



## WHAT IS SUCCESS PLANNING AND WHY DOES IT MATTER?

Success Planning is a personalized, relationship-based approach for ensuring all children and youth have a caring adult, in addition to their families, who knows them well, and develops a plan for ensuring their needs, interests, and goals are met by connecting them to supports and opportunities available in their community. By creating new ways to understand and support each child as an individual with interests and goals, as well as needs for tailored services, all children and youth can thrive.

The confluence of the Covid-19 pandemic, economic crisis, and racial reckoning brought new clarity and urgency to longstanding inequities in opportunities, access, and outcomes for children and youth from communities and populations that are often marginalized. Race, place, and income should no longer be determinants of school and life success for children and youth. While these inequities were exacerbated, the crises also offered an unprecedented opportunity to drive transformative change in our educational and youth development systems. Across the country, education and community leaders are addressing these challenges by collectively harnessing a personalized, relationship-based approach to expand opportunity for all children and youth.

Success Planning is a strategy with codified frameworks rather than a single model. This strategy is not meant to be an add-on program but rather to align with and complement existing support efforts. Recognizing that different communities have varying needs, capacities, and entry points for implementation, EdRedesign has developed core components and guiding principles of a successful support system.

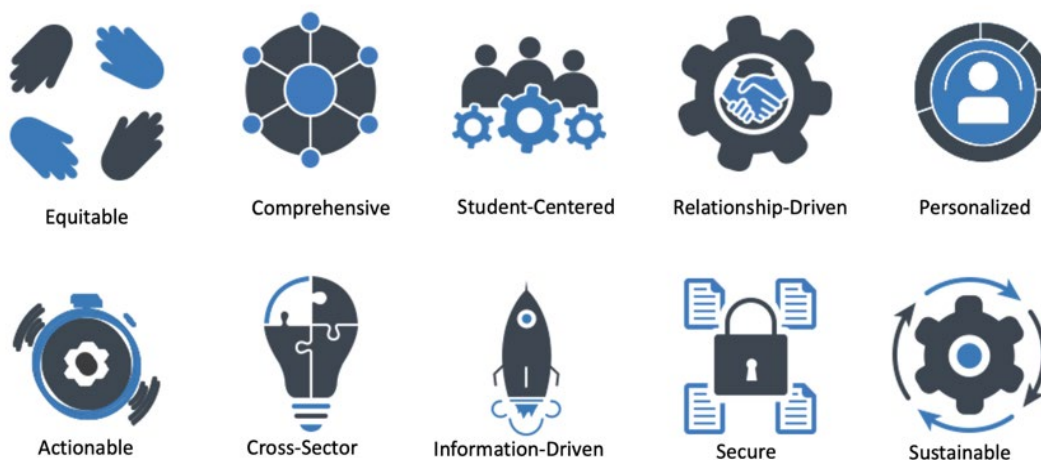


These components are:



- A Navigator—a caring adult who fosters a positive individual relationship with a child and their family, ensuring they are known, seen, and heard, and develops an understanding of the child's needs, interests, and goals;
- A personalized plan for action, which acts as dynamic tool to guide individualized support for children and youth and provides a process for supporting the needs, strengths, and goals outlined in the plan;
- A coordinated system of supports and opportunities is developed and leveraged with strategic vision, resources, and collaborative support offered by various stakeholders at all levels of the community ecosystem;
- A data platform documents plans over time, captures information to support referrals to services and opportunities, and provides a systems-level snapshot so the individual and aggregated needs of children and youth can be addressed; and
- Optimally, Success Planning is part of a community-wide strategy coordinated by a cross-sector body leading a place-based strategy.

The 10 guiding principles are:



Our Success Planning framework distills key elements of several models for personalizing supports for children, emphasizing both the importance of healthy developmental relationships between adults and children, as well as integrated, comprehensive supports. Optimally, Success Planning should not be a standalone effort, but part of a broader community-wide strategy to support children that is coordinated by a cross-sector collaborative entity leading a place-based strategy, such as a Children's Cabinet or other community backbone coordinating organization.

EdRedesign builds on years of promising practices informed by trusting community partnerships, field building, research, and movement building to provide catalytic support to the cradle-to-career, place-based field, driving systems-level change and opening personalized pathways to opportunity. Our mission is to ensure the social, emotional, physical, and academic development and well-being of all children and youth, especially those affected by racism and poverty. We believe strategies to expand opportunities for children have two critical components: place-based cross-sector collaborative action to remove structural barriers and open pathways to opportunity; and personalized, relationship-based roadmaps (Success Plans) to enable children and youth to connect to supports and opportunities to reach their full potential. We will continue our intentional focus on encouraging and supporting communities to build their capacity to implement both components of this work. It is through the community-wide implementation of both efforts that communities can fully realize increased coherence and strategic alignment of cross-sector efforts and resources, leading to more supportive practices and policies that advance systemic change. Success Planning provides critical data for decision makers and a roadmap for all cross-sector partners to clearly identify their roles to collectively realize the community-wide shared vision of success for all.

## HOW IS EDREDESIGN SUPPORTING SUCCESS PLANNING?

With the generous support of the Barr Foundation and an anonymous gift, and additional financial support for Success Planning from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Oak Foundation, EdRedesign launched the Institute for Success Planning in March 2022. The Institute was established to accelerate community-driven efforts toward broader personalization by advancing more systemic approaches to individualized supports, ensuring all children and youth have clear and accessible pathways to succeed in both school and life. Currently, the Institute is leading a professional Community of Practice to assist districts, schools, and community-based organizations in creating and implementing a personalized, relationship-based approach and/or scaling an initiative already underway. In addition, the Institute hosts a free Virtual Learning Series on relevant topics for those who want to explore personalization. We also develop practical tools and other resources for the broader field, which can be found on our [website](#). For more information and to stay informed about our work, please [sign up](#) for our newsletter.



## HOW CAN COMMUNITIES GET STARTED WITH SUCCESS PLANNING?

While many Success Planning initiatives are begun by school districts, other organizations, such as youth development agencies, community-based organizations, social service agencies, and collaborative action/backbone entities, have effectively launched and implemented Success Planning initiatives in partnership with others working to advance similar efforts. Success Planning is complementary to broader place-based strategies, creating greater coherence between community-wide efforts to create positive outcomes for children and youth at all ages and stages.

In June 2022, EdRedesign's Institute for Success Planning launched the inaugural Community of Practice comprised of 12 cross-sector teams of school and community leaders from cities and towns throughout the country. Over the past year, members in the 2022 cohort were provided opportunities for networking, professional development, capacity building, coaching, consultations, technical assistance, and co-creation and to make meaningful contributions toward creating transformational change for children and youth within their communities. The Institute recently accepted a total of 16 communities to participate in the Success Planning 2023 Community of Practice, which will run from June 2023 to June 2024. For interested communities that are not in the 2023 Success Planning Community of Practice, EdRedesign's Institute for Success Planning will continue to engage them through its broader learning community, which is open to the field to learn more and engage with other leaders who are advancing personalization. Among other offerings, the learning community hosts online events in its Virtual Learning Series that are open to everyone. You can visit our [website](#) for more information and details about upcoming events.

