ABSTRACT: REPLICATING SUCCESS TO SCALE ($S^2$)

Located in the Heartland of America, Indianapolis is the home to many exciting ventures— from The Pacers and Colts to the internationally-famous Motor Speedway. The downtown is a vibrant renewal of historic building fronts married with skyscraper stores inside—and is the home to the Simon Mall industry. Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals, the American Legion, and the acclaimed Children’s Museum—all call Indianapolis home. But this is not the home known to the inner city youth, who attend the failing Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS-labeled 1 of the 2 “dropout factories of the nation,” Balfour). The Indianapolis homicide rate is currently 2x as bad as Chicago-10x the per capita rate in NYC, with the majority of homicide, 16-24 yr old Black males killed by guns; over 25% of adult citizens have not graduated from high school; 3,000 children are homeless on any given night. Indianapolis is the most segregated city in the north (University of Wisc, 2010) with only 25% of the city population living on an integrated block. IPS-and the students the Tindley Schools serve—have over a 70% poverty rate and in Tindley schools, over 90% minority. Tindley currently has 1 Accelerated HS with an Early College; 2 gender-separated (but equal) MSs, 1 takeover failing IPS 6-12 school, and 1 elementary. As a Blue Ribbon and 4-Star award winning school where over 90% of the students graduate, get scholarships to prestigious private colleges and persist in college, the City, businesses, and families have demanded Tindley continue to expand. This grant will allow them to expand into a high Hispanic area as well as 2 other diverse areas with 3 new elementary schools and 1 out of state school. The Goals are to increase enrollment and schools by Yr. 3 end by 150%, serving 5,006 students/over 3 yrs at a cost of only $658/student; provide professional development to ensure a high quality program continues based on meeting rigorous Common Core standards (using Tindley’s research-based 13 Elements of Success); and, expand the # of students meeting academic success leading to HS graduation, college enrollment and persistence.