My Brother’s Keeper Community Challenge
Milestone 4 – Completing Post-Secondary Education or Training
## Agenda

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Introduction

NOTE: The content included in this introductory section of the presentation was originally shared as part of the MBK Implementation Webinar hosted on December 18th, 2014.
MBK Webinar Overview

Through early January, MBK Community Challenge Milestone webinars will be conducted by TA Providers and Federal Agency Leaders. Each webinar will cover one milestone and you are invited to attend based on your community focus areas:

### MBK Community Challenge Milestones

1. **Entering school ready to learn**
2. **Reading at grade level by third grade**
3. **Graduating from high school ready for college and career**
4. **Completing post-secondary education or training**
5. **Successfully entering the workforce**
6. **Reducing youth violence and providing a second chance**

### Webinar Objectives

- **Introduce the communities to TA providers and resources available** through the MBK Community Challenge
- **Provide resources for continuing education around implementing milestones** for Mayors and Staffers
- **Enable sharing of leading practices** for community programming / lessons learned from local initiatives undertaken to date
- **Provide opportunity for Q&A** with webinar facilitators and discuss resources coming available through the MBK Community Challenge
Cradle-to-College-to-Career Approach

The disparities between children from poor families and those from non-poor families are significant and pervasive, but targeted, continuous intervention at multiple life stages has the potential to eliminate these disparities across the cradle-to-career continuum.¹

Key Principles for Developing Sustainable Approach²

1. Engage the Community
2. Focus on Eliminating Locally Defined Disparities
3. Develop a Culture of Continuous Improvement
4. Leverage Existing Assets

In order to effectively and sustainably implement a cradle-to-college-and-career approach it is important to understand the underlying key principles

¹ PolicyLink Technical Assistance Resources, November 2014.
² StriveTogether Theory of Action.
Driving Systemic Change in Your Community

Following your Local Action Summit, you are asked to review existing programs and policies related to MBK and establish a baseline understanding of where gaps and opportunities lie within your community. As you conduct this review, you can reference the below proven model to create a sustainable strategy for your community:

- **Identify a shared vision**
- **Review data**
- **Build capacity by establishing a local anchor**
- **Release baseline dashboard**
- **Engage broader community and networks**
- **Mobilize investors/public agencies/service providers**
- **Develop data infrastructure**
- **Create action plans**
- **Identify policy barriers**
- **Share accountability**
- **Ensure institutional and public policies support**
- **Update action plans consistently**
- **Sustain what works**

The review should include recommendations for action on your selected areas of focus, standards for tracking and sharing data across public agencies / community partners, and structural recommendations for institutionalizing the effort until goals are reached.
Elements of Success

By incorporating some or all key elements of success into your design, you will drive systemic and sustainable change in your community, no matter the issue at hand. These elements of success include:

1. Clear Goals
2. Emphasis on Place
3. Authentic Youth and Community Engagement
4. Committed Leadership
5. Support from Political Leaders
6. Engaging Local Intermediary Organizations
7. Leveraging Expertise of Organizations / Networks
8. Policy and Systems Reform
9. Strategic Use of Data
MBK Milestone 4: Completing Post-Secondary Education or Training
Milestone Overview: Completing Post-Secondary education or training

In 2018, 63% of jobs will require Post-Secondary education. Higher levels of education lead to higher wages for individuals and, in turn, higher tax revenues for federal, state and local governments. More education leads to increased public engagement of Americans in the life of their communities, regions and states. The economic and civic health of the nation depends on a well-educated citizenry, including boys and young men of color to participate and successfully leverage educational opportunities is critical for the nation’s future.

**CHALLENGES**

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Improve college advising services and support tools
- Aim higher in high school by encouraging FAFSA completion and Post-Secondary applications
- Expand access to early college, dual enrollment, AP / IB courses and rigorous college prep
- Increase development and adoption of promising and proven college completion and transfer strategies
- Support young people not only to but through college

All Americans should receive the Post-Secondary education and training needed for quality jobs of today and tomorrow.

5 My Brother’s Keeper Task Force Report
Build Understanding: Engaging your Community Ecosystem and Key Principles

Engaging Your Community Ecosystem

A key next step toward driving change involves mapping your local community ecosystem, with a focus on engaging and connecting key stakeholders*, including:

- Encourage K-12 and Post-Secondary leaders to increase alignment and dual enrollment
- Partner with local community colleges and universities to increase awareness, access, and completion
- Connect with DoE and DoL to discuss available grant funding to scale strong evidence-based programs
- Align college access programs, CBOs to improve coverage and outcomes
- Engage youth to focus aspirations and improve mindsets
- Leverage employers for internships, mentors, and other supports

Key Principles

- Cities attract businesses and families when more residents pursue and obtain post-secondary degrees
- Successful post-secondary enrollment and completion begins earlier with strong student mindsets and preparation
- The odds of success, especially for vulnerable students, are increased with the use of systems to track progress and provide early, consistent, and aligned supports
- Connections to employers and jobs increase post-secondary learning opportunities
- Coordination and cooperation across institutions can significantly increase access and completion

*These key stakeholder groups are meant to serve as an illustrative sampling, to be validated and adapted as relevant to your specific community
### Identify Leading Practices: Evidence-Based Practices and Programmatic Success

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<th>Evidence-Based Practices</th>
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| **1.** Accelerated Study in Associate Programs (ASAP) | **Success Boston** – Boston, MA  
The program is designed to double the college completion rate for the Boston Public Schools (BPS) class of 2011 and beyond. The city established citywide goals by working to have a 50 percent increase in the college graduation rate for college enrollees from the Boston public schools |
| **2.** Early College High Schools | |
| **3.** Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training | **CUNY Start** – New York, NY  
Helps low-income students bypass college developmental coursework through intensive instruction focused on building academic skills and preparing for success in college |
| **4.** GED Bridge to Health and Business Program | **Uplift Education** – Dallas / Ft. Worth, TX  
A public charter school focused on intensely and programmatically supporting students from 6th grade through college access and completion, whose “Road to College” effort has led to a 100% college acceptance rate for its seniors |
| **5.** Financial Aid Reform | |

By tailoring these evidence-based practices to your local context, you can help move the needle in your community.
Take Action: Resources for Turning Theory in Action

**Improve College Advising and Support Tools**
Municipal Leadership for Post-Secondary Success: Getting Started (2012)

**Aim Higher in High School by Encouraging FAFSA Completion and Post-Secondary Applications**
FAFSA Completion tool

**Expand Access to Early College, Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement / International Baccalaureate Courses and Rigorous College Prep**
Preparing Youth for College and Career - A Process Evaluation of Urban Alliance
http://www.urban.org/publications/413233.html
Unlocking the Gate
http://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/Unlocking%20The%20Gate%20ES.pdf

**Increase Development and Adoption of Promising and Proven College Completion and Transfer Strategies**
The Interstate Passport Initiative: Focusing on Learning Outcomes to Streamline Transfer Pathways to Graduation
http://www.wiche.edu/passport

**Support Young People Not Only To But Through College**
Institute for Higher Education Policy Community Partnership for Attainment
http://www.ihep.org/research/initiatives/community-partnership-attainment

Note: These resources include information and examples from nongovernmental sources. These resources are provided for informational purposes only. Inclusion of nongovernmental information and resources does not indicate endorsement by the White House or the U.S. government of entities, their products or services, and the information contained at referenced sites does not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. government.
Wrap Up

Thank you for reviewing the MBK Community Challenge Webinar presentation. For additional questions, please visit our website at www.mbkchallenge.org

Note: MBK Community Action Resource Guides are a project of the National Convening Council, with support and technical assistance from the White House, Federal agencies, and external partner organizations including the National League of Cities, StriveTogether, United Way, PolicyLink, Urban Institute, and Deloitte
**Speaker Biographies**

**Jeff Edmonson** is the Managing Director of StriveTogether, a subsidiary of KnowledgeWorks. StriveTogether is a national cradle-to-career initiative that brings together leaders in Pre-K-12 schools, higher education, business and industry, community organizations, government leaders, parents and other stakeholders who are committed to helping children succeed from birth through careers.

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