



Memorandum of Agreement

Purpose

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is a shared intention of the Norwalk ACTS membership to integrate their actions and commit to our collective mission and vision. Public institutions, community organizations, and individuals who want to tackle broader systemic issues can maximize their impact and transform systems through commitment to collaboration. Learn more about the key terms listed in this MOA in our [Glossary of Terms](#).

Our Mission

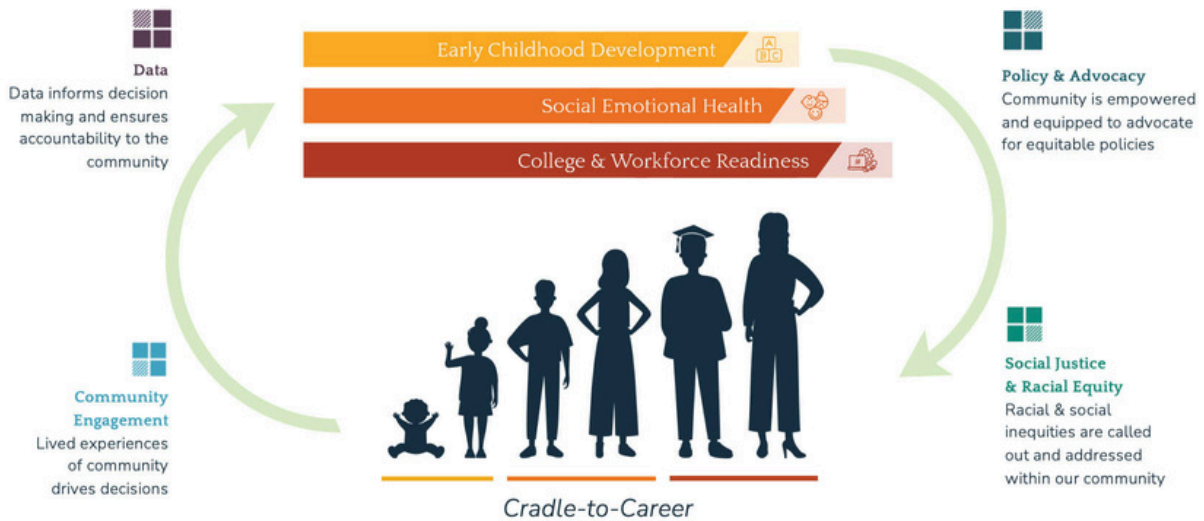
To collectively transform systems by ensuring resources, policies, practices, and power structures actively dismantle racism and drive equitable outcomes for every Norwalk child and young person.

Our Vision

Norwalk is a connected and equitable community where every child and young person thrives academically, physically, and social-emotionally from cradle to career.

Norwalk ACTS Ecosystem

Cornerstones (as outlined in the four corners of the graphic below) are the key 'ingredients' embedded into all our work along the cradle to career continuum. They are essential elements for moving the needle on community-level changes. As a partnership, Norwalk ACTS advances these cornerstones in the following cradle-to-career Initiatives: Early Childhood Development, Social Emotional Health, and College & Workforce Readiness.



Your Involvement

Involvement, commitment, and action as a Norwalk ACTS member is different for every individual and organization. See these commitments on the next page.

Visit our [website](#), where we will continue to update how these commitments look in action.

See our [Norwalk ACTS Overview video](#) which highlights our cornerstones through the Early Childhood Development Initiative.



<p>Member Commitments</p> <p>Norwalk ACTS is the community hub where cross-sector partners and community members are connected and brought together in an organized way to analyze data, develop shared goals and related action plans, identify resource needs, advocate for funding and policies, and engage the community.</p> <p>This work requires a deep understanding of systems-issues and how to co-develop solutions that are informed and driven by the lived experience of those most impacted by the challenges we seek to address.</p> <p>As a Member of Norwalk ACTS, I and/or my organization commit(s) to:</p>	<p>Backbone Staff Commitments</p> <p>As the backbone organization for our collective impact partnership, we are the connective tissue of the community, doing research, analyzing data, communicating findings, convening cross-sector partners, engaging community members and key partners, advocating for resources, and keeping alignment towards our mission and vision.</p> <p>We commit to the following:</p>
<p>Collective Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within the established <u>principles</u> and <u>conditions</u> of Collective Impact and the StriveTogether <u>framework</u> • Leverage the power of collective impact and foster a community of learning and transformation by engaging in outreach activities, attending Norwalk ACTS events, and actively contributing to initiatives & working groups when possible 	<p>Collective Impact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work within the established principles and conditions of Collective Impact and the StriveTogether framework • Identify and leverage investment opportunities to implement community-led strategies within each Initiative
<p>Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and share (when appropriate) quantitative and qualitative data to inform decision-making on a consistent basis 	<p>Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect, analyze, and provide members with cradle-to-career data, resources, and information in order to facilitate data-informed decision-making
<p>Social Justice & Racial Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuously learn about power and privilege; challenge personal biases and systems of oppression wherever they exist 	<p>Social Justice & Racial Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center equity in Norwalk by shifting power structures and advancing anti-racist policies, practices, and behaviors to empower those within the Norwalk community
<p>Policy & Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be civically active and advocate for equitable policies and practices across the cradle-to-career continuum 	<p>Policy & Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower and equip members to be civically active, and to advocate for equitable policies across the cradle-to-career continuum
<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include, amplify, and harness diverse voices with an emphasis on marginalized communities 	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplify the lived experience and expertise of community members through consistent and persistent engagement that shifts power to those most impacted by systems we seek to change