

Our moonshot: charting a brighter future for children in Ohio and across the United States

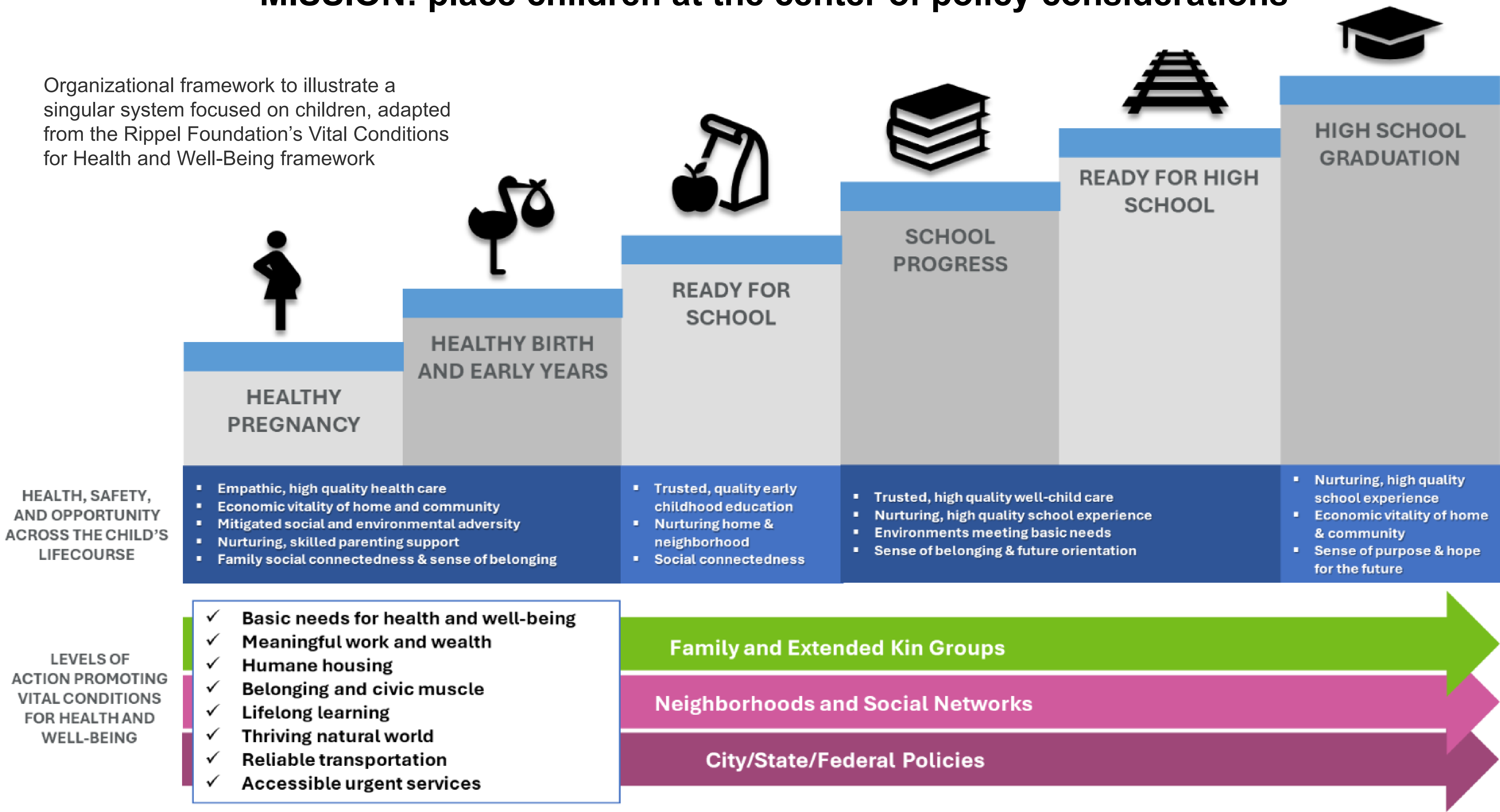
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VISION: the US (and Ohio) will be the best place for all children to be born, grow, and live

MISSION: place children at the center of policy considerations

Organizational framework to illustrate a singular system focused on children, adapted from the Rippel Foundation's Vital Conditions for Health and Well-Being framework



Background

- Vast differences in how much countries spend on programs for children
- In the US, as % of GDP:
 - Adult health = 43%
 - Defense spending = 13%
 - Interest on fed. debt = 11%
 - Child health = 9%**
- As a result, child health in the US suffers
 - Increased infant and child mortality
 - Decreased educational attainment
 - Decreased well-being
- National, state, local investments in child health as our "Moonshot"
 - Policy solutions directed toward "vital conditions" to affect child health, safety, and opportunity

Next Steps

- Organize and measure for action
- Leverage pre-existing measurement structures
- Track progress (or regress) across health outcomes and sectors
 - Health care
 - Public health
 - Education
 - Justice
 - Immigration
 - Social welfare
- Complement national data with granular state and local measures
- Disaggregate measures to ensure equitable implementation
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Language
 - Geography (county, city, neighborhood)
- Consistent collaboration
 - Public health agencies
 - Children's hospitals
 - Schools
 - Local welfare offices

Pregnancy / Perinatal

GOAL: PREVENT PREGNANCY COMPLICATIONS, MATERNAL DEATHS

- HEALTH
 - Continuous health insurance
 - Evidence-based home visiting programs
 - Community-based health workers
 - Accessible, high-quality prenatal care
- SAFETY
 - Enhanced gun safety
 - Improved air quality
 - Affordable, high-quality housing
- OPPORTUNITY
 - Paid family and medical leave of at least 6 weeks
 - Raised minimum wage
 - Reduced administrative burden for social support programs

Early Years

GOAL: OPTIMIZE PHYSICAL AND COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR CHILDREN < 5 YEARS

- HEALTH
 - Early intervention services and parental well-being
 - Nutrition support (access to healthy food and breastfeeding programs)
 - Disease prevention (robust health workforce, available medicines, preventive care supports and incentives)
- SAFETY
 - Child abuse prevention programs
 - Safe places to play
- OPPORTUNITY
 - Affordable and accessible childcare
 - High-quality early learning programs
 - Healthcare-based social care services (food, transportation, housing)

School Age

GOAL: PROMOTE OPTIMAL CHILD AND CAREGIVER PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

- HEALTH
 - Alternative care delivery models (telehealth, mobile health, school-based health)
 - School-based physical, mental, and social care services
- SAFETY
 - Evidence-based programs for violence and injury reduction
 - Avoid policies which inflict trauma on children (family separation, deportation, armed conflict)
- OPPORTUNITY
 - Reduced missed school days for students and missed workdays for caregivers
 - Equitable education funding

Entering the Workforce

GOAL: PREPARE STUDENTS TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL AND ENTER ADULTHOOD

- HEALTH
 - Health literacy and education
 - Comprehensive sex education and infection prevention
 - Coping skills, problem-solving, and emotional management
 - Substance use disorder prevention, early intervention, and treatment
- SAFETY
 - Strengthened support systems, including mentorship and caring adults
- OPPORTUNITY
 - Promote youth agency and engagement in health, economic, and civic programs

According to President Kennedy, choosing to go to the moon served "to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills." An aspirational vision for child health could be similarly catalytic.

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