
2-Gen Strategies for Person-Centered Care/Communities

Dr. Christopher T. King
Ray Marshall Center, LBJ School
The University of Texas at Austin

CAN Community Council
Austin, TX

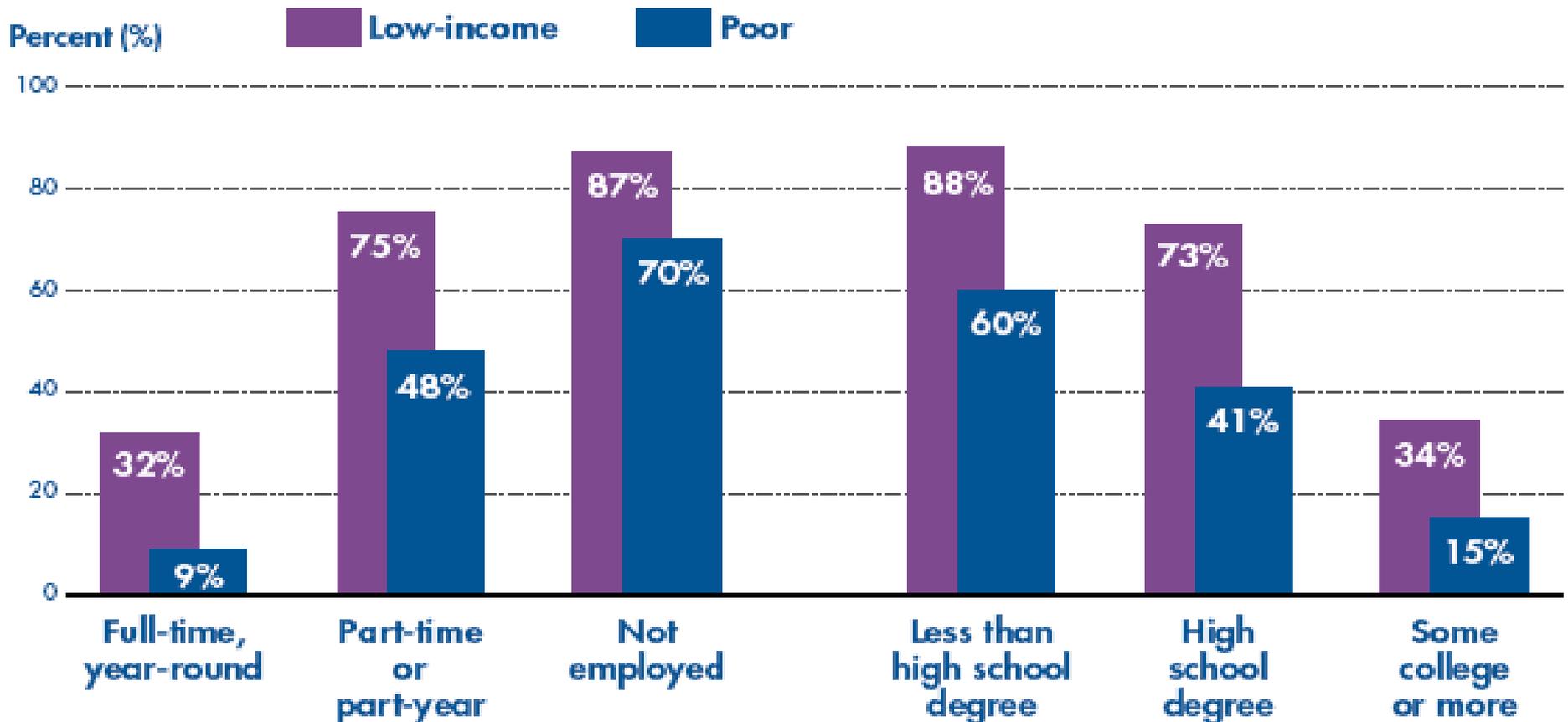
April 18, 2016

Outline

- **Why 2-Gen?**
- **Evidence for 2-Gen**
- **Austin's 2-Gen Vision**
- **2-Gen as Person-centered
Care/Community**
- **Lessons**
- **Wrap Up**

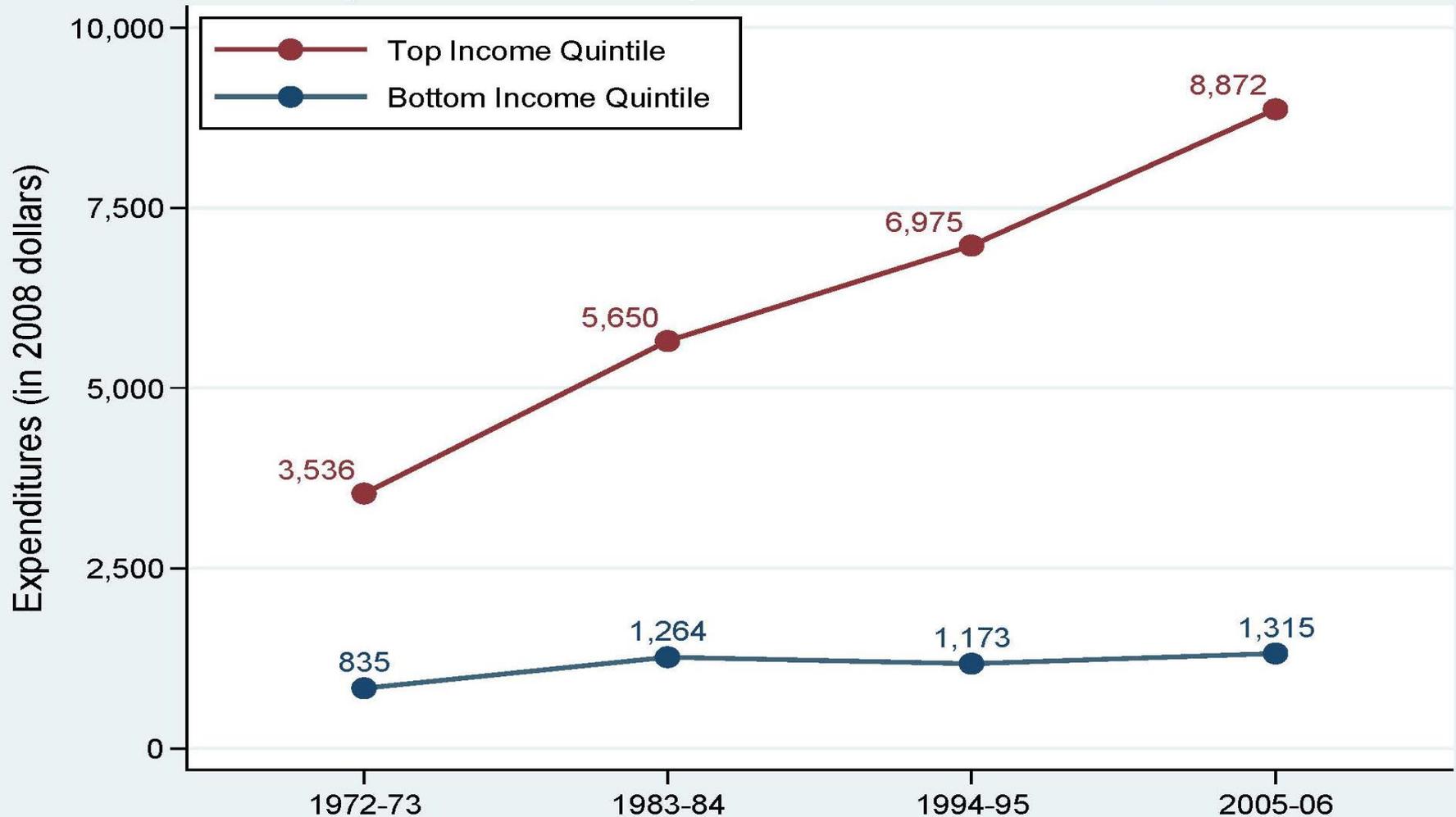
Why 2-Generation?

Percentage of infants and toddlers in low-income and poor families by parents' employment and education, 2011



Why 2-Generation?

Family Enrichment Expenditures on Children, 1972-2006



Source: Duncan & Murnane (2011)

Why 2-Generation?

Social mobility is significantly lower in the US than in most developed countries (Corak, 2013): roughly 8% of children born to U.S. families in the bottom fifth of the income distribution reach the top fifth v. 11.7% in Denmark. (Chetty et al., 2014; Boserup et al., 2013)

- **Austin ranks 54th in social mobility among the Top 100 U.S. metropolitan areas.**
- **Only 6.9% of Austin children born to families in the bottom fifth reach the top fifth.**

Five factors are associated with strong upward mobility: less segregation by income and race; lower income inequality; better schools; lower rates of violent crime; and larger shares of 2-parent households.

Two-Generation Pathways

Haskins et al. (2014) describe six pathways by which parents and home setting affect child development:

- *Stress*
- *Parental Education*
- *Health*
- *Employment*
- *Income*
- *Asset Development*

... suggesting the need for comprehensive, multi-faceted antipoverty strategies.

2-Gen 1.0 vs. 2.0

(Chase-Lansdale & Brooks-Gunn, 2014)

2-Gen 1.0 (1980s, 1990s) mainly added parenting, low-intensity services to early childhood education (ECE) and/or mostly served welfare mothers adding child care, producing only modest effects.

2-Gen 2.0 (late 2000s) builds on much improved workforce and postsecondary education, and is substantively very different:

- **Simultaneous human capital investment for a wide range of low-income parents and children**
- **Intensive postsecondary education and training in growth sectors with stackable credentials**
- **Workforce intermediaries combined with strong employer engagement**
- **High-quality ECE**

Ascend's 2-Gen Framework

**early childhood
education**

**social
capital**

networks, friends,
and neighbors

**postsecondary &
employment
pathways**

**health &
well-being**

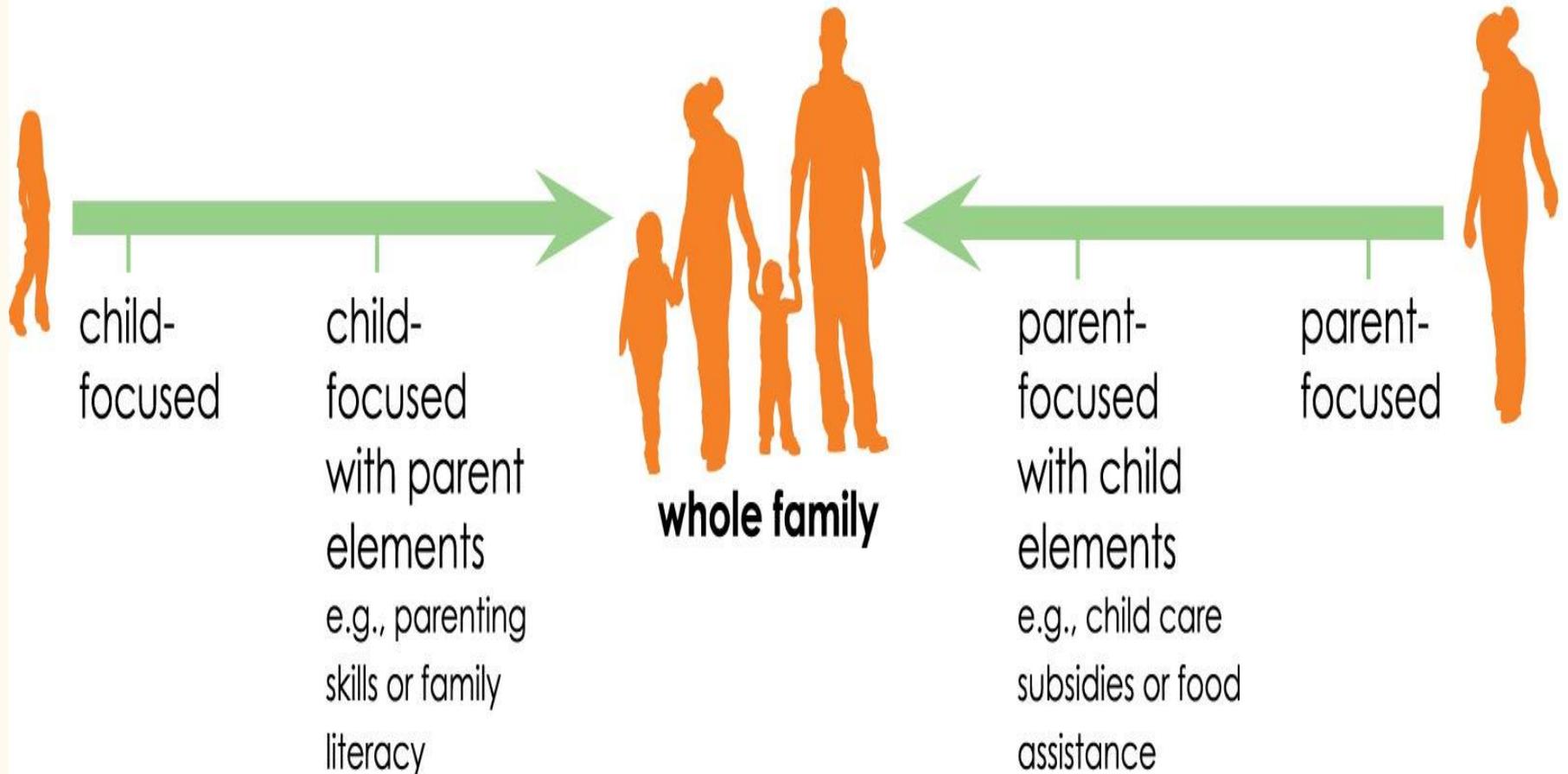
mental health
addressing adverse
childhood experiences

**economic
assets**

asset building
housing

Ascend's 2-Gen Continuum

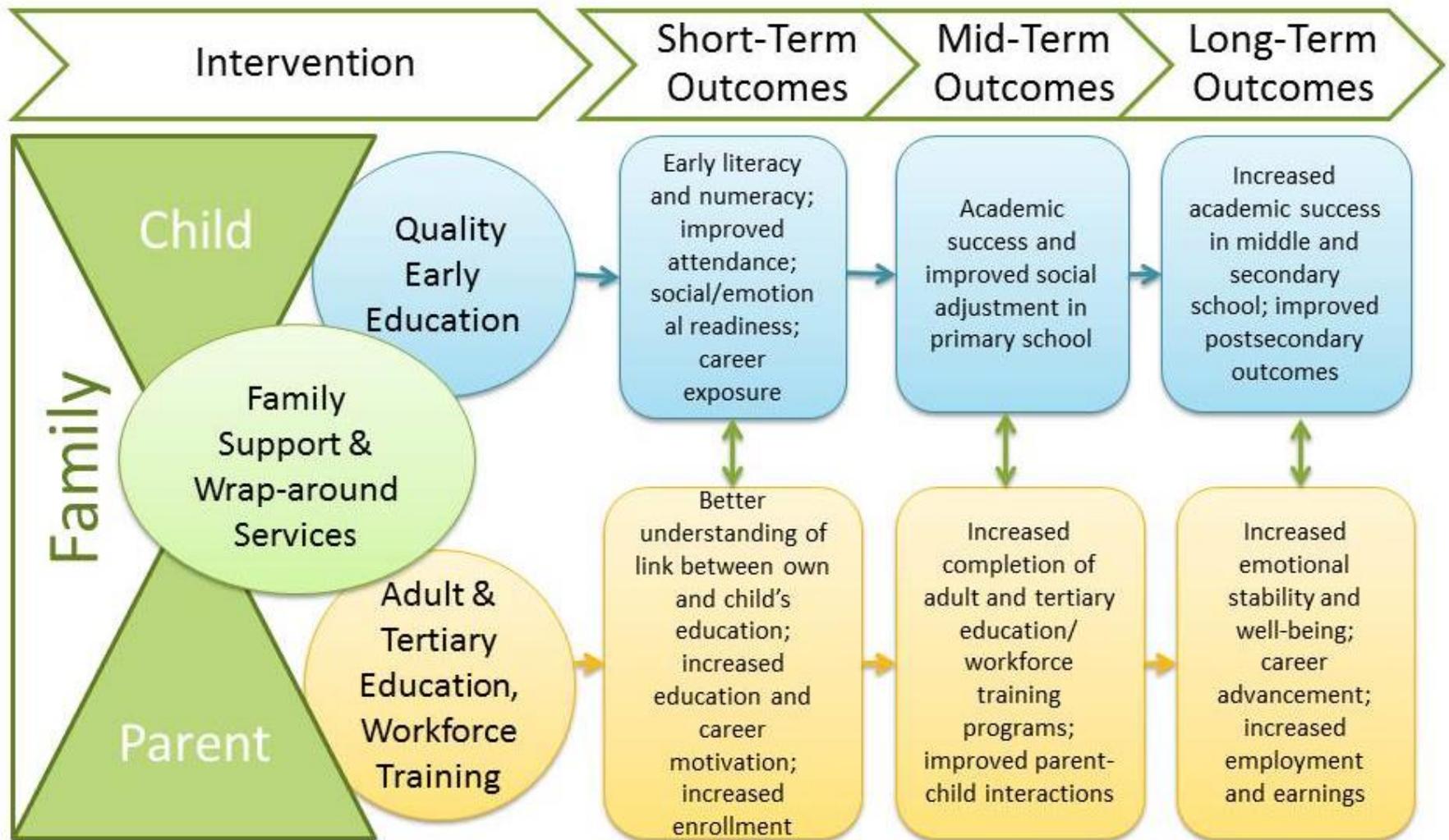
The Two-Generation Continuum



2-Gen Investment Strategies

... strategies intentionally and systematically connect high-quality adult and child investments for larger, longer lasting impacts on family economic success.

Conceptual Framework



Source: Chase-Lansdale et al. (2011), Smith & Coffey (2015).

Impacts in Brief

CHILDREN

High-quality early childhood education has lasting cognitive and non-cognitive effects.

(Gormley et al., 2005, 2011; Bartik, 2014; Yoshikawa et al., 2013)

Consider the *Heckman Equation* (heckmanequation.org/):

Invest + Develop + Sustain = Gain

ADULTS

High-quality sectoral training via career pathways has meaningful, significant, lasting impacts on participant employment, earnings

and associated ROI. *(Maguire et al., 2010; Elliott & Roder, 2011, 2014; Smith & King, 2011; Smith et al., 2012; King, 2014; King & Prince, 2015)*

Tulsa's CareerAdvance[®]

Local
Colleges

Sectoral
Training/CPs
Employers

Early Childhood
Program

Career Coaches

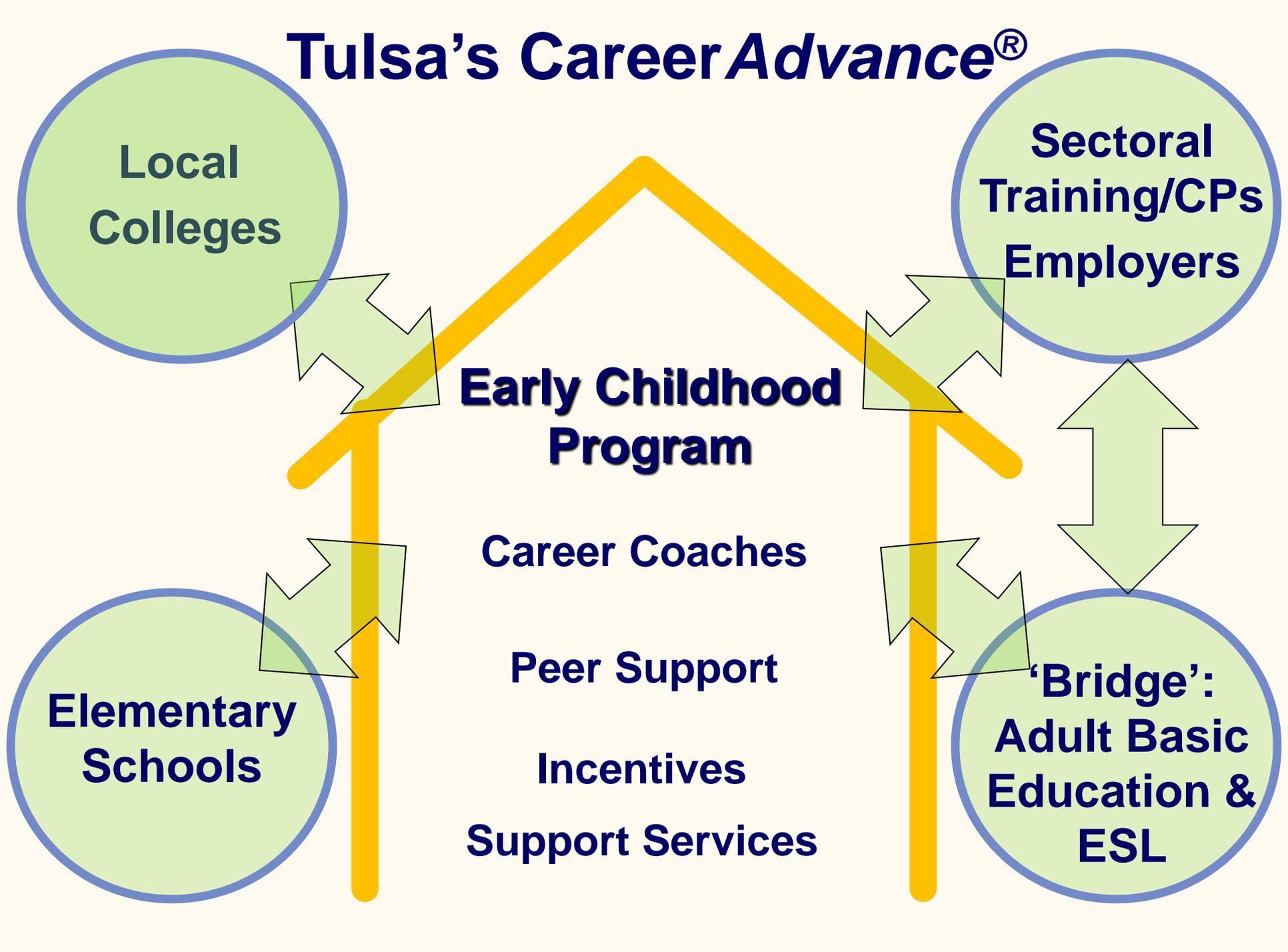
Peer Support

Incentives

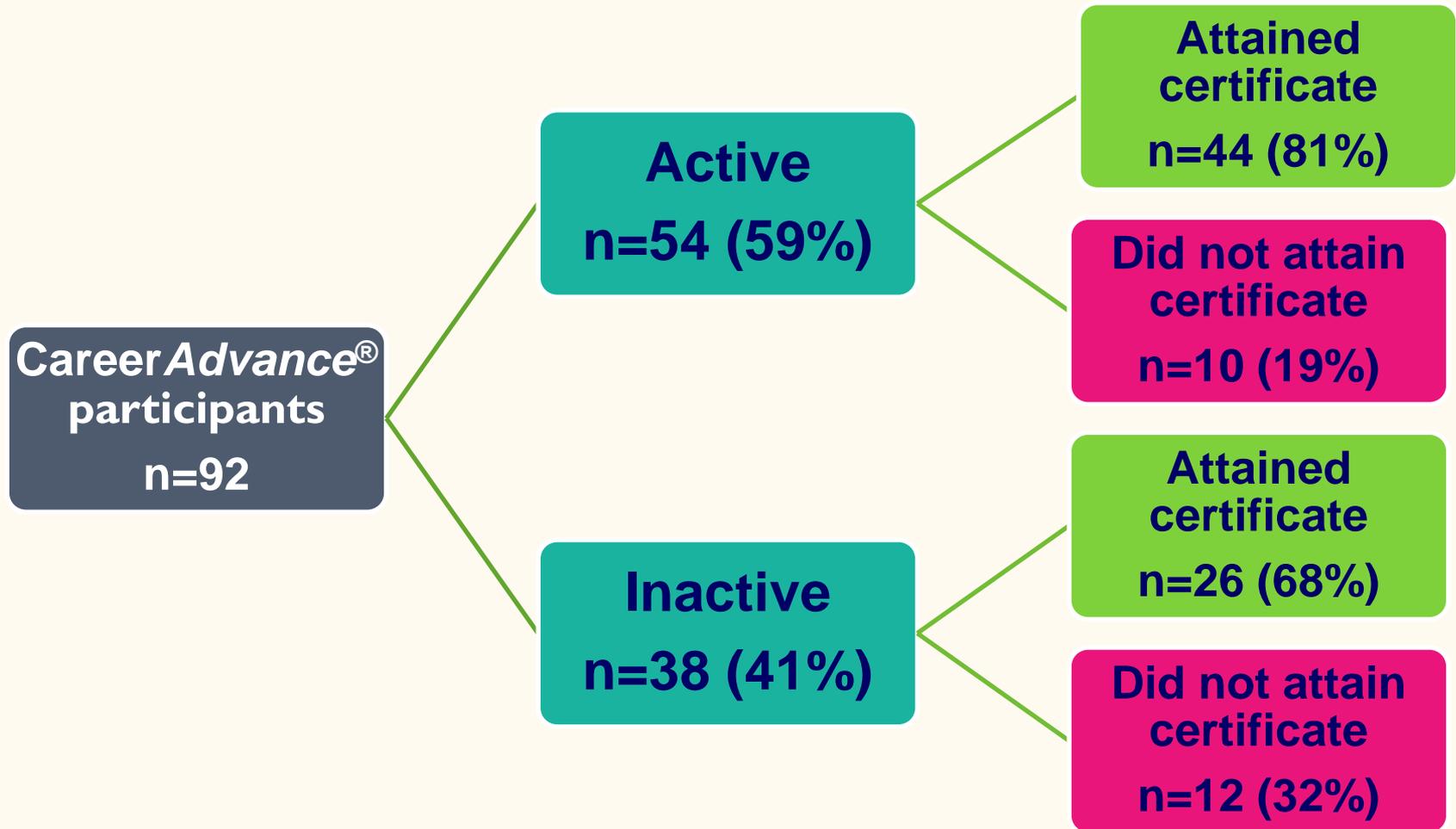
Support Services

Elementary
Schools

'Bridge':
Adult Basic
Education &
ESL



CareerAdvance[®] Enrollment & Certification at 16 Months, Cohorts 4-7



Source: Sabol et al., 2015.

Qualitative Evidence

2-Gen 2.0 program *impacts* aren't ready yet: initial CareerAdvance[®] impacts slated for release in late April 2016. However—

- Partner (e.g., Tulsa Community College, Union Public Schools), CAP, CareerAdvance[®] and employer *interviews are very encouraging.*

- Participant focus groups and interviews since 2010 tell us CareerAdvance[®] and its *components are largely on the right track.*

Austin's Systemic 2G Initiative

October 2014 launch at United Way for Greater Austin with broad stakeholder participation.

Parents Work, Children Learn, Families Thrive

Vision: *Policies and programs designed and resources aligned to help parents become economically stable and self-sufficient and to help their children achieve their maximum potential by simultaneously addressing the needs of parents and their children. Meeting the needs of both generations will produce larger, more enduring effects than can be achieved by serving parents and children separately.*

Austin 2G Efforts to Date

- **Travis County 2014 workforce & education procurement targeting parents & others**
- **Workforce Solutions Capital Area prioritizing parents in training for childcare and targeting young parents for Opportunity Youth services**
- **United Way/Austin ISD PreK and ESL Services Project at Uphaus Center with The Austin Project & others funded by Ascend/Aspen Inst.**
- **AISD's Allan Center collaboration with Child Inc. (Head Start), Avance, Skillpoint Alliance, CenTX Literacy Coalition, Vela, CAN & others**

Austin 2G Efforts ...

- **Jeremiah Program's** place-based postsecondary strategy with **Open Door PreSchools** in east Austin
- **Communities in Schools' Aspire Program**
- **The Austin Project's Family Resource Centers** at Mendez and Martin Middle Schools in east Austin via a community schools model
- **Strengthening Working Families Initiative** proposal submitted to USDOL from Workforce Solutions Capital Area (possible start July 1st)

Person-centered Services and Community

Such services/community should:

- Serve my whole family
- Serve me where I am
- Have a system that works for me, i.e., is customized, responsive and empowering.

Question: Does a 2-gen strategy fit this bill?

Answer: Yes, indeed it does!

Lessons Learned: Families

- **Poor families are resilient and bring real assets to the table, including strong motivation to help their children.**
- **Families live chaotic lives and face large barriers to participation and labor market success—e.g., ‘bad paper’, criminal records, family violence.**
- **Parents’ basic skills vary widely. Most must address large deficits before progressing to skills training.**
- **Supports notwithstanding, intense human capital oriented programs aren’t for all low-income families.**

Lessons Learned: Programs

- **Simply referring parents to available education and workforce services does not—and probably will not—work.** (Hsueh et al. 2012)
- **Traditional adult education services are poorly designed and delivered, and largely ineffective.**
- **Career coaches, peer supports and financial aid in cohort models are critical program components.**
- **Getting and keeping partners engaged effectively over time takes considerable energy and resources.**

Lessons Learned: Programs ...

- **Services are highly fragmented in most communities; intermediaries are needed to “glue the pieces together” and keep partners engaged.**
- **Many barriers to 2-Gen success are policy- and program-, *not* family-related.**
- **Given barriers and constraints, it takes far longer to achieve success than most policymakers and program officials are comfortable with.**
- **Simultaneous parent and child program participation, with fully connected, reinforcing components, is only recently being implemented.**

Lessons Learned: Overall

- **2-Gen programs entail high costs up front, but are *likely* to yield high returns over the long term. We should value and fund them as investments, not expenses.**
- **2-Gen strategies can be initiated in various ways: either from quality ECE programs, from leading-edge workforce programs, or from the “marriage” of existing quality adult and child programs. They can also be developed systemically (e.g., Austin, Connecticut).**
- **We haven’t yet figured out the best ways to sustain and scale effective 2-Gen strategies.**

What's Next?

- In Fall 2015, the White House launched its 10-site rural *Integration Models for Parents and Children to Thrive (IMPACT) Demonstrations* featuring a 2-Gen approach.
- President Obama's FY 2017 Budget proposes \$100M for *2 Gen Demonstrations* under TANF via USHHS/ACF and \$36M for 2-Gen rural poverty and American Indian programs as part of his *Opportunity for All Initiative*.
- *Ascend at the Aspen Institute* plans to triple its network of 2-Gen partners this year.

Contact Information

Dr. Christopher T. King
Ray Marshall Center
LBJ School of Public Affairs
The University of Texas at Austin
512.471.2186
chris.king@raymarshallcenter.org