



Mayor's Office of Children, Youth, and Families

Year 1 Overview and A Look Ahead

May 2026

Mayor and Council Priorities

Youth outcomes are interconnected with priorities from the Mayor and Council retreat:

- A child who is unhoused cannot focus on school.
- A family without financial stability cannot maintain stable housing.
- A community without public safety cannot attract the investment that creates jobs.



The Challenge

- The barriers to student success are impacted by factors outside of schools and classrooms.
- Not all children are meeting important milestones that lead to economic mobility
- Tulsa is organizing to address these issues. This is not replacing the work of the schools or non-profits - it is supporting it
- MOCYF and the Children's Cabinet fill this gap



Snapshot of barriers facing Tulsa children, youth, and families

- **ALICE Families:** Nearly 50% of Tulsa households cannot pay for basic needs (*Source Tulsa Area United Way, ALICE report*)
- **Child Poverty:** 23% of children live in households living below federal poverty level (*Source: US Census 2024 American Community Survey*)
- **Child Hunger:** 25% of Tulsa County children are food insecure; 90% of TPS students qualify for free school meals (*Source: Hunger Free Oklahoma*)
- **Child Abuse:** Tulsa County's child abuse and neglect rate is more than twice the national average (*Source: Tulsa Equality Indicators, 2024*)
- **Child Care:** Tulsa County is a child-care desert; 600 centers have closed in recent months (*Source: Center for American Progress*)
- **Transportation:** 40% of TPS students do not live within 1/4 mile of a bus stop (*Source: ImpactTulsa analysis*)

Snapshot of the impact these barriers can have on child and youth outcomes

- Only 25% of Tulsa County 3rd grade students are scoring proficient or above in Literacy
- Of children who have experienced evictions, 70% become chronically absent within 1 year
- 14% of young adults 18-24 are not in school and not working

Source: ImpactTulsa

MOCYF

- MOCYF and the Children's Cabinet help unite all our community's systems around shared priorities and outcomes for children and youth.
- Tulsa model: AWHFT to address homelessness
- Peer city model: Dallas Commit and Child Poverty Action Lab Cradle to Career work



Adoption of shared measures and metrics



Partnership with a backbone and data organization



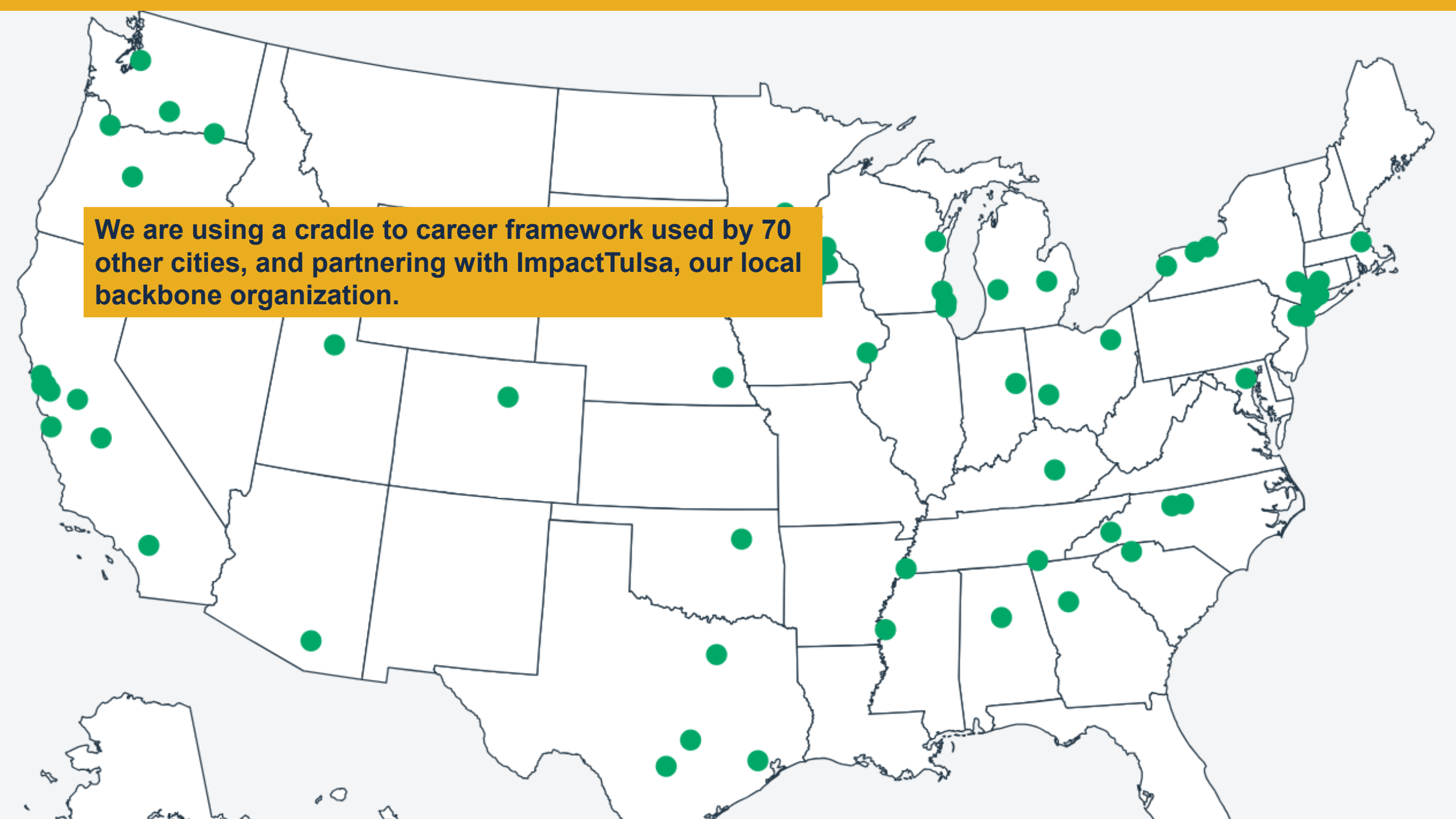
Commitment to a citywide goal and identification of priorities



Committed leaders around the table



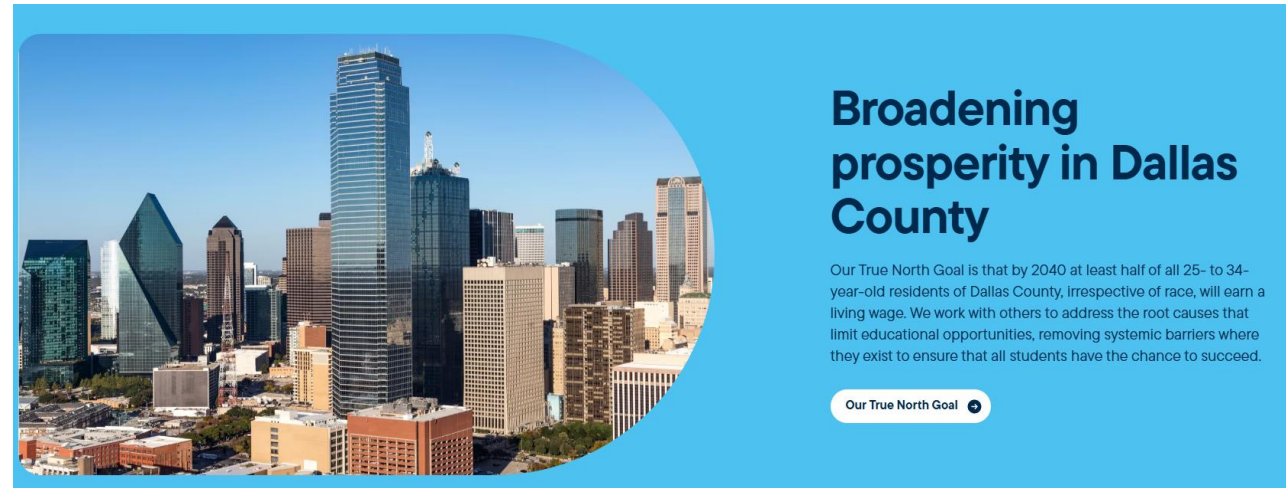
Participation of community organizations and youth



We are using a cradle to career framework used by 70 other cities, and partnering with ImpactTulsa, our local backbone organization.

Peer city example: Dallas

- In September 2011, the Commit organization and the Mayor's Office established a cradle to career partnership.
- Commit serves as the civic infrastructure connecting schools, community colleges, nonprofit partners, workforce partners, and local industries to address the root causes that have hindered economic mobility.
- **Results:**
 - A 16% increase in students attending Pre-K
 - 13% increase in students meeting state standards across all grades and subjects
 - 9% increase in living wage attainment among residents aged 25-34



MOCYF led by a director will oversee coordination and execution across these functions

Children's Cabinet

- Cross sector exec leaders focused on shared student outcomes

Action Alliances

- 100+ organizations and youth focused on identifying barriers and solutions across priority areas

Tracking Outcomes

- Building systems to track progress towards goal
- Helping stakeholders to know how they contribute (i.e. "Know Your Number")

Youth Workforce Ecosystem

- Landscape analysis and recommendations

Contract with ImpactTulsa will mainly support these activities

National Technical Assistance Partners

- Working with 5+ national technical assistance partners to support and elevate the work nationally

Funding Partners

- Developing partnerships with philanthropy, business community, and other partners to support the work

Addressing Emerging Needs

- Responding to shocks and stressors experienced by families

Policy

- Tracking local, state and federal opportunities
- Developing recommendations

Children's Cabinet Members

Anna America – **City of Tulsa, Parks & Recreation**

Alison Anthony – **Tulsa Area United Way**

Susana Argueta-Acosta – **Student, Union Public Schools**

Maritza Cartagena – **Tulsa Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

Michael Branan – **Green Country Workforce**

Marcia Bruno Todd – **Leadership Tulsa; Tulsa Youth Council**

Stacey Butterfield – **Jenks Public Schools**

Leslie Cardiel – **Student, Union Public Schools**

Nancy Curry – **Zarrow Family Foundation**

Aaron Darden – **Tulsa Housing Authority**

Bruce Dart – **Tulsa Health Department; Schusterman Family Foundation**

Jackie DuPont – **Coretz Family Foundation**

Angela Durant-Tyson – **Tulsa Tech**

Jamaal Dyer – **Friendship Baptist Church**

John Federline – **Union Public Schools**

Drew France – **Human Rights Commission**

Lillian Geld – **Student, Booker T. Washington**

Karen Gilbert – **Tulsa City Council**

Elizabeth Hall – **Burnstein Family Foundation**

Keith Hall – **Tulsa County Juvenile Bureau**

Vanessa Hall Harper – **Tulsa City Council**

Dion'trae Hayes – **City of Tulsa - Department of Resilience and Equity**

David Hill – **Muskogee Nation**

Chuck Hoskin, Jr. – **Cherokee Nation**

Ebony Johnson – **Tulsa Public Schools**

Bill Knight – **Tulsa Regional Chamber**

Laura Latta – **Tulsa Higher Education Consortium**

Scott Marr – **MetroLink**

Jabraan Pasha – **Office of Health and Well-being**

Krystal Reyes – **City of Tulsa - Mayor's Office**

Laurel Roberts – **City of Tulsa - Commissioner of Public Safety in the Mayor's Office**

Geoffrey Standing Bear – **Osage Nation**

Elsie Urueta – **Tulsa Charter Schools - Tulsa Honor Academy**

Annie Van Hanken – **George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF)**

Rose Washington-Jones – **Tulsa Economic Development Corporation (TEDC)**

Action Alliance Member Organizations

Birth to 3

Amplify Youth Health Collective
Aunt Jackie's Child Care
Birthright Living Legacy
Butterfly AEffect
CAP Tulsa
Community Health Connection
ConnectFirst
Educare
Family and Children's Services
GKFF BEST
Legacy Child Education Centers
OK Birth Equity Initiative
Parent Child Center
Tulsa Community College
Tulsa Health Department

Early Childhood 4 to 8

Educare - Early Learning Works
Gaining Ground
GKFF-BEST
Reading Partners
Teach for America
Terence Crutcher Foundation
The New Teacher Project
Tulsa Dream Center
Tulsa Legacy Charter School
Tulsa Public Schools
Urban Strategies Inc

Flourishing Families

1256 Movement
ACTION
Be Well
City of Tulsa
Crossover
Eastside Rise
El Centro
Family and Children's Services
Green Country Habitat for Humanity
Growing Together
Housing Solutions
Humble Sons
INCOG
Legal Aid OK
Met Cares
Morton Health
Northside Neighbors
OK Access to Justice
One Hope Tulsa
Partner Tulsa
Phoenix Development Council
Restore Hope
Revitalize T-Town
South Tulsa Community House
Terence Crutcher Foundation
Tulsa Area United Way
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa Responds
Union Public Schools
Urban Strategies Inc
Work Ready
World Won Development
Youth Services of Tulsa
YWCA

Future Ready Youth

Antioch Baptist Church
Campus Tulsa
Crossover
City Year
Discovery Lab
Genesys Works
Goodwill
GKFF
Green Country Workforce
INCOG
JAMES Inc
Junior Achievement
Madison Strategies Group
MetroLink
Modus
Partner Tulsa
THE Consortium
The Opp
Tulsa Boys Home
Tulsa Community College
Tulsa EmpowerEd
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa Stem
Tulsa Tech
Union Public Schools
Urban Coders Guild
Urban Strategies Inc
WRAArchitects

Youth Voice and Leadership:

Amplify Youth Health Collective
Changemakers
Foundation for Liberating Minds
Hunger Free Oklahoma
Jenks PS
Leadership Tulsa
MBK
OCCJ
POPS
Terence Crutcher Foundation
The Foundation for Liberating Minds
The Opp
Tulsa Campfire
Tulsa Public Schools
Union PS
Urban Coders Guild
Youth Services of Tulsa

Year 1 Activities (May 2025-present)

Tulsa Children's Cabinet

- Engaged 35+ executive leaders of systems and institutions
- Established governance and Bylaws and Executive Committee
- Developed a shared understanding of data on student outcomes
- Voted on four priority areas of focus: transportation, housing stability, early literacy and youth workforce

Action Alliances

- Activated five Action Alliances
- Engaged over 100 organizations, individuals and students
- Hosted two large convenings and monthly planning meetings
- Produced four reports for the Cabinet elevating barriers and solutions to improving child outcomes

Emerging Needs

- Joined the Mayor's Alliance to End Childhood Hunger. As a member we were eligible to apply for grant to support economic mobility coaching
- Supported emergency food collection efforts during federal shut down that impacted SNAP benefits

Youth Workforce Ecosystem

- Partnered with FUSE Corps to host an executive fellow who is developing recommendations for Tulsa's Youth Workforce Ecosystem
- Fellow has conducted interviews with 70+ stakeholders representing 30+ orgs (FUSE Corps partnership)

Year 2 Planned Activities

Strengthen Cabinet governance – work with Executive Committee to guide implementation of pilot and recommendations

Launch pilot programs this year to test out ideas, policies, and practice changes using data and evidence.

Work with Youth Council & Youth Action Alliance to get their feedback on workforce ecosystem landscape analysis

Publish a public facing children's fiscal map with feedback incorporated from the city council

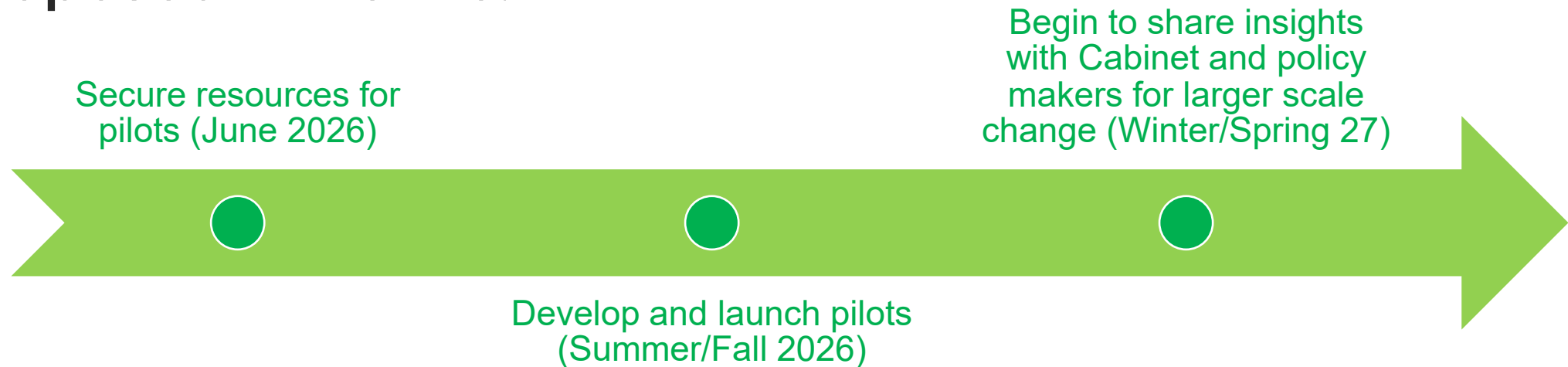
Conduct a peer city survey to learn from other cities with youth workforce initiatives

Roll out 'Know Your Number' campaign

Launch two additional Action Alliances: Place-based Initiatives and Post-secondary Career Pathways

Action Alliance Pilots

- This fall we will activate private funds to support testing out programs, interventions, policy changes, etc. prioritized by the Children's Cabinet and Action Alliances.
- Pilots will expand what is working currently, or pilot new solutions informed by data and community.
- Proposed Timeline:



Measuring progress

- We want to see all Tulsa children and youth meet 7 cradle to career milestones that research shows lead to economic mobility
- We have baseline data for SY 2024 and preliminary data for SY2025
- ImpactTulsa is currently building the infrastructure to track progress year over year AKA the *Know Your Number* Campaign

