We believe evidence building — led by practitioners — will result in better outcomes for communities.
We’ve supported the evidence-building efforts of over 40 practitioners and funders (select list)
Three Networks at different stages of development (and maturity)

**Personalized Learning Cohort**
- Partnership with New Profit and 7 Personalized Learning Organization
- *Duration:* 12 month
- *Start Date:* Jan 2019

**Chronic Absenteeism Network**
- Partnership with districts (currently 9)
- *Duration:* at least 3 years with each district
- *Start Date:* Dec 2015

**Rural Education**
- Partnership with 2 states and 50 rural districts
- *Duration:* 5 years
- *Start Date:* Feb 2019

NCRERN
Personalized Learning Cohort

Developing Evidence Building Capacity

(A partnership with New Profit)
The Personalized Learning Cohort

- BIG Picture Learning
- Highlander Institute
- iNACOL
- LEAP Innovations
- The Learning Accelerator
- PowerMyLearning
- Transcend
Starting a network with a common objective

Goals

● To support each organization’s ability to generate and use evidence for program improvement and impact
● To jointly learn about opportunities and challenges related to creating an evidence base for personalized learning

Outcomes

● Support the build out data security policies, protocols, and infrastructure
● Create data collection protocols
● Train on how the creation of a theory of change and corresponding metrics for measurement
● Evaluate existing data for program learning (and potential modification)
● Conduct short-cycle A/B tests to determine program effectiveness.
Proving Ground
Learning Faster Together

(At the Center for Education Policy Research, Harvard University)
Proving Ground’s Chronic Absenteeism Network

- 9 school districts / CMOs
  - Canton City Schools
  - DC Public Schools
  - East Cleveland City Schools
  - KIPP DC
  - Maple Heights City Schools
  - School District of Palm Beach County
  - Syracuse City Schools
  - Twin Rivers Unified SD
  - Uplift

- ~313,000 students
- ~70% FRPL
Maintaining a network that learns faster together

Goals

● To support districts improve student attendance and reduce chronic absenteeism
● To build districts capacity to engage in continuous improvement that is supported by rigorous data and evidence

Outcomes

In SY 2018-2019

● 12 pilots were tested; 9 were effective and many were scaled mid-year
● An estimated 52,000 instructional days were gained

For 2019-2020

● Partners are piloting interventions that worked elsewhere.
● Adding new interventions that were co-designed with the district and deeply informed by students
The National Center for Rural Education Research Networks
Building Collective Capacity

(At the Center for Education Policy Research, Harvard University)
National Center for Rural Education Research Networks

- Ohio
  - 20 rural school districts
  - Ohio Department of Education
  - Management Council
  - Regional Information Centers

- New York
  - 30 rural school districts
  - New York State Education Department
  - Information Technology Centers
  - BOCES
Launching a network to build collective capacity

Goals

- To provide districts with additional capacity in three areas: chronic absenteeism, college-readiness, and college enrollment.
- To build state (and regional) capacity to generate evidence and support in continuous improvement.

Outcomes

- Creating standard data feeds from regional centers (RICs / ITCs) to support rural districts ability to participate in NCRERN
- TBD on student outcomes
Lesson 1

Be deliberate. Focus on resolving a problem (or need) rather than a concept
Be a supportive but agile partner. Practitioners guide the work and lead the change
Go slow(ish) to go faster. Take time to plan and design, giving yourself the highest likelihood to improve
Stay focused on improvement. Evidence is important, but it’s a tool not an end
Bi Vuong, Managing Director, Education
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