

Quarterly Convening

March 14, 2022

Welcome

**Please “rename” your zoom
name with your first & last name
and organization (or list
community member)**

Select participants→select your name→select more→select rename

Agenda

- ▶ **(~15) Norwalk ACTS Welcome Announcements**
 - Staffing announcement
 - Seeking Board members
 - Release of Evergreen
 - New OST Program Locator
 - Norwalk ACTS approach to Data
- ▶ **(~45) CT Data Collaborative Workshop**
- ▶ **(~45) Data Breakout Groups**
- ▶ **(~15) Whole Group Debrief & Closing**

Welcome Barbara Beaujour!



Operations Coordinator for Norwalk ACTS

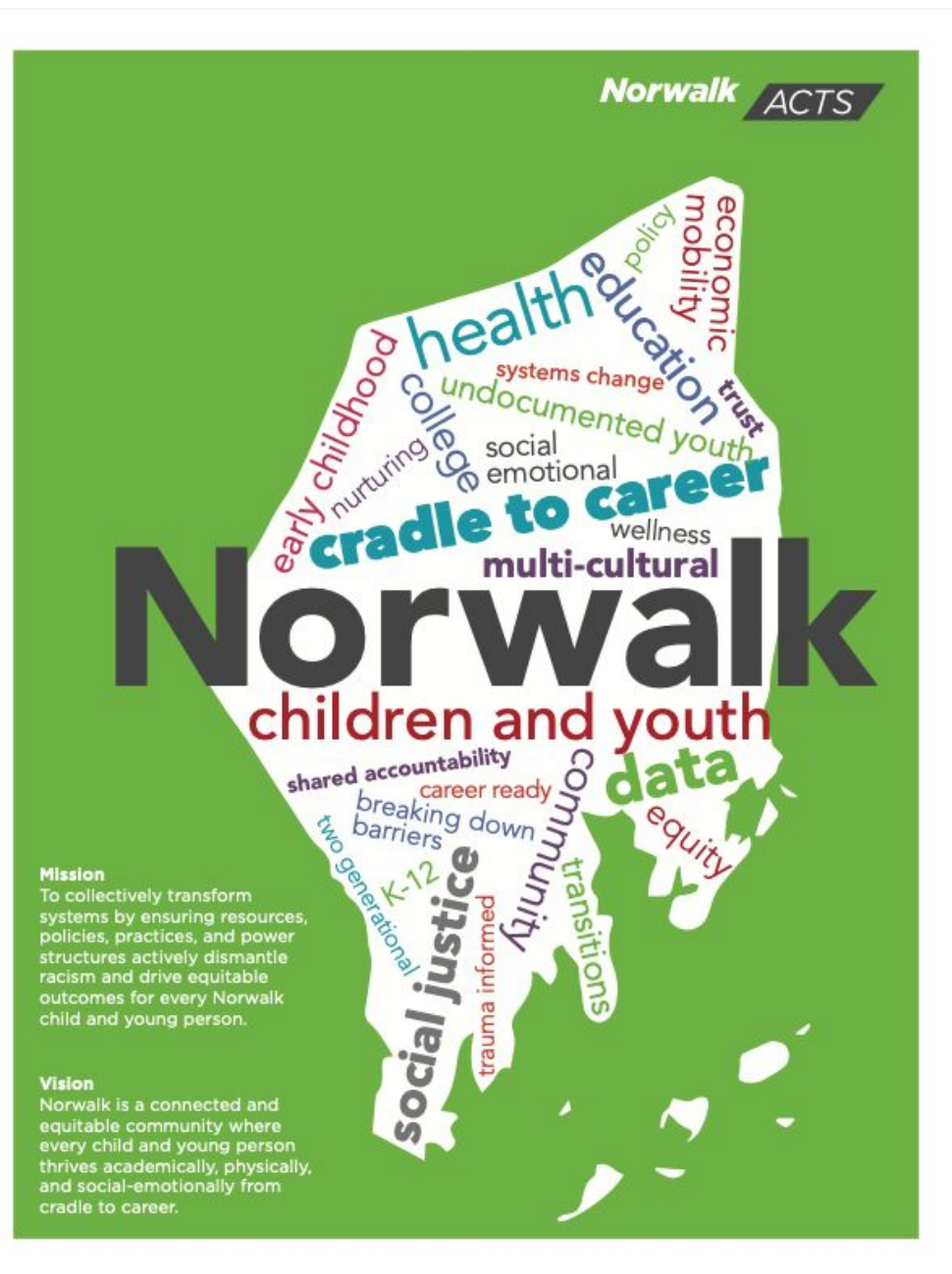
Seeking New Board Members!

Role of Norwalk ACTS Board

The backbone of Norwalk ACTS is a non-profit 501c(3) organization. The Board is responsible for

- ▶ Advocating for Norwalk ACTS and advancing purposeful connections
- ▶ Levering and influencing key stakeholders & partnerships necessary to advance mission and encourage collaboration throughout the community
- ▶ Informing board dialogue and organizational direction from a diversity of perspectives
- ▶ Fiduciary oversight and financial management (budget, audit, financial requirements)
- ▶ Resource procurement and fundraising
- ▶ Ensuring alignment between strategies and operations
- ▶ Selecting and evaluating the performance of the CEO

Releasing our Evergreen



- ▶ 8-page informational material that explains Collective Impact and how Norwalk ACTS operates to transform systems.

Celebrating the our new Out of School Time Program Locator!

The screenshot shows the desktop version of the website. At the top is the logo with a circular icon containing a paint palette, a soccer ball, a book, and a sun. The text reads "PLAY & learn" in blue and orange, followed by "Norwalk ACTS" in a green and grey box, and "Out of School Time Program Locator" in grey. Below this is a welcome message and a row of four icons: "How-to Guide" (info icon), "Demo Video" (play icon), "Provider Survey" (document icon), and "Contact Us" (envelope icon). The main section is titled "Step 1. Customize Search" with instructions to use keywords or dropdown filters. It features five filters: "Keyword" (text input), "Age" (dropdown menu), "Price" (dropdown menu), "Type" (dropdown menu), and "Time" (dropdown menu). Below the filters, it says "Step 2. Choose Program" with instructions to scroll down and click on a program. It shows "36 found based on search criteria" and a list of two programs: "After School Art Classes" at 145 Rowayton Ave, Norwalk, CT 06853, and "Anything Goes: Youth Edition" at 66 Bayview Ave, Norwalk, CT 06850. Logos for "rac" and "Crystal Theatre" are visible next to the programs.

PLAY & learn Norwalk ACTS
Out of School Time Program Locator

Welcome to Norwalk's Out of School Time Program Locator where you can search for After School and Summer Programs that lead to kids staying active and engaged outside of the classroom. Find a program meet the needs of both you and your child in two easy steps! Use Full Screen mode for best results on web browser.

How-to Guide Demo Video Provider Survey Contact Us

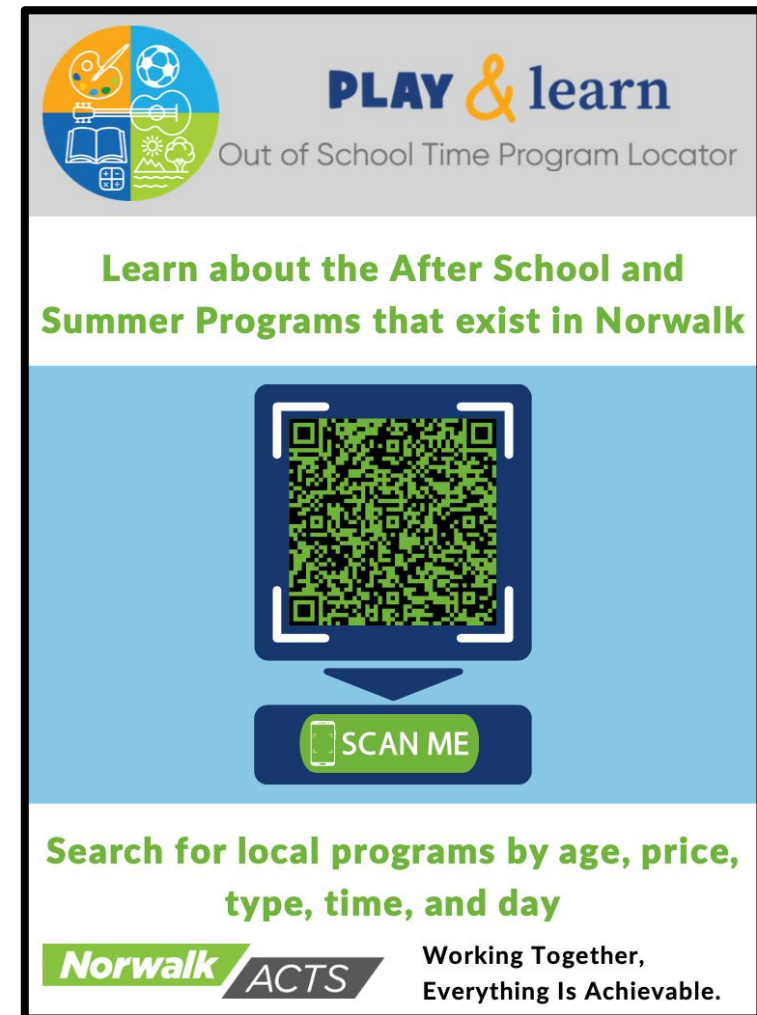
Step 1. Customize Search
Type in a keyword or choose criteria from dropdown filters to narrow down list of programs.
Use keywords like "free" or "sports" then press enter/return, or combine keywords and criteria to narrow down list even further!

Keyword Age Price Type Time Days

Step 2. Choose Program
Scroll down and click on a program to view it's profile page.
If none were found, try another keyword, choose different criteria from dropdown filters, or clear all and try again!

36 found based on search criteria

After School Art Classes	145 Rowayton Ave, Norwalk, CT 06853	rac
Anything Goes: Youth Edition	66 Bayview Ave, Norwalk, CT 06850	Crystal Theatre



- ▶ Features After School and Summer Programs that exist in Norwalk
- ▶ Families can search for local programs by age, price, type, time, and day
- ▶ Available in Spanish and Haitian-Creole - both desktop and mobile versions
- ▶ Over 50 programs listed!

Data Cornerstone

Our cornerstones are embedded into each of our Initiatives across the cradle-to-career continuum.



DATA



SOCIAL JUSTICE &
RACIAL EQUITY

Norwalk ACTS



PRENATAL TO GRADE 3



SOCIAL EMOTIONAL HEALTH



OUT OF SCHOOL TIME



COLLEGE & WORKFORCE READINESS



POLICY &
ADVOCACY



COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

Cradle

Career





- ▶ **Data is both Quantitative and Qualitative**
- ▶ **What do we do with data?**
 - » Collect it
 - » Clean and shape it
 - » Link it to other data
 - » Analyze it for insight
 - » Visualize it for clarity
 - » Report on it to the community
 - » Act on it to enable change
 - » Enable the community to use it for action
- ▶ **And always remember that**
 - » *Behind Every Data Point is a Child*

Breakout Group Conversation Norms & Agenda

Conversation Norms

1. Listen and be open to different perspectives and experiences.
2. Show respect and suspend judgment.
3. Disagreement is an opportunity to expand our perspectives.
4. Check your assumptions and assume positive intent.
5. Be purposeful and to the point.
6. Step up, step back.

Breakout Group Logistics

- 3 breakout groups
- 1 facilitator and supporting backbone staff member/Initiative leaders

Breakout Group Topics Facilitated By:

1. **Prenatal to Grade 3**, Paula Palermo
2. **Social Emotional Health**, Denique Weidema-Lewis
3. **College & Workforce Readiness**, Jesse Buccolo

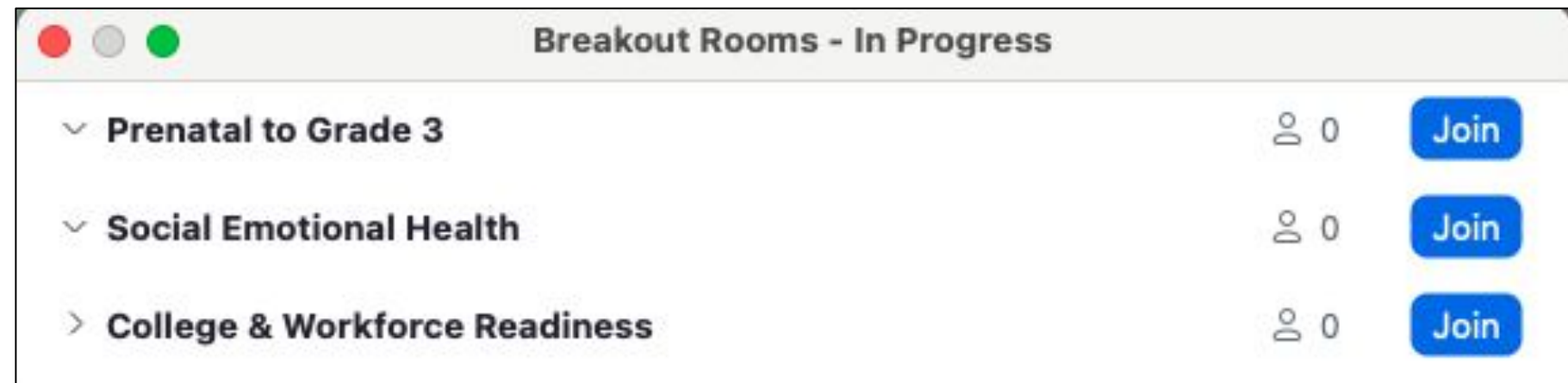
Timing:

~5 Introductions

~10 Data Presentation

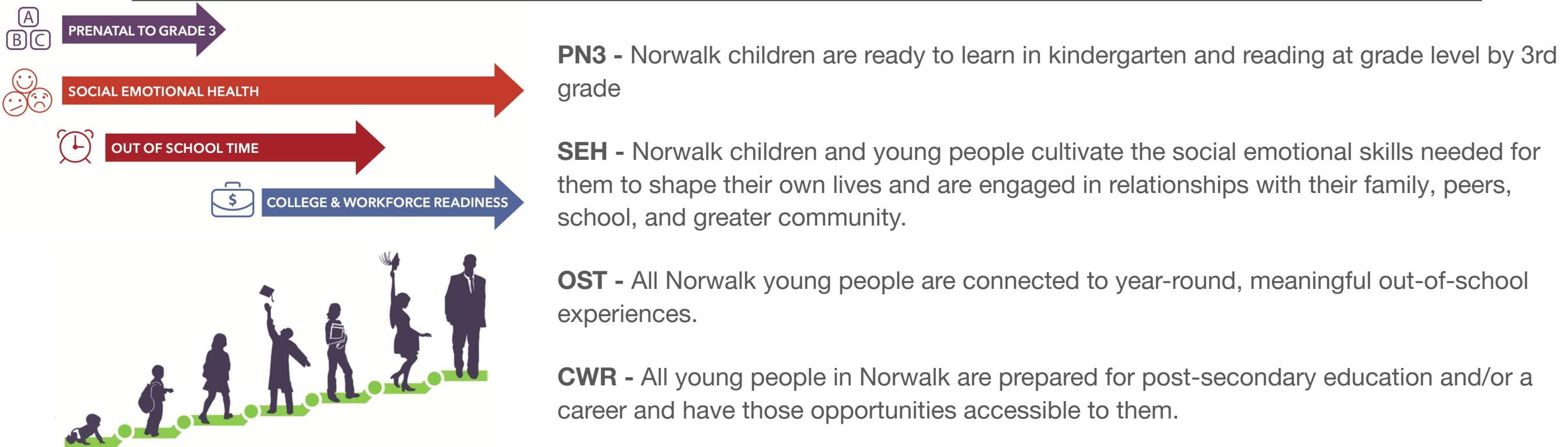
~30 Data Reflection & Discussion

Join breakout room that you are most interested in!



Select breakout rooms and click join!

Our Next Steps for Strategic Planning




Strategic Planning Process

- Narrow our focus within these outcomes areas to set realistic 3-year goals to achieve within each outcome area
- Today's questions and stories about our data is a critical step in the process for narrowing our focus


Upcoming Events in 2022 - Save the Dates!

All links will be shared in follow up email




**CYLCENTER FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP**
YOUTH TOWN HALL
A CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE RELATIONS

WEDNESDAY, 3/16/22
7 - 8 PM


YOU ARE INVITED
Please join The Center for Youth Leadership (CYL) at Brien McMahon High School and the Darien High School Black Student Union, for a conversation about race relations. We welcome and encourage all to join.




SCAN QR CODE
OR
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

FOLLOW AND SHARE
 @NORWALKACTS.CT
 @NORWALKACTS1
 @NORWALKACTSCT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
This discussion is made possible by Norwalk ACTS. It provides a safe space for youth to come together to share experiences, provide education, and explore equitable actions that can be taken within schools and the community



9 MOTT AVENUE / NORWALK, CT / 06850
203.956.0700 / NORWALKACTS.ORG



**Norwalk ACTS Annual
Convening - Community
Engagement**

IN PERSON!

JUNE 14th

9:00-11:00am

Closing

Please complete our optional plus/delta form to leave convening feedback (link in chat):

Norwalk ACTS

Quarterly Convening Plus/Delta Form

Please use this form to share feedback on how well our convening team is doing and what we should keep doing, or add to, our convening meeting format.

First and Last Name (optional)
Your e-mail:

Organization Name (optional)
Your e-mail:

How informative was this convening to your organization's role, responsibilities, and/or practice?
Not informative 1 2 3 4 5 Very informative

How engaging was this Convening?
Not engaging at all 1 2 3 4 5 Very engaging

What went well with today's convening? (Full)
Your e-mail:

What should we consider differently next time? (Detail)
Your e-mail:

Any questions or wonderings that were unanswered?
Your e-mail:

Submit

Sign up on our website for our newsletter!

Norwalk ACTS

September news & updates

September 9th, 2021

Upcoming Events
See what's happening this month.

News You Can Use
[The Hour: Census Data: Norwalk Has the 7th Highest Population Increase in CT](#)
[CT Post: "In Their Own Words," Dallo Education Funds Storytelling Platform for CT Teachers](#)
[Chalk Talk: For Norwalk Schools, Resolving Equity Gaps Starts with a Mindset Shift](#)

Member Spotlight
[ALL OUR KIN](#)

All Our Kin is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization that trains, supports, and sustains family child care educators—transforming opportunities by ensuring that children and families have the foundation they need to succeed in school and in life.

Become a Norwalk ACTS member today!

FOLLOW US FOR OUR LATEST NEWS

CEO Corner
Jennifer D. Barahona, LCSW

Over the past week, social media feeds were filled with faces of children and teachers returning to school. Given the uncertainty of the past eighteen months, it feels comforting to have a routine. However, now more than ever, we need to continue to come together as a community to support one another, exercise patience and understanding, and give ourselves and others grace.

We send our very best wishes to all students, teachers, staff, and families as together we continue to learn to navigate this new reality. Getting back into a routine is also an opportunity to recommit to our own self-care plans so that we are in a position to serve to the best of our abilities.

We look forward to welcoming you to the first convening of the new school year on [September 14th](#). We will be unveiling our new vision and mission statements and updating members on the plans for the coming year. In addition, we will receive an update from our race equity core team and hear from the Norwalk Public Schools about the strategic operating plan for the district.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Are you a member?
Please sign our digital **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)**.

Norwalk ACTS

Norwalk ACTS MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

The **mission** of Norwalk ACTS is to enrich and improve the lives and futures of all of Norwalk's children and youth, from cradle to career. In doing so, it is our **vision** that Norwalk will be the healthiest city in America for a child to grow up in - academically, socially/emotionally, and physically. Social justice and racial equity are core values of Norwalk ACTS. We are committed to continuing to disaggregate data to report on racial and economic disparities so that together we can deploy tools and resources to support adoption of equitable practices. This includes evaluating our internal operations and systems and building our own capacity to make measurable progress towards being a truly diverse, equitable, and inclusive organization. The Norwalk ACTS Membership, having adopted the principles of **Collective Impact** and the **StriveTogether Theory of Action** for building cradle to career civic infrastructure, is helping our community build an integrated system to address the academic, social emotional, and health/wellness needs of Norwalk's children.

Principles of Collective Impact

- Common Agenda
- Shared Measurement
- Mutually Reinforcing Activities
- Continuous Communication
- Backbone Support

StriveTogether Pillars

- Shared Community Vision
- Evidence Based Decision Making
- Collaborative Action
- Investment and Sustainability

Additionally, we incorporate these additional **eight practices** of Collective Impact:

1. Design and implement Initiatives with a priority placed on equity
2. Include community members in the collaborative
3. Recruit and co-create with cross-sector partners
4. Use data to continuously learn, adapt, and improve
5. Cultivate leaders with unique system leadership skills
6. Focus on program and system strategies
7. Build a culture that fosters relationships, trust, and respect across participants
8. Customize for local context

Our Collective Impact process, strategies, and Initiatives are aimed at the achievement or increase in the % of the following community level outcomes:

- Norwalk children enter kindergarten ready to learn.
- Norwalk students meet the goal level in 3rd grade reading.
- Norwalk students have the necessary skills to successfully transition from 5th to 6th grade.
- Norwalk students have the necessary skills to successfully transition from 8th to 9th grade.
- Norwalk students graduate from high school in 4 years ready for college, post-secondary training, or full-time employment.
- Norwalk graduates are career-ready with a college degree or professional certificate.