



**EDUCATION  
& SCHOOL  
SUPPORT  
STRATEGIES**

- **Kelly Loeffelholz**  
*(All Saints Church)*
- **Steve & Peg Schmitz**  
*(All Saints Church)*
- **Dr. Berthude Albert**  
*(P4H Global)*
- **Dr. Priscilla Zelaya**  
*(P4H Global)*
- **Astrid Cortes-Harris**  
*(Food for The Poor)*

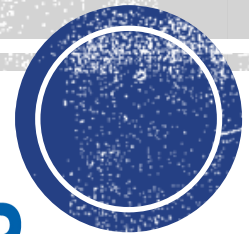
# Please introduce yourself



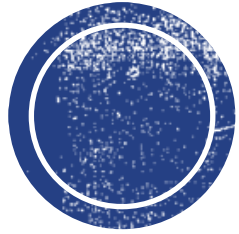
All Saints  
Catholic Church  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA



**FFTP** FOOD FOR  
THE POOR  
United in God's Work

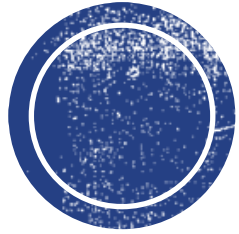






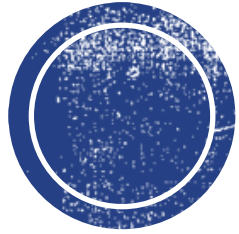
- Wife to Chris for 41 years and mother of three grown children living in Maine, Massachusetts and Arizona.
- Recently retired, enjoying different hobbies.
- Member of the All Saints/St Johns/Heart of Mary Haiti committee in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
- Been involved with Haiti since 2012, main role on teacher education efforts in the 24 supported schools .
- Loves communicating in Haitian Creole with her newfound friends in Haiti
- One of the co-chair elects with the difficult task of succeeding Steve and Peg Schmitz.

# Kelly Loefflholz



- Husband to Peg for 29 years, with two daughters and two grandchildren.
- Steve retired in 2108, from a professional career that included 20 years in IT support, 2 years directing flood recovery in Cedar Rapids and 8 years with Catholic Charities in various roles.
- Currently enjoying the grandchildren, gardening and everybody else's TO-DO list
- Members of All Saints church in Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Been involved in Haiti since 2003 as the committee chairperson and mission team leader.
- Has visited Haiti 17 times, the last one was in 2019.

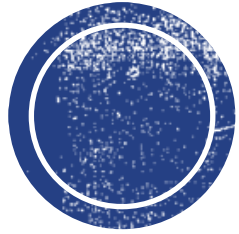
# Steve Schmitz



- Proud Haitian-American. At the age of 8 she immigrated to the United States from Haiti with her family.
- University of Florida triple Gator: BA in English (2012), MA in Latin American Studies (2014) and PhD in Agricultural Education and Communication (2016).
- Received several awards such as UF's Hall of Fame, UF's Teaching Assistant of the Year, the International Outreach Award, and more.
- Co-founder of P4H Global and currently serves as the CEO of P4H Global, which has grown to be the largest teacher training nonprofit in Haiti.
- Committed to seeing Haiti rise to her full potential and destiny through sustainable development and human capacity.

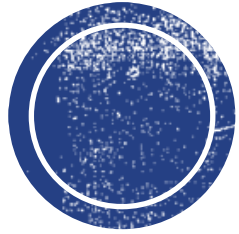
# Dr. Bertrhude Albert





- Born and raised in Miami, FL, proudly celebrates her Nicaraguan heritage
- University of Florida triple Gator: Bachelors and Masters in Elementary Education and Ph.D. in Agricultural Education and Communication with a specialization in Program Development and Evaluation (2016).
- Co-Founder and Chief Operations Officer of P4H Global,
- Her passions include sustainable development, education, and cultural diversity.
- Dr. Zelaya's leadership has led to the development of a ground-breaking educational program in Haiti that is aimed at training teachers in student-centered strategies. Dr. Zelaya is committed to helping others develop their God-given talents to help change the world.

# Dr. Priscilla Zelaya



- Married to Todd for 7 years and native of Colombia
- Has worked as a consultant in research, monitoring and evaluation, international community development, program design, capacity building, management, and social responsibility, in a wide variety of cross-cultural environments in 20+ countries around the world prior to joining the Food for the Poor team in October of 2017.
- Currently serving as the Director of Sustainable Livelihoods, leading a team that strategically supports the organization and in-country partners in prioritizing their efforts to properly design, monitor, evaluate and learn from best practices (solutions) to alleviate multidimensional poverty.

# Astrid Cortes-Harris

**What have been your 3 most significant challenges and how you have effectively address them?**



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# CHALLENGE 1

Lack of proper understanding (ignorance) of how things work in small villages in Haiti.

## SOLUTIONS

- Talk, talk and talk
- Identify leaders
- Use liaison-Parish network for information







## CHALLENGE 2

What is Education in small rural village in Haiti?

## SOLUTIONS

- Scholarships for University
- Trade schools
- Local Apprenticeships
- Tools for employment







## CHALLENGE 3

- Not thinking we know what is best for our partner.
- Getting them to figure that out themselves.

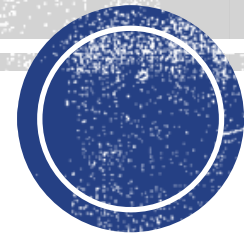
## SOLUTIONS

- Use what we DO know
  - Low salaries, lack of training
- Teachers input for future trainings





**What have been your 3 most significant challenges and how you have effectively address them?**





# CHALLENGE 1

## Context of the Country:

- Natural Disasters
- President assassination
- Insecurity







## CHALLENGE 2

Behavioral change is difficult

## SOLUTIONS

- From Teacher-centered to student centered
- Practical Applications in classroom







## CHALLENGE 3

Teachers Dropping out:

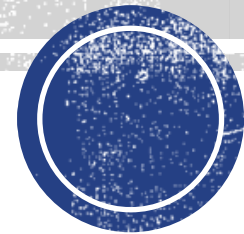
- High turn-over

## SOLUTIONS

- Follow up sessions with new teachers
- Created a virtual library for our teachers with modules that cover the training materials.



**What have been your 3 most significant challenges and how you have effectively address them?**







## CHALLENGE 1

Access to or availability of Education does not equal to Quality of Education

## SOLUTIONS

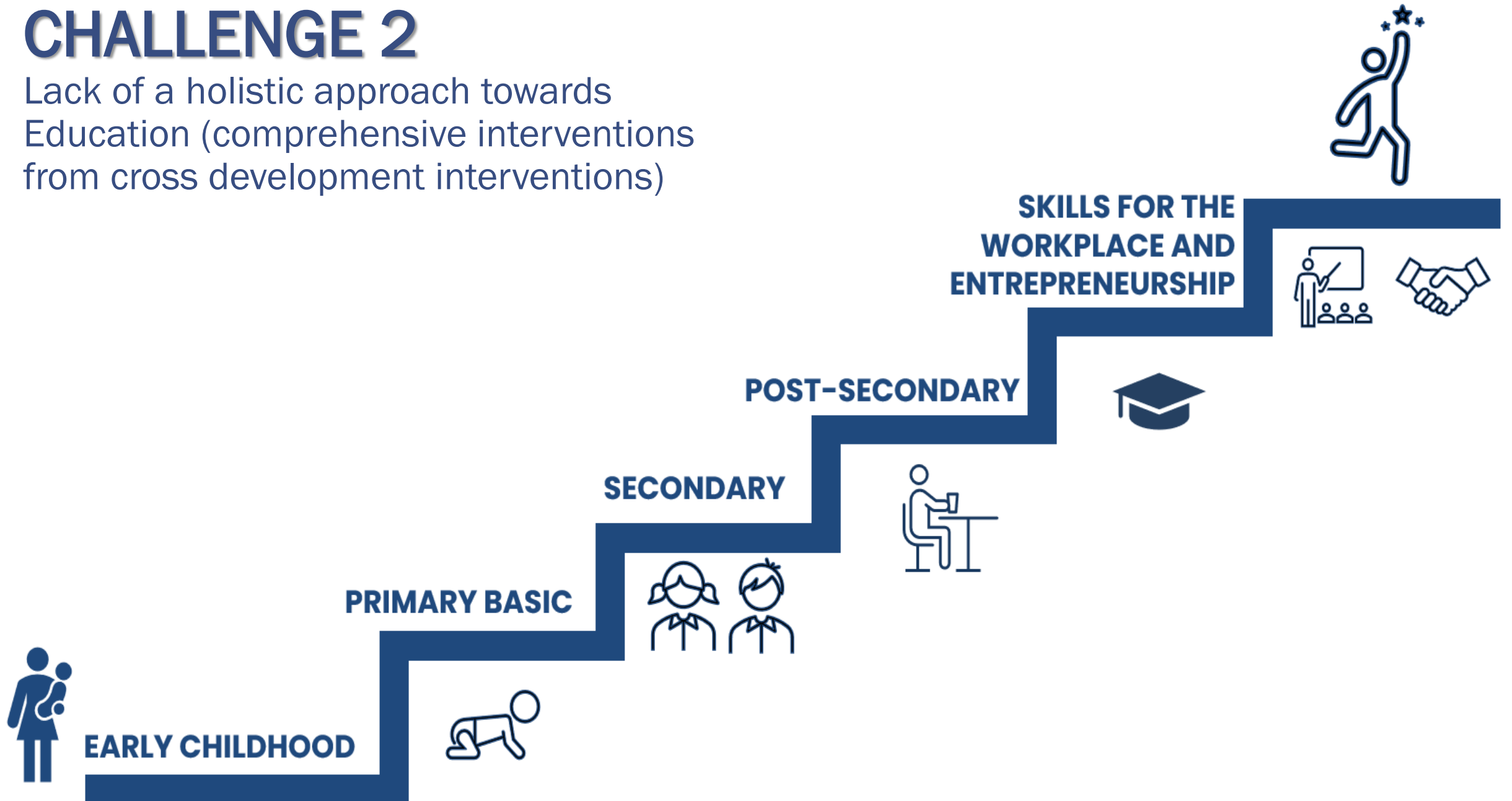
- Advocacy
- Donor development and In-Country-Partners education
- Partnerships





# CHALLENGE 2

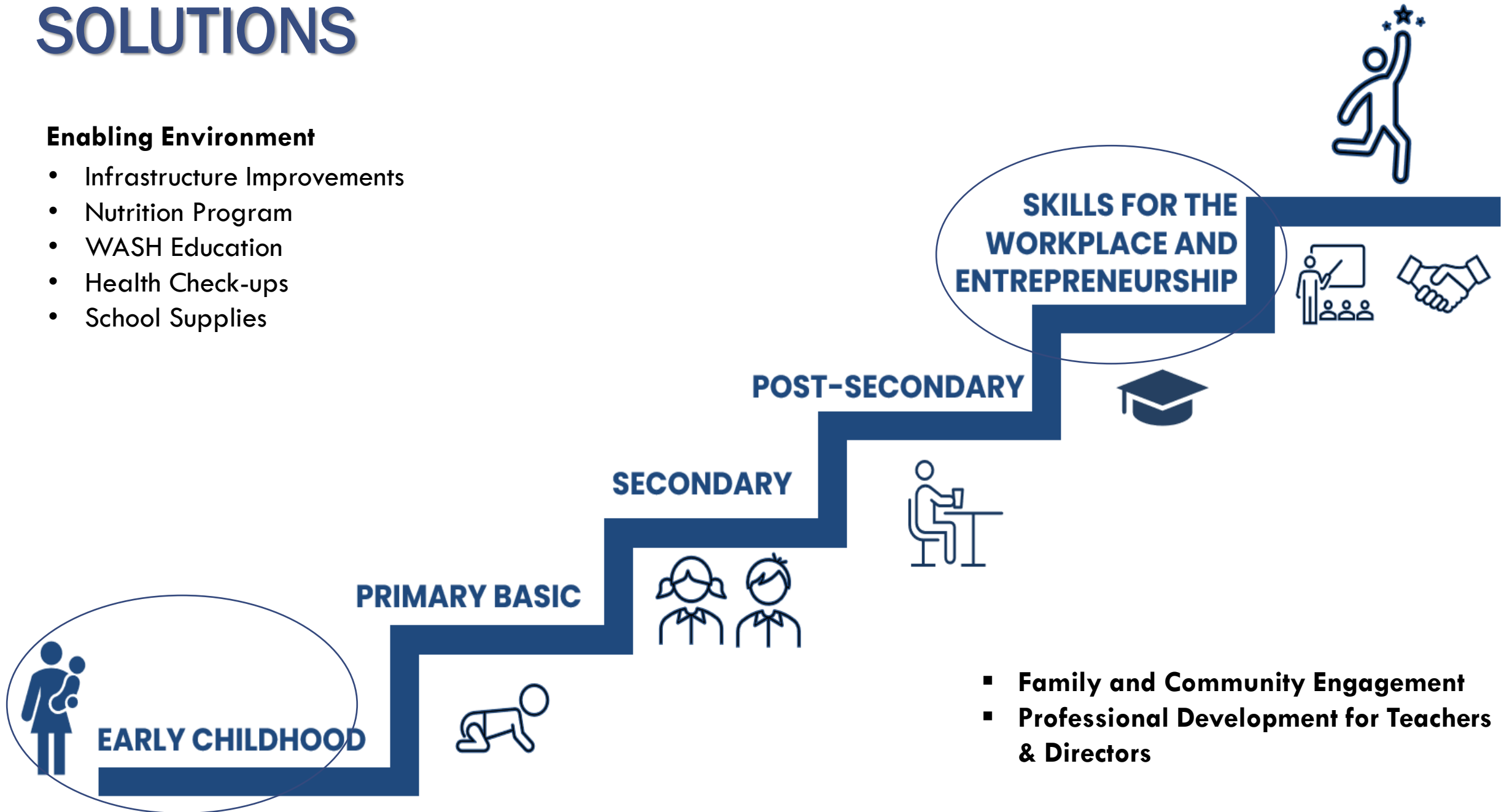
Lack of a holistic approach towards Education (comprehensive interventions from cross development interventions)



# SOLUTIONS

## Enabling Environment

- Infrastructure Improvements
- Nutrition Program
- WASH Education
- Health Check-ups
- School Supplies



**SKILLS FOR THE  
WORKPLACE AND  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

**POST-SECONDARY**

**SECONDARY**

**PRIMARY BASIC**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD**

- Family and Community Engagement
- Professional Development for Teachers & Directors





## CHALLENGE 3

### Social, cultural and economic barriers

Photo credit: UNICEF, Education International





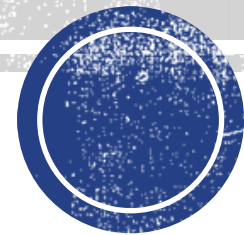
**How do you ensure the  
sustainability of your program?**



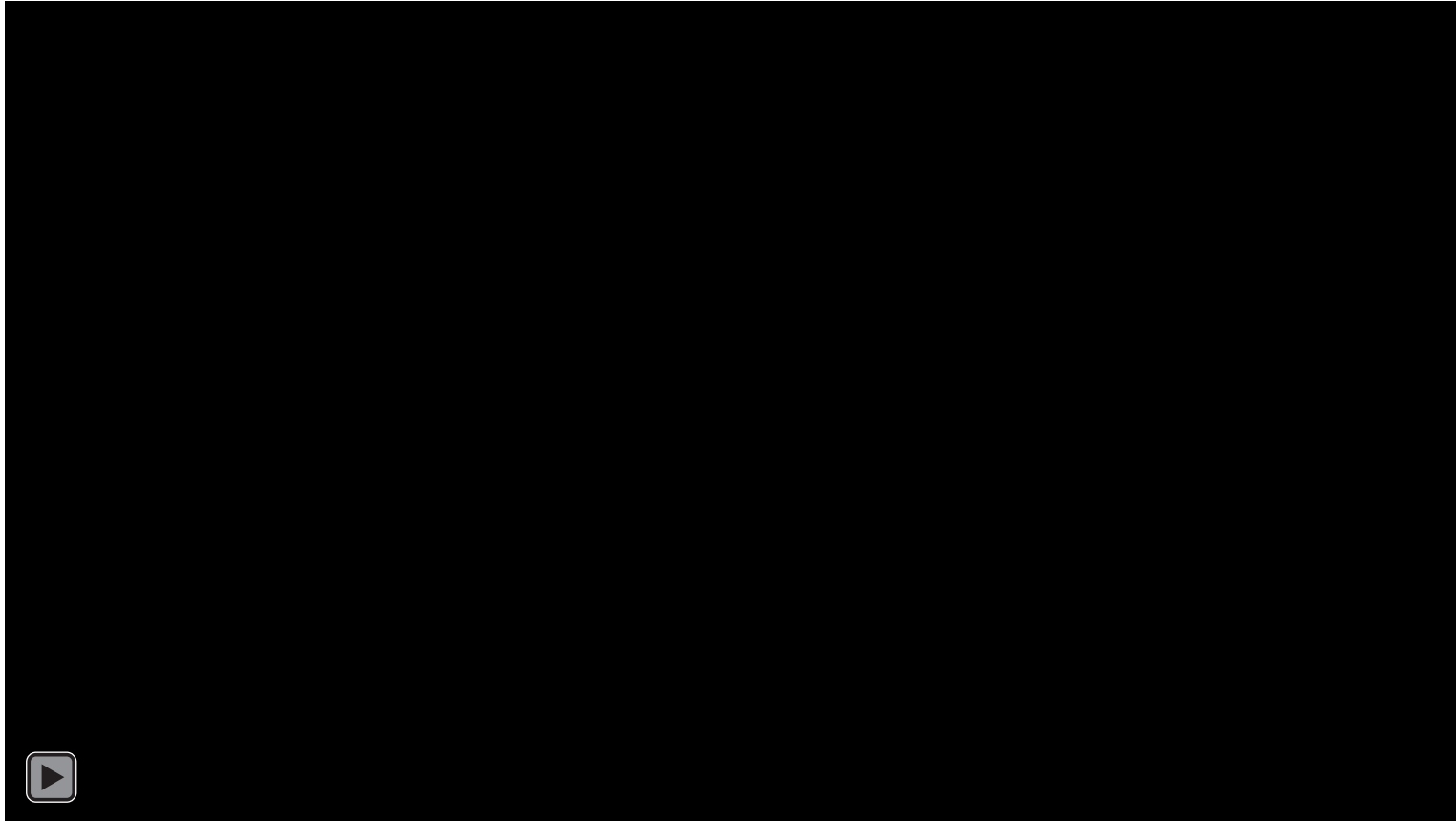
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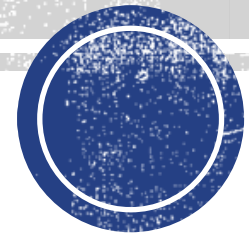




- Create an overall Plan/Mission statement.
- Involve local teachers in continuing education.



**How do you ensure the sustainability of your program?**

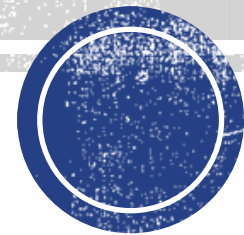






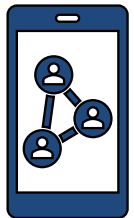
- Training teachers and directors to help meet the needs of their students, effectively
- Developing the school directors in our program with specific training to help run their schools.
- Adopting School Committees to develop long-term plans for schools' improvement

**How do you ensure the  
sustainability of your program?**





- Transformational Partnerships (and collaboration) for Development
- Empowering and mobilizing youth (family-community based)
- Advocacy across all sectors
- Leveraging technology



**What would you be your top 3 pieces of advice to keep in mind when considering getting involved in education?**



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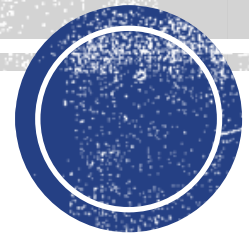






- Talk to other PTPA parishes.
- Talk to other organizations.
- Can your US parish support the efforts you are proposing?
- Is your Twin Parish a partner that is willing AND able to help.

**What would you be your top 3 pieces of advice to keep in mind when considering getting involved in education?**

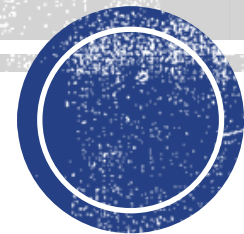




- Build relationships with the community members you are working with!
- Don't be afraid to make changes to your plans in response to what the community is expressing.
- Work in partnership with others. Change shouldn't occur in silos.



**What would you be your top 3 pieces of advice to keep in mind when considering getting involved in education?**





- Implementations must come from the field! Be an student of the community you want to serve
- Think holistically – avoid single factor interventions
- Partnerships and Collaboration



# Thank you!

## Q&A?



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