



THE ARTHUR M. BLANK
FAMILY FOUNDATION



Westside Education Collaborative: STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Why we are here: it's all about the kids

*The vision of the Westside Education Collaborative is to **transform the life opportunities of children** residing on the Westside of Atlanta by ensuring they receive a high-quality education*



To understand opportunities, we listened to the community – *and* defined “what’s possible” through additional research

Our perspective is grounded in a comprehensive data review, including...

Qualitative lens on Westside education

Focus on community engagement:

- 149 survey responses
- 68 “on the street” or 1:1 interviews
- 34 Roundtable participants
- 27 WEC member conversations
- 15 community meetings

Quantitative lens on Westside education

- K-12: Milestones and CCRPI data
- Early childhood: Ed Counsel / GEEARS and APS data on early childcare and pre-k
- Youth development: Provider database and profiles

National lens on best practices

- Over 30 conversations with local and national experts in early childhood, youth development, family engagement, and STEM
- Over 10 organizations profiled
- National, state, and local data reviewed

Now is an important moment for the Westside to come together to address kids' needs in a holistic way

"This is a unique window of opportunity in time.

Residents, the political community, and funders are seeking alignment on an issue."

- Westside Education Collaborative Member

"This an opportunity to learn what our community needs."

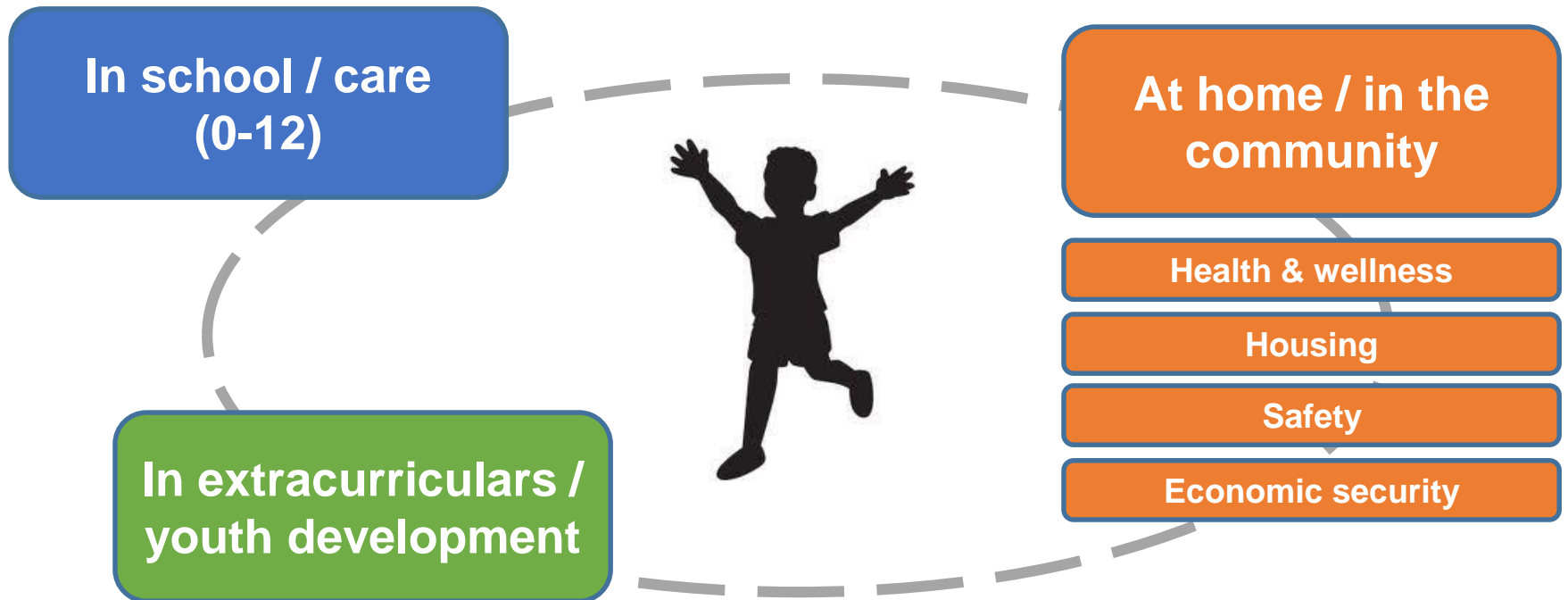
- Westside Resident

"We owe it to the community to do collective impact; acting as independent operators isn't enough..."

- Westside Education Collaborative Member

We know that many environments have a deep impact on a child's learning

Where are the kids?



We acknowledge all of these environments, but through the lens of *education*

1

Family Engagement: Provide families, schools, and organizations with structures and resources to effectively partner in pursuit of excellent educational opportunities for every child

2

K-12 School System: Ensure that every child receives an excellent K-12 education and graduates prepared for college and careers

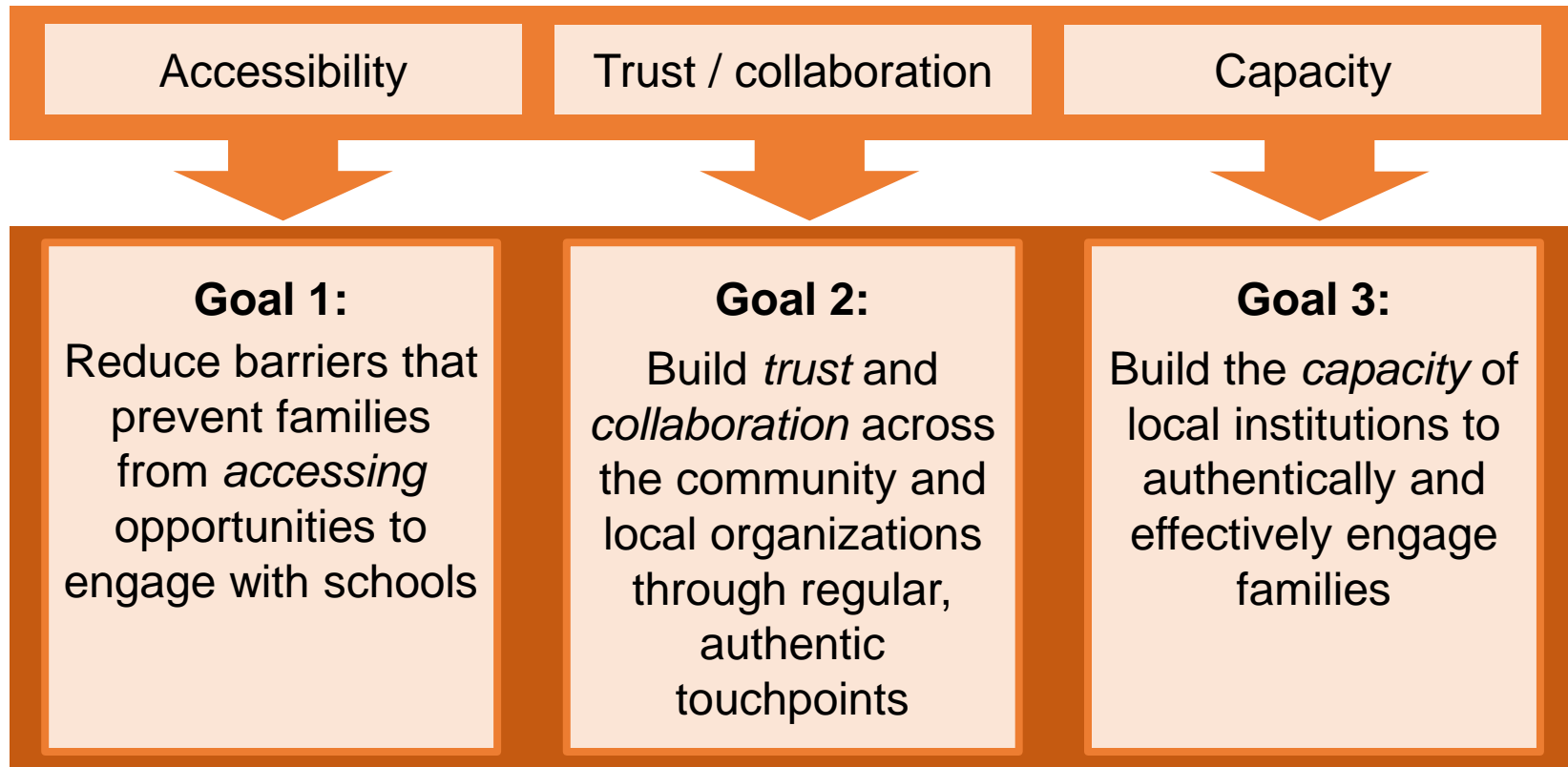
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Early Childhood: Provide every child with the foundational academic & socioemotional skills to arrive in Kindergarten ready to learn

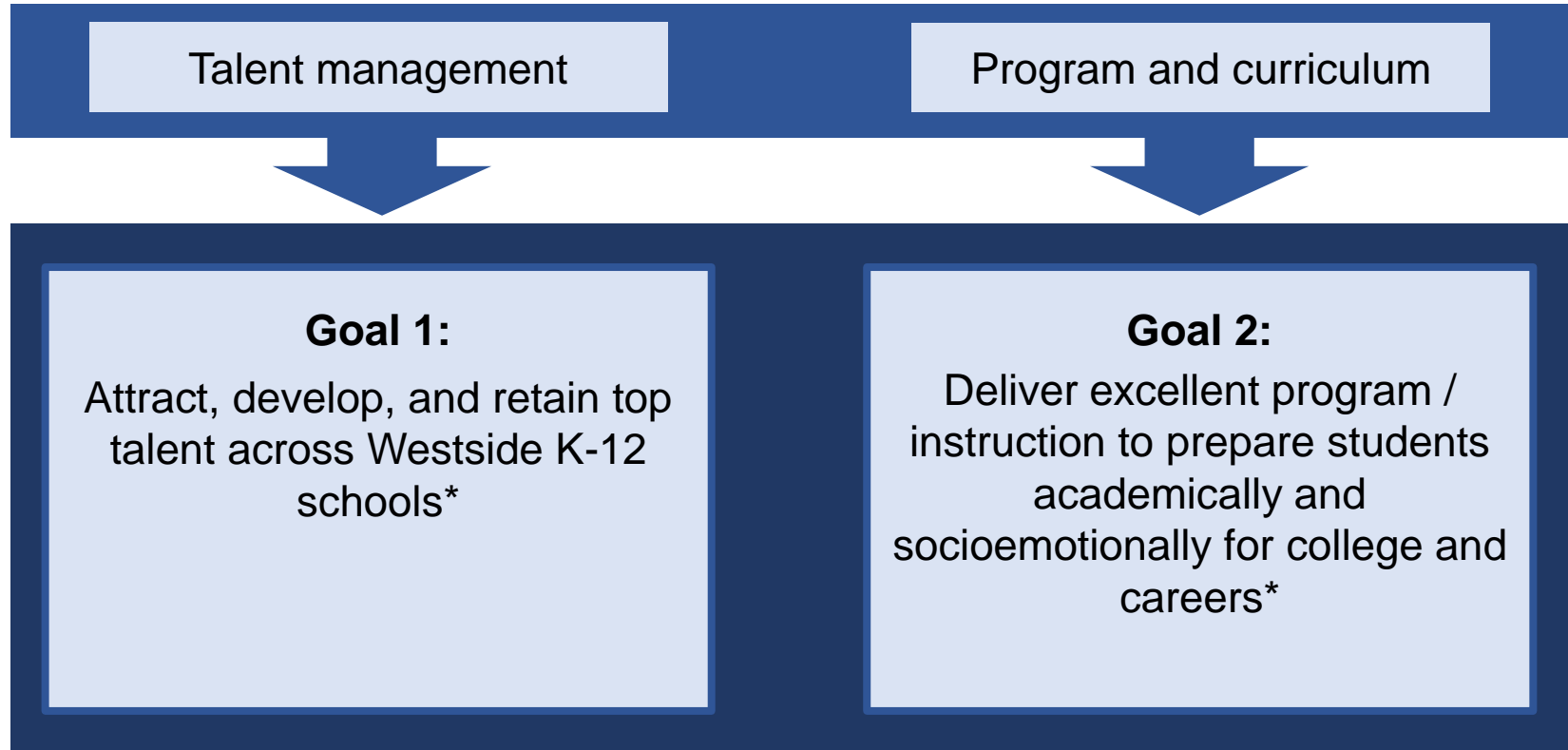
4

Youth Development: Provide every child with the supplemental supports and enrichment opportunities that will allow them to thrive academically, socioemotionally, physically, and personally

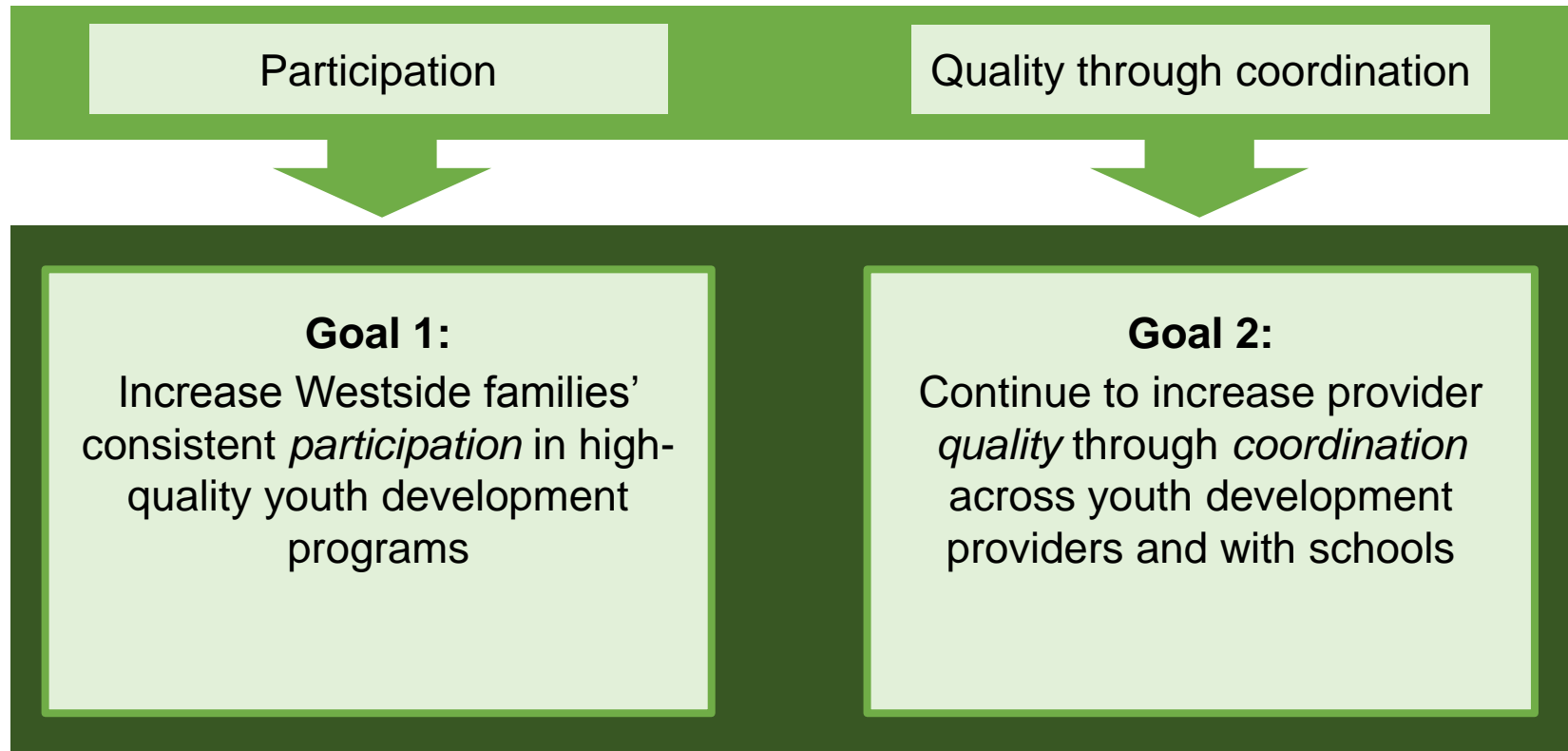
3 family & community engagement **goals**



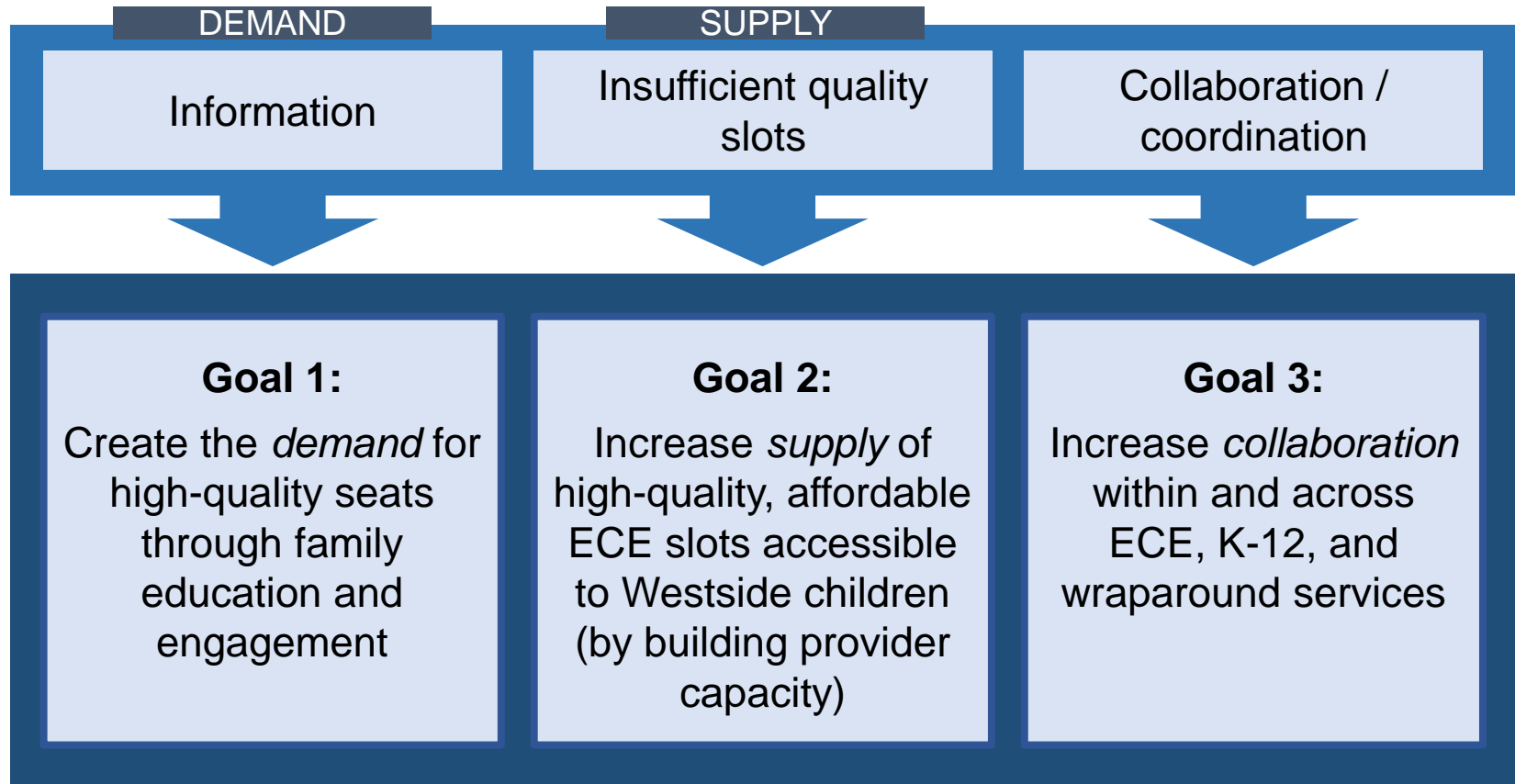
2 K-12 goals



2 youth development **goals**



3 ECE goals



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www.westsideontherise.org



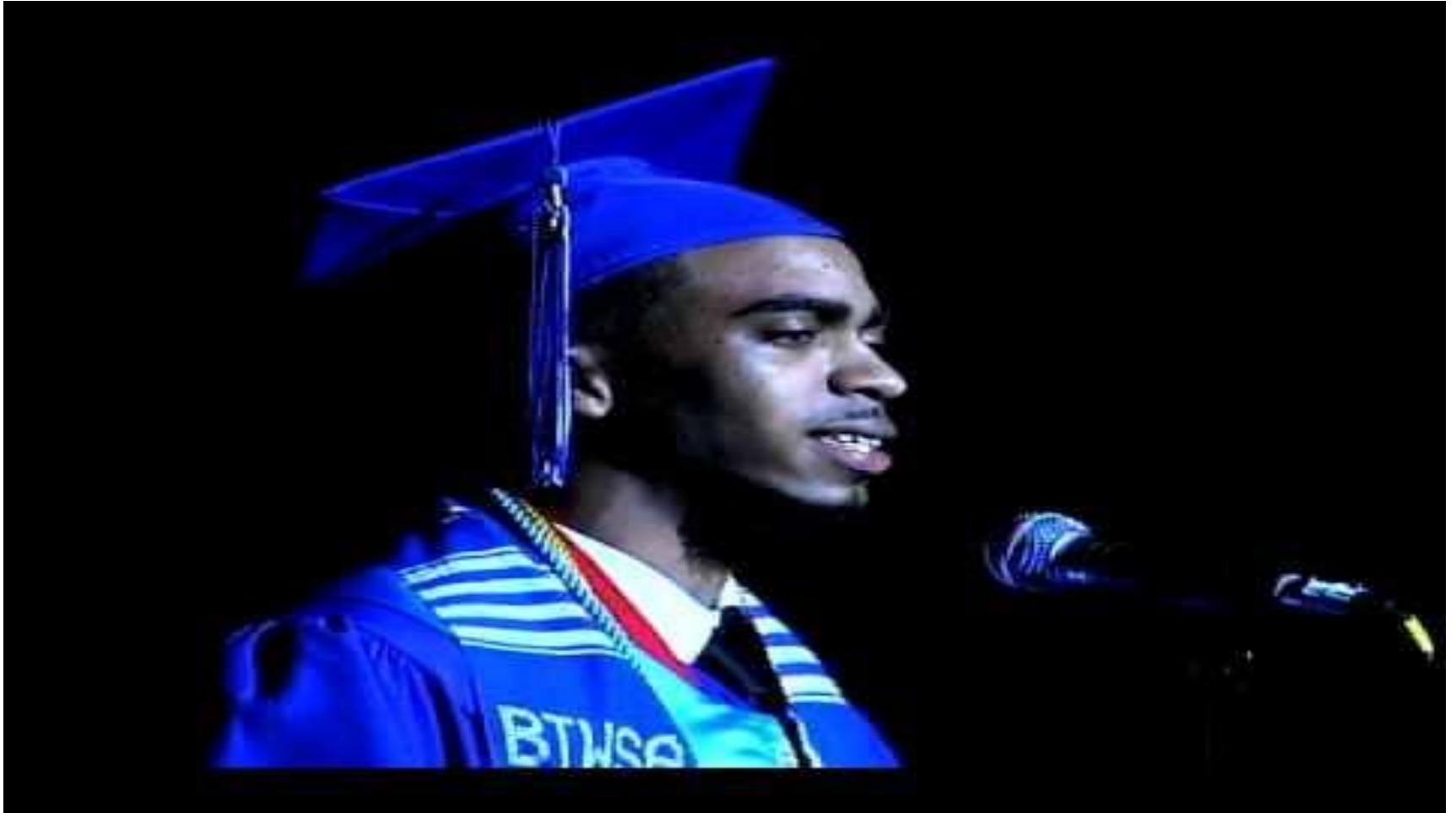
Areas of Impact



Read the Latest Education Collaborative Strategy Here

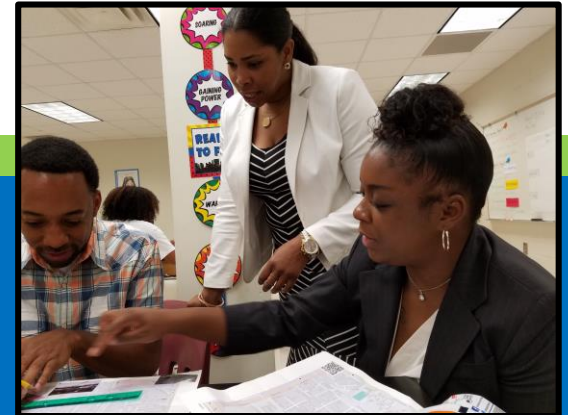


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School, University and Community Collaboration

CREATING A PREK-8 STEM ACADEMY IN ATLANTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



School, University and Community Collaboration



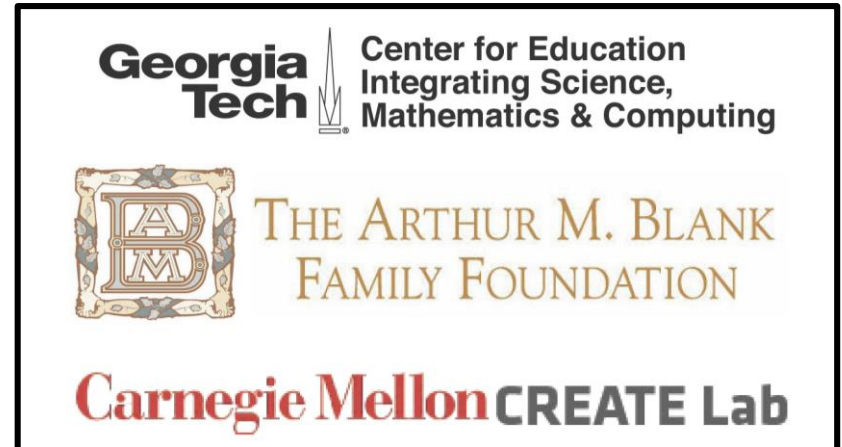
225 James P. Brawley Drive
VINE CITY

2 mi DISTANCE FROM
HOLLIS TO TECH 

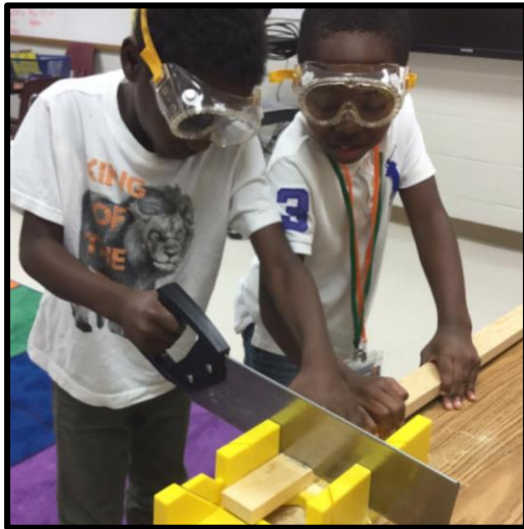
 STUDENTS ON FREE
AND REDUCED LUNCH **100%**

25% HOMELESS STUDENTS
IN THE COMMUNITY 

 DEVELOPING OR ABOVE
ON 2016 MATH GMAS **40%**



School, University and Community Collaboration



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL-BASED SUPPORT

- Weekly STEM planning meetings
- Ongoing co-teaching
- STEM site visits
- Skill-based professional development
- Business partnerships
- Hollis Hackers afterschool program

Raising Expectations

EMPOWERING YOUTH IN CRISES BY RAISING
ACADEMIC, SOCIAL AND CIVIC EXPECTATIONS



Raising Expectations: Service Profile

115

STUDENTS ENROLLED:

- 56** PROJECT DREAM (2-5TH)
- 24** PROJECT DREAM (6-8TH)
- 20** PROJECT STEMWARE (9-12TH)
- 15** PROJECT RESTART (16-24 YEARS OLD)



OUR STUDENTS

100%

Receive free/reduced lunch

79%

Receive SNAP benefits

77%

Household income < \$20k

75%

Single Parent / Extended Family Households

27%

1 or both parents have been to jail/prison

Raising Expectations: Youth Development



Raising Expectations empowers youth in crises by raising academic, social and civic expectations to facilitate high school graduation and post-secondary plans.

21 years of experience, 13 years in Vine City & Washington Cluster

360 degree approach to youth development

Family and community connector

Raising Expectations: Advocacy

Empowering parents with information

Partnering with local universities, parents, community members



Building authentic, genuine, long term RELATIONSHIPS



“Let me just take this time to express my gratitude for the women of Raising Expectations! Whenever I felt like giving up, they continued to push me to break barriers within my community, because the onus was on me to achieve greatness. They refuse to let me limit myself, my potential, and my community based on the stereotypes placed upon me. Therefore, thank you Raising Expectations for the work you do and continue to do within the Vine City & English Ave community. The village will always look RIGHT as long as Raising Expectations is keeping it TIGHT! Love ya ♥<3 ♥<3 ♥”

-Bashel Lewis

Sophomore at Pitzer college currently doing a study abroad semester in London