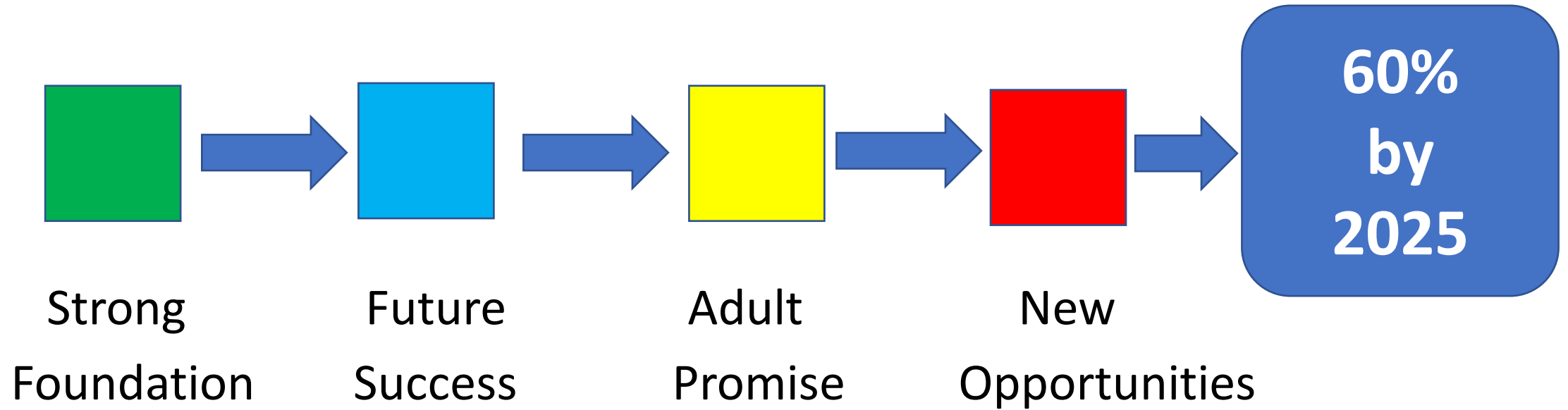




mainespark<sup>MZ</sup>

A Strong Foundation  
for Maine's Future

# MaineSpark's Path to Success



# What is Strong Foundations about?

- **Our focus: what needs to happen so that:**

**All rising 6th graders will have the support to reach critical milestones so that they are prepared for successful transition into middle school and, ultimately, to be college and career ready**



# What is Strong Foundations about?

- *We're about making sure Maine children have support from their earliest days*

Expand access for all children ages 6 weeks to 5 years by increasing access to Early Head Start, Head Start and other affordable, high quality learning environments so that any parent who wants to enroll their child is able to do so.

# What is Strong Foundations about?

- *We're about making sure students build proficiency to support future success*

Elevate the importance of proficiency in Reading and Math, as well as Maine's Guiding Principles, and develop and deploy supports for schools to help improve proficiency across all learning standards and content areas for their students.

# What is Strong Foundations about?

- *We're about weaving the pieces together*

Create a coordinated educational pipeline from Birth through Grade 6 by creating policies that support common screenings, assessments, and evidence-based curricula in the early care and public education system.

# What is Strong Foundations about?

- *We're about supporting families, so they can support their children*

Maine state and local systems have family-friendly policies and implementation strategies that strengthen families so they can support their children in reaching critical milestones by increasing the value of childcare subsidies and streamlining the process for accessing these subsidies.

# What's happening on the ground?

**\$40 Million invested  
for the future education  
of 80,000 Maine children!**



**Alfond**  
Scholarship Foundation





Every child deserves  
a success story.



**Especially yours.**

Make education after high school  
a chapter in your child's life  
and they can write their  
own success story!



500ForBaby.org



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# Partnerships make the difference for the Harold Alfond College Challenge

- FAME
- Hospitals
- Businesses
- Youth-serving organizations
- Funding partners
- Schools



# Partnerships matter for Strong Foundations

- Alfond Scholarship Foundation
- Educare
- Maine Children's Alliance
- Maine Department of Education
- Maine Early Learning
- Investment Group
- Ready Nation/Council for a Strong America
- United Way of Greater Portland



