



125 East Ninth Street Second Floor Cincinnati, OH 45202

# **StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network Offerings**

Every child, cradle to career. It's a bold vision to achieve better, more equitable results by transforming systems to best serve students in your community, particularly students of color and students from low-income families. And you don't have to do this work alone. In the StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network, you have access to a variety of offerings and resources to support you in pursuit of this goal.

## **Capability Building**

Build capability in <u>Results Count™</u>, <u>collaborative improvement</u> and equity with peers across the country by participating in national programs, including:

### **Equitable Results Programs**

StriveTogether's Equitable Results programs support you and your partners in changing systems at the policy and practice levels to achieve measurable, short-term targets for children of color and children from low-income families.

Equitable Results programs are for <u>teams</u> of five leaders from the backbone organization and partner organizations, focused on a single cradle-to-career outcome. In 2019, StriveTogether will offer an Equitable Results program, which will launch in August 2019 and run through February 2020. All participants in the Equitable Results program will be expected to attend all four sessions and will receive travel stipends to cover the cost of travel to each session.

Equitable Results program: Aug. 6–7, Oct. 16–17, and Dec. 10–11, 2019, and Feb. 5–6, 2020

There will also be an Equitable Results 101 pre-session at the national convening.

Equitable Results 101: Sept. 9–11

### **Results Based Facilitation Workshops**

One of two foundational skills of Results Count, <u>Results Based Facilitation</u> (RBF) enables you to practice skills for getting better results by moving groups from talk to action and holding meeting participants accountable for advancing the work. RBF workshops are for individuals or pairs from backbone teams, partners that convene or facilitate collaborative action networks or other individuals working to build facilitation skills to apply in one-on-one conversations and small or large group meetings. RBF 101 focuses on four initial skills: holding roles, holding conversations, holding groups and holding "3R" meetings (Relationships + Resources = Results). Two concurrent RBF 101 sessions will be held April 3–4, 2019.

Participants who complete RBF 101 or the Results Based Facilitation session in the StriveTogether Leadership Program are eligible for the 201/301 series, which will take place July 17–18 and September 24–25. The RBF 201/301 series is focused on two advanced RBF skills: holding mental models and holding action and results. Those who participate in the series are eligible for RBF Practitioner qualification.

Results Based Facilitation 101: April 3–4
Results Based Facilitation 201/301: July 17 –18 and September 24–25

Note: Although no registration costs are associated with Results Based Facilitation workshops, participants have traditionally been responsible for the costs of travel to the sessions. A limited number of need-based travel stipends will be available in 2019 to enable equitable participation across the Network.

## **Impact and Improvement Networks**

Impact and improvement networks were created to improve educational outcomes within a cohort of communities by building a culture of continuous improvement across different systems. The goal is to help partners align efforts around improving quality of life for children in their community while building capability in StriveTogether's collaborative improvement approach. Impact and improvement networks are for <a href="teams">teams</a> of five practitioners from both the backbone organization and partners, focused on a single cradle-to-career outcome. The current <a href="Prenatal-to-Age-3 Impact and Improvement Network">Prenatal-to-Age-3 Impact and Improvement Network</a> runs until June 2019. Additional networks for 2019 are in development.



### **Community Connections**

Leverage learnings from peers in the Network to ignite action and accelerate your work:

#### **Role Alikes**

Role alikes bring together individuals in similar roles across communities to share effective practices and lessons. More than 10 role alikes assemble in person at our annual convening. In 2019, several role alikes will continue to collaborate in virtual meetings throughout the year, including: advanced and emerging partnership directors, chief operating officers, data managers and facilitators.

Data managers will continue to meet the last Tuesday of every month. The other role alikes will determine a meeting cadence in January 2019.

#### **Communities of Practice**

Many Network members are trying to change systems by tackling similar issues. Communities of practice create a virtual space for partnerships to solve problems together. These can be initiated by StriveTogether or Network members. Look for information on two new communities of practice launching in 2019: policy and employment.

### **Topic-Based Convenings**

Topic-based convenings allow for communities tackling specific topics to come together and learn from one another and experts in the field. In 2019, topic-based convenings are planned to focus on health care, an adjacent sector critical to addressing key factors that impact student outcomes, as well as key backbone functions and capacities, including community engagement, policy, collaborative action and equity.

Policy community of practice convening: June 5-6

Equity: June 12–13

Collaborative action networks: September 26–27

Community engagement: October 3-4

Health care: November 19-20

Note: A limited number of need-based travel stipends for topic-based convenings will be available in 2019 to enable equitable participation across the Network.



## **Virtual Support and Learning**

Stay informed and connected between convenings with StriveTogether's virtual supports:

### **Network Navigators**

Each Cradle to Career Network member has a Network Navigator who serves as a primary point of contact with the local partnership. Navigators have bi-monthly calls with their partnerships to highlight successes, address challenges and identify resources or peers to help with progress.

#### **Webinars**

StriveTogether webinars feature experts, partners and Network members who share knowledge and lessons on topics relevant to advancing through the Theory of Action, transforming systems and improving outcomes. Recent topics have included the Every Student Succeeds Act, social-emotional learning and equity at the center. You can help determine the 2019 learning agenda that will guide the webinar topics by indicating what content you need to advance your work in the <a href="Network survey">Network survey</a>. Learn about upcoming webinars in the bi-weekly News You Can Use newsletter and on the Partner Portal.

### **Theory of Action**

StriveTogether's unique approach to <u>quality collective impact</u> is captured in our <u>Theory of Action</u>, which has been developed and refined by the Cradle to Career Network and validated by a third-party evaluator, Equal Measure. Partnerships that complete the annual civic infrastructure assessment receive tailored recommendations on how to further develop the infrastructure needed to improve outcomes and close disparity gaps.

#### **New Staff Orientation**

Orient your new staff to the StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network and the Theory of Action with our <u>monthly webinar</u>, the second Tuesday of every month. In 2019, StriveTogether will explore additional opportunities to onboard not only staff but partners and leadership council members, based on feedback from Network member interviews.

#### **Partner Portal**

The <u>partner portal</u> is the online platform that connects you virtually to your fellow Network members while providing you with access to resources and toolkits on collaborative improvement, equity and more. In 2019, the partner portal will get a refresh to increase its usability!



## **Partnership Capacity Building**

Grow your capacity with the <u>Cradle to Career Community Challenge</u>. This fund is meant to advance community progress to improve outcomes, catalyze resources to increase sustainability and support efforts to test, learn and spread effective strategies across the Network. The Community Challenge currently includes the Accelerator Fund, Opportunity Fund, Promising Practices Fund and Strategic Initiatives Fund. In 2019, there are plans for new Opportunity and Strategic Initiatives cohorts. The Opportunity Fund will continue to focus on equitable systems and outcomes to drive economic mobility. The Strategic Initiatives Fund will focus on one of the seven capacities from the <u>five-year strategic plan</u>.

The current cohorts of the Opportunity Fund and Strategic Initiatives Fund will convene to share learnings across communities and with the broader Network. There will also be Community Challenge pre-sessions at the Cradle to Career Network Convening.

Opportunity Fund Convening: April 16–18
Strategic Initiatives Fund Convening: June 4–5
Cradle to Career Community Challenge Pre-Sessions: September 9–11

## **Pilot Programs**

We test, learn and improve before scaling:

## **Rural StriveTogether Leadership Program**

In 2019, in partnership with <u>Save the Children</u> and <u>Partners for Education</u> (Berea, Ky.), StriveTogether will pilot a five-session Equitable Results program tailored to the unique needs of rural partnerships.

## **Technology Enabled Girl Ambassadors (TEGA)**

The Youth Initiative of Adams County (Adams County, Colo.) is piloting <u>TEGA</u> to garner authentic youth, parent and community voice in partnership with StriveTogether and international nonprofit <u>Girl Effect</u>. The program trains and empowers adolescent girls (ages 18-24) to become TEGAs, qualified digital researchers who use a mobile-based, peer-to-peer research app to inform the work of the partnership's collaborative action networks. StriveTogether and Girl Effect are exploring the possible expansion of TEGA to additional communities in 2019.



### **Customized Strategic Assistance**

Communities interested in StriveTogether's support on the ground can request customized strategic assistance on a fee-for-service basis. These engagements can be requested by an individual partnership or a regional cohort and are tailored to the unique context of your partnership(s). Customized strategic assistance may include:

- Local capability building: If you've attended a national program or workshop and want to build additional capability with your staff and partners back home, host a local Equitable Results program, Results Count intro workshop, Advanced Improvement Workshop or Results Based Facilitation 101 or series.
- School district continuous improvement: Build the capability of school staff to use
  continuous improvement principles at the classroom, school and district levels, enabling
  individual schools and large districts to identify effective practices and collaborate on
  complex problems.
- **Proof point action planning workshops:** Use local data and a facilitated visioning process to support your partnership's development of an action plan to change systems, improve outcomes and earn proof point designation.
- Strategic planning coaching and support: Participate in regular coaching calls targeted to specific results you want to achieve in service of better, more equitable results. The level of support will be personalized to your needs.
- Retreat facilitation support: Whether convening your leadership council, board, backbone
  team, partners or investors, you can request support from StriveTogether on retreats and
  other convenings. This may include virtual coaching on design and delivery and/or on-site
  support with facilitation.
- Collaborative action network launches or resets: Kick off or relaunch a collaborative action network to strategically align partners around a shared outcome and establish effective structures to achieve population-level results.

Stay informed on upcoming network offerings by subscribing to <u>News You Can Use</u>.

Shape future offerings by joining the <u>Member Advisory Council</u>, completing the <u>Network survey</u> and keeping connected with your Network Navigator.

Learn more about these offerings in a <u>Network events webinar</u> on Friday, February 1, 2019.

