

Norwalk ACTS



September Quarterly Convening



We are a non-profit, cross-sector cradle to career partnership.

We are made up of over 200 community and civic leaders, educators, organizations, and individuals who are committed to collective impact and our mission.

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.

Vision

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



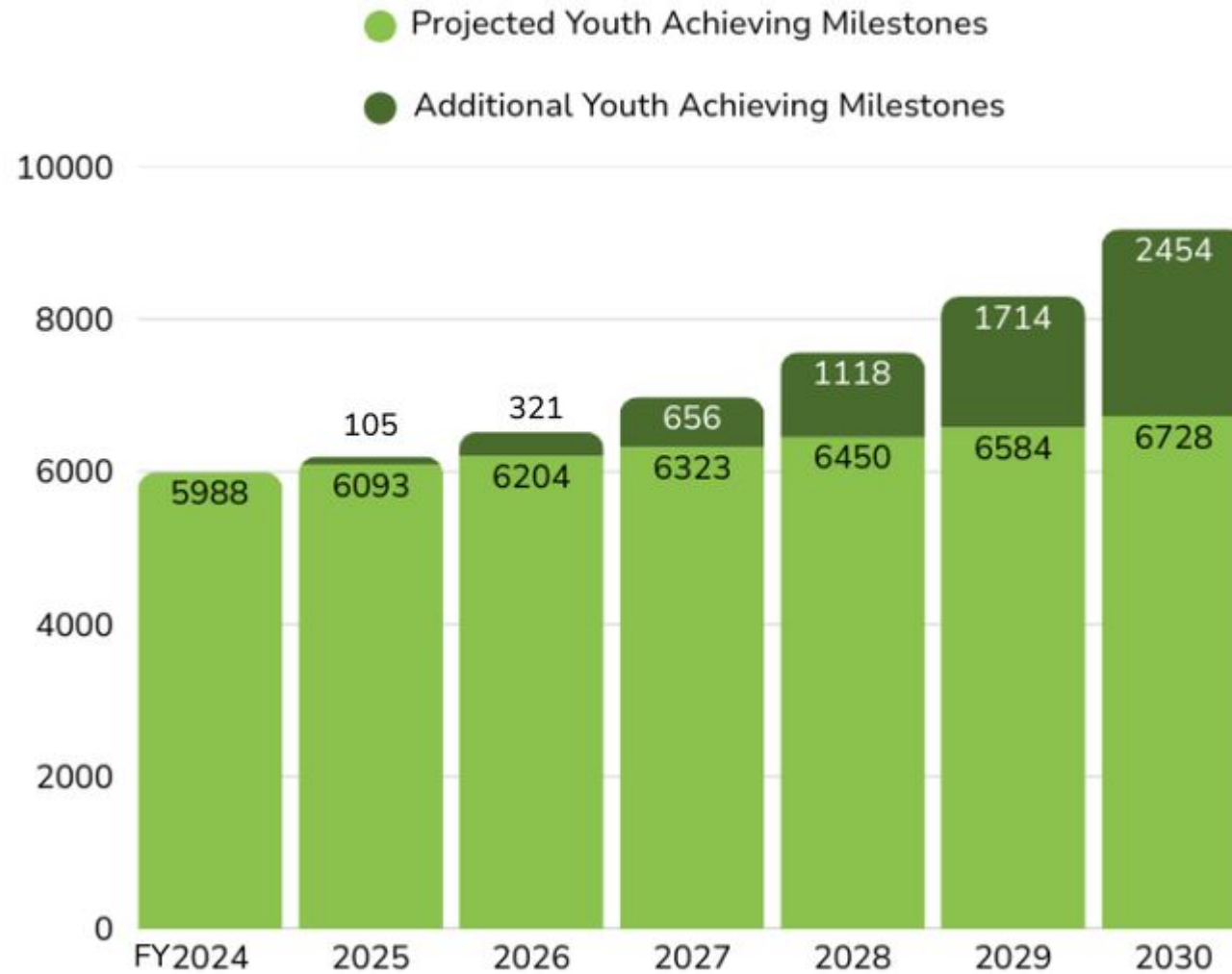
Agenda

Welcome & Agenda Overview	9:00
Introducing Know Your Number StriveTogether CT C2C Coalition Alignment Social Impact Partners	9:05
Norwalk Know Your Number Projection Family & Children's Agency University of Hartford Norwalk Hospital	9:15
Gallery Walk	9:50
Table Discussion	10:10
Whole Group Debrief	10:30
Closing	10:45

4 Million Futures | The Cradle to Career Network's bold 2030 goal



Collective Impact in Norwalk





Regional Perspective

Lauren Scopaz Daunais

Senior Vice President, Collective Action
United Way Coastal and Western Connecticut



State Perspective

Mark Argosh

Executive Director
Social Impact Partners



Social Impact Partners
FOR CONNECTICUT

Kindergarten Readiness

FY 2024

57% (446 Children) entered kindergarten ready to learn

5 in 10



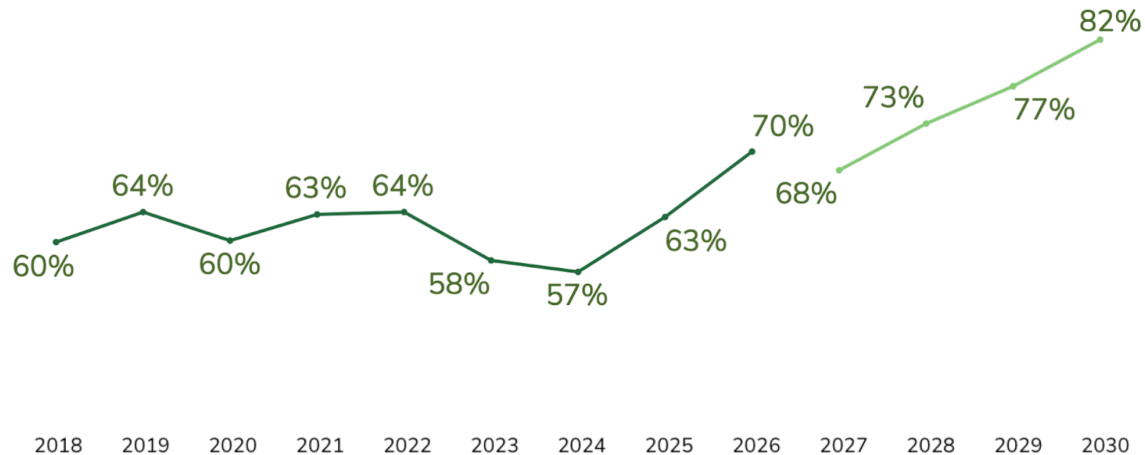
FY 2030

82% (640 children) will start school ready

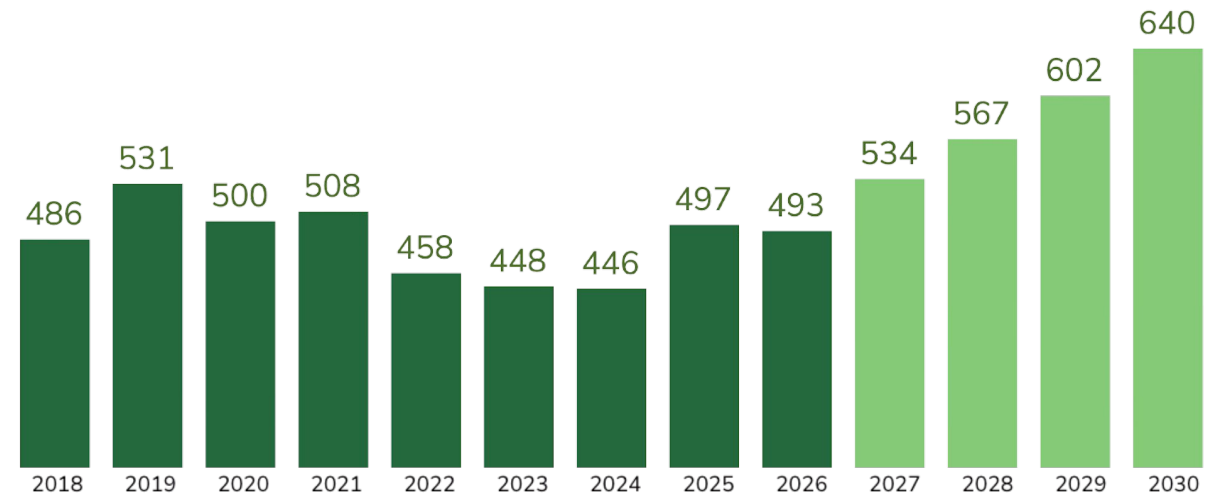
8 in 10



Percentage of Norwalk Children



Number of Norwalk Children



Partner Spotlight: Kindergarten Readiness

Mary Kate Locke

Vice President of Youth & Family Empowerment

Family & Children's Agency

Norwalk ACTS Board Member



Early Grade Reading

FY 2024

33% (264 students) are reading at grade level (Grade 3)

3 in 10



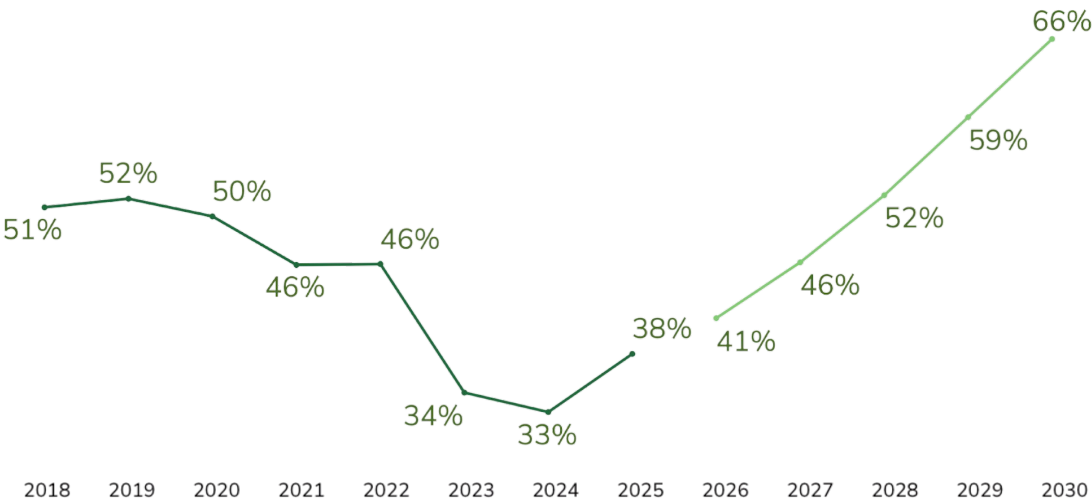
FY 2030

66% (535 students) will be proficient readers

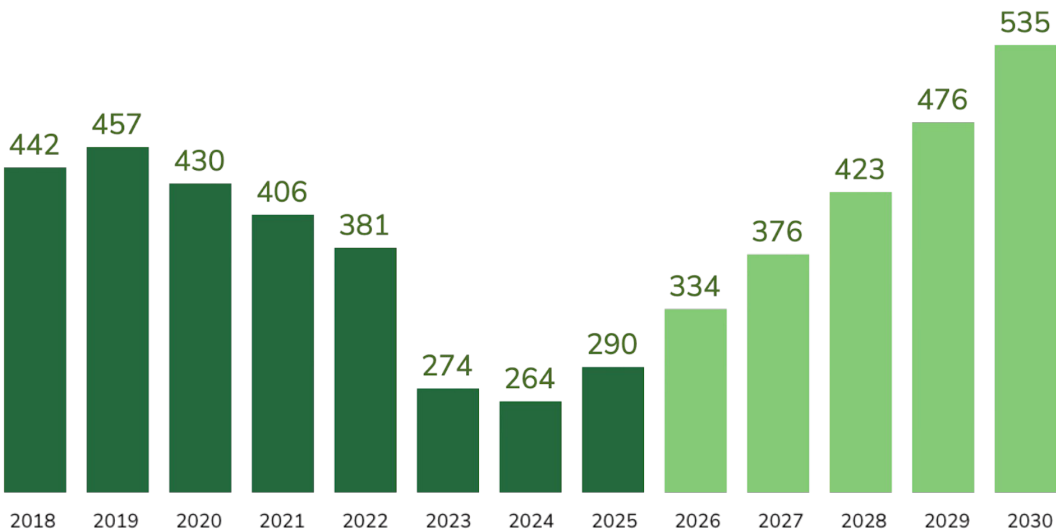
6 in 10



Percentage of Norwalk Children



Number of Norwalk Children



Partner Spotlight: Early Grade Literacy

Wesley Younts

Director of the Center for Social Research; Associate Professor
University of Hartford

UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD

CENTER FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH RESEARCH

Employment

FY 2024

71% (3,215 young families) earned a self-sustaining wage

7 in 10



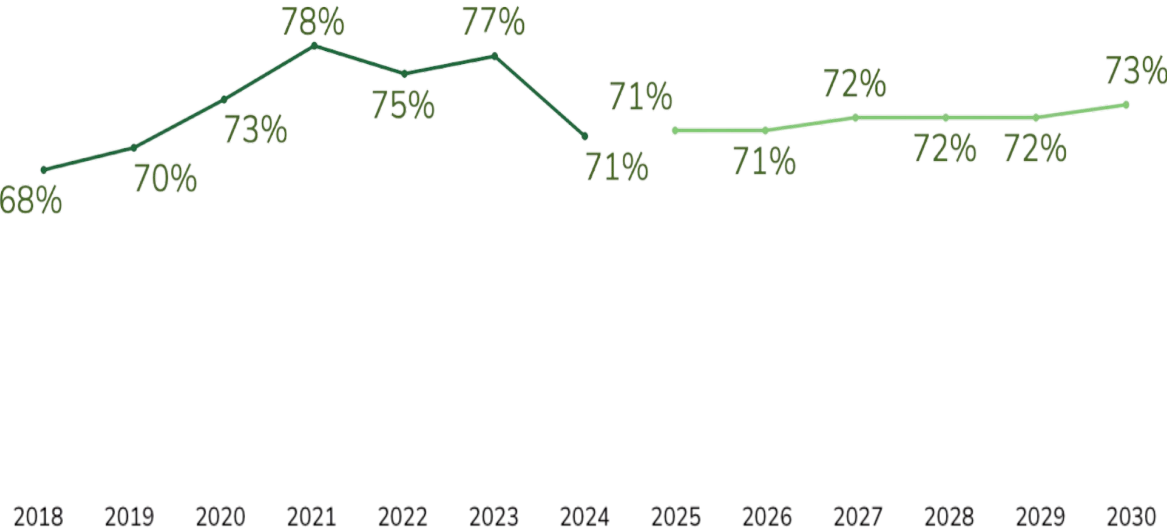
FY 2030

73% (3,307 young families) will earn a self-sustaining wage

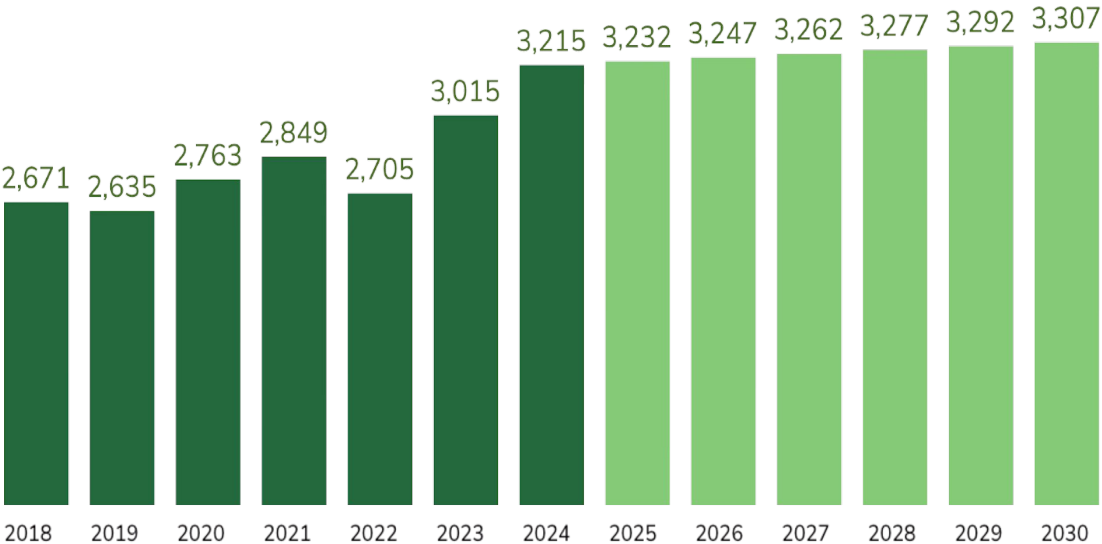
7 in 10



Percentage of Norwalk Children



Number of Norwalk Children



Partner Spotlight: Employment

Marcus Paca

Director - Workforce/ Career Development
Northwell/Nuvance Health



Social Emotional Health's Impact on Milestones



Gallery Walk Activity

Write your responses on post-its to these three questions and place them next to the milestones that resonate with you:

What strengths exists in our community? **BLUE**

What are the gaps and challenges in advancing this outcome? **PINK**

What role or commitment do you play or could play in advancing this outcome? **GREEN**

Table Discussion Questions

Share what resonated from the gallery walk:

What strengths exists in our community? What can we celebrate?

What are the gaps and challenges in advancing this outcome? Any surprises?

What role or commitment do you play or could play in advancing this outcome? What will you do next?

Upcoming Events

Norwalk ACTS Community Mindfulness Project

Norwalk Parents

RESET

at

Sunset

A monthly mindfulness meditation program for all parents in our Norwalk community.

These 1-hour programs offer time to unwind, reset, and connect through secular mindfulness practices.

No experience needed.

RSVP
See our Events Calendar to Register
<https://bit.ly/NACTSCalendar>

SoNo Library
10 Washington St.
Norwalk, CT

October 7, 2025
November 3, 2025
December 1, 2025
6-7 PM



Norwalk ACTS

Early Childhood Development



Early Childhood Development Initiative Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2025
2:00 - 3:30 PM

Family & Children's Agency
66 Bayview Avenue
(2nd floor Conference Room)
Norwalk, CT

Please join us to learn, share and collaborate about Early Childhood Development work within our Norwalk community.

Any questions?
Contact us
info@norwalkacts.org

RSVP




<https://bit.ly/ECDIOctober2025>



Norwalk ACTS

Social Emotional Health



Social Emotional Health Initiative Meeting

Friday, October 17, 2025
11:00 - 12:30 PM


Youth Business Initiative
11 Belden Ave.

Calling all youth-serving adults in Norwalk!

Join the SEH Initiative to connect, learn about the upcoming Day of Training and explore how to shape future efforts together.

Any questions?
Contact us
info@norwalkacts.org

RSVP



<https://bit.ly/SEHOctMeeting>



Upcoming Events



in collaboration with
Center for Youth Leadership



BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATE FORUM

**October 21, 2025
6 - 7:30 PM**

Join us for a virtual student-led discussion with leaders who are stepping up to serve the students and families of Norwalk Public Schools

Register for Zoom Link



<https://bit.ly/2025BOEForum>



General Election - Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025

Norwalk ACTS

RETIREMENT *Celebration*

Honoring
Paula Palermo



October 28, 2025 | 5:30 - 7:30 PM

Coals Pizza
9 Wall Street
Norwalk, CT



RSVP



<https://bit.ly/CelebratePaula>



Data for Democracy Convening

Bridging Data Gaps & Building Community Connections: Norwalk



Join **Norwalk ACTS** and **CTData** for an in-person event on navigating today's changing data landscape. Hear from national and local experts, share solutions in group discussions, and connect with peers to strengthen our community's use of reliable data.



Thursday, October 30, 2025

10:30 AM - 12 Noon

Norwalk Public Library

1 Belden Avenue, Norwalk



Meeta Anand, Senior Program Director for Census & Data Equity at The Leadership Conference Education Fund



Brian Weeks, City of Norwalk's Program Director of Epidemiology and Informatics



Bonnie Smith, CEO of B. Weyland Smith Consulting

Learn more
and RSVP



<https://bit.ly/CTDataNorwalk>


Whether you're a nonprofit leader, data professional, or simply passionate about evidence-based social change, you'll gain new insights, valuable resources, and stronger connections. Let's create a more resilient, informed, and connected data ecosystem in Norwalk.



7 Episodes Out Now Mayor Candidate Series: Launching Soon

Norwalk ACTS

Norwalk Talks




Episode #6
Let's talk about a safe place for kids in our schools with Kids in Crisis Counselors Ed Milton & Chitra Suresh

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Norwalk Talks

Episode Launching Sept 5th



Episode #7
Manresa WILDS: A once in a lifetime opportunity for all of Norwalk with Jessica Vonashek, Executive Director of Manresa Island

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Norwalk Talks

Launching Soon!



4 EPISODES
Collective Impact starts with building a relationship: Get to know the 2025 Norwalk Candidates for Mayor

How Did We Do?

Please provide feedback



Norwalk ACTS



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