Agenda

Monday, March 11th

3:30 – 6:30 pm  Registration  Grand Registration

1:30 – 5:00 pm  Pre-conference meetings (require pre-registration)  Athens, Augusta & Valdosta
• Ready by 21 Design Team
• Expanded Learning Initiative
• Children’s Cabinet Network (2-6 pm)

4:00 – 5:00 pm  Ready by 21 Primer  Savannah Room
An optional orientation session for attendees newer to Ready by 21 who are interested in a refresher on key Ready by 21 ideas and frameworks to help them take full advantage of the National Meeting.

5:30 – 7:30 pm  Welcome & Networking Reception  Garden Courtyard

Tuesday, March 12th

8:00 – 10:00 am  Registration  Grand Registration (level 3)

8:00 – 9:30 am  Breakfast Buffet  Salon D-E

8:30 – 9:45 am  Opening Plenary  Salon D-E
• **Welcomes & Introductions**
• **Remarks from Karen Pittman, President & CEO, The Forum for Youth Investment: Aligning for Impact**
• **Moderated Discussion: Big Ideas for Managing Change**
  o Armistead Sapp, Senior Vice President for Business Intelligence R&D and P-20, SAS
  o Dave Hadlet, Vice President of Client Care, Lloyd’s Register Quality Assurance
  o Polly Page, Executive Director, Northern Kentucky Education Council
  o Moderator: Karen Pittman

9:45 – 10:30 am  Youth Voices & Reflections: What is Youth Readiness? What’s it take?  Salon D-E
• Jairus Cater, student at Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville and former co-chair of Nashville Mayor’s Child and Youth Task Force
• Young leaders from Atlanta
• Moderator: Merita Irby, COO, The Forum for Youth Investment
Learning Sessions – Round I

Community Schools: A Ground Game for Ready by 21
Built on a foundation of leadership and coordination, community schools have emerged as effective vehicles for marshaling school and community resources to support students’ cognitive, social, emotional, civic and physical development. Learn how community schools succeed and explore how they add value to your local Ready by 21 work.

Presenters:
- Martin Blank, Director, Coalition for Community Schools; President, Institute for Educational Leadership
- Tim Garvin, President & CEO, United Way of Central Massachusetts
- Tony Majors, Chief Support Services Officer, Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Ready by 21 Youth Master Planning
In several cities, Ready by 21 serves as the guiding framework for creating comprehensive youth master plans – an increasingly common practice in which government officials, school district leaders, community partners and youth work together to coordinate services and opportunities for young people. Workshop participants will get first-hand experience with tools that they can take home and use with other community leaders to achieve better outcomes for youth.

Presenter:
- Kiley Bednar, Program Manager, The Forum for Youth Investment

Documentation and Data Platforms and Analytics
You need good data to make good decisions and to track results. But while many community leaders have stacks of data, few have a process to effectively manage and use the right data well. This workshop introduces a prototype dashboard to help community leaders manage and use data for a continuous improvement decision-making process. Participants will explore how this effort might fit within their work.

Presenters:
- Paul Evensen, Senior Vice President of Community Planning and Evaluation, The Forum for Youth Investment; President, Community Systems Group

Look Who’s Talking: How to Get Your Data Systems to Better Communicate
While the best decisions are informed by data, leaders working to improve the odds for young people struggle with fragmented data systems: one for education, one for health, one for social services, etc. There’s a better way. Learn how to connect data across systems to make better decisions.

Presenters:
- José Esquibel, Director, Interagency Prevention Systems, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
The Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative: Part 1 - Presentation

The Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative supports leaders who are committed to increasing alignment between schools and out-of-school time (OST) systems, and to helping OST systems improve outcomes related to school success (broadly defined). This session provides an interactive presentation about positioning high-quality out-of-school time opportunities as a leading strategy for expanded learning and school reform.

Presenters:
- Gina McGovern, Product Design and Innovation Specialist, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Charles Smith, Executive Director, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality; Senior Vice President of Research, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Nicole Yohalem, Senior Director of Special Projects, The Forum for Youth Investment

Dollars and Sense: Exploring the Value of Resource Mapping

Does your community know where its funding is flowing, and toward what ends? Learn how to track the dollars invested in young people all across the Insulated Education Pipeline, so that you can make smarter budget decisions in lean times and generate a comprehensive picture of the resources in your community.

Presenters:
- Emily Jensen, Lead Development Officer, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Gwynne Goodlett, Senior Policy Analyst, South Carolina Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children

Youth Driven Spaces: Engaging Youth in Your Community

Use your organization to build 21st Century skills in older youth. The Youth Driven Spaces project guides out-of-school-time programs in implementing structures and strategies that foster 21st Century skill-building and meaningful civic engagement. Explore practical methods to support youth participation in governance, action planning and project-based learning, and see how training, coaching and technical assistance can support the sustained development of engaging programs for young people.

Presenters:
- Angelle Cooper, Professional Development Manager, Education/Community Engagement, United Way of Greater Atlanta
Ravi Ramaswamy, Training Coordinator, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
Amanda Sutter, Program Associate, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
Jilo Tisdale, Senior Director, Community Engagement & Education, United Way of Greater Atlanta

12:15 – 1:45 pm  Luncheon  Salon D-E
• Greetings & Spotlight on Atlanta
  o Milton J. Little, President of United Way of Greater Atlanta
• Collective Impact & Opportunity Youth
  o Framing Remarks: Lisa Hamilton, Annie E. Casey Foundation
  o Keynote: Melody Barnes, Chair of Aspen Forum for Community Solutions
  o Discussant: Johan Uvin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education
  o Moderator: Elizabeth Gaines, Vice President for Policy Solutions, The Forum for Youth Investment

2:00 – 2:45 pm  Peer Exchange Roundtables  Salon A-B
2:45 – 3:15 pm  Networking Break  Grand Prefunction
Learning Sessions – Round II

Engaging Young People in Community Change Efforts
Explore strategies to harness and incorporate youth voice and youth leadership into every facet of your collective impact effort, from youth master planning and program landscape mapping to quality improvement. Learn how young people were involved in the development of Nashville’s Youth Master Plan, and take home specific tools and strategies.

Presenters:
• Jairus Cater, National Youth Ambassador, White House Council on Community Solutions (Nashville)
• Nicole Yohalem, Senior Director of Special Projects, The Forum for Youth Investment

State & Local Leadership Councils 101
Effective leadership councils are critical to the success of collective impact efforts in communities. Ready by 21 offers six structural components that leaders should consider when establishing a leadership council. Get hands-on experience with these components, and use what you learn to shape your leadership group back home.

Presenters:
• Danielle Evennou, Senior Policy Associate, The Forum for Youth Investment
• Zackary Gibson, Chief Child Advocate and Director, Office of Adoption and Child Protection, Executive Office of the Governor (Florida)
• Karen Napier, Director, Education Initiatives, Metro United Way (Louisville, Ken.)
• Polly Page, Executive Director, Northern Kentucky Education Council

Moving from Quality Improvement Findings to Quality Improvement Systems
This session describes a process for developing program quality indicators and feeding the data back to both programs and funders. An evaluation of 21st Century Community Learning Center afterschool programs is used to demonstrate how indicators can be developed to document program quality and illuminate areas for improvement; how data representing the indicators can be collected and entered with cost-effective technologies; and how results can be disseminated to a large number of programs for use in program improvement and advocacy and support efforts.

Presenters:
• Angelina Garner, Senior Manager of National Advancement Initiatives, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
• Samantha Sugar, Research Associate and Analyst, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Professional Development Supports for Change Management & Planning
The work of improving communities and learning environments has evolved to focus on impact and has grown to include
concepts such as performance management, change management and continuous improvement. What professional development and learning supports are essential for those who are leading or coordinating these efforts? What tools and resources do they need? The Ready by 21 Design Team, made up of community leaders and national partners, wants to hear your answers to these and other questions. Join the conversation as we refine the next generation of professional development opportunities for collective impact leaders.

Presenters:
- Bryan Joffe, Director of Education and Youth Development, American Association of School Administrators
- Rebecca DeJarnatt, Coordinator, Office of Youth Development (Louisville, Ken.)
- Christina Holt, Associate Director for Community Tool Box Services, Work Group for Community Health and Development, University of Kansas

Community Overload: How to Manage Being in Multiple National Initiatives, National Learning Communities, etc.
The good news: Many national initiatives support communities in doing collaborative work along the Insulated Education Pipeline. The challenge: Communities that participate in several of these efforts must balance the competing expectations for their time from each initiative. This will be an open discussion with national organizations and communities about how those organizations are working to keep the focus on their work while coordinating with national partners and within communities.

Presenters:
- Larry Pasti, Director of Field Services, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Lynn Howard, Mayor’s Office, Louisville Metro Government
- Katrina Mitchell, Senior Director, Education/Community Engagement, United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Priscilla Little, Initiative Manager, The Wallace Foundation
- Ayeola Fortune, Director, Education Team, United Way Worldwide

How Ready Are Our Young People? Using the Gallup Student Poll to Drive Community Conversations about Youth Readiness
What would you do differently if you could measure the hope, well-being and engagement of young people in your community? Youth who are hopeful, emotionally healthy, socially connected and engaged tend to perform better in school and achieve better health outcomes. Find out how to implement the Gallup Student Poll (GSP) in your community, or step up to the enhanced versions to learn how students score by zip code, demographics and socioeconomic level, or even to obtain individual scores in order to customize services.

Presenters:
New Name, Same Dilemma: Harnessing the Momentum of “Opportunity Youth”

How can you better serve the hardest-to-reach youth in your community? Get a snapshot of new ways to support young people ages 16-24 who are not in school or working. From private funders to the White House, "opportunity youth" are on the minds of the nation's leading thinkers.

Presenters:
- Jennifer Brown Lerner, Senior Director, American Youth Policy Forum
- Thaddeus Ferber, Vice President of Policy, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Sue Gallagher, Director, Research Analysis & Planning, Children’s Services Council of Broward County (Fla.)
- Joanna Mikulski, Program Examiner, U.S. Office of Management and Budget

Science & Community Change: Making the Case for Ready by 21

“Show me the ________ (data, evidence, outcomes, proof, science)!” Local Ready by 21 leaders can fill in the blank to complete the questions that they routinely get about the “bottom line.” Process and complexity are a hard sell. This session will help leaders answer those questions by exploring: What is the science behind the Ready by 21 approach? What evidence do we have that it works? What are we hoping to learn with communities currently implementing Ready by 21?

Presenters:
- Paul Evensen, Senior Vice President of Community Planning and Evaluation, The Forum for Youth Investment; President, Community Systems Group
- Charles Smith, Executive Director, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality; Senior Vice President of Research, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Amanda Sutter, Program Associate, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Team Time & The Doctors Are In

Planning time for your community teams and/or to meet with other attendees in similar roles. Optional one-to-one coaching discussions available – sign-ups at registration & opening reception.
Wednesday, March 13th

6:30 - 7:30 am  
Walk/Run (optional)  
Meet in Lobby

7:45 - 8:45 am  
Breakfast  
Salon A-B

Ready by 21 breakfast for metro Atlanta area superintendents – hosted by the American Association of School Administrators and United Way of Greater Atlanta (by invitation)  
Salon F

8:00 - 8:30 am  
Team Time & The Doctors Are In  
Salon A-B

Planning time for your community teams and/or to meet with other attendees in similar roles. Optional one-to-one coaching discussions available – sign-ups at registration & opening reception.

8:45 - 9:45 am  
Plenary Panel: Beyond the School House – Partners in Educational Success  
Salon D-E

Framing Remarks: Charles Smith, Executive Director, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

Panel:

- Dave Hilliard, President & CEO, Wyman Center, St. Louis
- Mischelle Causey-Drake, Chief Program Officer, Afterschool Matters, Chicago
- Frances Strickland, former First Lady of Ohio and former chair of Ohio’s Family and Children First Councils
- Sharon Adams-Taylor, Associate Executive Director, American Association of School Administrators
- Kelli Parmley, Executive Director, Bridging Richmond
- Moderator: Amy Shaw, Senior Vice President of Community Engagement, Nine Network of Public Media, St. Louis
10:00 – 11:15 am  Learning Sessions – Round III  Athens, Augusta, Macon, Valdosta, & Savannah rooms

**Build Your Backbone Organization**
Collective action requires the support of a backbone: an entity that keeps all the various pieces in motion. In this session, learn strategies to help identify the best organization to carry out the essential support functions, such as convening stakeholders, organizing communications and managing data. Community leaders share the lessons they’ve learned and the challenges they’ve overcome as their work has unfolded.

Presenters:
- Eric Jensen, Deputy Director, Partnership for Youth Development (New Orleans, La.)
- Sue Gallagher, Director, Research Analysis & Planning, Children’s Services Council of Broward County (Fla.)
- Elizabeth Gaines, Vice President for Policy Solutions, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Etha Henry, Executive Vice President, United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Emily Gorin Malenfant, Senior Consultant, FSG
- Polly Page, Executive Director, Northern Kentucky Education Council

**Exploring Certification: Recognition & Incentive for Doing the Hard Work**
Businesses regularly receive external certification about the quality of their process. Why not certify communities to affirm that they have an effective community change process? Lloyd’s Registry Quality Assurance leads this panel discussion among business, foundation, government and community leaders to explore key questions about certification, such as: Who gets certified? By what standards? By whom? What is the value of certification to communities and to potential funders?

Presenters:
- Dave Hadlet, Vice President of Client Care, Lloyd’s Register Quality Assurance
- Katrina Mitchell, Senior Director, Education/Community Engagement, United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Larry Pasti, Director of Field Services, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Jennifer Roberts, Vice President for Education Grants, Baptist Community Ministries (New Orleans, La.)

**Improving Middle Grades Success and Transitions in Your Community**
The middle grades are a time of significant developmental change and transition – and a time when many students experience a decline in their academic performance and school engagement. Students who fail to graduate high school often showed signs of trouble as early as 6th grade. In this interactive session, staff from United Way Worldwide will provide an overview of the Ready by 21 Middle Grades Challenge – which aims to help communities ratchet up the middle grades experience – share some of the latest research on middle grades, and facilitate a discussion of efforts across...
of communities.

Presenters:
- Ayeola Fortune, Director, Education Team, United Way Worldwide
- Cortney Harris, Manager, Education Team, United Way Worldwide

The Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative: Part 2 - Panel Discussion
The Ready by 21 Expanded Learning Initiative supports leaders who are committed to increasing alignment between schools and out-of-school time (OST) systems, and to helping OST systems improve outcomes related to school success (broadly defined). Learn from leaders in Nashville, Palm Beach and Providence who are each taking different approaches to aligning high-quality out-of-school time opportunities with the work of schools.

Presenters:
- Suzette Harvey, Executive Director, Prime Time Palm Beach County (Fla.)
- Candy Markman, Director, Mayor’s Afterschool Initiatives, Nashville’s Mayor’s Office
- Gina McGovern, Product Design and Innovation Specialist, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Hillary Salmons, Executive Director, Providence After School Alliance
- Charles Smith, Executive Director, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality; Senior Vice President of Research, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Nicole Yohalem, Senior Director of Special Projects, The Forum for Youth Investment

Access, Coordination & More: Going beyond the Basics of Program Data
Have you ever yearned for data that could help you act with more intention about the experiences that you make available for children and youth in your community? This interactive workshop will give participants the opportunity to consider how program data and program mapping can influence your planning and decision-making, and ultimately make a difference in young people’s access to high-quality programming.

Presenters:
- Samantha Sugar, Research Associate and Analyst, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Amanda Sutter, Program Associate, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Sandra Wheeler, Director of Youth Initiatives, United Way of Greater Richmond & Petersburg (Va.)

Aligning Policies to Increase Impact
How can policymakers and advocates increase their impact? Learn more about the tools and techniques developed by the Forum to align policies across issues, agencies and ages. By

Getting all young people ready by 21 for college, work and life. [www.readyby21.org/nationalmeeting]
turning the siloed approach of government on its head, leaders can better provide young people with the services and supports they need to be ready by 21.

Presenters:

- Danielle Evennou, Senior Policy Associate, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Ellen DiDomenico, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Governor’s Commission for Children and Families
- José Esquibel, Director, Interagency Prevention Systems, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

Visualizing Change: Using Pictures to Show How Your Partnerships will Improve Community Outcomes – Part 1: Issue Analysis

Being able to analyze complex community issues and turn that analysis into a picture are valuable skills to help you improve your community work. As a first step, participants in this session will learn two easy issue analysis techniques. (This session will lead to Part 2: Logic Modeling, but attending both is not required.) These techniques will offer practical takeaways that can be used with communities and partnerships back home.

Presenters:

- Kiley Bednar, Program Manager, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Paul Evensen, Senior Vice President of Community Planning and Evaluation, The Forum for Youth Investment; President, Community Systems Group

How Out-of School Suspension and Expulsion Leaves Vulnerable Children Behind

Are you working in or with schools to support vulnerable young people or disengaged youth? Explore how schools and communities can partner to keep children engaged. The landmark report, Breaking School Rules, shined a light on the disparities in school discipline practices among schools and demographic groups. Learn how AASA and the National School Discipline Consensus Project are working to improve school discipline policies and practices, and to demonstrate how current practices impede achievement, overuse the juvenile justice system and decrease the number of youth who are Ready by 21.

Presenter:

- Bryan Joffe, Director of Education and Youth Development, American Association of School Administrators
Learning Sessions – Round IV

**Storytelling: Building a 21st Century Communications Strategy**
You’re doing great work, but why can’t you get the word out? A veteran journalist-turned-nonprofit communications director guides you through developing an effective communications strategy that integrates traditional and new media. With that strategy in place, we discuss how to identify your stories and tell them in ways that matter to the people you need to reach.

**Presenter:**
- Patrick Boyle, Communications Director, The Forum for Youth Investment

**Connecting Your Work from the Neighborhood to Community-Wide & State-Level Change**
Efforts that focus on specific neighborhoods require involvement from local residents, but how can those efforts sustain themselves and grow to scale when many of the partners are government agencies or other organizations that not based in the neighborhood? This workshop examines how to establish resident engagement while connecting neighborhood-level work to the larger community civic infrastructure, through the alignment of mutually reinforcing activities and public policy changes.

**Presenters:**
- Karen Napier, Director, Education Initiatives, Metro United Way (Louisville, Ken.)
- Larry Pasti, Director of Field Services, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Michael Rich, Executive Director and Associate Professor of Political Science and Environmental Studies, Center for Community Partnerships, Emory University

**Funding Your Collective Impact Effort**
Discover innovative ways to build a sustainable funding base for your collective impact effort and backbone support organization. Learn the top 10 techniques for finding the resources to support your community partnership for children and youth, and brainstorm how to blend and braid public and private dollars to yield a sustainable financial future for your work.

**Presenters:**
- Emily Jensen, Lead Development Officer, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Emily Gorin Malenfant, Senior Consultant, FSG

**Visualizing Change: Using Pictures to Show How Your Partnerships will Improve Community Outcomes – Part 2: Logic Modeling**
Analyzing complex community issues and turning that analysis into a picture are valuable skills to help you improve your community work. In this session, participants will learn the steps for converting that analysis into a picture of how their...
partnerships will improve community outcomes. (This session will build on Part 1: Issue Analysis, but Part 1 is not a pre-requisite.) This process is ideal for those who abhor logic models and the traditional methods for creating them.

**Presenters:**
- Kiley Bednar, Program Manager, The Forum for Youth Investment
- Paul Evensen, Senior Vice President of Community Planning and Evaluation, The Forum for Youth Investment; President, Community Systems Group
- Amanda Sutter, Program Associate, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

**Strengthening Out-Of-School Time Through Quality Improvement Systems: Lessons from the Field**
This session is for those from afterschool systems that are implementing or ready to implement quality assessment and improvement processes system-wide. It will focus on building a culture of quality improvement, expanding and sustaining quality improvement strategies, and leveraging investments in quality improvement. Leaders from afterschool systems will discuss how their focus on quality has evolved over time.

**Presenters:**
- Joe Bertoletti, Field Services Director, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Meredith Hayes, Analytics Coordinator, Denver Public Schools
- Jackie Jainga Hyllseth, Quality Initiatives Division Director, School's Out Washington

**Youth Program Quality Assessment 2.0**
The Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) is a validated instrument designed to evaluate the quality of youth programs and identify staff training needs. It has been used in community organizations, schools, camps and other places where youth have fun, work and learn with adults. Learn about what the instruments measure, how leaders in the field use the data to build professional competencies, and about exciting new adaptations of the YPQA.

**Presenters:**
- Gina McGovern, Product Design and Innovation Specialist, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality
- Samantha Sugar, Research Associate and Analyst, David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality

**Understanding Community Culture**
Examining community history plays a critical role in developing a shared understanding of the context in which large-scale social change is considered and carried out. Using a time-tested history timeline exercise, MDC helps local team members elicit the overt and known, as well as the unknown and suppressed, history of their organizations and communities. A powerful learning tool for site team participants, the timeline illustrates how individuals’ unique interpretations of historic events help shape a shared vision for the future.
Presenters:
- David Dodson, President, MDC
- Bonnie Gordon, Senior Program Director, MDC

12:45 – 2:00 pm

A Progress Report from the Field: How Atlanta’s Ready by 21 Leadership Council is Thinking Differently & Acting Differently

- Dr. N. Jean Walker, Vice President of Education, United Way of Greater Atlanta (backbone organization for Atlanta’s Ready by 21 work)
- Members of Atlanta’s Ready by 21 Leadership Council

Luncheon Plenary: Opportunities and Challenges in Funding Community Change Efforts for Children & Youth – A Funders’ Roundtable

- Megan Witherspoon, Manager of Corporate Contributions & Community Relations, Altria Client Services
- Jody Rosentswieg, Program Officer, Raikes Foundation
- Milton J. Little, President of the United Way of Greater Atlanta
- Ann Cramer, retired IBM Director of America’s Corporate Citizenship
- Moderator: Jennifer Roberts, Vice President for Education Grants, Baptist Community Ministries

2:00 – 2:30 pm

Closing Session

- Ronnie Steine, Co-Chair of Ready by 21’s Leadership Council & At-Large Councilman in Nashville, TN