

Why

# EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

**critical brain development starts early**

- Key development happens in the first three years of a child's life, and often takes place in the home
- Children in stressful home environments frequently demonstrate impairments in cognitive, behavioral and social development
- Children in low-income homes hear far fewer vocabulary words than their more affluent peers, resulting in a word gap that often remains as they enter kindergarten
- Brain development research shows that the foundation for social and economic mobility in adulthood are built in early childhood



the first **3 years** are key

**key INDICATORS**

- Access to health care beginning in infancy
- Access to quality child care
- Preschool participation
- Kindergarten readiness

- **5 year goal:** Align all systems involved in early childhood development to ensure Utah has the capacity to prepare children at risk of remaining in poverty for kindergarten
- **10 year goal:** Children at risk of remaining in poverty as they become adults are emotionally, cognitively, and developmentally prepared for kindergarten

Why

# EDUCATION MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **EDUCATION** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's future economic prospects.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

**attendance matters**

- Regular attendance leads to better academic performance
- Children generally have higher chronic absences
- Frequent moves can lead to poor academic outcomes

Children underperform in

**Reading & Math**

**academic achievement**

- Academic achievement is a key indicator of future success
- Children underperform on two key benchmarks—third grade reading proficiency and eighth grade math proficiency

**25%**

of third graders were chronically absent compared to 10% for non-IQP children

- **5 year goal:** Align systems assisting with educational outcomes to ensure efforts are focused in schools disproportionately impacted by intergenerational poverty. This includes all levels of government, local schools, communities, businesses, and non-profits.
- **10 year goal:** Children at risk of remaining in poverty as they become adults graduate from high school at the rate equal to the statewide rate.

**57%**

of students graduated in 2013, compared to 81% for the overall student population

**key INDICATORS**

- Kindergarten participation
- Chronic absence rates
- Third grade language arts proficiency
- Eighth grade math proficiency
- AP participation
- ACT scores
- Graduation rates
- Juvenile justice engagement

Why

# ECONOMIC STABILITY MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **ECONOMIC STABILITY** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

**education matters**

- Adults have lower levels of educational attainment, which leads to weaker attachment to the labor force and wages insufficient to meet the basic needs of their families
- In 2014, the average wage for adults was \$11,506—roughly one-fourth of the \$42,184 average wage for all Utahns

**33%**

of adults worked the entire year in 2014

**\$11.5k**

average adult wage in 2014

**key INDICATORS**

- Adult educational attainment
- Annual employment
- Wages
- Interactions with the homeless system
- Housing mobility

**74%**

of adults lack an education beyond high school

- **5 year goal:** Children at risk of remaining in poverty are living in stable families, able to meet their basic needs (food, housing, health, safety, and transportation)
- **10 year goal:** Children at risk of remaining in poverty are living in families that are self-sufficient

Why

# HEALTH MATTERS

## for Intergenerational Poverty

We are focusing on four key areas to address the needs of Utah children at risk of living in poverty as adults. **HEALTH** is one of the areas of focus influencing a child's well-being.

### Here's what you need to know

about people experiencing intergenerational poverty:

**lasting effects of mistreatment**

- Mistreatment of children impacts brain development, nervous system, and immune system and often leads to psychological and emotional problems
- Child abuse and neglect may lead to alcoholism, depression, drug abuse, and criminal activity as children get older
- 29% of adults today were victims of abuse or neglect as children
  - 39% of these adults have committed acts of abuse
- 26% of children have been victims of abuse and neglect, compared to 1.5% for Utah's overall child population

**26%**

of children were abuse victims

**proper nutrition**

- 93% of K-12 are enrolled in school breakfast and lunch programs

**key INDICATORS**

- Access to health care (physical, behavioral, and dental)
- Rates of abuse and neglect
- Participation in nutrition programs

**Healthcare utilization**

- Only 19 percent of children received mental health services
- As children age, a greater percentage are not seeing a doctor

**90%**

or more of children receive food stamps

- **5 year goal:** Children experiencing intergenerational poverty have access to quality physical health, mental health, and dental care, regardless of where their family resides in Utah
- **10 year goal:** Children experiencing intergenerational poverty are receiving physical, mental, and dental care at the same rates as the statewide rates, regardless of where their family resides in Utah

# INDICATORS OF CHILD WELL-BEING

leading to success in adulthood



## INDICATORS OF CHILD WELL-BEING LEADING TO SUCCESS IN ADULTHOOD

### EDUCATION

- Kindergarten participation
- Chronic absence rates
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade language arts proficiency
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade math proficiency
- AP participation
- ACT scores
- Graduation rates
- Juvenile justice engagement



### FAMILY ECONOMIC STABILITY

- Adult educational attainment
- Adult employment
- Wage levels
- Housing stability



### HEALTH

- Access to health care, including physical, mental and dental health
- Rates of abuse and neglect
- Participation in nutrition programs



### EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT

- Access to health care beginning in infancy
- Access to quality child care
- Preschool participation
- Kindergarten readiness