Poverty & Educational Outcomes in Southern Nevada

Presentation to “I Have a Dream” Southern Nevada Foundation Board Members

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The Lincy Institute at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The Lincy Institute at UNLV conducts and supports research that focuses on improving Nevada's health, education, and social services. This research is used to build capacity for service providers and enhance efforts to draw state and federal money to the greater Las Vegas. The Lincy Institute also highlights key issues that affect public policy and quality-of-life decisions on behalf of children, seniors, and families in Nevada.

Share knowledge.
Change lives.
Transform our community.
Poverty from a national view
Southern Nevada’s Children: Growth and Education

Children (under 18) in Clark County – Las Vegas Metro

- In 2012, there were 510,943 children (Kids Count, 2012)
- Population of children has increased by approximately 46% since 2000 (350,330) (The Brookings Institute, 2013)

Clark County School District

- The nation’s 5th largest school district with more than 300,000 students in 2012-13
- Enrollment increased 16% since 2003 (Nevada Report Card, 2013)
Southern Nevada’s Children: Trends in Student Enrollment

Clark County School District Enrollment from 2003-2012
Southern Nevada’s Children: Poverty and Education

In 2012, 24% of Las Vegas children lived in poverty (Kids Count, 2013)
- Increased by approximately 42% since 2008.

The Las Vegas Metro 2000 to 2009 (The Brookings Institute, 2013)
- Ranked 26 in the total change of poverty (57.5% increase)
- Ranked 15 in the total change of poverty among children under 18 (72.6% increase)
  (of 100 largest metros in the U.S.)
Southern Nevada’s Children:
Trends in Poverty and Education

Clark County School District Criterion Referenced Test Scores Among 4th Grade Students from 2006 to 2013

(Nevada Report Card, 2013)
Southern Nevada’s Children: Poverty and Education By Race

2012-2013 Clark County School District Criterion Referenced Test Scores Among 4th Grade Students

% Proficient in Math by Income and Race

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>65%</th>
<th>66%</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>83%</th>
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% Proficient in Reading by Income and Race

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<th>Race</th>
<th>50%</th>
<th>60%</th>
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(Nevada Report Card, 2013)
Effects of Poverty on Children

Prime Six Schools Review - West Las Vegas: Desegregation plan to increase educational attainment

Independent evaluation by UCLA Civil Rights Project Researchers

Findings:

◦ Dramatic demographic shifts: majority Latino; minority white; disproportionally high % of black students
◦ Teacher experience below district average
◦ Student perform well below district levels
◦ Triple Segregation
  ◦ 100% free and reduced lunch
  ◦ Race and ethnicity
  ◦ Language
Southern Nevada College Going Rates

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Nevada College Attendance

Over half (57%) of all students who attend a Nevada college or university immediately after high school graduation enroll at a community college.

Black, Hispanic and American Indian students are disproportionately attending 2-year colleges and make up 27% of total student enrollments at community colleges.

- 68% of all Hispanic and American Indian students are enrolled in a community college;
- 64% of black students are enrolled in community colleges compared to;
- 55% of white and 49% of Asian students.

Source: Magdalena Martinez (2010), Diversity in Nevada Public Higher Education. NSHE report.
Attendance Patterns

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Many Enroll, Few Complete

Of 100 students who enroll in a Nevada public college or university:

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<tr>
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<th>2-Year Public College</th>
<th>4 Year Public College</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full-Time</td>
<td>Part-Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enroll</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Return as sophomores</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate on time</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>Additional graduates (150% time)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>200% time</td>
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<td>Total Graduates</td>
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<td>Graduate in 4 years:</td>
<td>Graduate in 8 years:</td>
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Source: 2-year cohort started in fall 2004; 4-year cohort started in fall 2002; Calculations by Complete College America
What Works: Moving out of Poverty

Federal and State: Targeting Youth, Educational Enrichment Investments

- Early Education: Head Start
- Youth Employment Programs: Workforce Investment Act
- Programs Aimed at Teen Moms
- School-to-Work Transitions: Apprenticeship; Career Academies; Tech Prep Programs

Investment in Early Education

Preschool: School Readiness

- Nevada has the highest percentage of children ages 3 to 5 not enrolled in nursery school, preschool or kindergarten in the US and Puerto Rico
- Nearly half of Nevada’s children under the age of 5 are low income
- Less than 13% of eligible children participate in Head Start and only 3% in Early Head Start
- State funded preschool programs are serving only 3% of Nevada’s preschool age children
- For every $1 spent on high quality early childhood education, ROI is more than $17 to society

Investment in Higher Education

Equitable funding for regions
- Inputs vs. Outputs – Performance based funding

Connection between robust postsecondary institutions and economically strong regions
- Community colleges are bridges to local workforce development
- Southern Nevada: 1 community college to serve 2 million residents
- Postsecondary options for students
- Southern Nevada: 1 research university; 1 state college; 2 non profit colleges; a lot of private, for profit institutions
- Incentives for innovation: Knowledge Fund
Next Steps: Policy Implications for Southern Nevada

State Level
- Early Education Framework and Funding
- Task Force on K-12 Public Education Funding (SB 500, 2013)
- Study on Community College Governance (AB 391, 2013)
- Apply for Competitive & Formula-Based Federal Grants (DOE, DOL, NSF)

Regional Level
- ELL Funding (CCSD Zoom Schools)
- UNLV Tier I Attainment
- UNLV Medical School

Community Level
- Community Based Programs
- Family Engagement
Questions

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