

Opportunity Neighborhood

Mount Vernon

Core Principles

Theory of Change

To achieve the goals of ON, these foundational elements were identified as key levers of change:

- Academic Foundation: ON children and youth are provided with effective learning opportunities to address individual challenges and maximize gifts and strengths so that they are on course to graduate, pursue post-secondary education, and enter the workforce.
- Family Resilience: ON children and youth are able to focus on their future, free of concerns related to family crisis, caregiver stress, housing instability, or community violence.
- Cultivating a Culture of Engagement, Connectedness, and Success: ON Children and youth have strong aspirations and feel connected to a family, school, and community support network that believes and invests in their potential.

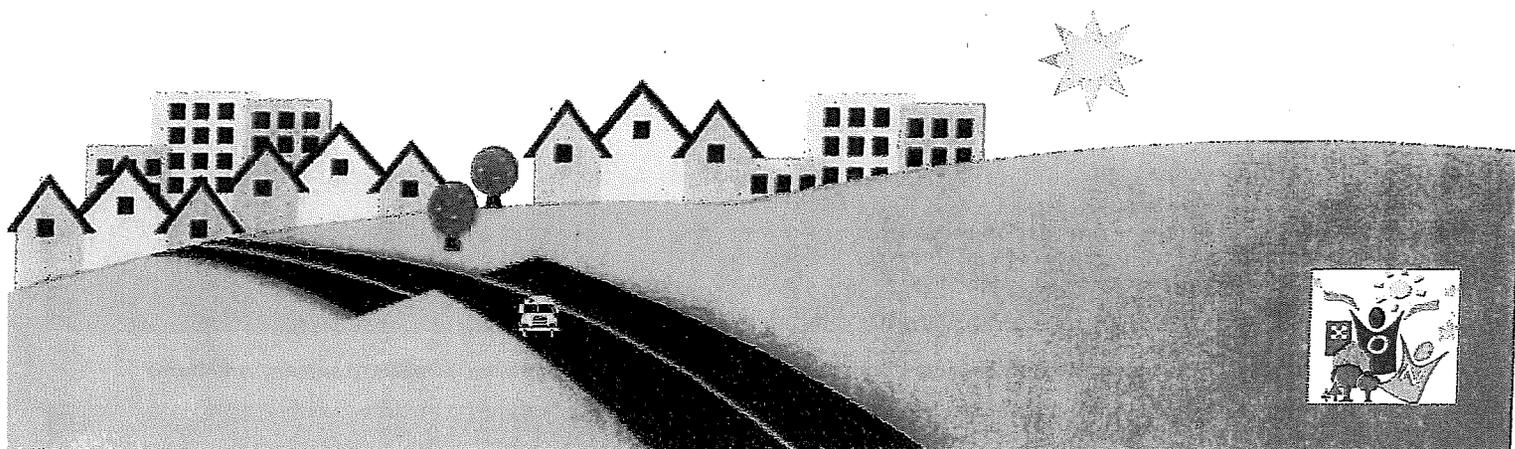
The Goals of ON are:

- ON children are prepared for school entry
- ON children succeed in school
- ON youth graduate from high school and continue on to post-secondary education and careers
- ON families, schools, and neighborhoods support the healthy development and academic success of their children

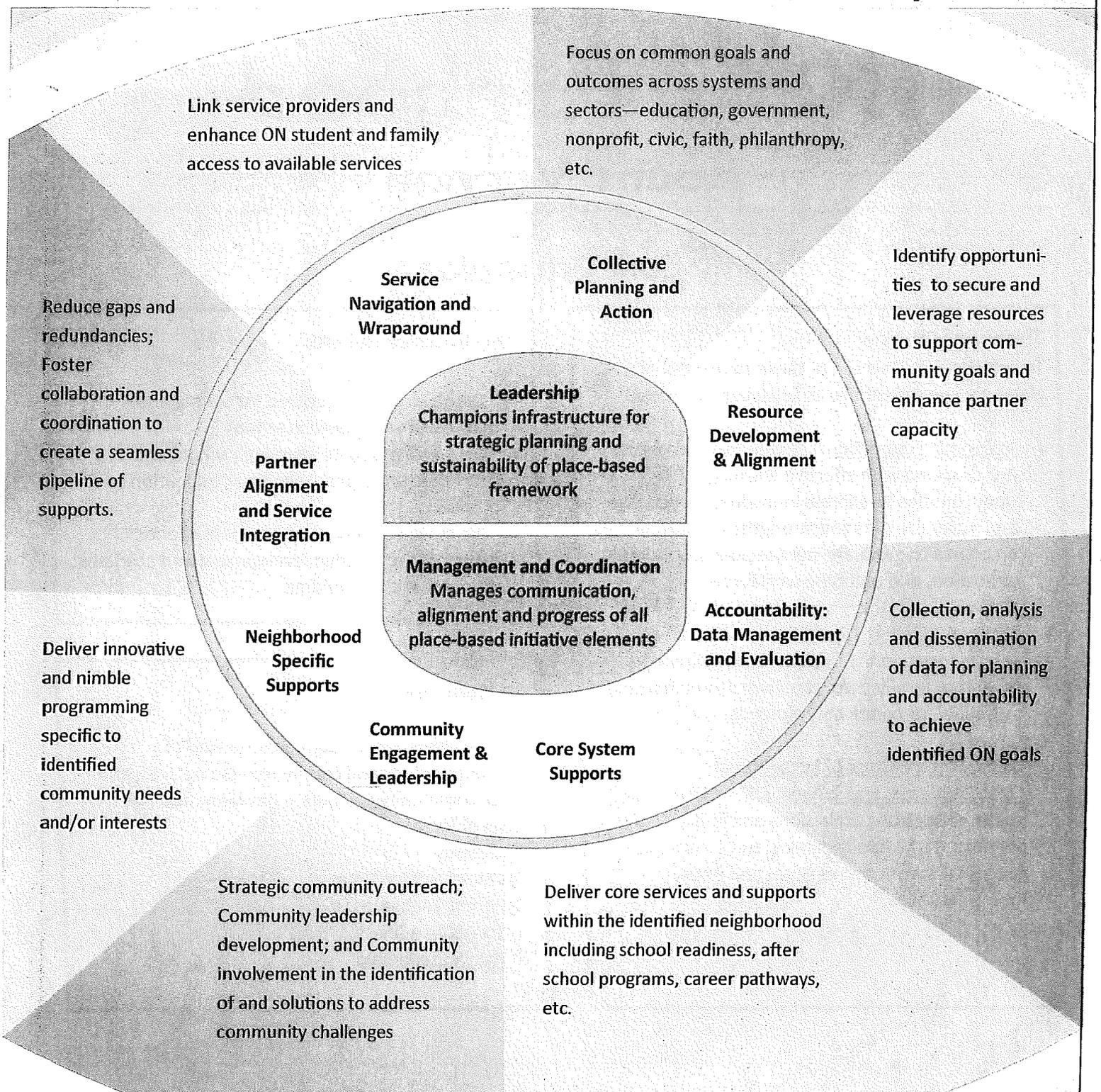
Content Areas

The ON Governance Team – comprised of residents, school and county representatives, and other community partners – has identified five areas of focus:

- (1) Literacy
- (2) Out-of-School Time
- (3) Parent Engagement
- (4) School Readiness
- (5) Youth Leadership



Elements of Place-Based Initiatives in Fairfax County



Equity: Reverse disparity trends and create conditions that allow all to reach their full potential

Community Building: Cultivating a culture of engagement, connectedness, and success

Prevention: Policy and practice orientation on what can be done in the first place or at the earliest stages possible

Family Resilience: Assisting families in developing a healthy developmental environment for children

A Place-Based Focus ensures all neighborhoods become the kinds of places that enable children and families to succeed and thrive