

YOUTH THRIVE

WE ALL SUCCEED WHEN YOUTH SUCCEED

wake county, nc

We are a collaborative partnership working together to support all youth so they can become productive adults. We focus on strengthening the positive attributes that enable young people to be fully prepared for success in school, work and life.

Our Vision & Mission

- **Vision:** All young people in Wake County become Thriving Adults
- **Mission:** To foster and maintain a sustainable community partnership that promotes the success of youth, ages 5-18, in Wake County

Three Goals

1. Serve as Wake County's premier **collaborator and convener** of youth-serving professionals and organizations;
2. Serve as **training and technical assistance provider** for Wake County youth-serving professionals and organizations; and
3. Ensure **shared measures** to foster data-driven decision-making

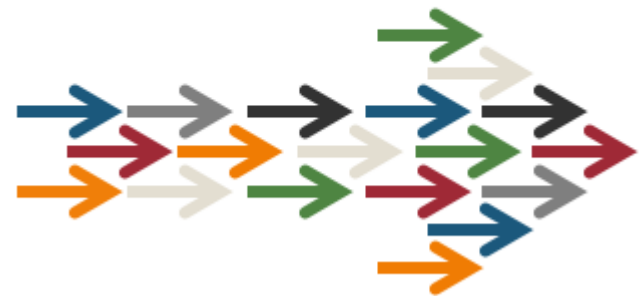
Collective Impact- What's it all about?

- **Common Agenda-** keeps all parties moving toward the same goal
- **Common Measures-** collecting data and measuring results consistently
- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities-** each expertise is leveraged as part of the overall
- **Continuous Communication-** Allows a culture of collaboration
- **Backbone Organization-** Takes on the role of managing collaboration

Isolated Impact



Collective Impact



Principles of Practice

Collective Impact Principles of Practice



Design and implement the initiative with a priority placed on **equity**.

Include **community members** in the collaborative.

Recruit and co-create with **cross-sector** partners.

Use data to continuously **learn, adapt, and improve**.

Cultivate leaders with unique **system leadership** skills.

Focus on program and **system strategies**.

Build a culture that fosters **relationships, trust, and respect** across participants.

Customize for **local context**.

COLLECTIVE IMPACT



How is Youth
Thrive
working to
create the
five
conditions?

Based on data identified in the *Youth Well-being Profile*, convened five issue- based action teams which met over the course of eight months. These teams, comprised of over **100** individuals representing **40** organizations :

- Identified the top challenges affecting youth in Wake County
- Examined the root causes
- Identified evidence- informed strategies to positively impact better outcomes for youth
- Determined indicators to track progress

Common Agenda



WAKE COUNTY STRATEGIC PLANNING BLUEPRINT

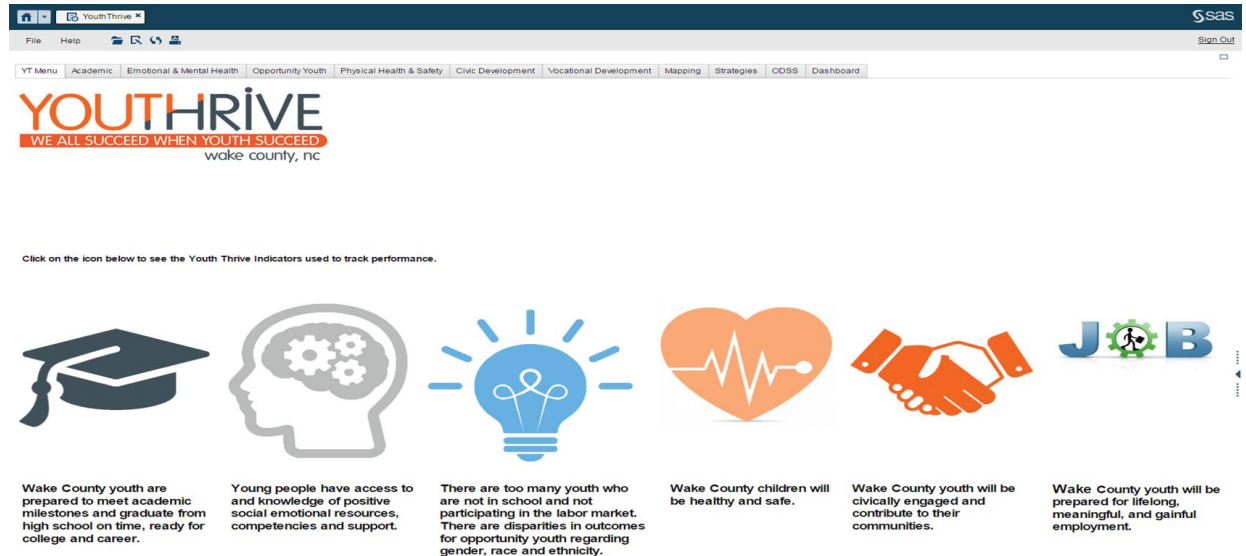
A Guide for Collective Impact for Wake County Youth
March 2016









• Measuring Results

- Convened partners to develop the first ever *Wake County Youth Well-being Profile released in 2015*
- Developing a visual analytics dashboard that will enable us to track our progress toward the goals and indicators identified in the *Blueprint*

Common Measures



Click on the icon below to see the Youth Thrive Indicators used to track performance.

					
Wake County youth are prepared to meet academic milestones and graduate from high school on time, ready for college and career.	Young people have access to and knowledge of positive social emotional resources, competencies and support.	There are too many youth who are not in school and not participating in the labor market. There are disparities in outcomes for opportunity youth regarding gender, race and ethnicity.	Wake County children will be healthy and safe.	Wake County youth will be civically engaged and contribute to their communities.	Wake County youth will be prepared for lifelong, meaningful, and gainful employment.

Mutually Reinforcing Activities

- 27 capacity building events for youth-serving professionals between 2012 and 2016 (over 650 individuals trained)
- Developed the Youth Places and Spaces GIS map with partners and youth, and the mobile app, iThrive Wake
- Each partner organization chooses different strategies from the Blueprint to work toward the common goals.



Continuous Communication

- Bi-weekly newsletter to reach over 700 youth serving professionals and local leaders.



Youth Thrive has created a neutral space for organizations to **connect** and **build relationships**, and **work together** to reach more youth and provide more comprehensive services for youth and families.

Youth Thrive has fostered **networking** and **partnerships** among organizations serving youth, with increased understanding of how each agency contributes.

Backbone organization

Youth Thrive has two full time employees, a 22 member Board of Directors and a fiscal sponsor



Lessons
Learned

“Change moves at the speed of
trust”

-Stephen Covey

Lessons
Learned

“If you want to go fast,

go alone.

If you want to go far,

go together.”

-African Proverb

Lessons Learned

Dedicated staff is critical to *coordinate* the work of the collaborative.

It can be challenging to fund this type of infrastructure which does not provide *direct services* to a target population.

Lessons Learned

- Tom Wolff's recent essay eloquently expresses his hope for *"improved applications of Collective Impact to emerge where those most affected by the issues lead the effort and share the decision making and the power."*
- Youth Thrive will be more intentional about including youth voice in our work going forward. The first step toward this was to include 60 young people in the recent Grad Nation Community Summit held in April 2016.

Aspirational Goals for Collective Action

- 95% of third grade students read on grade level
- 95% of students will graduate college and career ready
- Eliminate youth suicides
- All youth have positive relationships and surroundings (Eliminate bullying)