



# Launching and Scaling Up a Community Schools Strategy: The Role of Cities

November 30, 2011

# Presenters

- **Audrey Hutchinson**, Program Director, Education and Afterschool Initiatives, Institute for Youth, Education and Families, National League of Cities
- **Martin J. Blank**, President, Institute for Educational Leadership; Director, Coalition for Community Schools
- Evansville, Indiana
  - **Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel**
  - **Dr. Cathlin Gray**, Associate Superintendent of Family, Schools and Community Partnership, Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation
- Portland, Oregon
  - **Peggy Samolinski**, SUN Service System Coordinator
  - **Eileen Argentina**, Parks and Recreation Services Manager, City of Portland

# What is a Community School?

- ▶ **A community school is a *place and a set of partnerships* connecting school, family, and community. A community school is distinguished by an integrated focus on academics, youth development, family support, health and social services, and community development. Its curriculum emphasizes real-world learning through community problem-solving and service. By extending the school day and week, it reaches families and community residents. The community school is uniquely equipped to develop its students into educated citizens ready and able to give back to their communities.**

# Community School Core Principles

- ▶ Shared vision and accountability for results
- ▶ Strong partnerships
- ▶ High expectations for all
- ▶ Community strengths
- ▶ Respect for diversity
- ▶ Local decision making

# Conditions for Learning

- ▶ Early childhood development programs are available to nurture growth and development.
- ▶ The school offers a core instructional program delivered by qualified teachers; instruction is organized around a challenging curriculum anchored by high standards and expectations for students.
- ▶ Students are motivated and engaged in learning—in both school and community settings— before, during, and after school and in the summer.
- ▶ The basic physical, mental, and emotional health needs of young people and their families are recognized and addressed.
- ▶ Parents, families, and school staff demonstrate mutual respect and engage in effective collaboration.
- ▶ Community engagement, together with school efforts, promotes a school climate that is safe, supportive, and respectful and that connects students to a broader learning community.

# Scope of the Movement

- ▶ Systems of community schools in close to 50 communities
  - Similar approaches include CIS, Beacons, University-Assisted Community Schools, and others
- ▶ 4,000–5,000 community schools nationwide
- ▶ Policy (federal, state, local)
- ▶ Coalition includes over 150 national, state, and local partners



*A Union of Professionals*



*Lifting Up What Works*



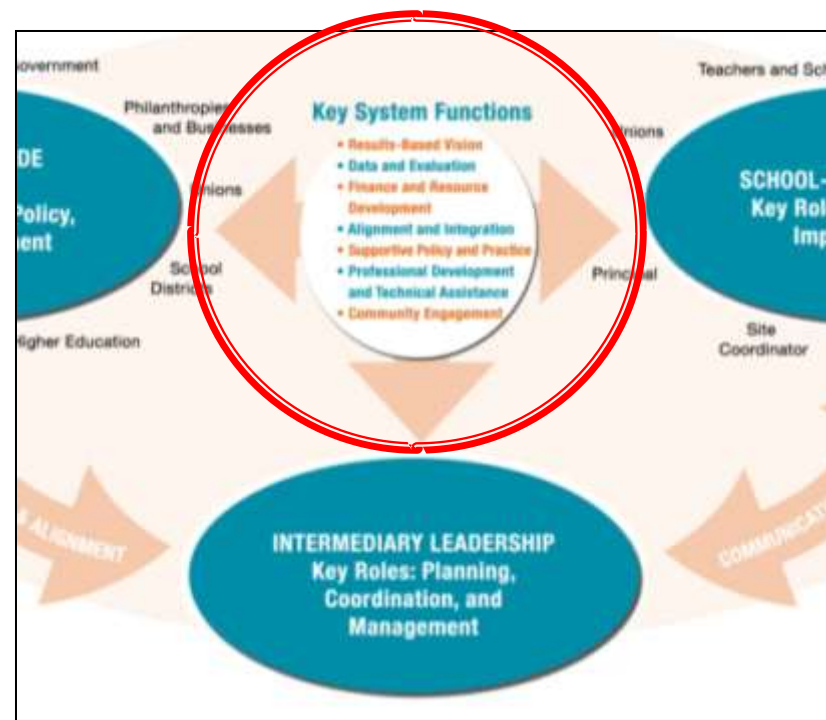
# THEORY OF ACTION: A Scaled-Up System of Community Schools

## Building a Scaled-Up System



# Functions

- ▶ Results–Based Vision
- ▶ Data and Evaluation
- ▶ Finance and Resource Development
- ▶ Alignment and Integration
- ▶ Supportive Policy and Practice
- ▶ Professional Development and Technical Assistance (TA)
- ▶ Broad Community Engagement



# Cities are part of community-wide leadership



# City roles

- ▶ Investment
- ▶ Leadership
- ▶ Coordinating city resources

# Characteristics of Effective Scale-Up

- ▶ Shared ownership
- ▶ Spread
- ▶ Depth
- ▶ Sustainability

# Why is NOW the time to scale-up?

- ▶ Growth of community schools across the country
- ▶ Community schools achieve results
- ▶ Vehicle for organizing fragmented services and integrating funding streams
- ▶ Focus on collective impact
- ▶ Address changing demographics
- ▶ Policy environment is ripe
- ▶ We know how to do it

# The Scale Up Spiral

## Interactive Stories



▶

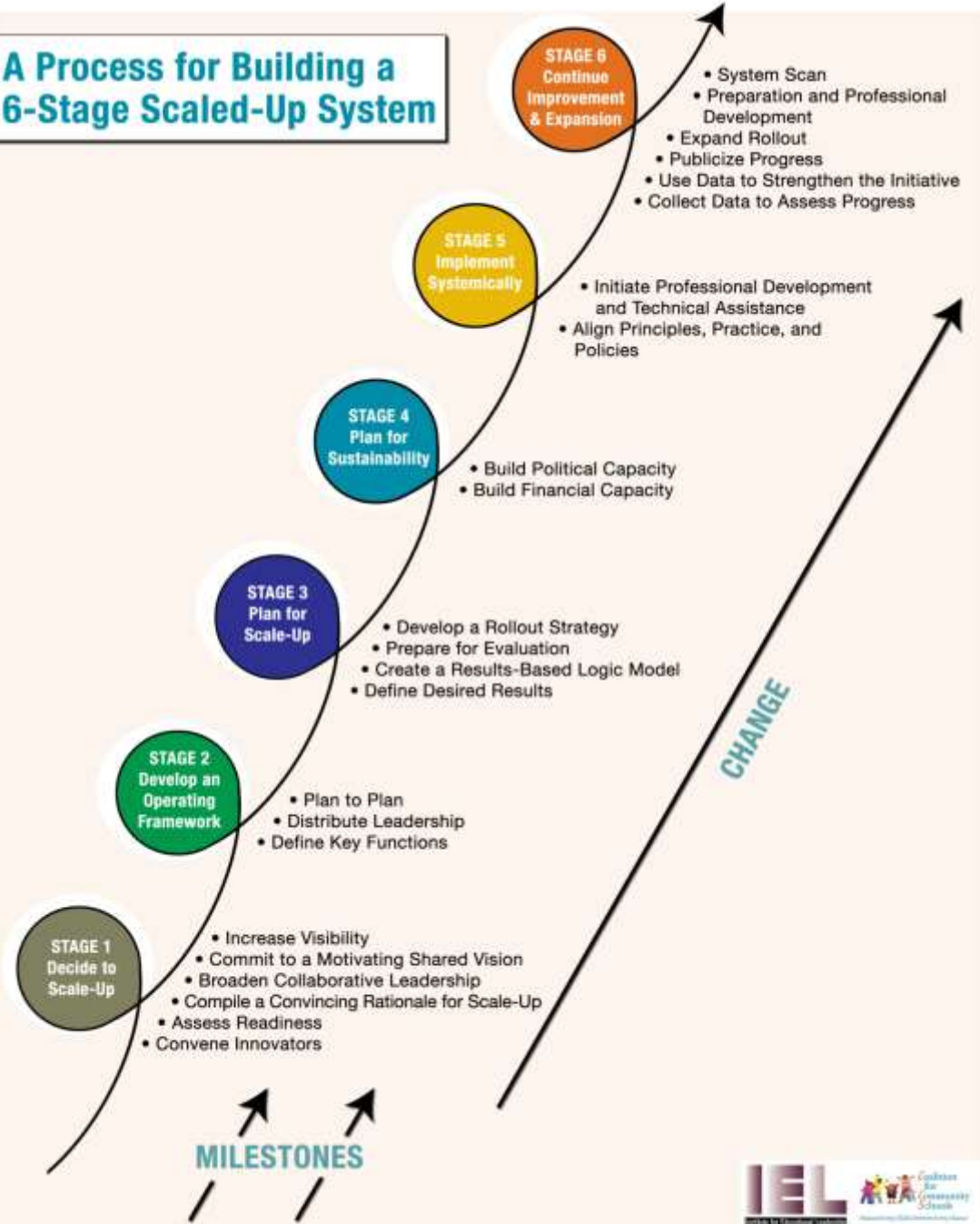
▶ Share your story



▶ Discuss with others



## A Process for Building a 6-Stage Scaled-Up System



# Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

**Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel**  
City of Evansville Indiana



**Dr. Cathlin Gray**, EVSC Associate Superintendent  
Family, Schools, and Community Partnership



**EVSC**  
**Working Hand in Hand**



Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation



# City Collaboration

- **Mayor's Education Roundtable**
  - ❖ **School Based Mentoring**
  - ❖ **Early Childhood Education**
  - ❖ **Southwest Indiana College Access Network (SICAN)**
- **\$160,000 contributed annually to support summer Parks and Recreation program**
- **Neighborhood revitalization efforts in Glenwood and Jacobsville**
- **All American City**
- **America's Promise – 100 Best Cities for Youth**



**EVSC**

**Working Hand in Hand**



Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

# Collaboration

- School-Community Council
- Mayor's Education Roundtable
- School-based Site Councils
- Labor Councils
- Superintendent's Business Council
- Cooperative Purchasing Organization
- Partnerships with Charter Schools and Private Schools
- Union Partnership – Creation of Equity School Model
- School-based Health Services
- Early Childhood Development Coalition



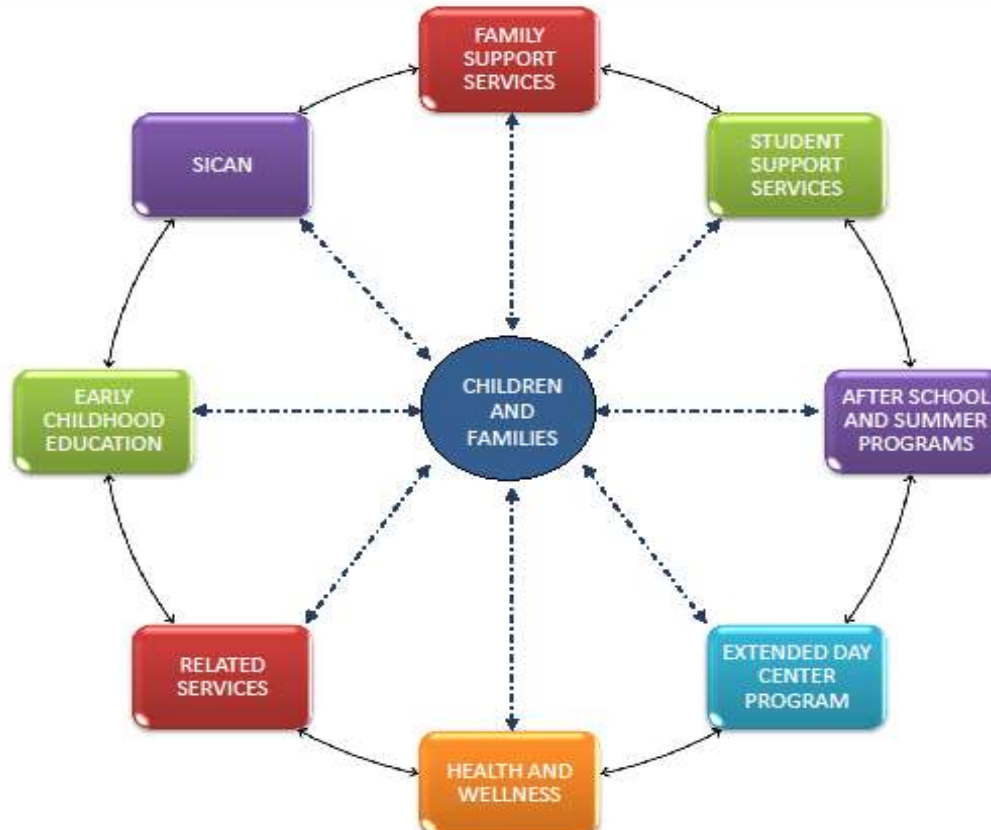
**EVSC**

**Working Hand in Hand**



Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

# Supports and Services within the Center for Family, School, Community Partnerships



**EVSC**  
Working Hand in Hand

**EVSC**  
Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

# Results

- **District AYP**
- **Improved Test Scores**
- **Increased Graduation Rates**
- **Increased College Going Rates**



**EVSC**

**Working Hand in Hand**



Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

# Federal Resources used to support Full Service School Strategy

- City Parks and Recreation
- Title I
- SIG – Title I School Improvement Dollars
- 1003 G – School Improvement Dollars
- Special Education
- Title II – Professional Development
- Title III – English as a Second Language
- Title IV – Safe and Drug Free
- Even Start
- Head Start
- Center for Disease Control
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers
- Carol M. White Physical Education Grant
- Grant to Reduce Alcohol Abuse
- Safe School / Healthy Students
- McKinney Vento Homeless Grant
- Full Service Community Schools



**EVSC**

**Working Hand in Hand**

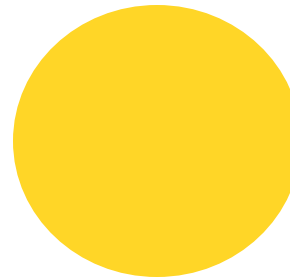
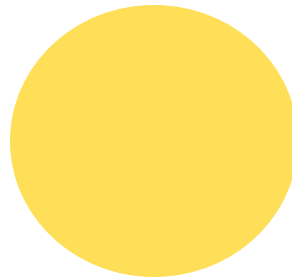
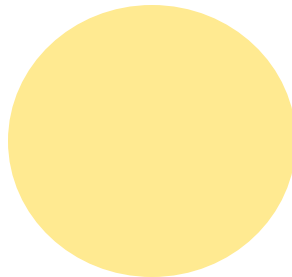


Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

# SUN Community Schools

*“Launching and Scaling Up a Community Schools Strategy:  
The Role of Cities”*

Webinar with the National League of Cities & the Coalition for Community Schools  
*Peggy Samolinski & Eileen Argentina*  
*November 30, 2011*



# SUN Community School's Goal

---

**SUN = Schools Uniting Neighborhoods**

Educational success and  
self-sufficiency for all youth  
and families in Multnomah  
County



# SUN's Collaborative Partners

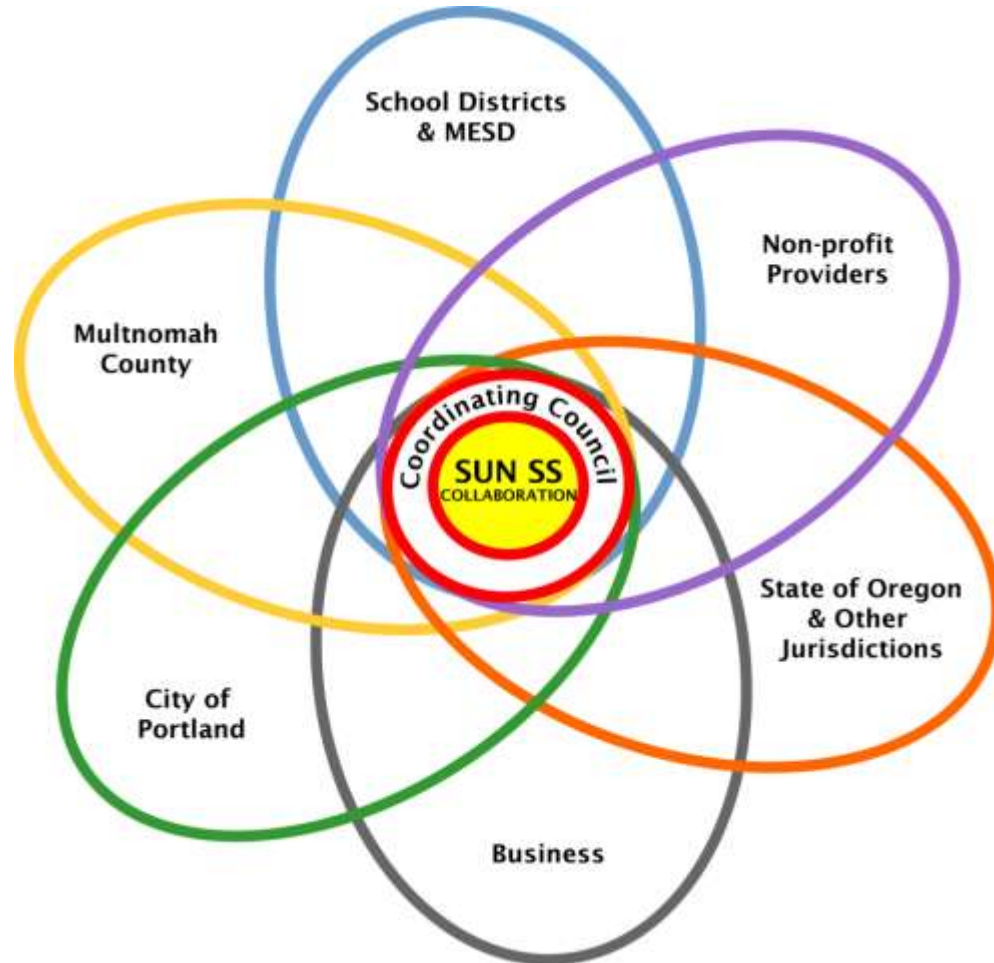
---

**SUN is built on foundation of partnership:  
The Coordinating Council provides overall  
guidance and leadership to the SUN System**

- Multnomah County (managing partner)
- City of Portland: Parks & Recreation, Portland Housing Bureau, and Portland Children's Levy
- 6 School Districts
- State Dept. of Human Services
- Businesses
- Non-profit agencies (9 contractors and many others in partnership)
- Community members



# SUN'S Partnership Graphic



# SUN Community Schools

---

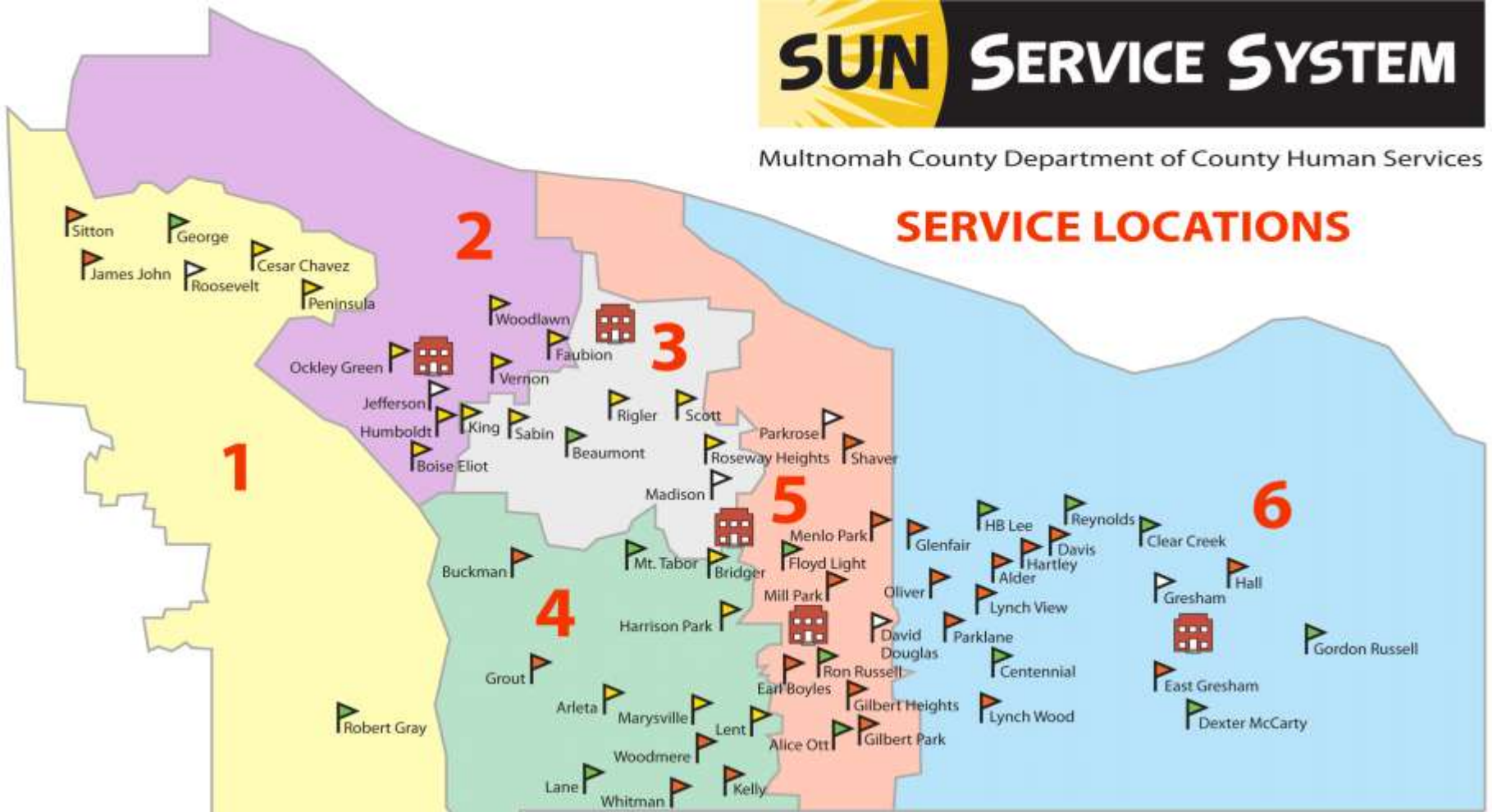
- **64 SUN Community Schools** in 6 Multnomah County School Districts
- **9 non-profit organizations and PP&R** operate SUNCS sites
- **17,669 children and youth**
- **3,742 adults** in adult education, skill-building and school-related classes
- **70,848 people** in community and family events



# SUN SERVICE SYSTEM

Multnomah County Department of County Human Services

## SERVICE LOCATIONS



### High School Clusters in Regions

- 1 Roosevelt, Lincoln, Wilson, Riverdale
- 2 Jefferson
- 3 Grant, Madison
- 4 Cleveland, Franklin
- 5 Parkrose, David Douglas
- 6 Reynolds, Centennial  
Gresham, Barlow, Corbett



Regional Service Center



SUN Community School – Elementary (24)



SUN Community School – Middle (15)



SUN Community School – K-8 (18)



SUN Community School – High (7)

# Resources in SUN Community Schools

---

## Operating Cash (the CS “vehicle”): \$6.7 million total

- Multnomah County General Fund: ~\$3.2 million (48%)
- City of Portland General Fund: ~\$1.6 million (24%)
- City of Portland Children’s Levy: ~\$830,000 (12%)
- 21CCLC grants: ~\$670,000 million (10%)
- Districts: ~ \$400,000 (6%)

## Match/Partner Services Cash: over \$10 million

(\$7.5 million in district funding – Title I, general fund, etc.)

## In-kind: over \$7 million

# Scale Up: Why Every School a SUN Community School?

---

- SUN Community Schools work
- SUN has a strong foundation of partnership
- SUN serves preschoolers to parents
- SUN is adaptable
- SUN helps providers be more efficient
- SUN addresses equity
- Every neighborhood has a school



# Role of the City of Portland

---

- Mayor of Portland has always valued role of education in creating a thriving, vibrant city.
- Current Mayor Sam Adams has deepened City commitment to supporting student success.
- Formed an Education Cabinet to bring together key leaders to improve graduation rates throughout the city.



# Role of the City of Portland

---

- City funds SUN Community Schools directly, and is a catalyst for system change
- Sits on SUN Coordinating Council
- Parks Bureau mission is to engage children, youth and families in community locations
- Historical foundation in Community Education
- Traditionally at community centers; schools as centers of community allows bureau to broaden this reach



# National Forum: May 16–18, 2012

- ▶ Come to the National Forum – Scaling Up School and Community Partnerships: The Community Schools Strategy
- ▶ May 16–18, 2012 in San Francisco, CA
- ▶ Pre-conference focusing on Scaling Up Guide
- ▶ Now accepting [workshop proposals](#)



# Contact Information & Questions

Martin J. Blank  
(202) 822-8405 ext. 167  
blankm@iel.org

[www.communityschools.org](http://www.communityschools.org)

Audrey Hutchinson  
(202) 626-3053  
hutchinson@nlc.org

[www.nlc.org/iyef](http://www.nlc.org/iyef)