

# CONCENTRATION OF POVERTY

*Policy Roundtable 2  
St. Louis County Strategic Plan  
January 24, 2013*

*Guest Facilitator: Cheryl Polk, Executive Vice President &  
Chief Strategy and Engagement Officer  
United Way of Greater St. Louis*

## WHAT CAN WE ACHIEVE TODAY?

- *Recap from last month's meeting.*
- *Seek answers to some key questions and begin to form new or revised policies/goals that will inform the strategic plan.*
- *Build consensus/align leadership.*
- *Next time: begin to think about strategies and actions that will help us achieve our goals for the next 5 years.*

### **Agenda**      **1.24.2013**    **2-4pm**

15 min      Overview presentation

45 min      Questions:  
Outcomes & priorities

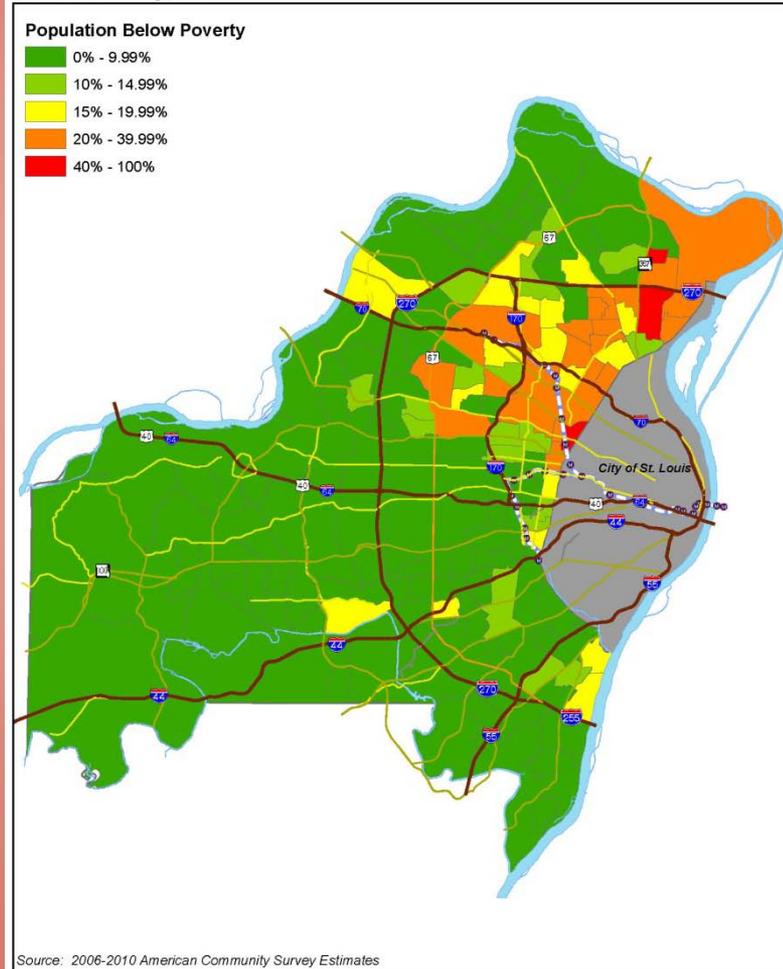
10 min      Break

50 min      Questions: County's argument for addressing poverty & collective impact

# ST. LOUIS COUNTY POVERTY MAP AND DEFINITION

## Population Below Poverty, 2010

St. Louis County, Missouri



- The poverty threshold for a family of 4 with 2 kids is \$22,811.
- Concentrated poverty has two categories: extreme poverty and high-poverty (Kneebone et al. 2011).
  - extreme-poverty areas are tracts with poverty rates of 40 percent or more;
  - high-poverty areas are tracts with poverty rates between 20 to 40 percent.

## RECAP FROM MEETING 1

- *Introduction to the Strategic Planning Process and Other 2 Policy Roundtables.*
- *Introduction to Concentration of Poverty.*
- *Panelist Presentations.*



## TAKE HOME MESSAGES FROM THE PANEL

- **Dr. Mark Rank:**
  - Concentrated poverty is spatially organized.
  - Children are particularly affected by the negative impacts of high poverty.
  - High poverty creates cumulative disadvantages for health, safety, education, etc.
- **Sandra Moore:**
  - Entire neighborhoods must be served.
  - Key strategies needed: housing , food , health, 2-generation approach.
- **Chris Krehmeyer:**
  - An intentional comprehensive strategy (11 strategy areas) is used in 24:1 initiative – housing, food, childcare, education, etc.
  - Collective impact is necessary.
- **Dr. Flint Fowler:**
  - Kids need intervention outside of school and home.
  - Three things need to be present for successful kids: caring adults, structure, and economic stability.

## WE HEARD YOU SAY...

- **Have to make an argument for addressing poverty**
  - What are the economic advantages to helping those in poverty?
  - There is a moral imperative to address poverty.
  - Need a better, broader message.
- **Must work as a team**
  - Move from collaboration to building a team to address the issue.
  - Team requires a commitment to the goal and goes beyond just collaborating.
  - County needs to lead in the creation of a team, not just be facilitators of collaboration.
- **Strategy needed to address concentrated poverty**
  - Place-based strategy/place-based services delivery.
  - Determine what it is we are trying to accomplish and work backwards from there.
  - Provide social bridge for people to move through the poverty-prosperity spectrum.
- **Must address the needs of youth in poverty**
  - Children must have education and services to break the cycle of poverty.

POSSIBLE  
THEMES FOR THE  
RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN  
CONCENTRATION  
OF POVERTY AND  
ST. LOUIS  
COUNTY

- **Have a place-based approach to address concentrated poverty**  
*Develop strategies and outcomes that meet the needs of specific neighborhoods and communities.*
- **Be intentional, comprehensive, and impactful**  
*Isolated strategies, good intentions, and collaboration are not enough to impact the cycle of poverty. A disciplined effort with a common agenda, shared goals and measurement, open communication, and a backbone of civic and community support is necessary.*
- **Meet the basic needs of families and kids**  
*Without stable housing, adequate food, and a safe environment, families and kids cannot be successful.*
- **Connect kids with caring adults**  
*Kids need a caring adult in their lives and adult caretakers of kids need a network of support. A two-generation strategy is a key component of moving kids and families forward.*
- **Create educational and economic opportunity**  
*From cradle to career, people need access to quality education, jobs, opportunities and advantages to reach their potential.*

## HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Office of Community Development

- HOME Program
  - CDBG
  - Lead Abatement
  - Neighborhood Stabilization Program
- St. Louis County Housing Authority
- Public Housing
  - Section 8 voucher program

## NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION & OUTREACH

Planning

- Neighborhood stabilization

Public Works

- Neighborhood preservation
- Problem properties unit
- Community service projects

## FUNDS TO OTHER REGIONAL AGENCIES TO PROVIDE YOUTH SERVICES

Children's Service Fund

- Temporary shelter
- Transitional living
- Services to unwed/teen parents
- Respite care
- School-based prevention
- Crisis intervention
- Counseling services
- Outpatient substance abuse treatment
- Outpatient psychiatric services

## ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Economic Council

- Investment in Wellston
- MET Center

Workforce Development

- Adult education and literacy
- Dislocated worker
- Ex-offender services
- Unemployment insurance
- Youth Services

## YOUTH SERVICES & PROGRAMS

County Youth Programs

- Doors to Success (case mgmt, GED, job prep, counseling, life skills)
- Workforce Investment Act youth program
- Drug abuse and delinquency program (as mandated for accreditation by CARF)
- Social Service Collaborative (Spanish Lake)
- Youth Resource Center (Spanish Lake)
- Youth & Family Directory

## REHABILITATION OF TROUBLED YOUTH (ONCE THEY'VE REACHED THE COURT SYSTEM)

Family Court

- Delinquency supervision
- Group counseling (anger mgmt, etc.)
- Special probation for youth in gangs

Human Services

- Lakeside Center residential services

## DIRECT HEALTHCARE & HEALTH SERVICES

Health

- John C. Murphy Health Center
- North Central Community Health Center

Human Services

- Summer Food Service Program (nutrition when school is out)

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Police

- Neighborhood Policing
- National Night Out

## ADULT & FAMILY WELFARE

Human Services

- County veteran programs (St. Louis Area Stand Down Committee)
- County Homeless programs (homeless hotline)
- Weinman Shelter

# COLLECTIVE IMPACT

## The Five Conditions of Collective Impact

<b>Common Agenda</b>	All participants have a shared vision for change including a common understanding of the problem and a joint approach to solving it through agreed upon actions.
<b>Shared Measurement</b>	Collecting data and measuring results consistently across all participants ensures efforts remain aligned and participants hold each other accountable.
<b>Mutually Reinforcing Activities</b>	Participant activities must be differentiated while still being coordinated through a mutually reinforcing plan of action.
<b>Continuous Communication</b>	Consistent and open communication is needed across the many players to build trust, assure mutual objectives, and create common motivation.
<b>Backbone Support</b>	Creating and managing collective impact requires a separate organization(s) with staff and a specific set of skills to serve as the backbone for the entire initiative and coordinate participating organizations and agencies.

- A disciplined effort to bring together dozens of organizations with a common vision and a shared set of goals to pursue evidence-based actions.
- Not just collaboration or partnership, but a **centralized structured** process, dedicated staff, and the 5 conditions
- **Cradle-to-cradle** approach: breaking the multi-generational poverty cycle
- The concept has taken hold here, but still no collective effort for collective impact. We have the building blocks but also many efforts at collective impact, which defeats the purpose.
- To be successful, we must find the funding and will to build the **civic capacity** rather than immediate, direct programs.

## CRITICAL QUESTIONS

## CONCENTRATION OF POVERTY

- What **outcomes** do we want to achieve in addressing concentrated poverty in St. Louis County?
- Disregarding limitations, what do you feel should be our **highest priorities** for policies that relate to the concentration of poverty here in St. Louis County?
- How do the current policies of St. Louis County **affect our ability** to move toward our priorities? What needs to happen to get ourselves there?

## CRITICAL QUESTIONS

## CONCENTRATION OF POVERTY

- *What is St. Louis County's **argument** for addressing concentrated poverty? How should we communicate this argument?*
- *Can St. Louis County make a **collective impact** to address concentrated poverty? How?*