
Cradle to Preschool: Somerville, MA

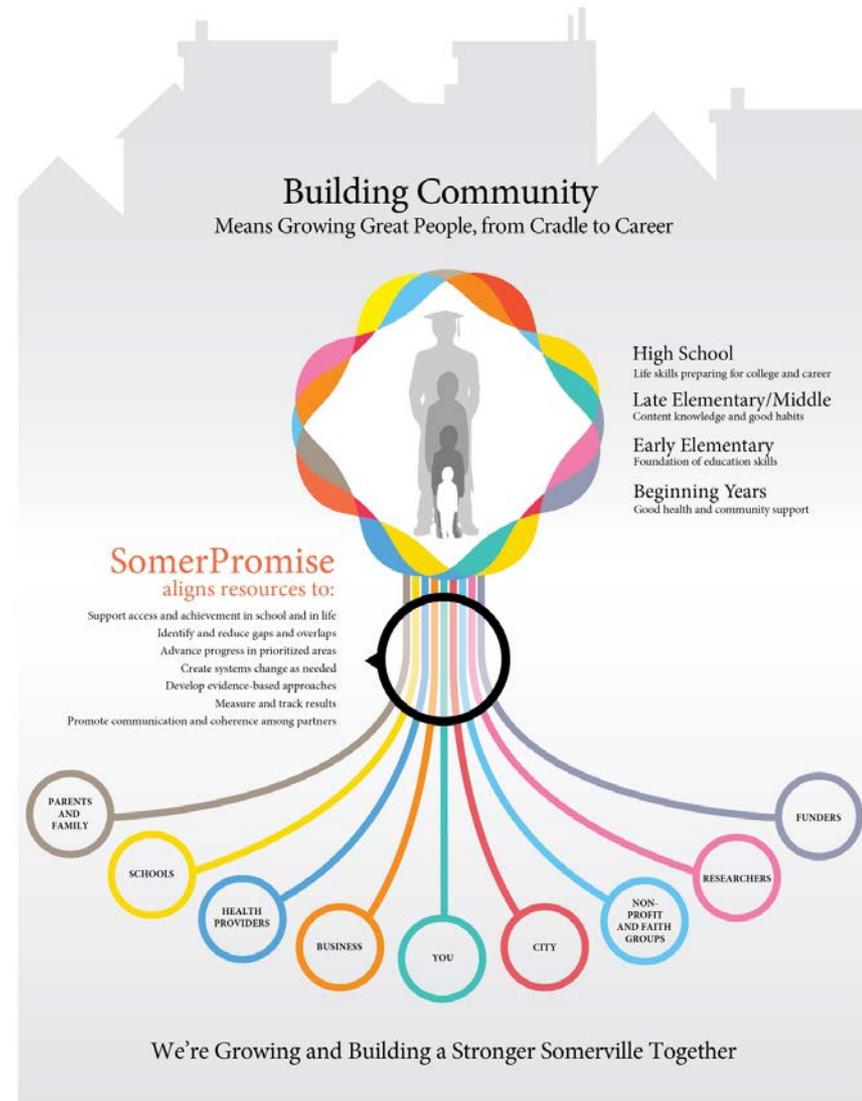
January 25, 2020

Joseph A. Curtatone, Mayor
Somerville, MA



SomerPromise

- ▶ Established in 2009
- ▶ Quickly established early childhood as a priority focus area
- ▶ 2013 strategic plan identified need to think creatively about citywide early education and care
 - ▶ Focus = support & coordinate mixed-delivery system



Children's Cabinet

- ▷ Established in 2016
- ▷ Led by Mayor and Superintendent of Somerville Public Schools (SPS)
- ▷ Monthly meetings
- ▷ Goal = strengthen collaboration between City, SPS, and community partners



Somerville Promise



SOMERVILLE
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Somerville Family
Learning Collaborative



CHA Cambridge
Health Alliance

SOMERVILLE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By All Means

- ▷ Initiative out of the Ed Redesign Lab at HGSE
- ▷ Launched in 2016 to rethink education and child support systems
- ▷ Supports 7 U.S. communities in this work by providing knowledge sharing, training, accountability, and connections to potential funders



Somerville Promise

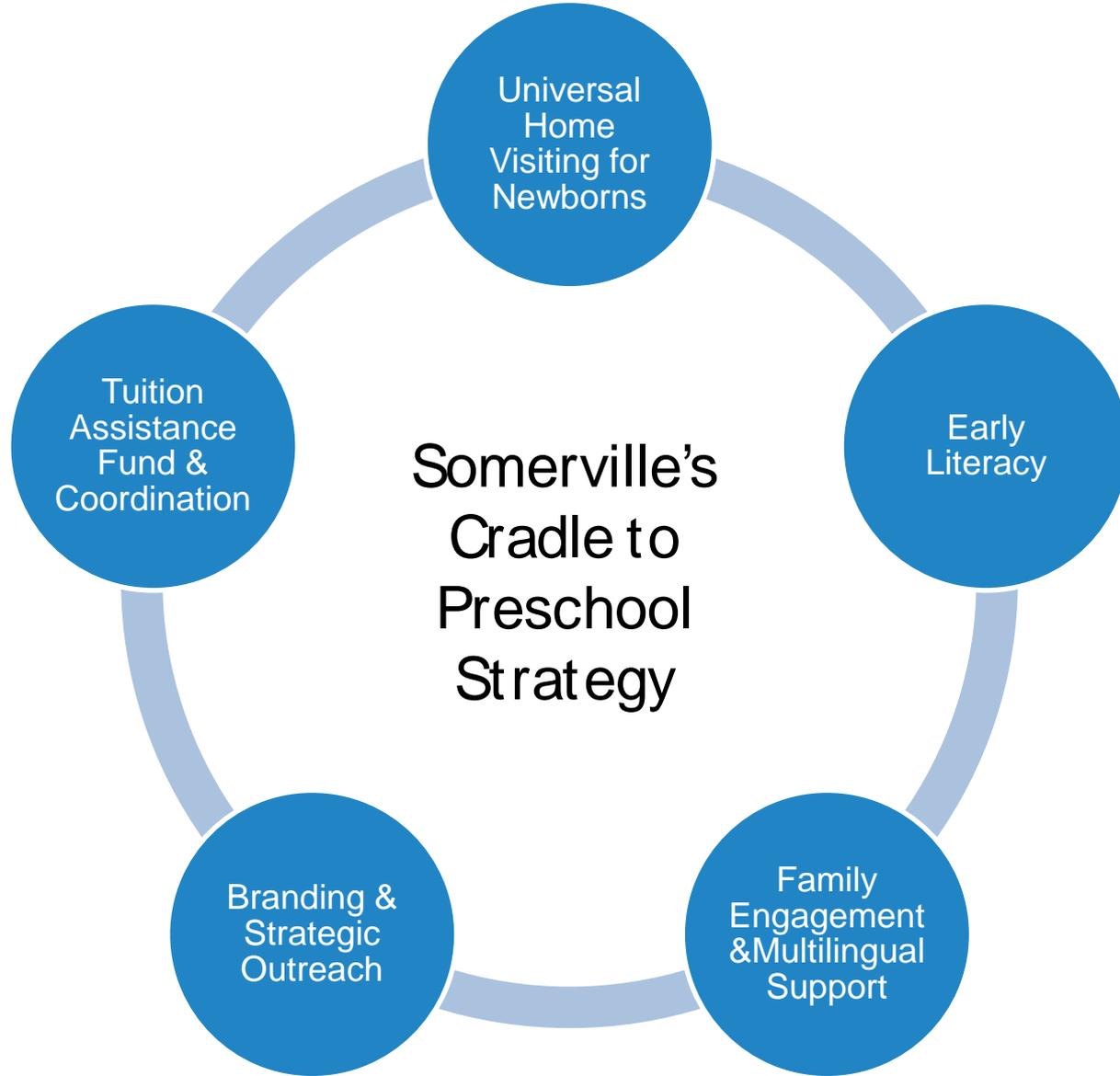


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Braided Funding: By All Means
encourages partner communities to
diversify their funding sources and
supports them in efforts to do so.

SomerBaby

- ▶ Home visiting program for Somerville families with newborns
- ▶ \$1.5M grant from Commonwealth Children's Fund will support program expansion to serve all families
- ▶ Tiered service model: number of visits and services provided tied to family need
- ▶ Partnership with Institute for Community Health to measure program impact





281

Families served to date

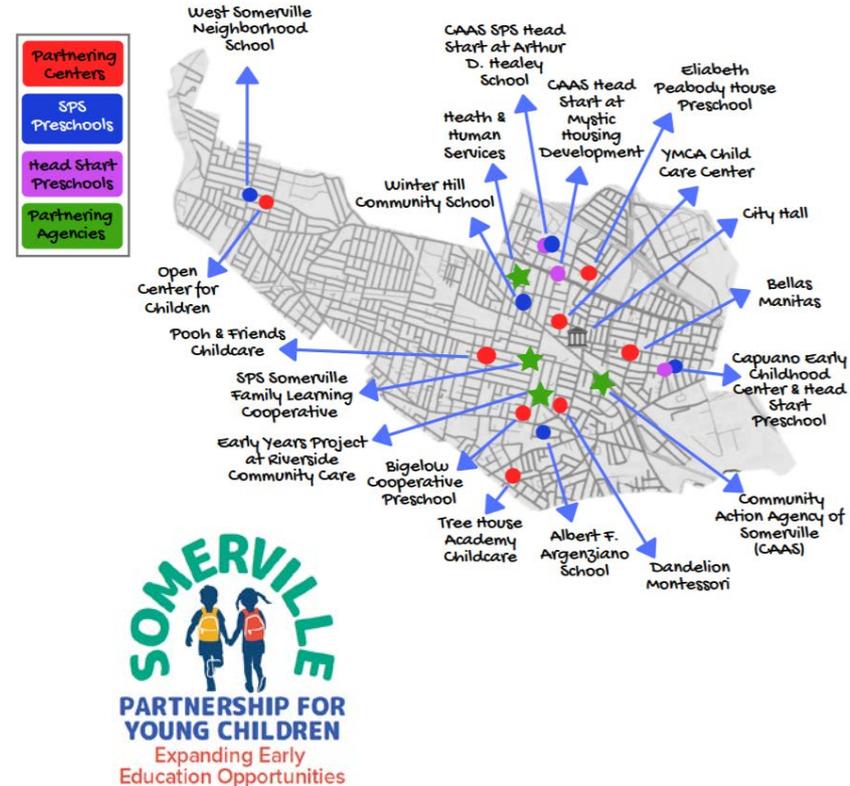


79%

Percent of SomerBaby families who speak a language other than English at home

Somerville Partnership for Young Children

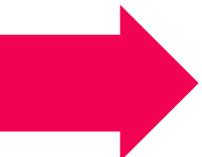
- ▶ Initiative led by SPS to create a mixed-delivery early childhood education and care system
- ▶ \$1.5M grant from Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative provides tuition assistance and wraparound services to families & support for providers





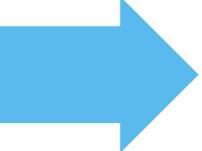
\$76,500

Tuition assistance provided in year 1



\$63,800

Salary stipends provider to teachers in year 1



50

Mentoring hours provided to program directors

A Few Lessons Learned

- ▶ It's not just about the wellbeing of kids; it's about the wellbeing of families and communities
- ▶ Breaking down silos is challenging, but it is essential to keep everyone at the table
- ▶ Cabinet allows for collective prioritization & coordinated strategy for applying for funding
- ▶ The next big question: how do we institutionalize this approach so that changes in leadership don't disrupt the good work that's underway?