



# COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

21<sup>st</sup> Century Systems Approach to Economic Mobility



**METROPOLITAN SOCIAL SERVICES**  
Strategic Planning and Research

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Metropolitan Social Services

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Deputy Mayor, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County



Metropolitan Social Services

# Abdelghani Barre

## Metropolitan Social Services



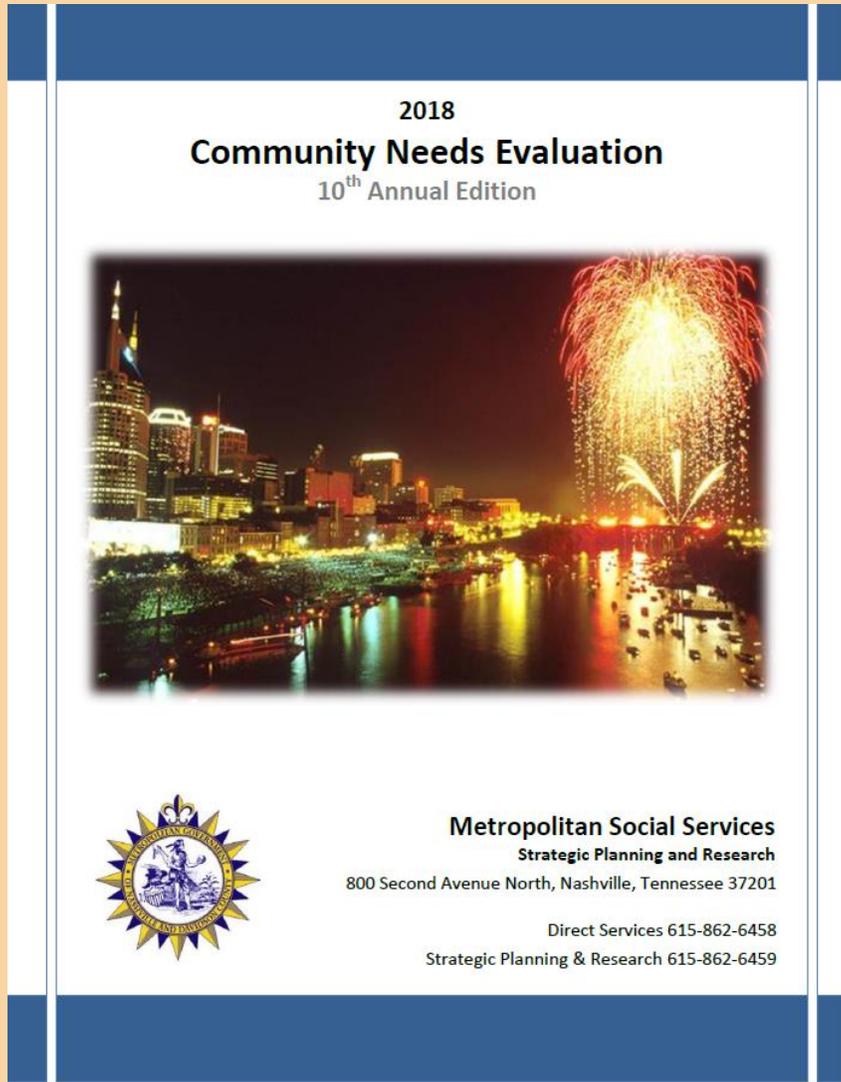
# Dr. Garrett Harper

## Metropolitan Social Services



# 10 years of Community Assessment

## COMMUNITY NEEDS EVALUATION



- Lessons
- Observations
- Realizations
- Conclusions



# State of Poverty

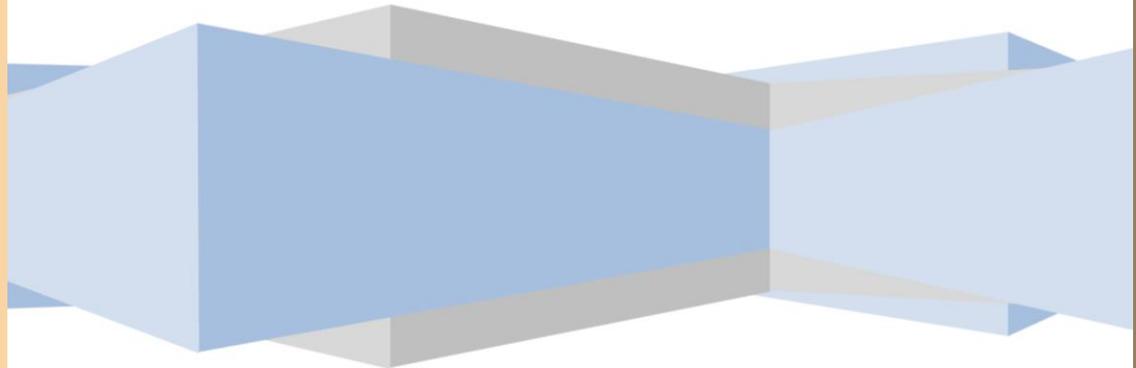
**MORE TO  
UNDERSTAND**

February 2010

NASHVILLE'S POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVE PLAN

## Nashville's Poverty Reduction Initiative Plan

Executive Summary & Action Committee  
Reports



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GAP

Knowledge  
Understanding  
Response  
Direction

MORE to UNDERSTAND

Depth  
Magnitude  
Persistence  
Structures

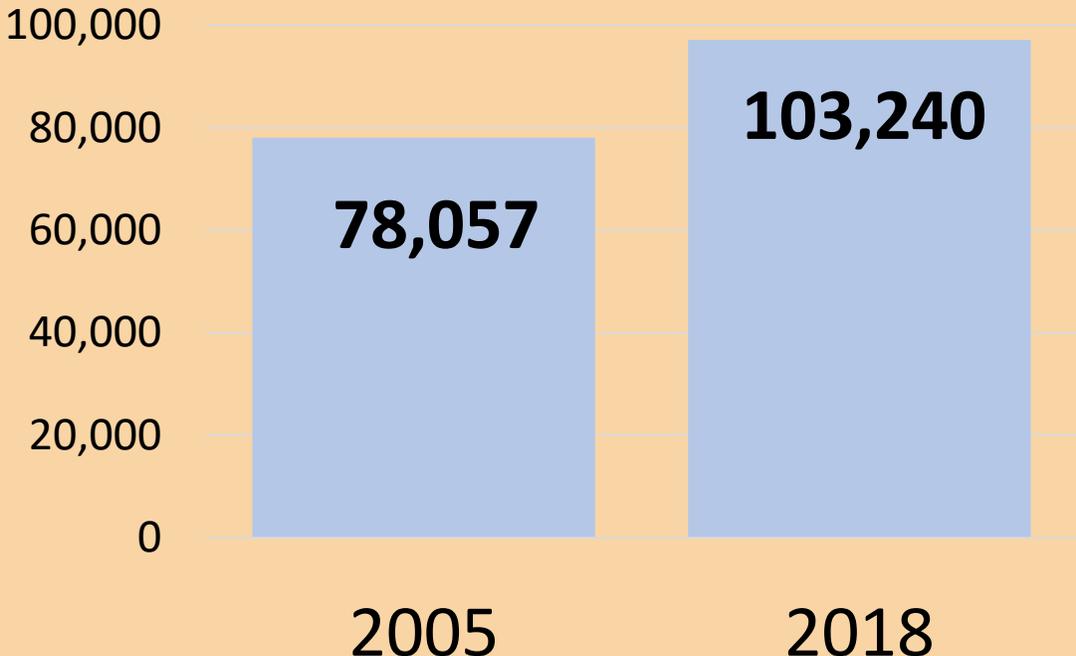
of Poverty

*‘Currently, **four** out of **ten** adults in the US would have to borrow or sell something to obtain **\$400** for an emergency’* US Federal Reserve, 2018



# Ten Years of Unparalleled Prosperity

### Davidson County Poverty



# 2.6%

unemployment rate  
Davidson County, 2018

200,000 Nashvillians live below 200% of poverty line

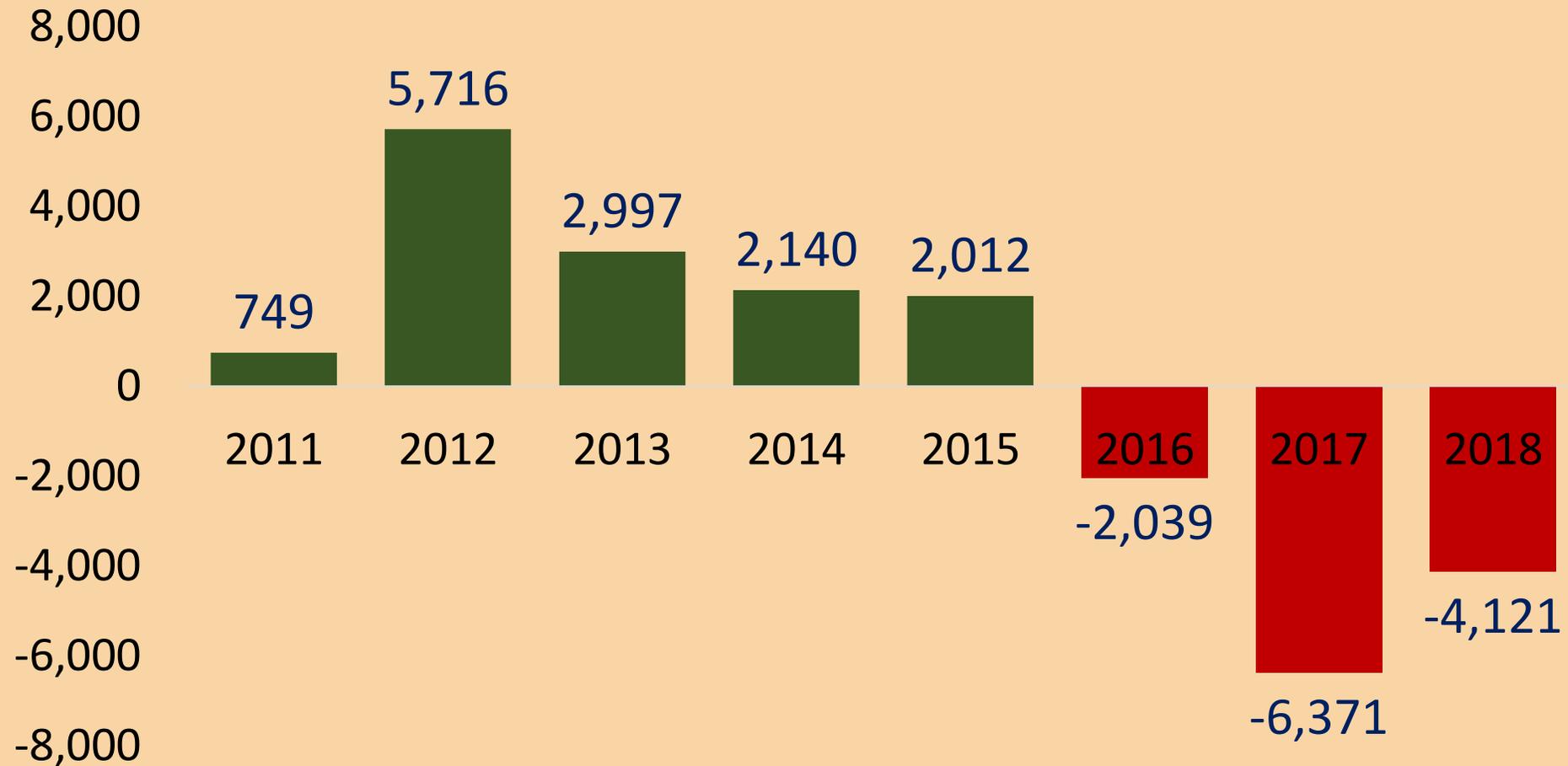
# Why **Jobs** and **Education** ALONE won't end financial hardship

## **POVERTY**

- Student Debt
- Retirement Needs
- Childcare Costs
- Low Wages
- Transportation Costs
- Health Costs
- Housing Costs



# Net Migration to Davidson County to/from rest of U.S.



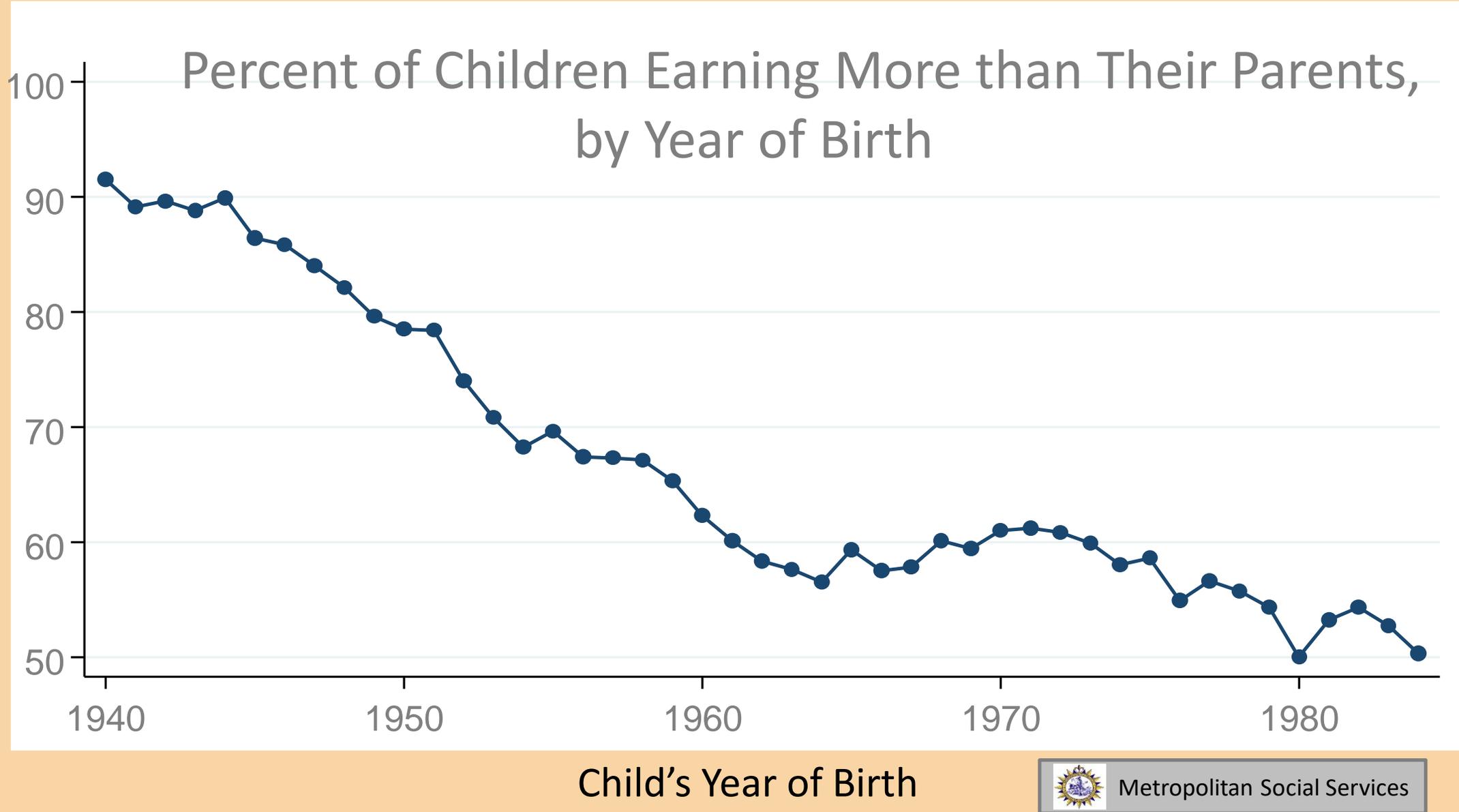
# The nature of work is changing



Polarizing  
Bifurcating  
Skewing  
Altering  
Reshaping

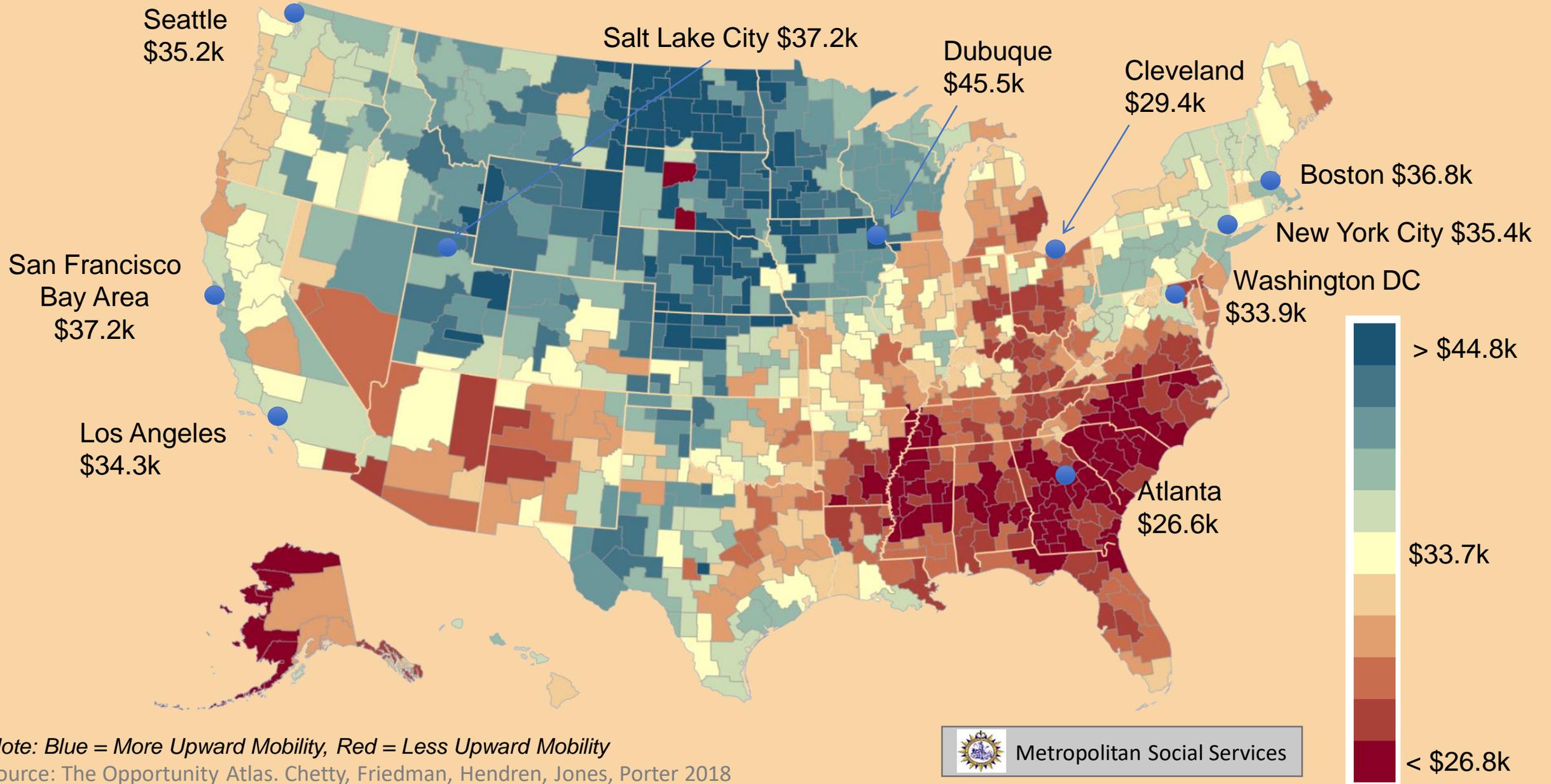
## Skills and earnings

# The Fading American Dream



# The Geography of Upward Mobility in the U.S.

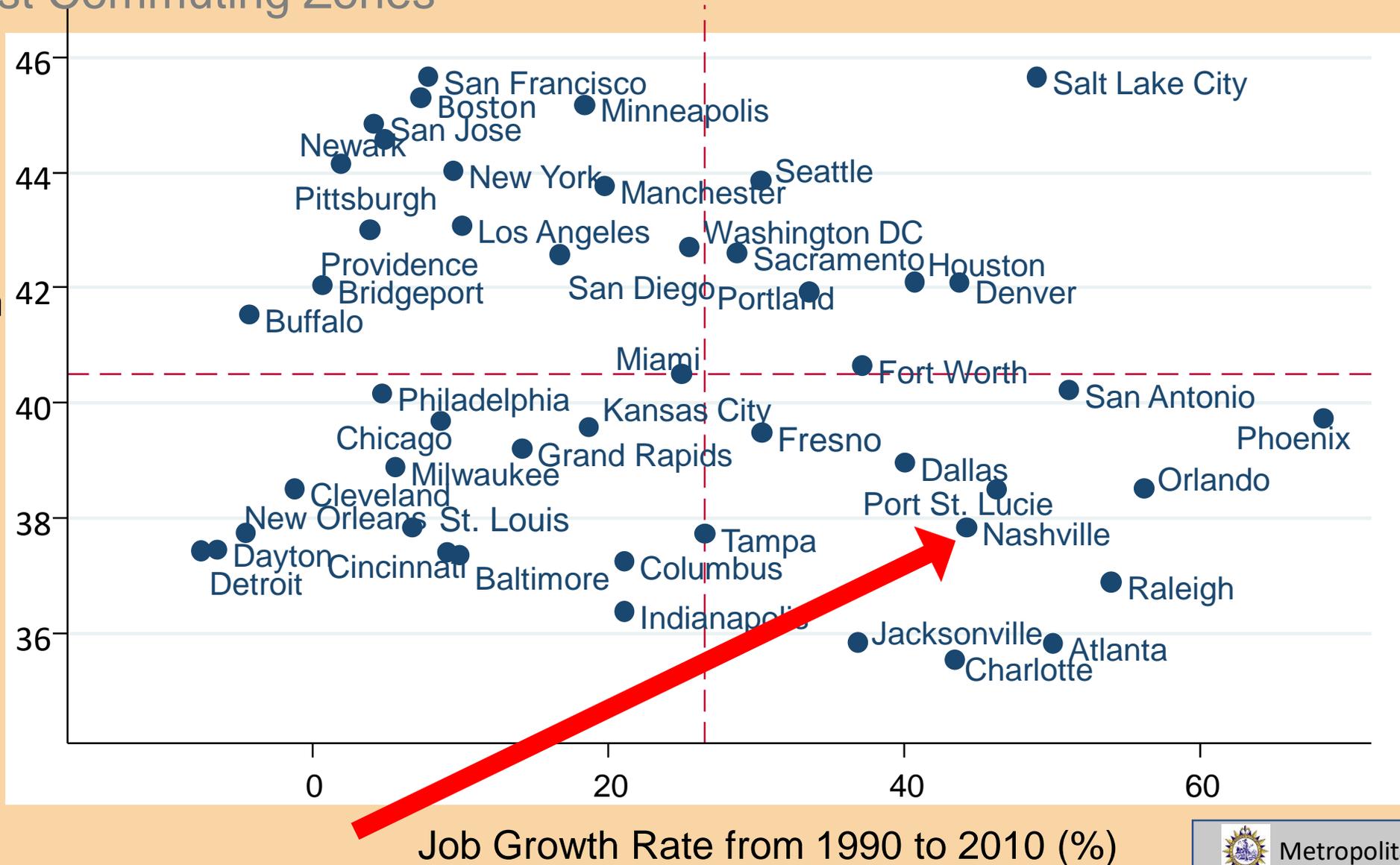
Average Household Income for Children with Parents Earning \$27,000 (25<sup>th</sup> percentile)



# Upward Mobility vs. Job Growth

in 50 Largest Commuting Zones

Children's Mean Household Income Rank Given Parents at 25th Pctile



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Source: The Opportunity Atlas

# Policy Interest

Increase Upward Mobility

Recent research shifts attention on poverty to

Income mobility

and

Role of childhood environment



# Economic Mobility

## KEY FINDINGS

A **booming economy** does *not* necessarily lead to increased upward mobility for local children.

Growing up in a higher-mobility area has **causal effect** on children's outcomes in adulthood.



# Equitable Investment

FOSTERS ECONOMIC MOBILITY



Education

Land use

Transportation

Health

Housing



# SYSTEMS APPROACH to Economic Wellbeing

**Mobility**

**Stability**

**Fragility**



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# MORE PROGRAMS



MORE of 'What Works'



MORE Clear & Purposeful Analysis



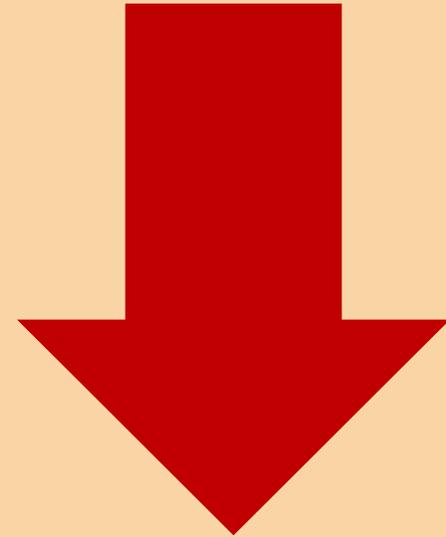
MORE Efficient & Effective Results



The

EFFECTIVE  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEMONSTRATED  
COST-EFFICIENT

Bottom Line



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*= What matters*



# Solutions point in a New Direction

Guiding a strategic vision and voice about

**Economic Mobility**

and

**A new understanding of Wellbeing**



# Broad-based Vision of Community Wellbeing

EDUCATION

WORKFORCE

DIVERSITY

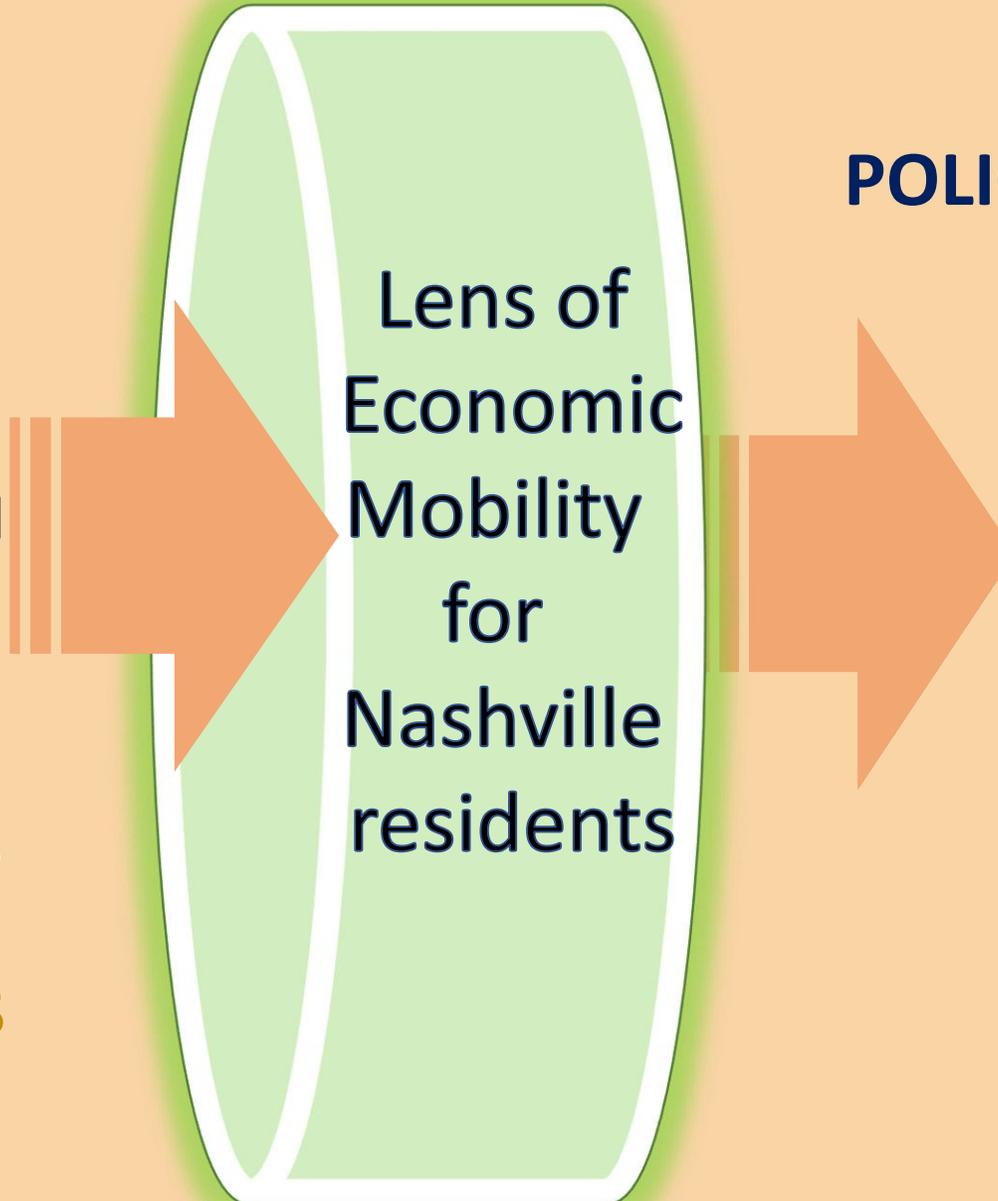
TRANSPORTATION

HOUSING

HUMAN SERVICES

NEIGHBORHOODS

WELL-BEING



## POLICIES & PROGRAMS THAT ARE

- ✓ Aligned
- ✓ Cohesive & Coherent
- ✓ Effective
- ✓ Efficient
- ✓ Evidence-based
- ✓ Community-informed
- ✓ Adapted to Nashville needs
- ✓ Sustainable



A Lake  
Pool of Data  
Stream  
Ocean  
Lagoon



*Systematic Data Management*



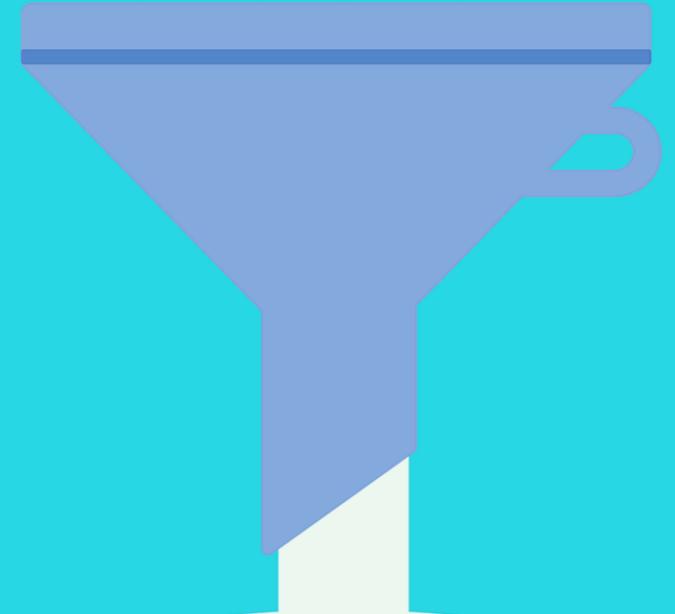
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# Analytics for Social and Economic Wellbeing

- ✓ Learn from User Experiences
- ✓ Discern Patterns & Trends
- ✓ Predictive Analytics for Services



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# A Systems Approach

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Alone is not Sufficient

ECONOMIC MOBILITY

New Research & Understanding Emerging

DATA & ANALYSIS

Purposeful, Applied, Multidisciplinary Research

EQUITABLE PUBLIC INVESTMENTS

Data-informed 'What Works'



# Discussion Panel

Moderator    Dr. Ken Chilton    Tennessee State University

Danielle Barnes    Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Human Services

Tari Hughes    CEO, Center for Nonprofit Management

Dr. Doug Perkins    Peabody College of Vanderbilt University

Brian Hassett    President and CEO, United Way of Nashville

Carole Peterson    UPRISE, West End Community Church





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