



MOBILITY LABs
Learning and Action Bets
POWERED BY ROBIN HOOD

Learning & Evaluation Snapshot: Implementation Year 1

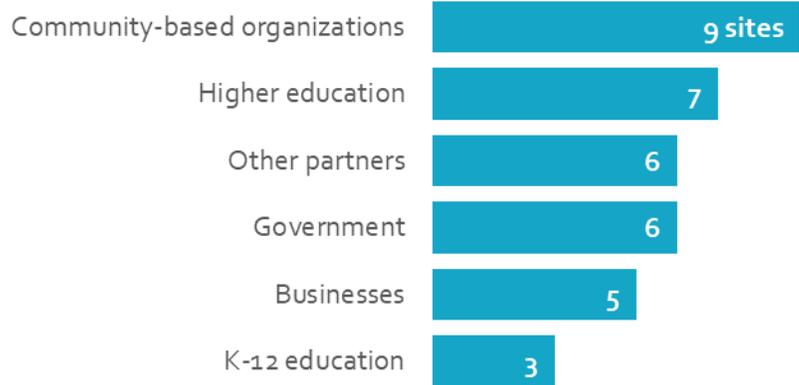


Mobility LABs is a national investment led by the Robin Hood Foundation and supported by multiple funding partners. The initiative partners with local organizations in nine communities to develop community-driven solutions to sustainably lift families out of poverty.

MOBILITY FROM POVERTY has three dimensions: economic stability, power and autonomy, and belonging and inclusion. All sites worked on making changes across the three dimensions at the individual, community, organization, and systems-levels.



Most Mobility LABs anchor partners worked with community-based and higher education partner organizations.



SITES WERE MOST PROUD OF...



Building partnerships

- Baltimore** built a cohesive network of partnering organizations.
- Flushing** initiated new partnerships to destigmatize conversations around poverty.
- South Bronx** recruited new partners and facilitated a launch event.
- San Francisco** established partnerships and built relationships with community residents.



Growing confidence and skills

- San Jose** increased confidence and skills among entrepreneurship cohort members and among Community Navigators.
- Harvey** increased confidence and skills among youth participating in its summer youth internship program.

Other accomplishments

- Northeastern Pennsylvania** launched Parent Pathways, a program to connect single parents to education/career and created a transportation support fund.
- Brownsville** developed a community blueprint to achieve economic mobility.
- East Contra Costa** provided financial assistance to 300 families and started leadership training and coaching.

FACTORS AFFECTING WORK



COVID-19 PANDEMIC impacted all sites in their public-facing and internal operations.

"This situation made us reimagine how [we] participate, engage, and provide resources in the community."

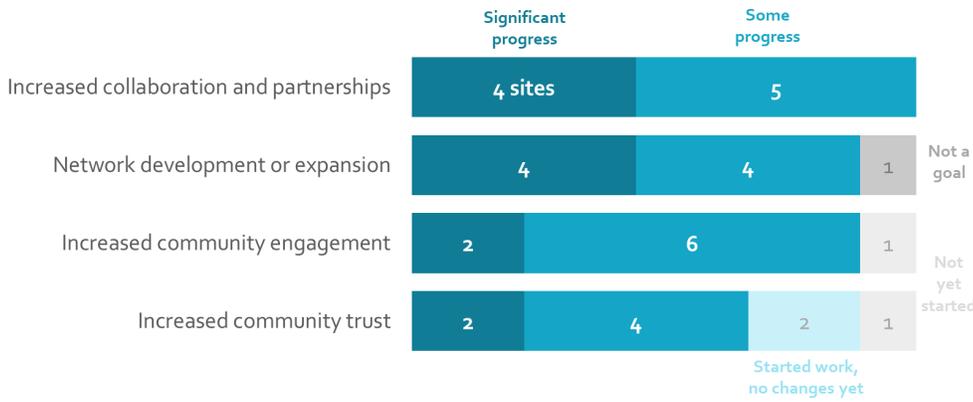


STAFFING ISSUES at anchor organizations, such as turnover and hiring delays, impacted 5 of the 9 sites.

"The Collaborative has found it difficult to recruit and staff our work in a timely manner."

What progress have sites made toward mobility from poverty in 2021-2022?

PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORK development showed the most progress. Sites are setting up the structures and building the capacity necessary to advance mobility in their communities.



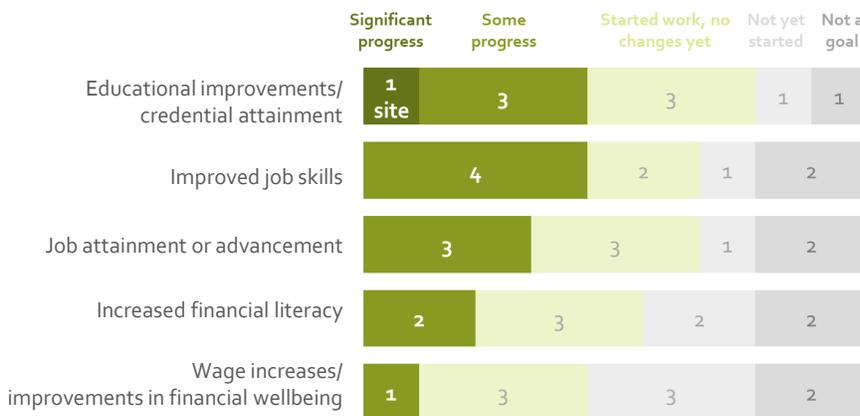
- Examples of progress:
- 8 formal partnerships were established with CBOs and public/private higher education institutions (*Baltimore*)
 - 3 standing meetings initiated for narrative change, pilot project planning, and research consulting (*Flushing*)
 - 2 staff members were hired to lead partnership efforts (*South Bronx*)
 - 5 MOUs were signed with partner organizations (*San Francisco*)

LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY saw significant progress, especially in building skills and leader confidence. Some sites are delaying civic engagement and policy advocacy work into 2022-2023.



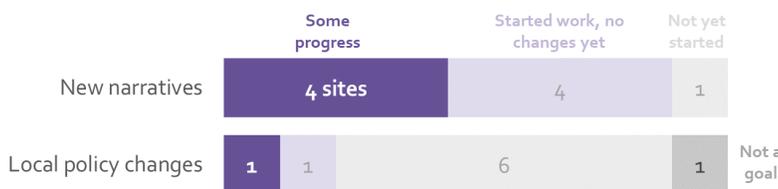
- Examples of progress:
- 47% increase in knowledge of local government roles from the training (*Harvey*)
 - 65% of participants joined at least 1 or more advocacy opportunities throughout the 6-month program (*San Jose*)
 - 3 members of the first leadership training cohort moved into leadership/facilitation roles in the community meetings (*E. Contra Costa*)

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT showed some progress: sites that are providing direct services in these areas have started seeing improvements in educational outcomes and job skills.



- Examples of progress:
- 87 residents received their OSHA Site Safety Certification (*Brownsville*)
 - Participants at two sites reported gaining skills or tools that they would use in the future:
 - 93% of summer jobs participants (*Harvey*)
 - 94-96% of childcare/food entrepreneur respondents (*San Jose*)

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY CHANGE is the most difficult and long-term, however, most sites are thinking about how their work will scale up to these levels.



- Examples of progress:
- 26 episodes hosted in local radio program (*Brownsville*)
 - Created survey and plan for NEPA Mobility Tracker to better understand mobility in the area and inform future efforts (*NEPA*)

Methods. Findings come from the 2021 Mobility LABs Learning Tool, a survey to collect information about Mobility LABs implementation efforts and emerging outcomes from Implementation Year 1 (approx. February 2021 through May 2022).