



# Leading on Opportunity

# Our North Star

Within a generation, every child in Charlotte-Mecklenburg will have an equal chance to achieve social and economic success.



## Impact of Segregation

Cross-Cutting Factor

**Strategy A|1:** Acknowledge the significant roles segregation and racialization have played in our current opportunity narrative and commit to becoming a more inclusive, fair, and just community.

**Strategy B|2:** Address the complex, multi-faceted issue of school segregation with a systems approach.



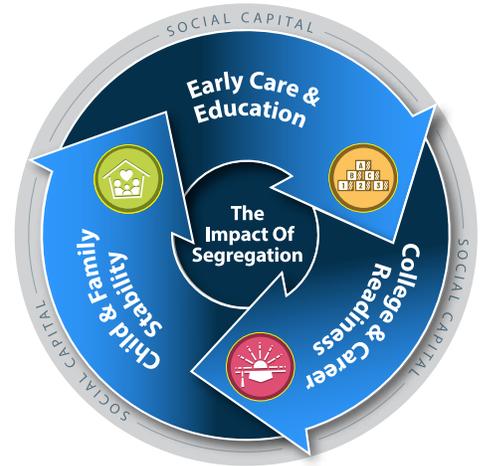
## Early Care & Education

Social Determinant

**Strategy C|3:** Make the necessary investments to ensure all children in Mecklenburg County from birth to age five have access to quality early childhood care and education.

**Strategy D|4:** Strengthen the early care and education workforce to improve the quality and experiences of early care and education available to children ages birth to five.

**Strategy E|5:** Support parents and other caregivers as a child's first teacher in promoting positive brain development, social and emotional health, and early literacy beginning at birth.



## Opportunity Together: 21 Community Strategies



## College & Career Readiness

Social Determinant

**Strategy F|6:** Broaden the range of access to high quality college and career-pathways offered by our K-12 and postsecondary institutions, ensuring all students have access to and support for the full range of opportunities.

**Strategy G|7:** Equip all students and their parents with the information and guidance they need to understand and navigate multiple college and career pathways, preparation, and processes.

**Strategy H|8:** Galvanize community support to develop and implement a multi-faceted plan to increase paid work-based learning opportunities for students.

**Strategy I|9:** Expand and strengthen support for first-generation and other low-socioeconomic students who need help transitioning to and completing postsecondary education.

**Strategy J|10:** Create more on-ramps to education, training, and employment for disconnected youth and youth adults (ages 16-24).

**Strategy K|11:** Elevate and actively promote the critical importance of acquiring a postsecondary degree and/or industry certification for our young people to successfully compete in our rapidly changing technologically advanced labor market.



## Child & Family Stability

Social Determinant

**Strategy L|12:** Encourage the formation and maintenance of committed two-parent families.

**Strategy M|13:** Ensure young women and men have the necessary information about the resources for reproductive health care so they can plan for pregnancy when they are ready to raise a child.

**Strategy N|14:** Improve birth outcomes of all children and their mothers.

**Strategy O|15:** Help more families get on and stay on a path to living-wage income and asset building.

**Strategy P|16:** Take dramatic steps to address our affordable housing crisis, which will stabilize working families, prevent family homelessness and minimize the disruption of a large number of children who move from school to school due to housing affordability issues.

**Strategy Q|17:** Create a more connected community to ensure all families have ready access to employment, shopping, service areas, schools, parks, and other daily destinations.

**Strategy R|18:** Develop efforts focused on addressing mental health issues and/or reducing the mental health impacts of living in low-wage opportunity environments.

**Strategy S|19:** Invest in strategies that support comprehensive criminal justice reform, and create a community where families are not destabilized due to interactions with the criminal justice system.

**Strategy T|20:** Re-envision a human services system in which the needs of families are addressed holistically, and services and support are coordinated to achieve the best possible outcomes.

**Strategy U|21:** Ensure all children, youth, and families have relationships in the community that connect them to opportunities, information, and resources; broaden their horizons about what's possible in their lives; assist

in navigating through unexpected crises to stay on track; offer tangible pathways toward achieving their aspirations; and demonstrate to every child, youth, and family that their contribution is vital to the success of our community.



## Social Capital

Cross-Cutting Factor