To go far, go together: Building a solid foundation for collective impact

FCAN Summit, May 2017
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“To go fast, go alone. To go far, go together.”
- African proverb
What is Achieve Palm Beach County?

A partnership of education, government, nonprofit, business, philanthropic, and other organizations committed to increasing access to and completion of education beyond high school.

Our vision is that every Palm Beach County high school graduate completes a post-secondary credential within six-years of high school graduation that prepares them for a meaningful career with a sustainable wage.

Our mission is to ensure an integrated and effective system of supports from middle school through post-secondary that empowers students for career success.

Our goals are seamless enrollment in post-secondary education; persistence to year 2; completion among seamless enrollees: completion among high school graduates.

Our Journey

- Initial conversations
- Exploration of Collective Impact
- Search for similar organizations
- Reached out to FCAN
The Opportunity

• Redirecting isolated impact into collective impact
  • Aligning our interests and efforts for greater impact

https://www.santafecf.org/birth-to-career

Our Journey

• Invitation to potential partners
• “Called the question”
• Identified temporary Backbone Organization
• Secured funding
• RFP process to find consultant
Stakeholders

160 community representatives from various sectors united in their concern about student success and career readiness:

- K-12 public and private educators & administrators
- Post-secondary institutions
- Elected officials
- Government
- Foundations
- Nonprofits
- Businesses, faith-based agencies, and others

Our Journey

- Problem Identification
  Fall 2014
- Stakeholder Assembly & Concurrence
  March 2015
- Professionally Guided Planning Phase
  October 2015 – July 2016

- Consultant-led strategic planning
- Gap analysis & Needs assessment
- Community input at Design Sessions
- Narrowed area of focus through prioritization
- Created vision, mission and guiding principles
In the School District of Palm Beach County, only 42.3 percent of all graduates and 31.5 percent of low-income graduates are predicted to receive a post-secondary credential within six years of high school graduation. This falls well short of the Florida College Access Network goal of 60 percent and far below the 68 percent of newly created jobs in Florida that will require a post-secondary credential.

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Post-secondary credentials influence both employment and earnings.

The Opportunity
How did you determine your community’s needs? How do you seek feedback to prioritize work?

Our Journey

**Problem Identification**
- Fall 2014

**Stakeholder Assembly & Concurrence**
- March 2015

**Professionally Guided Planning Phase**
- October 2015 – July 2016

**Implementation Phase**
- December 2016 to present
  - Developed governance structure
  - Created Strategy and Support work groups
  - Identified Executive Champions
  - Identified outcome targets
  - Created website and promotional materials
  - Organized a public launch
  - Engaged permanent Backbone Organization
  - Continue securing funding
  - Hire Executive Director
Governance Structure

- Operations Team
- Strategy and Support Teams
- Community-based Agency Advisory Group
- Community Forum

Community Champions

- Maria Antuna
  *Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
- Robert Avossa
  *School District of PBC*
- Paulette Burdick
  *Community Leader*
- Dennis Gallon
  *Community Leader*
- Laurie George
  *United Way of PBC*
- Bradley Hurlburt
  *Community Foundation for PBMC*
- John Kelly
  *Florida Atlantic University*
- Donald Kiselewski
  *Florida Power and Light*
- Christine Koehn
  *Farris Foundation*
- Jeri Muoio
  *City of West Palm Beach*
- Ava Parker
  *Palm Beach State College*
- Alex Price
  *Comcast*
- Lisa Williams-Taylor
  *Children’s Services Council of PBC*
Targeted Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Results</th>
<th>Current Performance</th>
<th>Targeted Achievement 2024</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seamless College Access</td>
<td>68.7% (2015 HS graduates)</td>
<td>80% (2023 graduates)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Persistence to a Second Year</td>
<td>86.6% (2014 HS graduates)</td>
<td>95% (2023 graduates)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion among Seamless College Enrollees*</td>
<td>62.5% (2009 HS graduates)</td>
<td>80% (2018 HS graduates)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Completion among High School Graduates**</td>
<td>42.3% (2019 HS graduates)</td>
<td>65% (2018 HS graduates)</td>
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</tbody>
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*Seamless enrollees receiving degree within six years of HS graduation
**% of all high school graduates that receive a degree within six years of HS graduation

Strategy Workgroups

- Parent engagement and support
- Post-secondary advising for high school students
- Completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Scholarships, non-financial resources & support services for college students
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