



Hamilton

Investing in People

Reducing Poverty Through Collective Action

100,000 Hamiltonians Live in Poverty

Poverty, as measured by low income, exists in all Hamilton postal codes, ranging from 5% to 46%

Across the board Hamilton's poverty rates are higher than Ontario

Highest rates of poverty are seen among:

People with activity limitations: 21.2%

Children under age six: 24%

Visible minorities: 27.2%

Aboriginals: 29.4%

Adults living alone: 30.8%

Recent immigrants: 41.2%

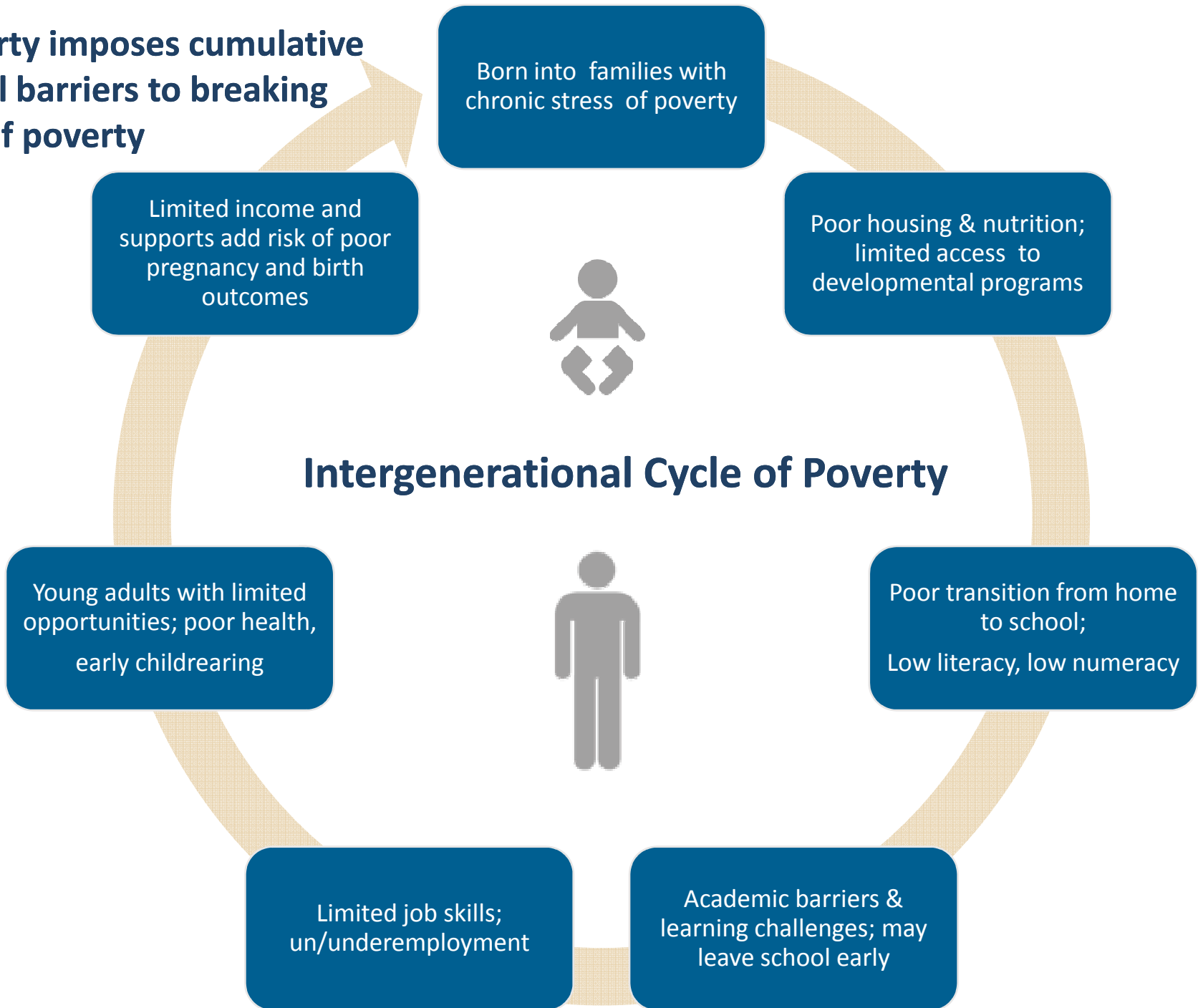
Lone parents: 44.4%

Lone parents (15-24): 83.4%



Hamilton

Poverty imposes cumulative social barriers to breaking out of poverty



Young adults with limited opportunities; poor health, early childrearing

Limited job skills; un/underemployment

Academic barriers & learning challenges; may leave school early

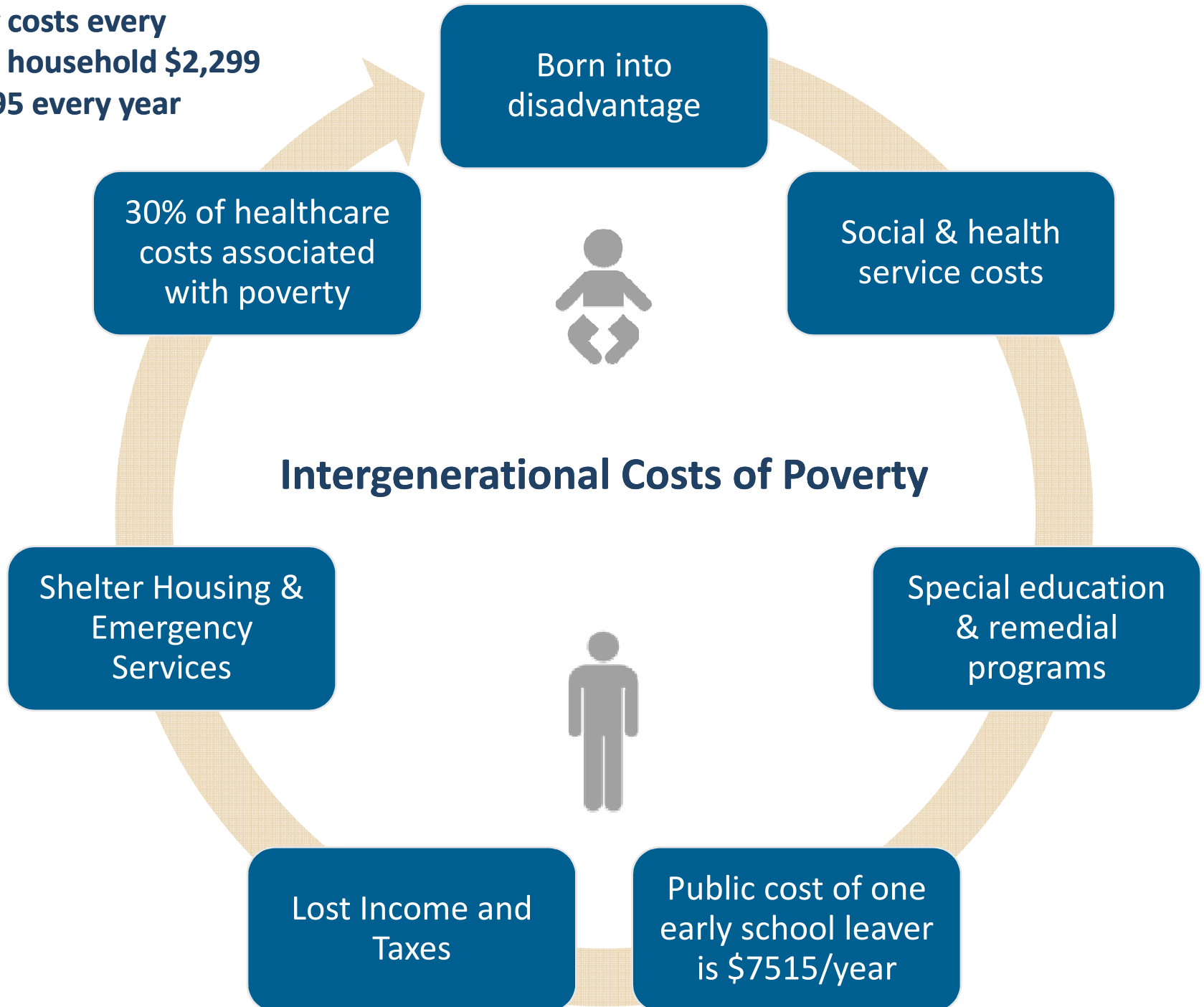
Poor transition from home to school; Low literacy, low numeracy

Poor housing & nutrition; limited access to developmental programs

Limited income and supports add risk of poor pregnancy and birth outcomes

Born into families with chronic stress of poverty

Poverty costs every Ontario household \$2,299 to \$2,895 every year



Prioritizing Investments



Poverty Reduction in Ontario and Canada



- *Child Tax Benefit
- *Funding Family Support Programs
- *National Early Learning Framework (dvlpng)



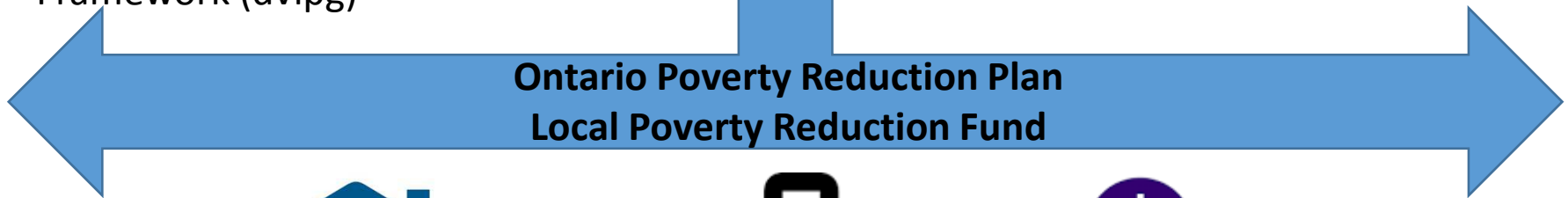
- *School funding
- *Youth Wellbeing Strategy
- *Free tuition (low income)



- *Job, skill, and apprenticeship prgms
- *Infrastructure
- *Transit



- *Ontario's Action Plan for Seniors
- *Old Age Security (fed)
- *Guaranteed Income Supplements (prov/fed)



- *ON Affordable Housing Strategy
- *\$23 million funding (fed)



- *Ontario Local Food Strategy



- *Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot
- *Minimum Wage Increase
- *Social Assistance Reform

Poverty Reduction in Hamilton



Best Start -> Early Years Plan
Healthy Birth Weights Coalition



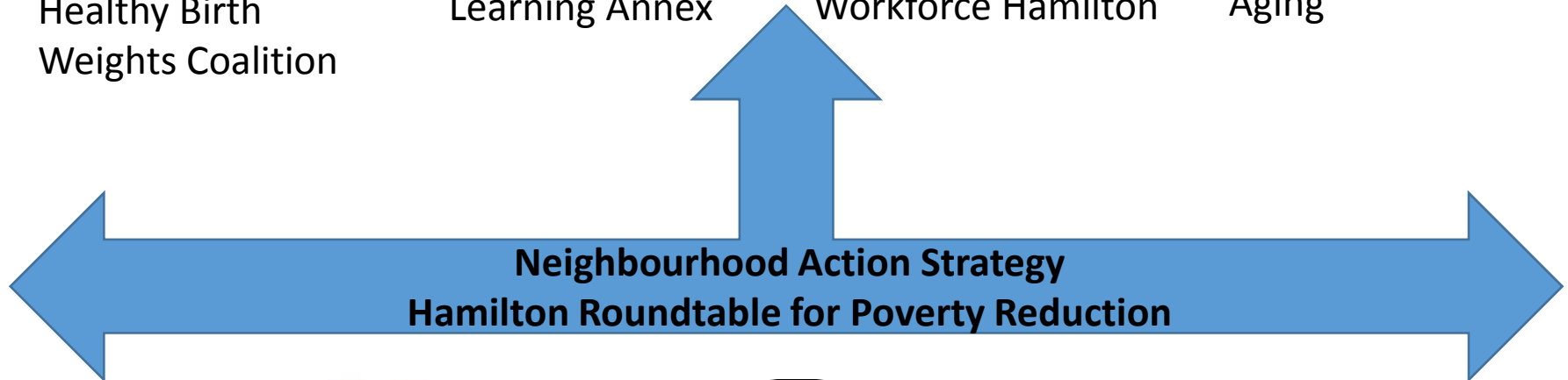
Abacus City School (\$1.6m)
Learning Annex



EcDev Strategy
Learning Annex
Workforce Hamilton



Age Friendly Plan
Hamilton Council on Aging



Housing and Homelessness
Action Plan



Food Strategy
Tastebuds



Living Wage Hamilton
Basic Income Hamilton

Gaps: Safe, stable, affordable homes

- Lack of stable and quality housing prevents full social participation and contributes to chronic poverty, poor health, and reduced educational attainment
- Inadequate housing increases family stress; impairs family relationships, child learning and development, security, and health
- There are over 5,700 individuals and families on the waiting list for social housing in Hamilton
- The 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan requires \$47 million per year to reach all targets. Current funding amounts to a shortfall of \$30,244,000 annually



Gaps: Pathways out of poverty for two generations

- More than 44% of lone parents and 24% of children under 6 live in poverty
- 31% of Hamilton children start school with vulnerabilities that put them at a disadvantage
- Disadvantage grows over the life course and makes it less likely youth in poverty will perform well academically, graduate high school, and secure adequate employment as adults
- Negative effects of child and parental poverty are directly linked to quality of the home and family environment
- Housing is fundamental but needs to be combined with supports to address and reduce stressors and causes of poverty



Gaps: Financial Empowerment

- In Ontario, people with low income can access 41 potential federal and provincial income benefit programs directly or indirectly through tax filing
- In 2011 about 7,345 of eligible families in Hamilton did not file for the Canada Child Tax Benefit
- That represents **up to \$42 million missed per year** entitled to Hamilton families through the CCTB alone
- For a low income family with two children, the CCTB yields an extra \$10,800-\$12,8000 per year



Gaps: Indigenous-led Poverty Reduction

- Inconsistent and oppressive Indigenous policy and practices in Canada have contributed to disproportionately high poverty, homelessness, and housing instability
- The poverty rate of Aboriginal Hamiltonians is 29.4%, versus 27.6% for Aboriginals in Ontario
- The poverty rate among Aboriginal children in Hamilton is 37%, compared to 28% for Aboriginals in Ontario and 24% for Hamilton's non-Aboriginal children
- Indigenous-led solutions are needed to support self-determination through truth and reconciliation, addressing root causes of Indigenous poverty



Recommendations

\$50 million investment over 10 years:

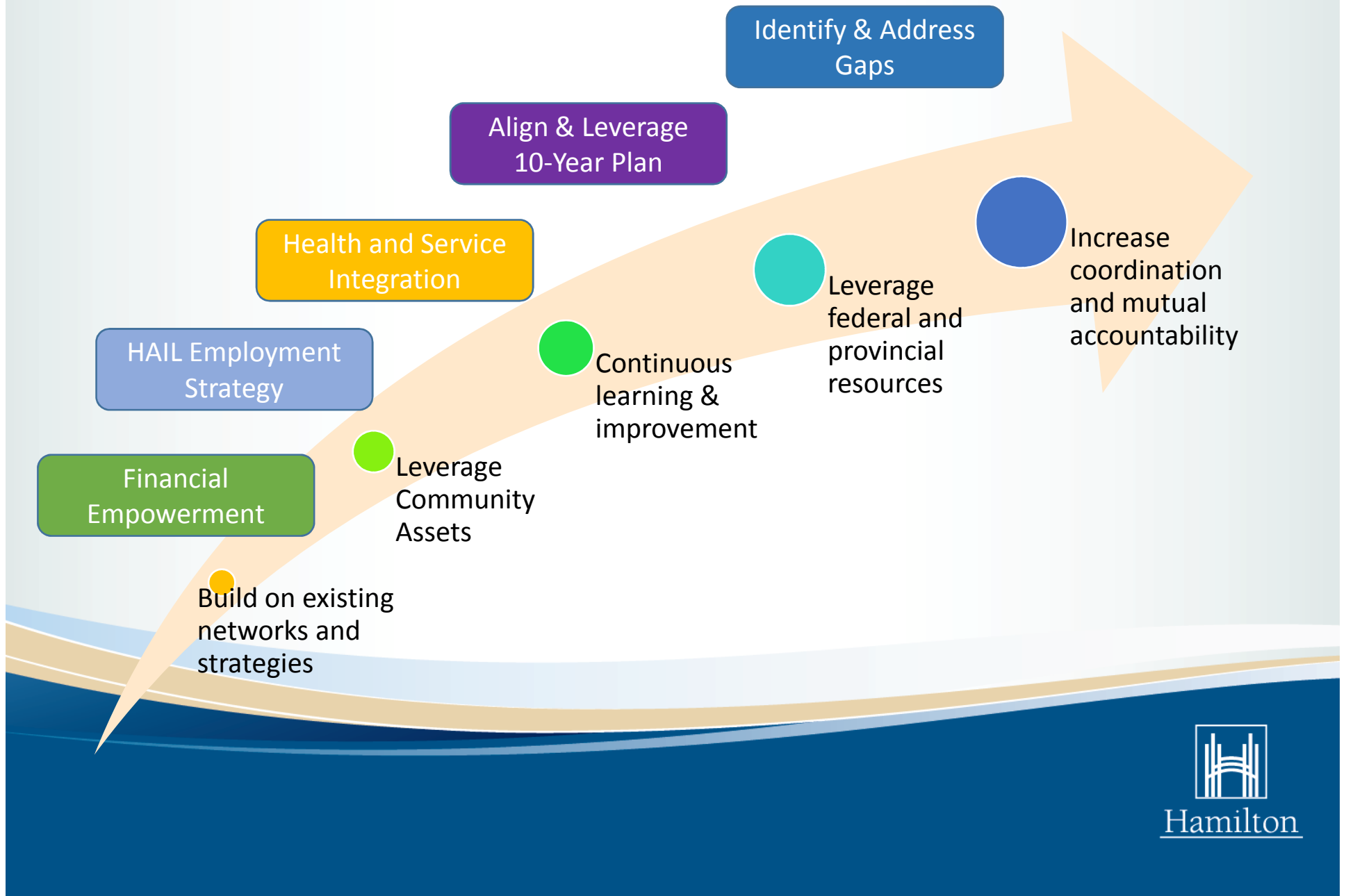
- \$30M over 10 years: Safe, stable, and affordable housing
- \$10M over 10 years: Pathways out of poverty
- \$10M over 10 years: Indigenous-led poverty reduction
- Leverage additional investments and resources from each level of government and other sectors
- Develop 10-Year Comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy



Targeted Investment Area	Amount	Estimated Impact Over 10 Years
Social Housing Capital Repairs	\$10 million over 2.5 years, 2017-19	200 social housing units back online
Portable Housing Allowances	\$10 million over 10 years (\$1 million /year)	Approximately 200 households receive support for up to 8 years
Housing Stability	\$5 million over 10 years (\$500,000/year)	Emergency support for approximately 6000 cases
Homelessness prevention through shelter diversion and housing case management	\$5 million over 10 years (\$500,000/year)	2500-3500 individuals avoid homelessness
Intensive wraparound for lone parent families	\$7.5 million over ten years (\$750,000)	3000 families build capacity to escape poverty through enhanced and integrated health, employment, recreation, and childcare programs
Nurse-Family Partnership	\$2.5 million over ten years (\$250,000/year)	400 individuals improve employment, education, and health outcomes to rise out of and break the cycle of poverty
Indigenous-led Poverty Reduction	\$10 million over 10 year (\$1 million/year)	Housing stability and wraparound supports for approximately 7000 households

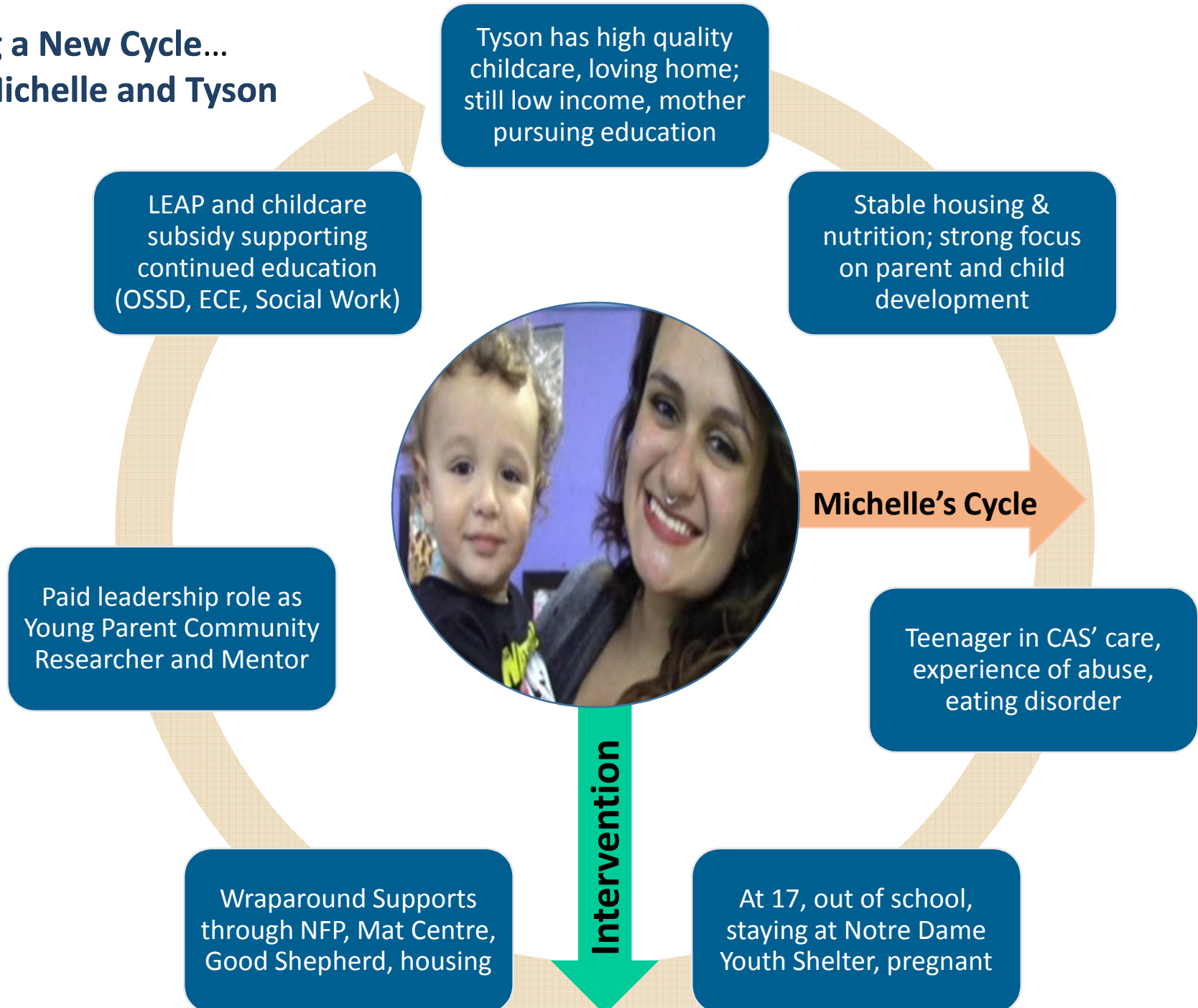
Targeted Investment Area	Investment	Return on Investment
Housing Stability	\$36,000,000 (including Indigenous)	\$48,000,000-72,000,000 Direct savings estimated at \$1.33-2 on every dollar through reduced healthcare, social services, & criminal justice costs Homelessness prevention potentially much higher: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost of proposed social housing investment \$5000/household/year • Versus institutional responses Hospital: \$130, 800/individual/year Jail: \$51,996/ year Shelter: \$13,000 - \$42,000/year
Intensive wraparound through early investment	\$14 million (including Indigenous)	\$70,000,000-112,000,000 \$5-8 ROI for every dollar estimated on accumulated benefits for two generations: reduced social assistance, increased employment income, tax benefits, reduced health and hospital costs

Cornerstone of 10-Year Poverty Reduction Strategy



Hamilton

Starting a New Cycle... Meet Michelle and Tyson



Choosing a path forward

INVEST IN HOME AS THE FOUNDATION & WRAP AROUND HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SUPPORTS TO BUILD PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY

If Hamilton invests in supports for children and families, AND safe, stable, affordable housing for a decade....



- ↑ early learning & development
- ↑ school readiness



- ↑ high school graduation
- ↑ post-secondary participation



- ↑ employment income
- ↑ healthier children, families, community



- ↓ parental and family stress
- ↓ social assistance use



- ↓ emergency service use
- ↓ health services costs



- ↓ poverty and chronic illness

Next Steps

- Return to GIC with Investment Implementation Plan by June 2017
- Build comprehensive 10-Year Poverty Reduction Strategy by Q4 2018
 - Engage partnership networks and residents with lived experience to align existing strategies and integrate supports
 - Leverage federal and provincial resources
 - Identify system gaps, opportunities, priorities for action
 - Measure, assess, and respond to policy and local context
 - Collaborate with partners to increase access to: tax filing and benefits, support services, and employment

