

# WEBINAR:

## *Fostering Thriving Cities: City and Community Partnerships for Early Childhood Success*

Thursday, March 21, 2019  
1:00 pm ET / 10:00 am PT



Networks of  
Opportunity for  
Child Wellbeing  
POWERED BY VITAL VILLAGE

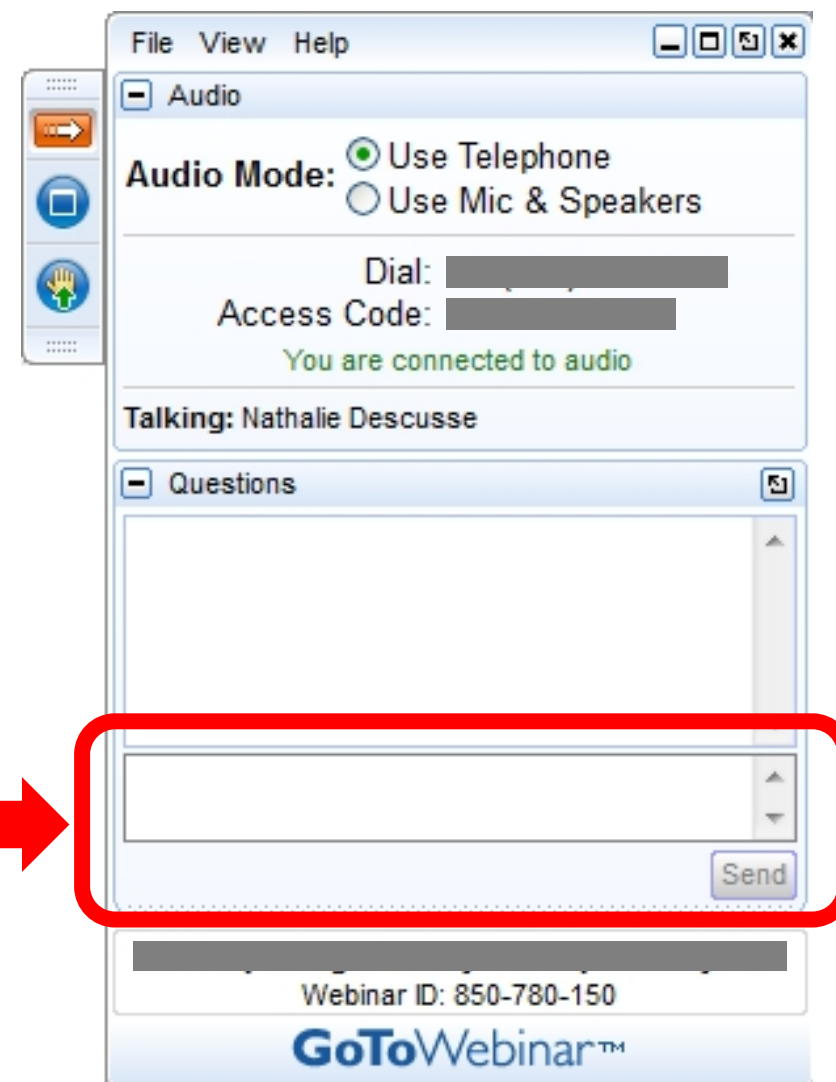


# Tips to Remember

- Microphones Muted
- Use chat box
- Submit questions on Dashboard
- Recording and slides will be posted

# Q & A

- Submit your questions box on Dashboard



# Overview

- Introduction
- About Vital Village and NOW
- About National League of Cities
- Speaker Presentations
  - *Partnerships Critical to Success*
  - *Building Collaborative Inclusive Partnerships – City Examples*
  - *Families as Partners*
- Q&A
- Closing

# About Vital Village

**Vital Village Network** is committed to maximizing child, family, and community wellbeing. Since 2010, Vital Village has fostered partnerships between residents and organizations designed to improve the capacity of three Boston communities to promote child wellbeing and prevent early life adversities.

- Service learning and leadership model
- Trauma-informed lens to align systems
- Iterative improvement and data sharing



## Why NOW?

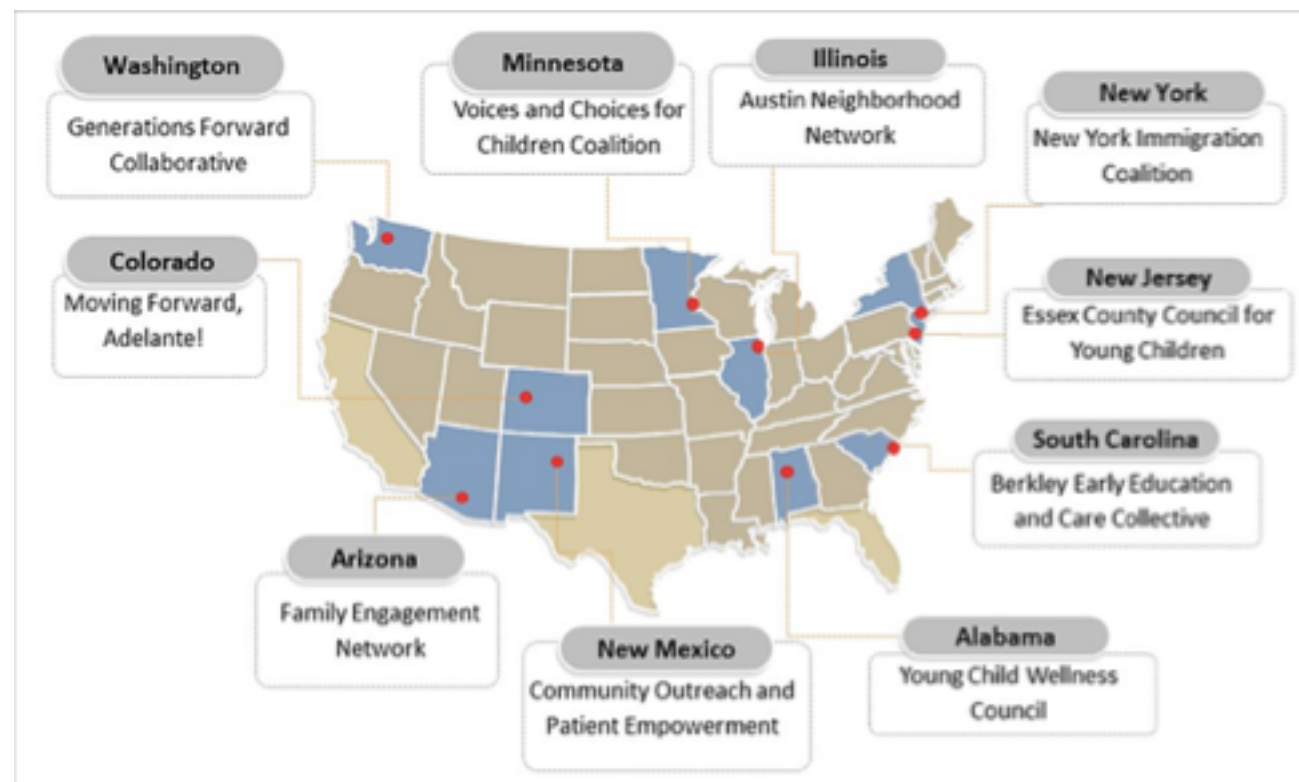
**Networks of Opportunity for Child Wellbeing (NOW)** is a national initiative led by Vital Village Network to improve the capacity of local communities and coalitions to advance health and educational equity for children.

The **NOW Innovation Forum** is a national network of peer communities working to promote child wellbeing and prevent early childhood adversities.



# NOW Learning Community

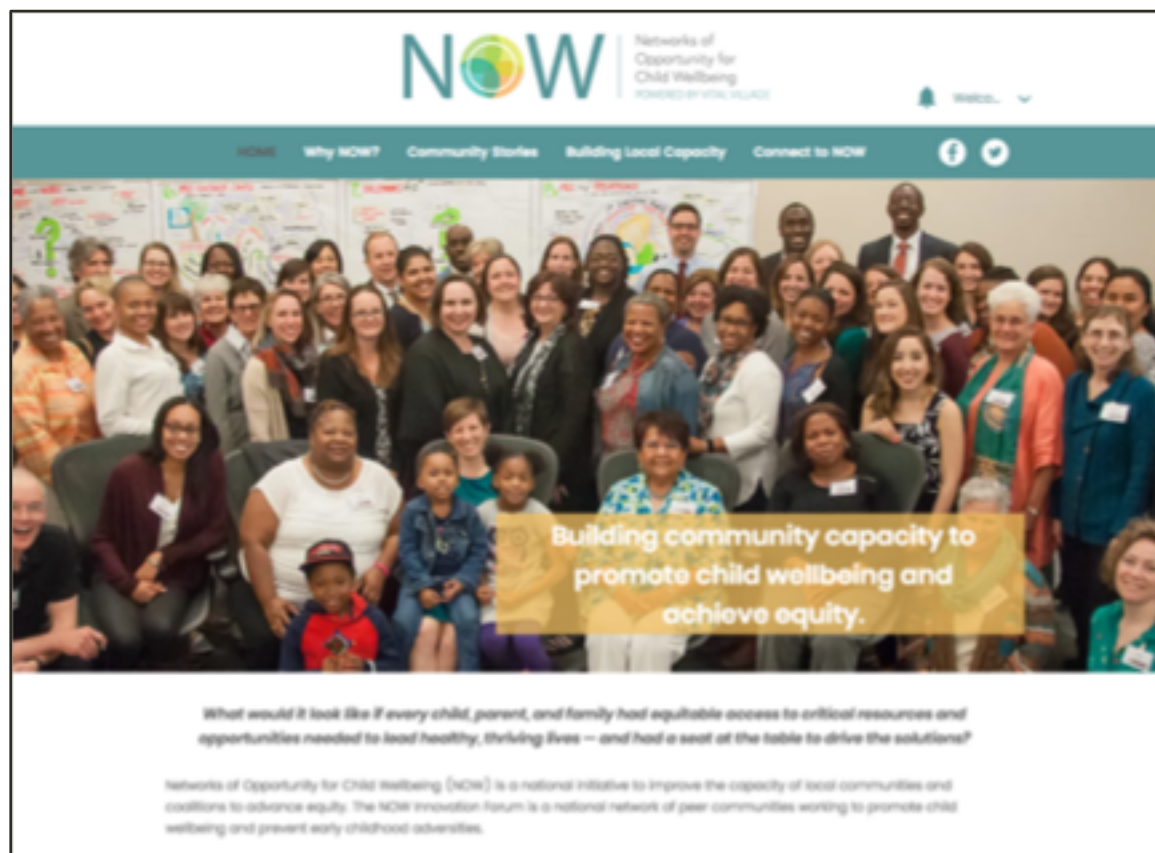
Supports **10 selected communities** over 18 months to build essential knowledge, skills, and tools to scale and sustain equitable transformation of early childhood, education, and health systems in their neighborhood, city, or county.



Learn more at: <https://www.networksofopportunity.org/learning-community>

# NOW Innovation Forum – Sign up to be a member!

<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/>



# Featured Speakers



**Ronda Alexander**  
Director of Operations,  
Vital Village Network  
***Moderator***



**Nancy Lim**  
Program Manager,  
Early Childhood  
Success, National  
League of Cities



**Tonja Rucker**  
Program Director, Early  
Childhood Success,  
National League of  
Cities

# Early Childhood Success

Fostering Thriving Cities:  
City and Community Partnerships for Early Childhood Success

**NLC** NATIONAL  
LEAGUE  
OF CITIES  
CITIES STRONG TOGETHER



# Outline

- Who is NLC
- Partnerships Critical to Success
- City Examples
- Families as Partners
- Q&A



# National League of Cities Institute for Youth, Education, and Families



- ✓ NLC is the country's **oldest and largest** national organization representing the interests of cities.
- ✓ Serves as a **resource** to and an **advocate** for the more than 19,000 cities, villages and towns NLC represents.
- ✓ The Institute for Youth, Education, and Families is a special entity within NLC with nearly two decades of **work with elected officials to create strong early care and education systems.**

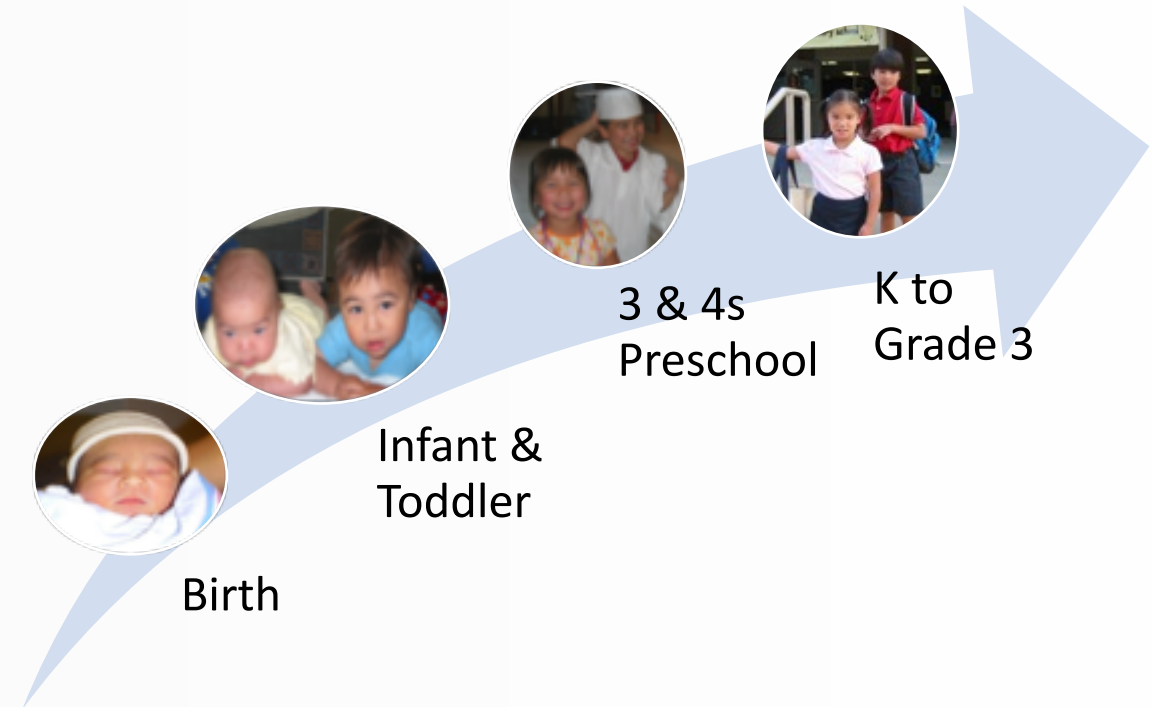
# Early Childhood Success Team



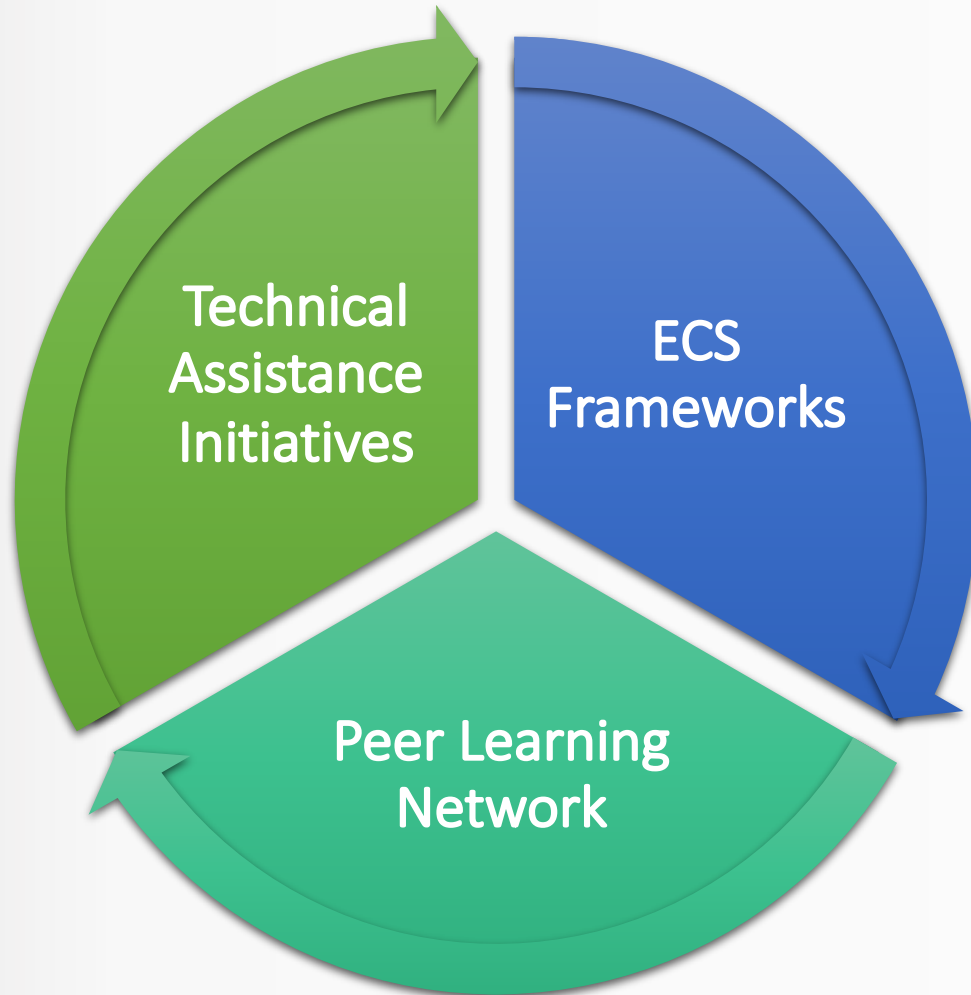
*Providing city leaders with the tools to help them build strong early learning communities that serve young children 0-8 and their families*

## Vision:

*Cities, towns and villages are places where all children, 0-8, reach their full potential, where families feel supported and can live safe, healthy lives*



# What we do...



## Mission:

*Improve city leaders' capacity to reach across neighborhoods, align programs, design policies, and ultimately build systems that are responsive and supportive of young children and their families*

# Where We Work



*The ECS Team brings city leaders together from across the country to help them achieve their shared mission: to lead thriving cities*



Almost **50** cities, towns & villages

reaching **2 million** est. young children birth to age 8 years and growing...



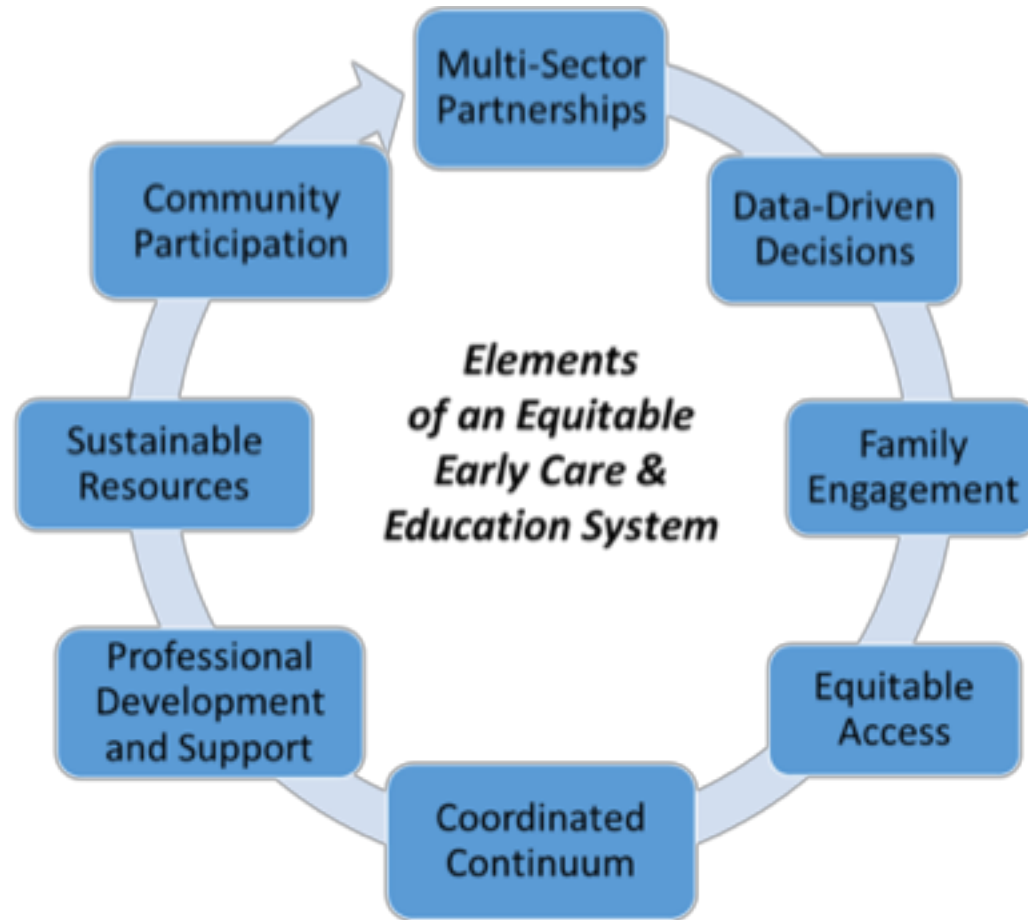
Cities participating in Early Childhood Success initiatives

# Fostering Thriving Cities

- Who is NLC
- Partnerships Critical to Success
- City Examples
- Families as Partners
- Q&A



# What Does it Take?



# Transformational Partnerships Keys

## Cast a wide net

- Multi-Sector – city, schools, community
  - ✓ Reach out to non-traditional partners

## Attention to Communications and Advocacy

- Aligning goals and strategies
- Shared message

## Deepening of Partnerships

- Long-term commitment
- Sustainable structures
- Accountability
- Information and data sharing



Source: Google Images

A large bridge under construction, featuring concrete pillars and steel scaffolding. The bridge spans a body of water, and a steel truss bridge is visible in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

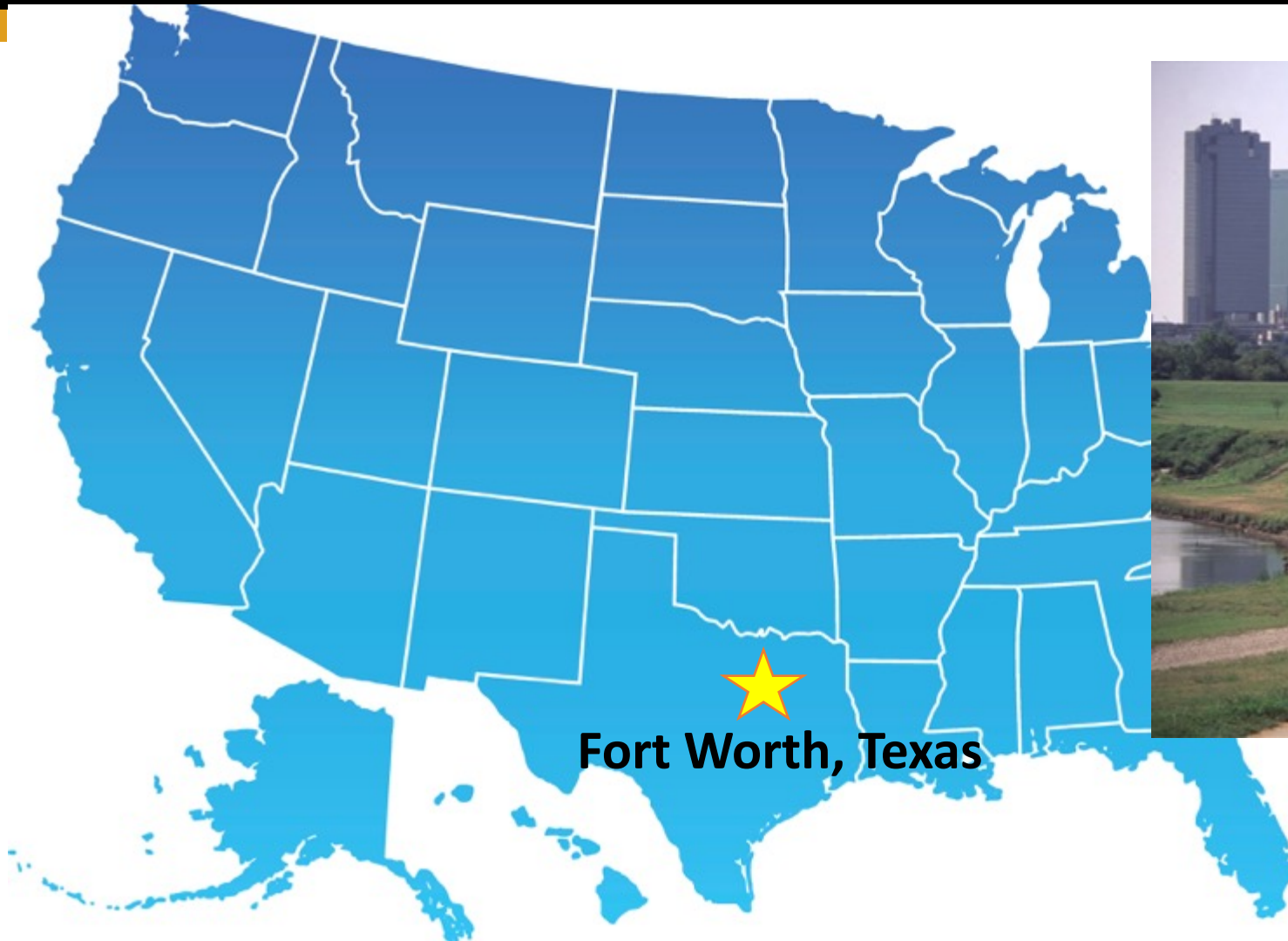
# Why Cities?

# Fostering Thriving Cities

- Who is NLC
- Partnerships Critical to Success
- **City Examples**
- Families as Partners
- Q&A



# *City Leaders Supporting Early Childhood Success*



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**Hartford, Connecticut**

# *City Leaders Supporting Early Childhood Success*



Longmont, Colorado



# *City Leaders Supporting Early Childhood Success*

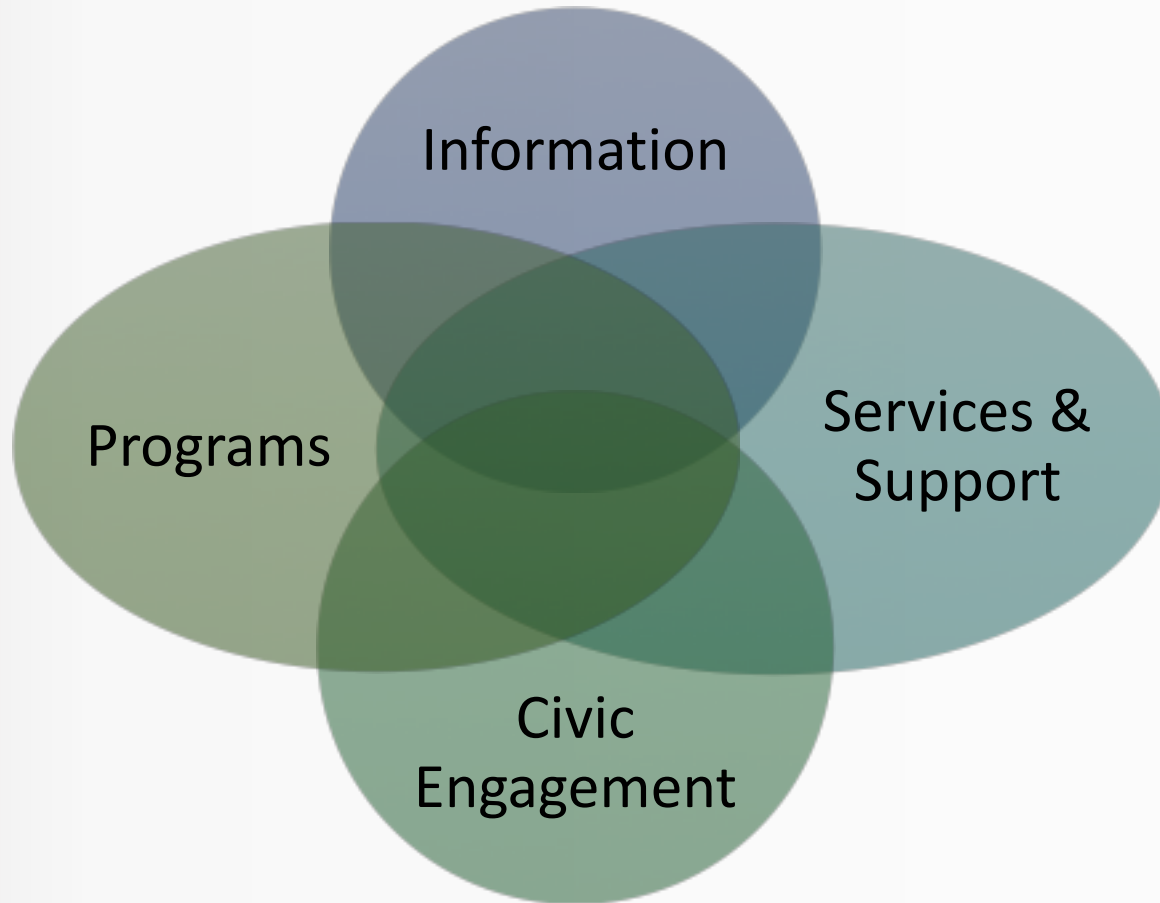


# Fostering Thriving Cities

- Who is NLC
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# Spectrum of Family Engagement



NATIONAL  
PARENT  
LEADERSHIP  
INSTITUTE

<http://parentswholead.org/>

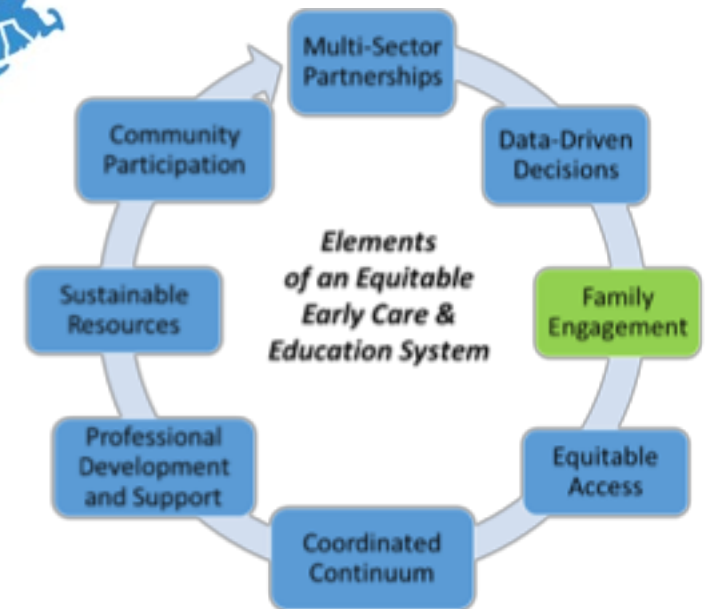


COFI

Community Organizing  
and Family Issues

<http://www.cofionline.org/>

# City Leaders Partnering with Families



# Key Systems Building Strategies

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- ✓ **Intentional partnerships and collaborative governance structures**
- ✓ **Families at the center**
- ✓ **Value and support for the early childhood workforce**
- ✓ **Plan for equity**
- ✓ **Advance and promote policies, practices, programs and services which support young children;**

# Thank You!

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Contact us at:

Tonja Rucker [rucker@nlc.org](mailto:rucker@nlc.org)

Nancy Lim [lim@nlc.org](mailto:lim@nlc.org)

Jammie Albert [albert@nlc.org](mailto:albert@nlc.org)

Vera Feeny [feeny@nlc.org](mailto:feeny@nlc.org)

Anna White [awhite@nlc.org](mailto:awhite@nlc.org)



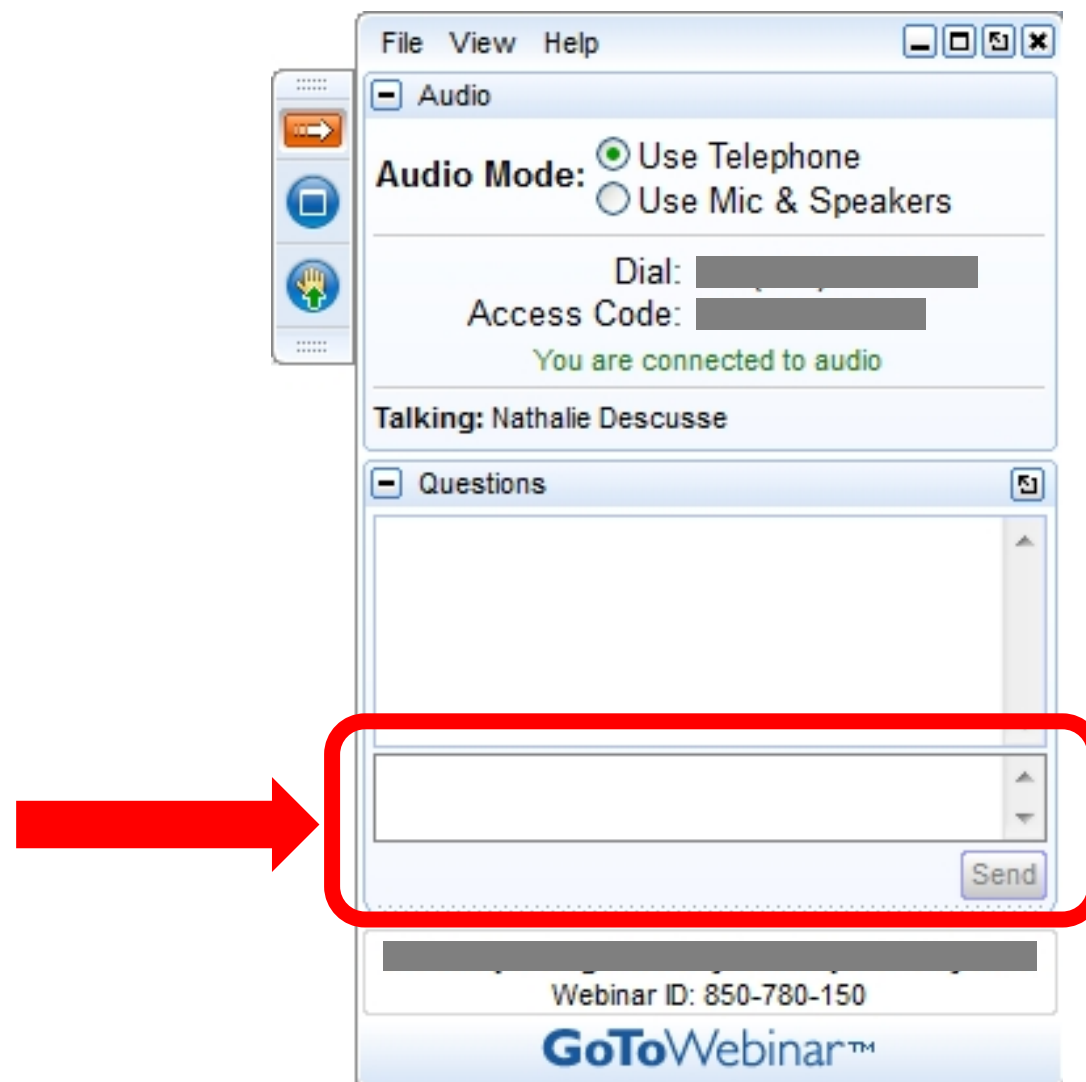
Questions?



**CITIES STRONG TOGETHER**

# Q & A

- Submit your questions box on Dashboard



# Thank You!

<https://www.networksofopportunity.org/>

[projecthope.csc@gmail.com](mailto:projecthope.csc@gmail.com)

Follow us on Twitter at:

@NOW\_WellChild @Vital\_Village

@leagueofcities