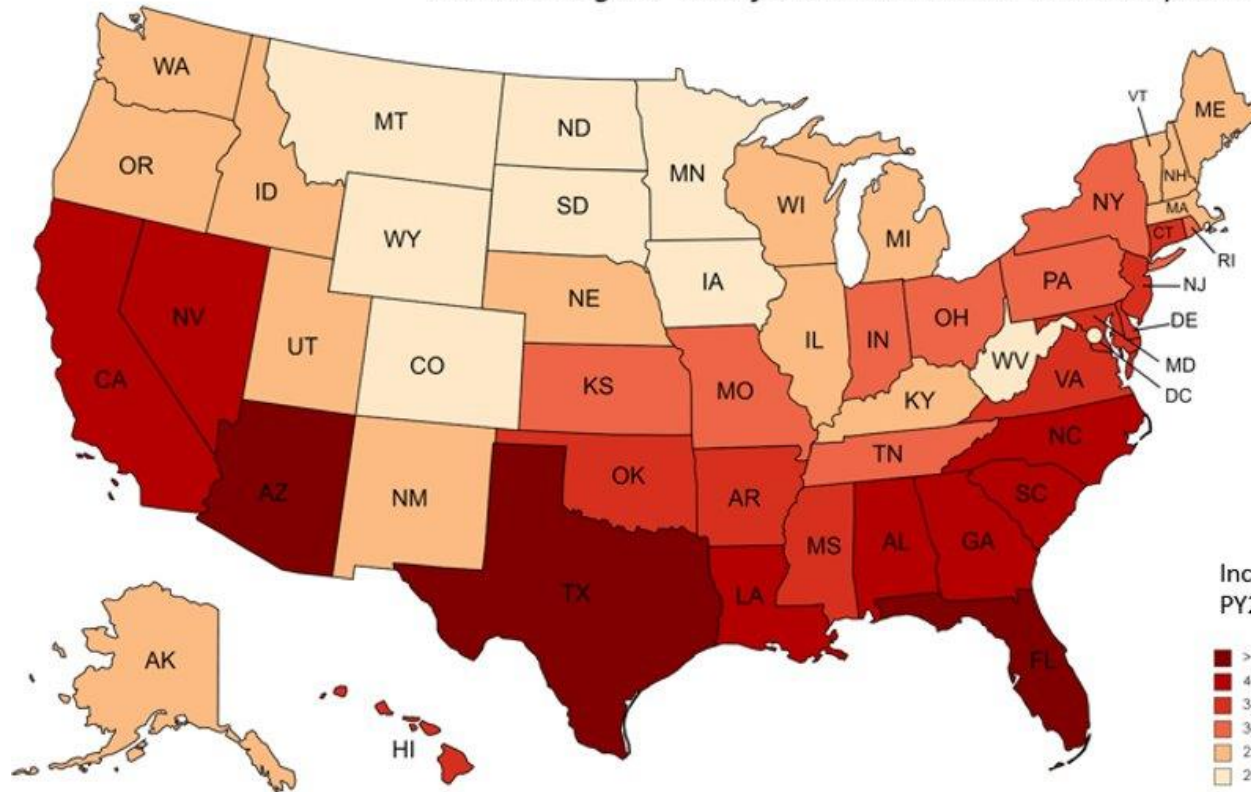
ENERGY

AFFORDABILITY.
SUSTAINABILITY.
EQUITY.



Projected Weatherization Infrastructure Program Growth, 2022-2026

**Assumes regular WAP funds continue at PY21 level plus BIL/IIJA allotment.*



Increase With Infrastructure Funds V.
PY21 Funding Level Only

- > 500%
- 400% < 500%
- 350% < 400%
- 300% < 350%
- 250% < 300%
- 200% < 250%

communityactionpartnership.com/energy-partnerships





WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS FROM THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP

CONSULTING

TRAINING

TOOLKITS

CONVENINGS

LEARNING COMMUNITIES



**We Know Community Action
Because
We Are Community Action**

- Community Action Agencies face a variety of complex challenges and opportunities.
- NCAP provides customized training and technical assistance, eCourses, cohort facilitation, and more,
- Trust NCAP to help your organization achieve maximum impact with customized solutions.

Your success is our mission.

Contact: tmarley@communityactionpartnership.com



NCAP Annual Convention

Registration Now Open

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta Marriott Marquis

August 23-25, 2023 (Pre-con sessions April 21-22)

Pre-convention sessions: Excellence Symposium, CCAP Colloquium, and Racial Healing Circles

Main Stage Presentations

Lisa Hamilton, President and CEO of the Annie E Casey Foundation

Nathaniel Smith, Founder, Partnership for Southern Equity

David Bradley, NCAF

Office of Community Services/Office of Head Start/Department of Energy Leadership

90+ Workshops: Board Governance, Leadership, Whole Family Approach, Equity, Weatherization/Energy



Special Sessions

Rural Caucus

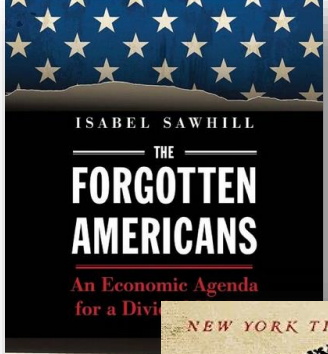
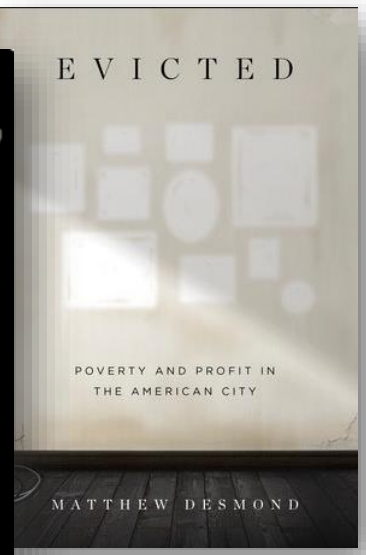
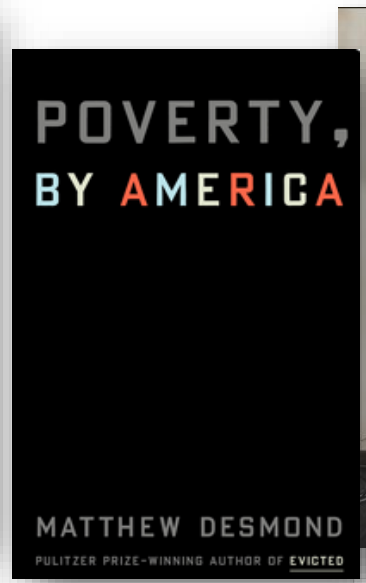
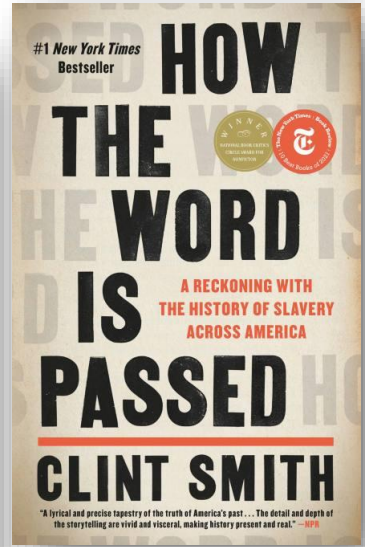
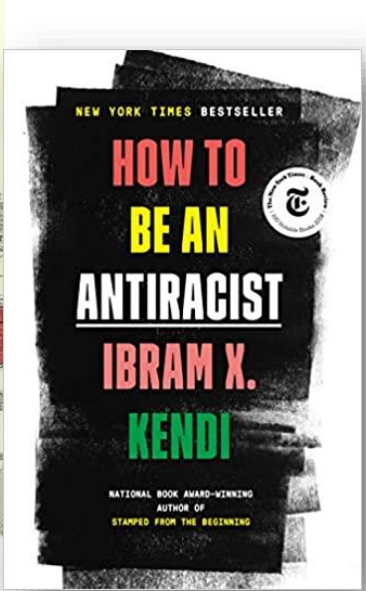
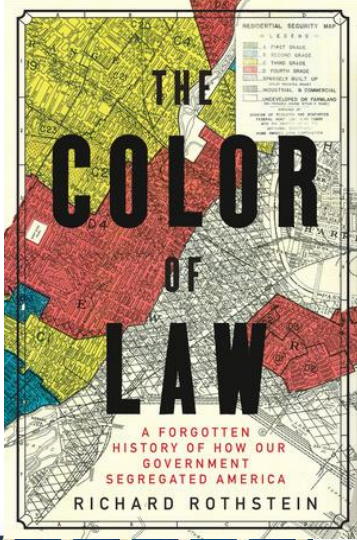
Executive Director Caucus

Head Start Town Hall

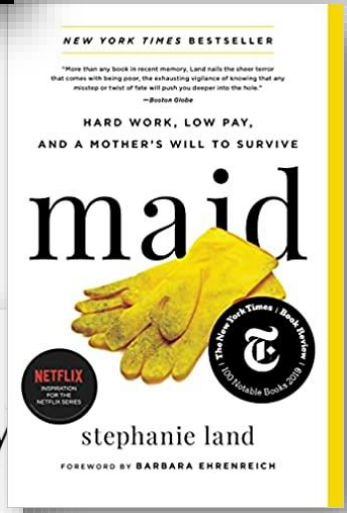
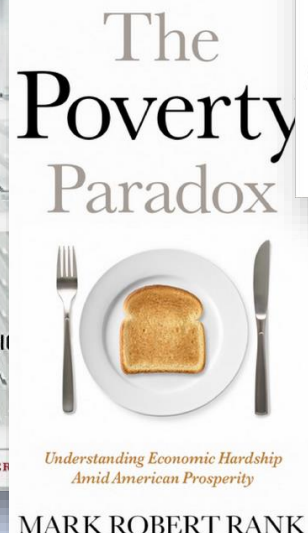
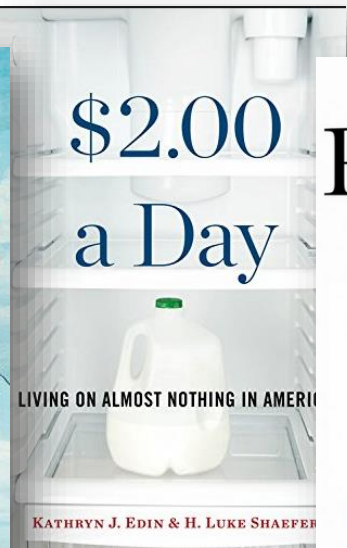
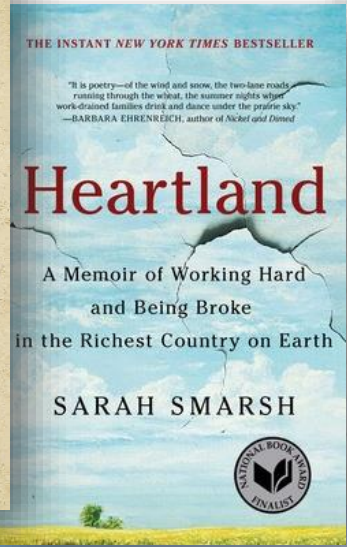
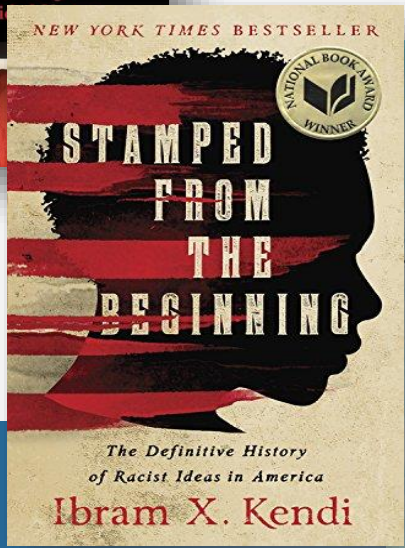
NCAP Officer Elections



<https://communityactionpartnership.com/capcon23/>



Build YOUR Toolbox



Questions?

Contact

Denise Harlow, CCAP

dharlow@communityactionpartnership.com



#CommunityActionWorks

#WeR1000Strong

#BeCommunityAction

@CAPartnership

@PartnershipCEO

www.communityactionpartnership.com

Thank you!

