Harvard’s EdRedesign Announces 2023 Cohort for its Institute for Success Planning Community of Practice

CAMBRIDGE, MA – June 9, 2023. The EdRedesing Lab’s Institute for Success Planning at the Harvard Graduate School of Education has announced its cohort of cross-sector teams from across the country joining its Success Planning 2023 Community of Practice.

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 is accelerating 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.

Success Planning is a relationship-based approach that connects each child or youth to an adult Navigator who co-creates a personalized plan for action, in partnership with their families and other caring adults. The plan highlights the child's needs and strengths and identifies supports, enrichments, and other resources to remove barriers, help them thrive, and support their goals. Through a whole-child approach, Success Planning provides a mechanism to ensure every child is known, seen, and heard, has a positive connection to a caring adult, and has agency over their roadmap to success.

In June 2022, the Institute launched the inaugural Community of Practice comprised of cross-sector teams of school and community leaders from cities and towns throughout the country. Over the past year, through the community of practice, communities 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. They have developed, sustained, and scaled a range of personalized, relationship-based initiatives to support all children and youth. These place-based efforts are being implemented in various settings and contexts and are led by different entities, including school districts, community-based organizations, social service agencies, and collaborative action groups. EdRedesign's Institute for Success Planning Director Tauheedah Jackson leads the Institute, bringing over 20 years of experience in youth development, local government, philanthropy, school districts, and out-of-school time programs.
“We are honored to walk alongside the local communities on their Success Planning journeys as they engage in our Community of Practice. Systems change work is dynamic and complex, but we are inspired by the passion and contributions of the cross-sector leaders in our cohorts who are fully committed to ensuring more equitable access and opportunity for all. The 2022 cohort of communities have been pace setters in advancing broader personalization and are leading the way. We are thrilled about the promise and possibility the new communities will bring in their Success Planning implementation,” said Jackson.

EdRedesign's Institute for Success Planning 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. The 2023 Community of Practice includes the following communities continuing from the 2022 cohort: Albuquerque, NM; Baltimore, MD, Chattanooga-Hamilton County, TN; Long Beach, CA; Minneapolis, MN; Nashville, TN; New York City, NY; Poughkeepsie, NY; and two communities from southern IL, including Carbondale Elementary School District #95 and Unity Point School #140. These communities were selected based on their continued commitment and progress toward supporting all children and youth as they build, sustain, and scale the promising practices and systems they are currently implementing in their Success Planning initiatives.

“Twelve years ago, I co-founded a placed-based collaborative that is often the community lifeline for our families and children. EdRedesign is a lifeline for me and others on the ground doing this work. I am so encouraged by how they are supporting and enhancing our field with the best practices we need in our work in a way that accelerates outcomes. EdRedesign's support is both radical and relevant to what I think about as CEO every day. In fact, they are confirming that we are not crazy because what we are doing really is transforming our country community by community and it should be studied, taught, and replicated,” said Sondra Samuels, President and CEO of the Northside Achievement Zone in Minneapolis, MN.

In addition, EdRedesign accepted the following new communities into the 2023 cohort: Cambridge, MA; Chelsea, MA; Dayton, OH; Memphis, TN; San Francisco, CA; and Spartanburg, SC. These communities were chosen based on their deep knowledge and successful implementation of broader cross-sector place-based strategies, which will serve as a solid foundation to build, scale, and sustain a thriving Success Planning initiative.

"Omega CDC is honored to be included in the second cohort for the 2023 Success Planning Community of Practice. We see Success Planning as a key lever in our work to break cycles of intergenerational poverty by catalyzing change in Northwest Dayton, OH. We are excited to engage with the Institute for Success Planning and communities across the
nation to cultivate, leverage, and scale our shared learnings for increased positive impact in the lives of children and families," said Rachel Ward, Director of Operations and Strategic Initiatives of Omega CDC in Dayton, OH.

The Success Planning 2023 Community of Practice will kick off with an in-person Summer Workshop at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, MA. EdRedesign will provide a structured curriculum to equip cross-sector leaders with practical skills, knowledge, and resources for designing and implementing effective and impactful Success Planning initiatives. Their ongoing engagement will include monthly virtual sessions, coaching, and technical assistance, among other supports. A particular focus of the coming year will be on aligning and integrating Success Planning efforts with new or existing coordinating bodies that can drive systems-level change, as well as strengthening data and metrics capacity to demonstrate impact over time. Teams will explore common challenges and brainstorm creative solutions drawing on the cohort's collective expertise and wisdom.

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.

About The EdRedesign Lab:

Founded in 2014 by Paul Reville, Francis Keppel Professor of Practice of Educational Policy and Administration at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, EdRedesign provides catalytic support to the cradle-to-career place-based field to drive systems-level change and open personalized pathways to well-being, educational attainment, civic engagement, and upward mobility. To support this growing field to effect transformational change that serves the needs and talents of individual children and youth, our work focuses on talent development, actionable research, our Institute for Success Planning, and our By All Means coalition. 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 strive for a society characterized by racial, economic, and social justice.