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STAMFORD RECOGNIZED FOR GETTING BETTER RESULTS FOR YOUTH

Stamford, Conn. — In recognition of its impact on the lives of youth across Stamford, StriveTogether designated Stamford Cradle to Career as a “Systems Change” Cradle to Career Network member. This designation is reserved for community partnerships that are shifting policies, practices, resources, and power structures to advance equitable outcomes for youth and families of color and those experiencing poverty.

Stamford Cradle to Career is part of a national movement to help every child succeed in school and in life, regardless of race, ethnicity, zip code or circumstance. The StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network is closing gaps and creating opportunities across education, health, housing and more. Stamford Cradle to Career is demonstrating clear evidence that Stamford is changing these systems to advance equity and improve results.

“I’m thrilled to announce Stamford as our most recent community to prove it’s making a measurable difference for every child,” StriveTogether President and CEO Jennifer Blatz said. “Stamford Cradle to Career is a catalyst for change in the City of Stamford. Their work connects partners across the community and provides the data necessary to better support kids and families. Reaching the Systems Change milestone is a key step toward putting more young people on the path to economic mobility.”

Earning the Systems Change designation is a significant milestone, indicating a higher level of integration and impact in the community. To achieve this designation, Stamford Cradle to Career demonstrated its expertise in facilitating data use, implementing targeted supports such as Bridge to College, and engaging family members as critical partners.

The commitment to amplify parents and students' voices is crucial. By including diverse perspectives, systemic changes are well-informed and responsive to community needs. Stamford Cradle to Career aims to foster more collaborative and effective community development by actively involving parents and students in decision-making processes.

Stamford Cradle to Career started when Stamford came together with a shared mission: to support the success of every child, cradle to career. Over 100 cross-sector representatives serve

as partners in this work, including the school district superintendent, higher education administrators, early childhood educators, business and philanthropic leaders, community and corporate funders, and government officials.

To join the national Cradle to Career Network, communities complete an assessment of their civic infrastructure development. This process measures progress against a continuum of quality benchmarks, known as the StriveTogether Theory of Action™. This [proven framework](#) has five designations — Exploring, Emerging, Sustaining, Systems Change and Systems Transformation — that indicate progress toward aligning resources around better and more equitable outcomes for youth.

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About StriveTogether

[StriveTogether](#) partners with nearly 70 communities across the country, providing coaching, resources and rigorous approaches to create opportunities and close gaps in education, housing and so much more. Together, the StriveTogether Cradle to Career Network impacts the lives of more than 14 million youth — including more than 8 million children of color and 6 million children living in poverty — across 30 states and Washington, D.C.

About Stamford Cradle to Career

[Stamford Cradle to Career](#) (SC2C) is a collective impact partnership with a solid and committed cross-sector collaboration that is based on the nationally recognized StriveTogether Cradle to Career Framework in creating a community-wide partnership. It is a road map to change and a new way for community stakeholders to work together. The overarching goal of Stamford Cradle to Career is to collectively align community resources to ensure that all youth succeed in education, career, and life because successful children lead to a vibrant and thriving community. The partnership convenes over one hundred volunteers from the community, non-profit agencies, Stamford Public Schools, the City of Stamford, and the business community to create, align, implement, assess, and grow interventions that support the educational success of children and their families.

United Way of Coastal and Western Connecticut is serving as the anchor and backbone entity providing management and fiscal support for the partnership. For more information about the StriveTogether Framework, visit: www.strivetogether.org. For more information about SC2C, visit www.stamfordc2c.org. Like us on [Facebook](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#). Follow us on [Instagram](#).