



Rethinking Approaches to Educational Success in Historically Marginalized Communities

FCAN CONFERENCE 2019



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Who We
Are

Case Study: Parramore

Historically significant African-American neighborhood in Downtown Orlando



Image credit: <https://www.moderncities.com/article/2017-mar-the-rise-and-fall-of-an-african-american-inner-city>

Parramore: By the Numbers



of Households
2,114



Median household
income
\$18,742

City of Orlando: \$44,007; Orange County: \$49,391

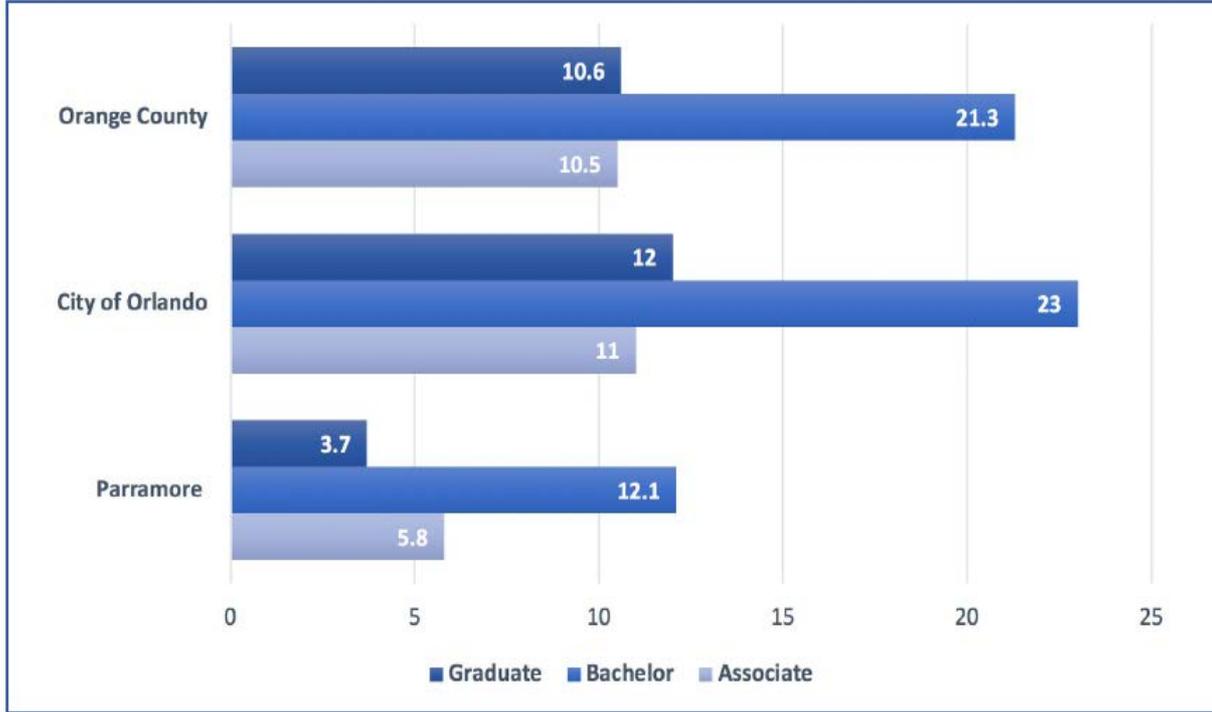
Living below federal
poverty level
50%

National average in 2017: 12.3%

Burdened by excessive
housing costs*
55%

* Defined as gross rent or mortgage plus utilities
greater than 30% of total income.

Parramore Today



Educational Attainment

Educational Inequality- A Complex Problem



Community Minded Empowerment Approaches

- ▶ Adjectives of Empowerment-an interpersonal approach;
- ▶ Actions of Empowerment-an external approach;
- ▶ Ah Ha! Empowerment is a framework which fosters agency!
(Bensimone, 2013; Pendukar,2010).



Finding Strengths in Our Identity: Protective Factors

For many low income communities of color:

- ▶ Extended family and fictive kin (unrelated) offer financial and emotional support system
- ▶ Develop resilience in the face of adversity (discrimination, violence, etc.)
- ▶ Navigate multiple identities and their intersections (race, gender, class, etc.)
- ▶ Negotiate, navigate systems and broker relationships on behalf of others (advocate, translate, etc.)
- ▶ Take on adult responsibilities early on (caretaker, chores, work to help with income)

Parramore Education & Innovation District (PEID)

Vision

► Every individual in the Parramore community will attain a postsecondary credential.

Mission

► Strengthen a **community-centered** educational ecosystem that leverages **collective decision-making** to ensure that every individual in Parramore excels from cradle to career.

PEID Planning Process:

A strengths-based approach to community development

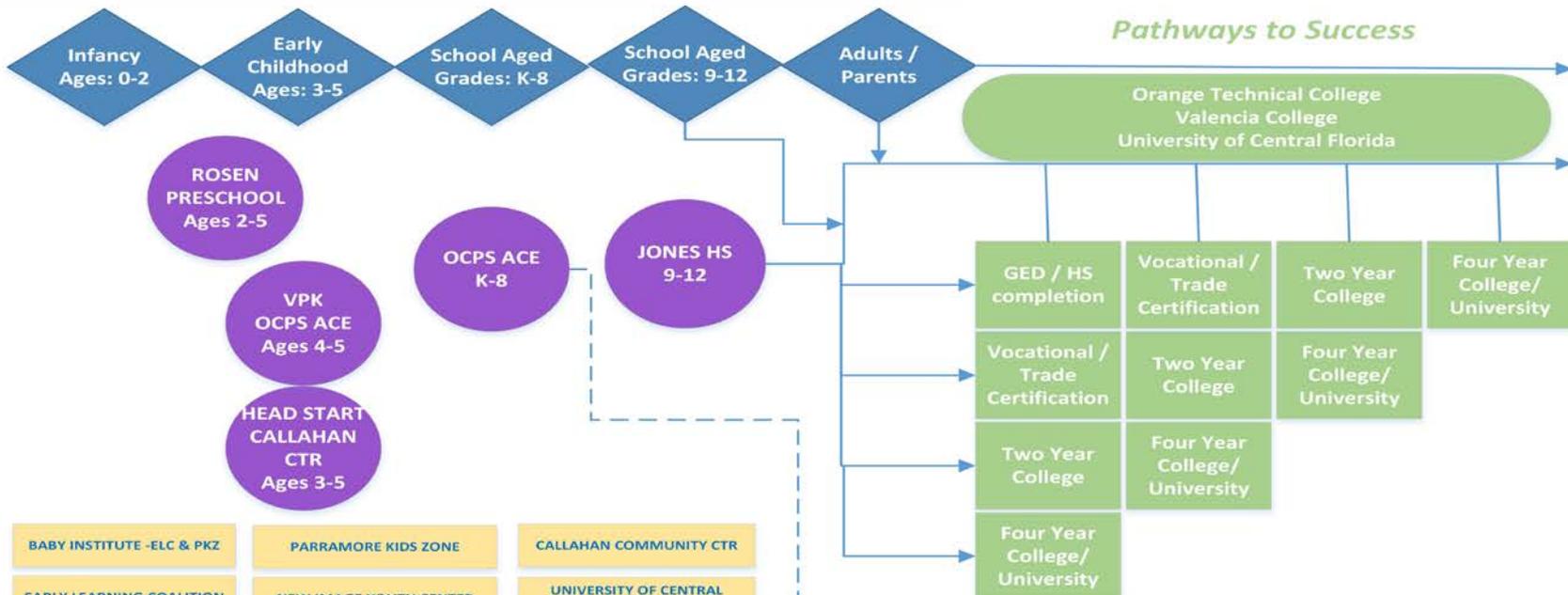


PARRAMORE EDUCATION ECOSYSTEM

Age Group

Traditional Education Institutions

Non-profit community orgs and local government
Academic Support / Education Enrichment



BABY INSTITUTE -ELC & PKZ	PARRAMORE KIDS ZONE	CALLAHAN COMMUNITY CTR
EARLY LEARNING COALITION	NEW IMAGE YOUTH CENTER	UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
ORLANDO NURSERY	BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS	VALENCIA COLLEGE
COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS VPK	PAGE 15	ORANGE TECHNICAL COLLEGE
4C-COMMUNITY COORDINATE CARE FOR CHILDREN	CITY OF ORLANDO PARKS & REC	TEACH FOR AMERICA
SUPERSTAR'S ACADEMY	ELEVATE ORLANDO	LIFT ORLANDO
N2 KIDZ & COMPANY	ORLANDO MAGIC	JACKSON COMMUNITY CTR
OTHER CHILD CARE PROVIDERS*	SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT	SIMEON RES & DEV CTR FOR MEN
	PROE OPPS PROGRAM FOR	

ACE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL:
 ORANGE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (OCPS)
 CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY
 ORANGE BLOSSOM HEALTH
 BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
 UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FL
 VALENCIA COLLEGE
 ROSEN PRESCHOOL

Strengthen	Strengthen rather than “create”
Build	Build upon partner competencies rather than working in silos
Convene	Convene providers to plan and act collectively and strategically
Expand	Expand definition of desired outcomes to include postsecondary credentials

Rethinking Approaches to Success: What We Learned

PROJECT SUPPORT

PEID Project Team

Community Outreach
Specialist & Project Director

Education Program
Director

Research Data & Evaluation
Coordinator

Administrative
Coordinator

CFEED Insights

Working Committees

*Develop action plans,
establish inputs and metrics*

School Readiness

K-12 Academic Success

Youth Social-Emotional
Development

Teacher Recruitment &
Retention

College Readiness & Access

College Enrollment, Persistence,
& Completion

Adult Education

Parent & Community
Engagement

Research, Data & Evaluation

Steering Committee

*Provides strategic guidance,
facilitates work plans*

Working Committee
Chairs &
Partner Organization
Representatives

Executive Committee

*Decision making on policies,
funding, sustainability, etc.*

OCPS

UCF

Valencia College

Orange Technical College

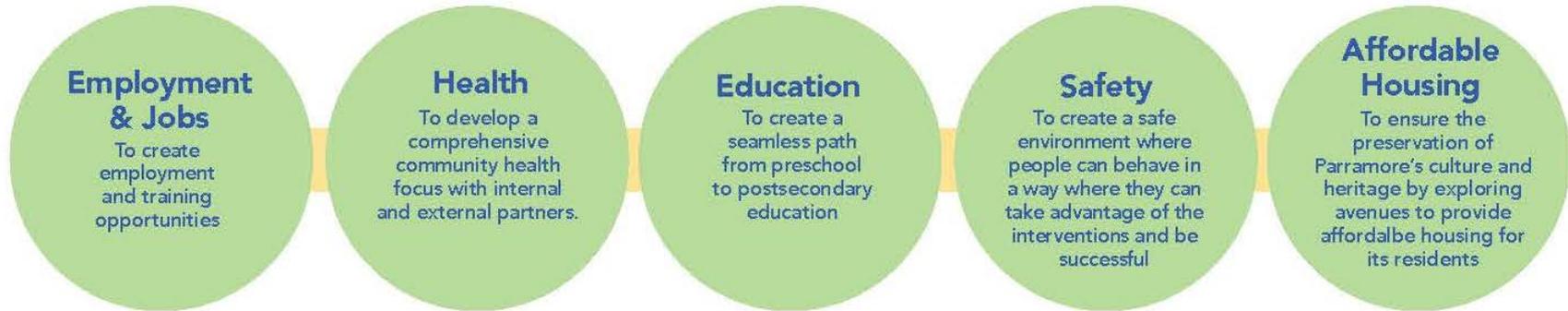
City of Orlando

Funders

Community Engagement
Council

Parramore Community Engagement Council

Five pillars / work areas of the Council, a community-centric approach

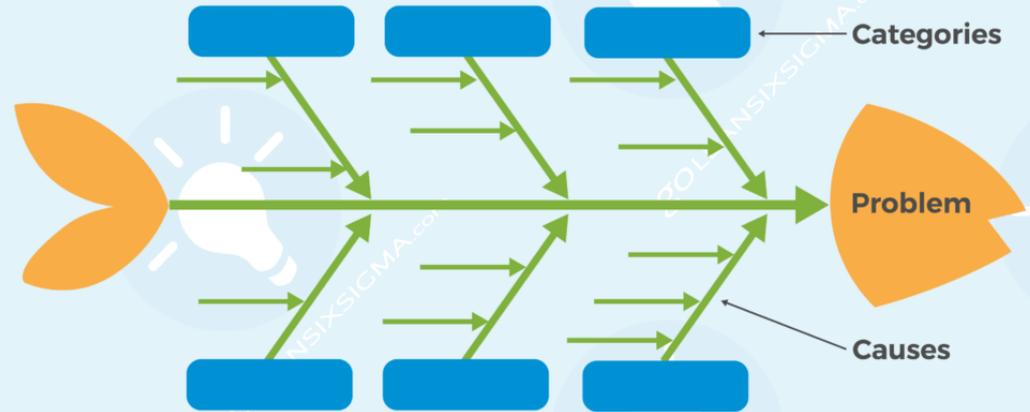


Beyond PEID

- ▶ Not just a local problem-lessons from India (Sommer, 2001)
- ▶ Takeaways- must address root causes through empowerment
- ▶ Tools for practitioners: Root cause analysis
 - ▶ 5 Whys?
 - ▶ Fishbone diagrams

Fishbone Diagram

A Fishbone Diagram is a structured brainstorming tool using categories to explore root causes for an undesirable effect.



Opportunities for Implementation

Discussion on Next Steps

- ▶ Ingredients for collaborative educational partnerships--scaled for your organization?
- ▶ Tips
 - ▶ It's all about asset-based approaches--think Empowerment;
 - ▶ Know your community ;
 - ▶ Outreach is powerful, allowing external entities to REACH IN is essential.

Thank You

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