



A Letter from our Chairs

We had an exciting 2024 Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI) Economic Mobility Summit on December 9th.

During this summit, we explored ways to collectively enhance upward mobility opportunities for families living in poverty. Participants learned about a comprehensive, integrated system of social supports designed to empower families as they advanced economically. We discussed the development of a community-driven, data-informed effort that enables system leaders to collaborate in strengthening our local ecosystem, increasing financial stability for families, and dismantling public policies that perpetuate racial, geographical, and other forms of inequity within our workforce, healthcare, education, and criminal justice systems.

We are dedicated to challenging mental models and shifting embedded social narratives that shaped policies, institutional practices, and resource flows. We are also committed to finding sustainable solutions with those most affected, keeping families at the center of our work, and strengthening the relationships between service providers and the families we served.

Thank you for partnering with us for this Summit. Together, we can continue to shape solutions that will encourage the workforce of the future and ensure that every child and family has the opportunity to live in a community where the promise of economic success becomes a reality.



Barbara Cox Gerlock, PhD
Palm Beach County Chair
Citizens Advisory Committee



Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor
CEO, Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County
Birth to 22 Alliance Steering Committee Co-Chair



Elisa Cramer
Director, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department
Birth to 22 Alliance Steering Committee Co-Chair



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Channel 5 News Story

Over 420 people were in
attendance



\$50,800

Raised to support
Securing Our Future
families



Percentage of participants that
were satisfied or very satisfied
with the overall summit



Nearly 100 people registered
for the Citizens Advisory
Committee retreat

Increased awareness about current initiatives
designed to advance upward economic mobility
opportunities for low income families in PBC



OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Stronger Together: Empowering Local Community Networks to Advance Economic Mobility

During this session, participants discussed how leveraging the Urban Institute's Upward Mobility framework could drive economic mobility across Palm Beach County. Attendees explored tools from Opportunity Insights, the National Association of Counties, and Results for America, examining strategies for effectively utilizing these resources to promote upward economic mobility. The session highlighted how tracking community conditions and reviewing key predictors and indicators can empower local networks to achieve economic growth. It provided a comprehensive overview of how all systems work together to create an opportunity ecosystem. Following this, the workshop sessions delved deeper into each system or domain, discussing how government, foundations, nonprofits, and the business community are collaborating to build a stronger, more prosperous community.



Keith Fudge
Director of Policy Management
Urban Institute



Jennifer Kuiper
**Program Director, Resilient Economies
and Communities,**
National Association of Counties



Fabiola "Fab" Brumley
President
Bank of America Palm Beach County





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SAFETY & JUSTICE

Life After Incarceration: Navigating the Challenges of Re-Entry to Promote Economic Mobility

In this session, we explored the various barriers and existing policies that hinder individuals from successfully gaining employment upon re-entering society. Participants engaged in discussions and discovered best practices aimed at reducing fines and fees, advancing economic mobility for formerly incarcerated individuals and their families, and fostering supportive employer practices. Topics included policy recommendations that promote fair hiring practices and enhance economic prospects for citizens re-entering the community.



Brett Taylor
Senior Advisor, Community Justice Team
WorldCenter for Justice Innovation



Freddie Menard
Assistant State Attorney
*Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office -
15th Judicial Circuit*



Daniel Eisinger
Public Defender - Elect
Public Defender's Office - Palm Beach County



Jesssica Hidalgo
Manager
Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Systems



Angelique J. Pickett
Executive Director
Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission





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FOOD & HUNGER

Cultivating Prosperity: Harnessing the Power of Food Systems for Economic Mobility

We uncovered the transformative potential of the food system in driving economic mobility. From strengthening food infrastructure to fostering culinary entrepreneurship, we explored strategies to combat food insecurity and enhance economic prospects.

Insights into ongoing community projects and expert-endorsed best practices were shared, along with initiatives that boost earning potential. Local endeavors empowering individuals through vocational culinary training and promoting economic equity in the food sector were also highlighted.



Florence French Fagan
Senior Regional Organizer for the Southeast
Bread for the World



Jamie Kendall
Chief Executive Officer
Palm Beach County Food Bank



Julie Kreaflle
Consultant
United Way Palm Beach County



Taruna Malhotra
Deputy Director
Palm Beach County Community Services Department





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SECURING OUR FUTURE ECONOMIC MOBILITY SUMMIT

Building Pathways For Upward Mobility

EMPLOYMENT

Empowerment Pathways: Paving the Way to Economic Independence

In this session, we explored a myriad of innovative approaches aimed at fostering employment and economic empowerment within our community. We spotlighted initiatives such as Circles and Prosperity Centers, programs dedicated to assisting those living in poverty by offering comprehensive wrap-around services, including employment skills training and social capital development to facilitate their transition out of poverty. Concepts like universal income, pre-employment training, work readiness training, and financial literacy were also discussed. This session provided an opportunity to explore these initiatives and their role in promoting economic mobility and empowerment within our community.



Tiffney Marley
Senior Vice President
*Practice Transformation National
Community Action Partnership*



Kemberly Bush
Chief Executive Officer
Pathways to Prosperity



Kelly Powell
Chief Executive Officer
Community Partners of South Florida



Julia Dattolo
President & CEO
Career Source Palm Beach County, Inc.





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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Health is Wealth: Advancing Health Equity Through Economic Mobility

This session focused on the critical intersection of health and economic stability, emphasizing how improving economic mobility can lead to better health outcomes for individuals and families, particularly those facing significant barriers. Participants explored innovative pilot initiatives and proven best practices aimed at supporting the physical and behavioral health needs of families living in poverty and individuals transitioning back to the community from treatment centers and jails. Valuable insights were shared, experiences were exchanged, and collaboration took place among participants committed to advancing health equity through economic mobility.



Dr. Eugenia Millender
Professor and Assistant Dean of Research
Florida State University



Darcy Davis
President & Chief Executive Officer
Health Care District of Palm Beach County



Dr. Jyothi Gunta
Health Director
*Florida Department of Health
Palm Beach County*



Andrea Stephenson
Chief Executive Officer
Health Council of Southeast Florida





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SECURING OUR FUTURE ECONOMIC MOBILITY SUMMIT

Building Pathways For Upward Mobility

LUNCH PLENARY

Poverty, Place and Race: Exploring the Legacy of Persistent Poverty in PBC

We hosted a compelling plenary session addressing the interconnected issues of poverty, race, and place and their impact on upward economic mobility. Participants explored the racial wealth gap, policies that perpetuate poverty, and innovative investment strategies to revitalize neighborhoods. Promising initiatives such as the Purpose Built Community model, which fosters public-private partnerships for community revitalization, were highlighted. Misconceptions about racial economic progress were addressed, and interventions were examined to provide clearer insights into economic disparities. This session reimagined the power of place to foster economic opportunity and growth, paving the way for a brighter, more equitable future.



Dr. LesLeigh Ford
**Associate Director of Office of Race
& Equity Research**
Urban Institute



Upendo Shabazz
Chief Executive Officer
Northend RISE



Raphael Clemente
Executive Director
Palm Beach Venture Philanthropy





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CHILDCARE

Nurturing Success: Exploring Childcare Solutions to Advance Economic Mobility

We delved into the critical topic of childcare and its profound impact on early childhood development and intergenerational income mobility. Participants explored innovative approaches such as employer-sponsored childcare and the pivotal role it plays in supporting working families. The discussion highlighted the significance of early childcare in shaping future opportunities for children and families. Local organizations were spotlighted for their tireless efforts to provide quality childcare services to our community. Additionally, policies and programs aimed at enhancing access to affordable childcare for families in need were discussed. This session provided an opportunity to learn, engage, and advocate for solutions that empower children and families for a brighter future.



Makayla Buchanan
Director of Early Learning and Literacy
Florida Chamber Foundation



Laura Conway
Executive Director
Lutheran Services Florida Head Start - Palm Beach County



Dr. Lisa Williams-Taylor
Chief Executive Officer
Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County



Aruna Gilbert
Chief Program and Policy Officer
Early Learning Coalition





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TRANSPORTATION

Navigating the Road Ahead: Advancing Transportation for Economic Mobility

We hosted an insightful discussion on transportation and its pivotal role in fostering economic mobility within our communities. Participants explored the current state of transportation infrastructure, including potential enhancements such as new bus stops and other changes aimed at improving accessibility. Innovative initiatives that foster collaboration between the public and private sectors to enhance transportation services were highlighted. Best practices from across the nation were shared, addressing transportation challenges and promoting equitable access for all. This session provided an opportunity to contribute to the creation of a more inclusive transportation system for our communities.



Ivan Maldonado
Executive Director
Palm Tran



Valerie Nielsen
Executive Director
*Palm Beach Transportation
Planning Agency*



David Dech
Executive Director
*South Florida Regional Transportation
Authority*



Sharon L'Herrou
President & CEO
211 Palm Beach/Treasure Coast





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EDUCATION

Bridging the Gap: Enhancing Education for Employment in the Digital Age

We hosted an enlightening session on empowering tomorrow's workforce, today. Participants explored education's role in addressing the skills gap and preparing individuals for the evolving workforce demands. Strategies were discussed for identifying and focusing on the essential skills needed by potential employers and collaborating with the educational system to integrate them into tailored curricula. The session also delved into the realm of AI and Cybersecurity, highlighting the certifications required to increase employment opportunities in these growing fields. Best practices were shared from national partners and communities actively working to bridge the gap between education and employment, offering invaluable insights into effective strategies for success. This session provided an opportunity to contribute to shaping the future of education and employment in the digital age.



Dr. Adam Phyll III
**Director of Professional Learning
& Leadership**
All4Ed



Dr. Ava Parker
President
Palm Beach State College



Michael J. Burke
Superintendent
School District of Palm Beach County



Michele Jacobs
President & CEO
Economic Council of Palm Beach County





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SECURING OUR FUTURE ECONOMIC MOBILITY SUMMIT

Building Pathways For Upward Mobility

HOUSING

Creating Homes, Creating Futures: A Collective Effort to Increase Economic Mobility via Access to Affordable Housing

We held a vital discussion on housing as an essential need and the collective efforts underway to increase housing accessibility and affordability in Palm Beach County. Participants explored strategies to leverage housing initiatives to advance economic independence and stabilize communities. Topics included the effective utilization of the Housing Dashboard, homeless prevention strategies focusing on eviction prevention, and other initiatives aimed at increasing access to affordable housing. Insights were shared on collaborative efforts with Housing Authorities, emphasizing governance and boosting economic mobility through self-sufficiency models to end homelessness for families across our community. The discussion also highlighted the importance of sealing eviction records for housing stability and economic prosperity. This event provided an opportunity to address housing challenges and work toward building a better future for our communities.



Ashon Nesbitt
Chief Executive Officer
Florida Housing Coalition



Suzanne Cabrera
President & CEO
*Housing Leadership Council of
Palm Beach County, Inc.*



Wendy Tippet
Director
*Palm Beach County Human Services
and Community Action*



Jonathan Brown
Director
*Palm Beach County Housing &
Economic Development*



**Scan for Expanded
Speaker Biographies**





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CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

Building Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Health and Human Services: Addressing Current Challenges and Exploring Future Opportunities

We closed our Summit with the crucial topic and discussion of building Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Health and Human Services to advance economic mobility. Participants explored how AI and other existing technologies could be leveraged to address current challenges and unlock future opportunities in the health and human services sector. During this final session, we discussed innovative strategies and potential applications of AI to enhance service delivery, improve client outcomes, and streamline administrative processes. This session provided an opportunity to be at the forefront of revolutionizing the health and human services sector through the integration of AI.



Ronnie Thomas
Specialist Leader - Strategy & Analytics, Deloitte Consulting
Deloitte Consulting



Archie Satchell
Chief Information Officer
Palm Beach County



Taruna Malhotra
Deputy Director
Palm Beach County Community Services Department





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About the Securing Our Future Initiative

The Securing Our Future Initiative (SOFI) was developed through the Birth to 22 Alliance as a strategy to facilitate the financial upward mobility of our families to ensure our youth have the resources they need to thrive in our community. Palm Beach County Community Services Department answered the call to lead this collective-impact, poverty-reduction initiative. As a well-respected Health and Human Services funder in Palm Beach County, the Community Services Department acknowledged they had the opportunity to engage local nonprofit organizations in the work of SOFI so they designed outcomes for SOFI and released a Request for Proposals to appoint community organizations that could conduct activities yielding the poverty-reducing outcomes identified. Following the Request for Proposals, a number of organizations were selected to participate in the Securing Our Future Initiative.

As you will see on the next page, the Securing Our Future Initiative has made strides in reducing childhood poverty in Palm Beach County. We have accomplished much and acknowledge there is still much more work to do. We are proud to collaborate with our local community to achieve a 10% reduction of childhood poverty over the next 10 years.

Direct Service Providers:



Support Service Providers:



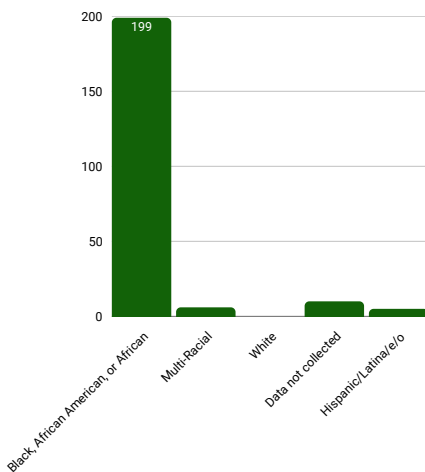
Marking Progress

Insights from the Securing Our Future Initiative

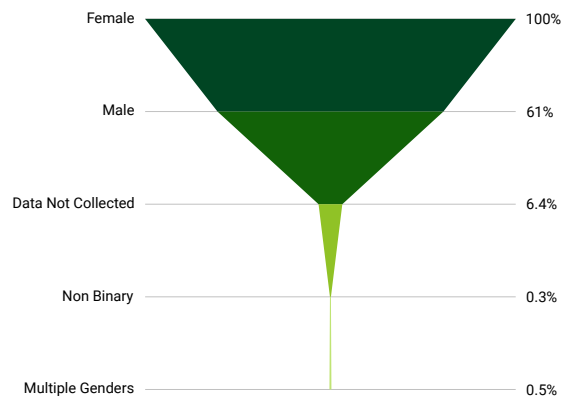
667



Total Number of Families Served
(Households served 2021-2023)



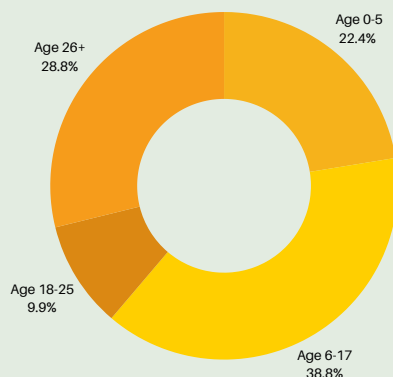
**FY23
Number of
Clients
by Race**



**FY23
Clients
by
Gender**



**FY23 SOFI
Clients: Age**



**FY23
SOFI
Clients
per Zip
Codes**



FY23 Average SSM Score



↑41%

Household Income Increase in FY23

Join the Initiative!

- **Support SOFI Families**
 - **Become an Ally**
 - **Participate in the CAC Retreat**
-



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Opportunity Ecosystem



Citizens Advisory Board
Health & Human Services Element

Birth-to-22 Alliance
Youth Master Plan

Palm Health Foundation
*Healthier Together
Open Table*



Scan to see the *Health and Human Services Element*

Various Reports & Plans

Florida ALICE Report
Health & Human Services Element
Housing Plan for All
Leading the Way Home
Housing Dashboard
Dept. of Housing & Economic Development Plan
Community Health Improvement Plan
Behavioral Health & SUD Master Plan
Hunger Relief Plan
Youth Master Plan
Transportation Plan



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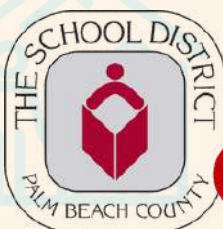
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Jewish Federation
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY





WHO WE ARE

Palm Beach Venture Philanthropy's (PBVP) primary goal is to support and enhance Quantum Foundation's mission to inspire and fund initiatives that improve the health of communities by using long-term investments and initiatives that go beyond providing just financial support.

This will be accomplished by developing solutions and securing capital to tackle persistent socio-economic challenges in underinvested communities.

PBVP was established in 2023 after Quantum Foundation's board and staff recognized the need for greater impact in the communities they serve. Despite awarding \$175 million to local nonprofit organizations in Palm Beach County over the past 30 years, economic mobility in the county's underinvested neighborhoods remained stagnant.

PBVP supports the people of a community by catalyzing investment in place and programs. We are piloting our initial efforts in partnership with Northend RISE as the Community Quarterback in Coleman Park.

PROJECTS WE ARE SUPPORTING IN COLEMAN PARK



- A. Coleman Park Renaissance
- B. L.A. Kirksey Health & Housing Center
- C. Historic Roosevelt High School Campus
- D. The Hub: Community Partners of South Florida

Organizations we are supporting to improve Social Determinants of Health in Coleman Park (through Quantum's Stronger Communities Initiative):

Community Partners of South Florida • Habitat for Humanity Greater Palm Beach County • Heart, Health, & Healing Ministries • Inner City Innovators • Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County • Neighborhood Renaissance • Pathways to Prosperity • Rose Trolley • U.B. Kinsey Educational and Community Center

LEARN MORE AT [PBVP.ORG](https://pbvp.org)



BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

At Community Partners of South Florida, we are committed to investing in Palm Beach County residents with transformative solutions in education, housing, health, and economic development. Our mission is to create a thriving, inclusive community where opportunity, prosperity, and a high quality of life are accessible to all.

OUR IMPACT

From financial literacy training to accessible housing programs, CPSFL breaks down barriers and opens doors for families and individuals. Our approach provides not only immediate support but also long-term resources for stability, independence, and growth.

PARTNER WITH US

With your partnership, we can extend our reach even further. Supporting CPSFL means investing in brighter futures for children, stronger foundations for families, and a more resilient community. Together, we can create lasting change and build a prosperous Palm Beach County for everyone.

LET'S BUILD A STRONGER PALM BEACH COUNTY TOGETHER!



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cpsfl.org





A strong community can do brilliant things.

At PNC, we're proud to live and work among
the people and organizations that dedicate
themselves to making our communities brilliant.



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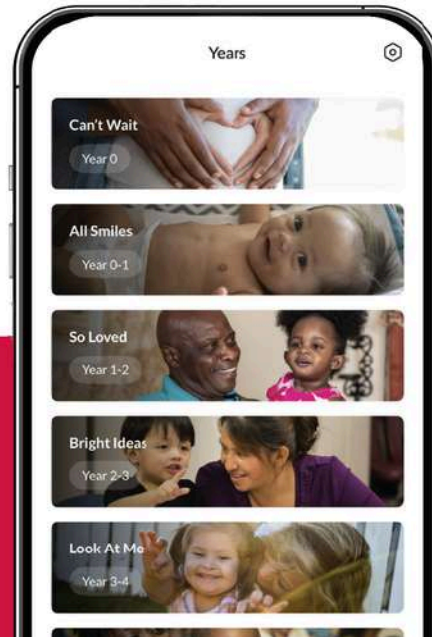
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2024 Securing Our Future Economic Mobility Summit

The objective of the summit was to bring systems leaders together to support unemployed or underemployed families. The workshops and plenary sessions provided valuable information about ways in which health and human services systems can collaborate to help families earn more and move out of poverty. To enhance networking and learning opportunities, local workshop presenters were matched with national speakers with similar expertise.

Attendees played a crucial role in finding sustainable solutions for families experiencing poverty, keeping families at the center of the work, and strengthening relationships with them. Participation in this event demonstrated a commitment to eliminating inequities that keep families in poverty.

Committee Members

Dr. James Green

Director, Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Jonathan Brown

Director, Palm Beach County
Department of Housing and Economic
Development

Elisa Cramer

Director, Palm Beach County
Youth Services Department

Angelique Pickett

Director, Palm Beach County
Criminal Justice Commission

Jaime-Lee Bradshaw

Chief Strategy Officer
Community Partners of South Florida

Keith Oswald

Chief of Equity and Wellness
School District of Palm Beach County

Isis Williams

Circuit Community Development
Administrator, Florida Department of
Children and Families

Wilneeda Emmanuel

Chief of Staff
Commissioner Mack Bernard

Dr. Joanna Reid-Enoise

Manager, Planning & Evaluation
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Elizabeth Harfmann

Manager, Public Information &
Community Engagement
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Sonja Holbrook

Strategic Planner
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Angela Cruz

Program Evaluator
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Michele Jacobs

President and CEO
Economic Council of Palm Beach County

Julie Dowe

Director of Finance and Support Services
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department

Natalie Vazquez

Senior Program Manager
Palm Beach County
Community Services Department



Palm Beach County
Board of County Commissioners

Maria G. Marino, Gregg K. Weiss, Joel G. Flores,
Marci Woodward, Maria Sachs, Sara Baxter, Bobby Powell Jr.

County Administrator Verdenia C. Baker



www.pbcgov.com/communityservices