



---

A unified effort supported by  
the Forum for Youth Investment,  
the National Urban League, and  
the American Institutes for Research

# Now Is The Time to Build Forward Together

Katherine Plog Martinez, The Forum for Youth Investment

Paula Shannon, Tulsa Public Schools

Caroline Shaw, The Opportunity Project

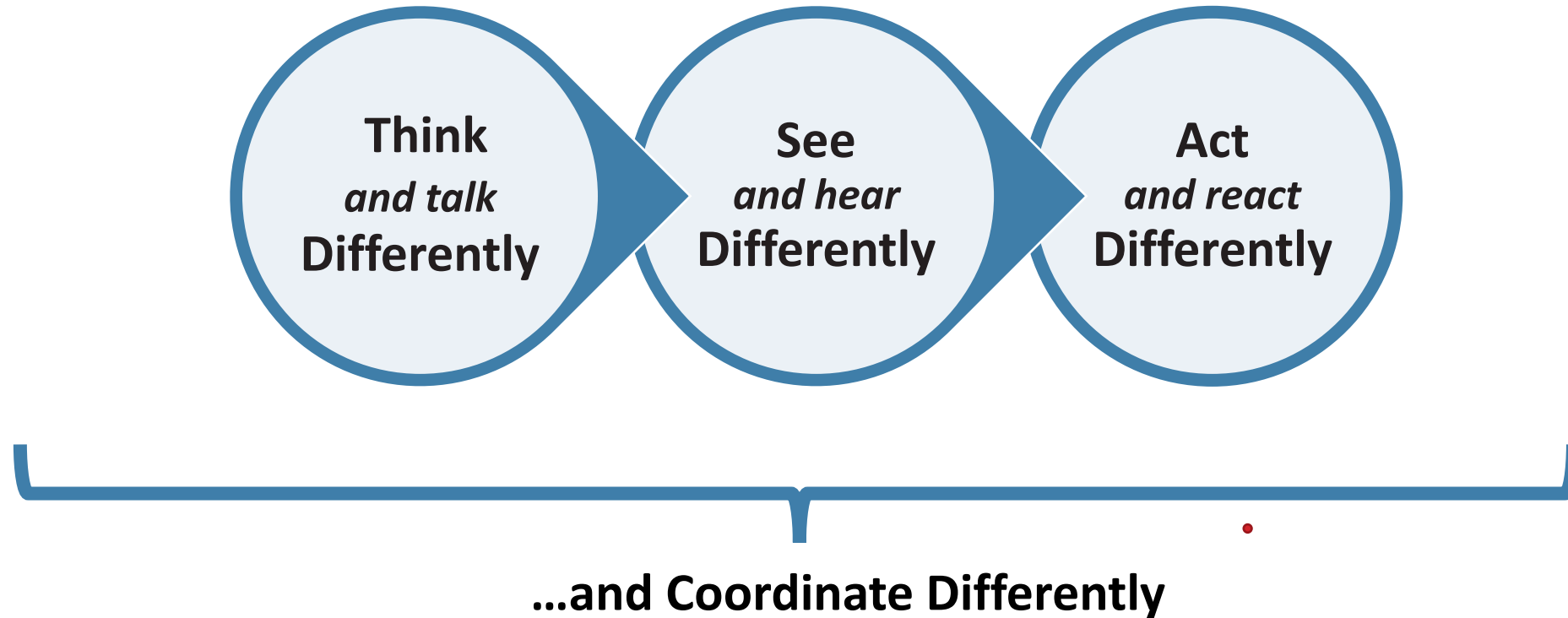
Bryan Joffe, AASA

Normal is not an  
option.  
Can We Leverage  
“COVID”  
Opportunities to  
Build Forward  
Together?

YES.



## Disruption creates opportunity to



Recognize and advocate for sustained coordinating capacity that makes it easier to expect that individuals within families, programs, organizations and systems can get access to and have the authority to use the information, people, resources, cover they need to make ecosystem-responsive decisions.

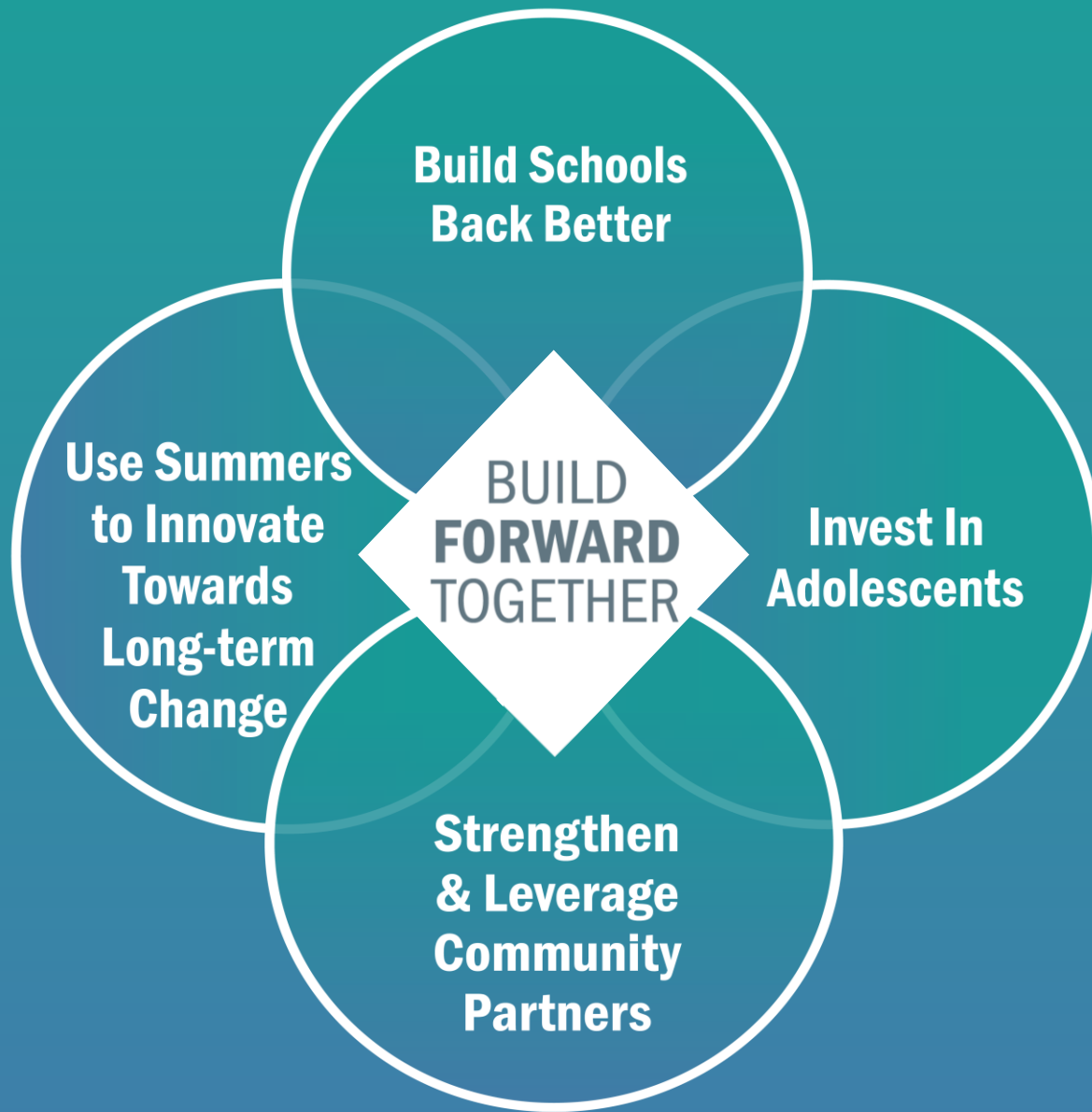
# THE POWER

# EACH & EVERY ADULT CARRIES

In Every  
Setting

In Every School,  
Family & Community  
Organization

For Every  
Learner



# Consider Five Strategies





# BUILD BACK SMARTER

Acknowledge learners' losses while affirming learning ability. Optimize learning environments while prioritizing reconnection.



# BUILD BACK BROADER

Support complementary learning delivery systems and modalities. Invest in program-level staff and city-level coordinating structures.



# BUILD BACK BOLDER

Focus on how, why, and with whom learning happens.  
Respect and diversify learners' experiences and  
contexts *and* adults' expertise and power.





# BUILD OUT INEQUITY DATA

Equity is the goal, but inequity is the reality.  
Acknowledging skepticism, take time to get baseline  
data right in order to truly cover all bases.

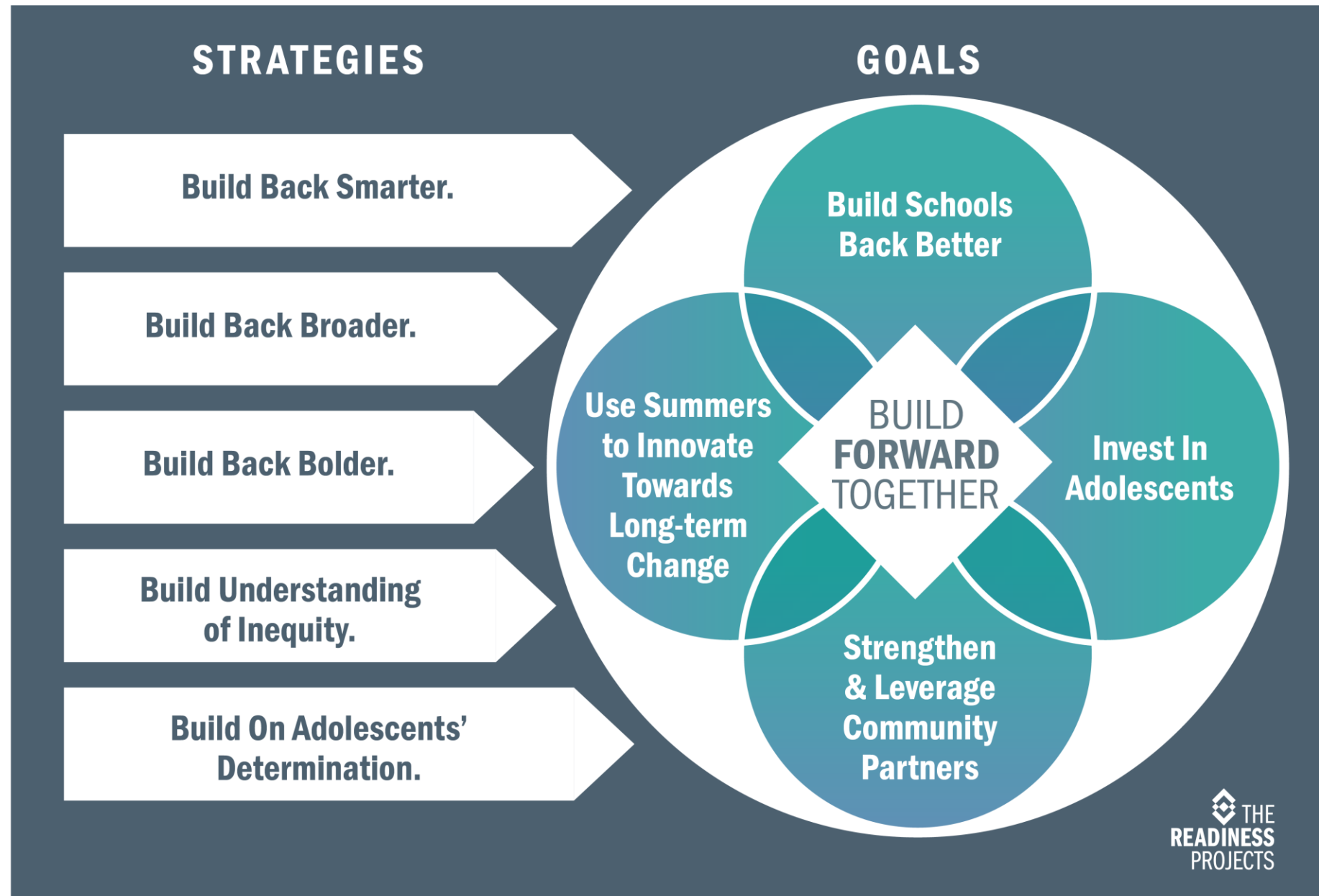


# BUILD ON ADOLESCENTS' DETERMINATION

Embrace adolescent risk taking and leverage the brain science. Create and support alternative success pathways for all adolescents to be competent, connected, confident contributors.



# Build Forward Together – Toward Equitable Learning and Development Ecosystems



# Build Forward Together Tools

## • Framing Your Organization as an Indispensable Asset

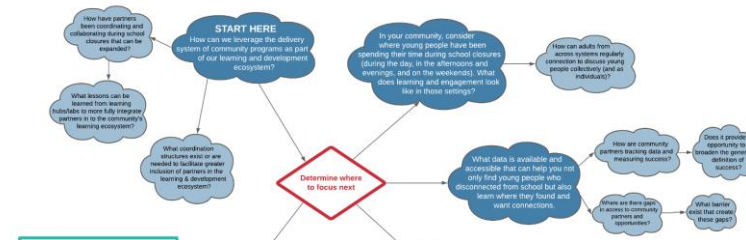
### 1. Thinking about the young people you serve as an asset.

Key Questions	Notes
<b>Capacity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Who, generally, is your target population?</li> <li>What is/was your maximum capacity?</li> <li>What is your current enrollment?</li> </ul>	

## • Build Forward Together Conversation Guide *Sample*

### Conversation Map for Strengthen & Leverage Community Partners Goal - DRAFT

In your community, take time to take stock of your systems of coordination. Identify areas of collaboration that can be formalized or expanded. Identify areas of duplication that can be minimized. Consider how data, funding, and other resources can be successfully shared and blended.



## • Build Forward Together Strategy Review

Strategy	Action Area	What have we done so far?	How well are we doing?	What do we still hope to do?
<b>BUILD BACK SMARTER.</b> Acknowledge learners' losses while affirming learning ability. Optimize learning environments while prioritizing reconnection.	Stop using the term learning loss.	♦	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Getting Started <input type="checkbox"/> Good Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Strength	♦
	Stop making more instructional time the go-to remedy.	♦	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Getting Started <input type="checkbox"/> Good Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Strength	♦
	Optimize learning experiences, even while prioritizing reconnection.	♦	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Getting Started <input type="checkbox"/> Good Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Strength	♦
	Resist deficit thinking.	♦	<input type="checkbox"/> Just Getting Started <input type="checkbox"/> Good Progress <input type="checkbox"/> Area of Strength	♦



# Build Forward Together Tools

## *Small Group Discussion*

- How would you anticipate engaging with this tool?
- What would you need to begin to have BFT discussions in your community using a tool like this?
- Who would you engage?
  - Who would be the early adopters of a BFT agenda in your community?
  - Who would you need to convince?
  - How could this tool help you engage these stakeholders?

## *Individual Work Time*

- Try out a tool!
- Plan for using a tool
  - What would you need to begin to have BFT discussions in your community using a tool like this?
  - Who would you engage?
    - Who would be the early adopters of a BFT agenda in your community?
    - Who would you need to convince?
    - How could this tool help you engage these stakeholders?
  - What are your next steps