In/Out-Migration and the Composition of NYS Communities:

A Focus on Youth
Context Setting

1. International Migration

2. Domestic In/Out Migration

3. Age-specific Migration: YOUTH
   - What does this look like in NY?
   - Why does it matter?
   - How might we address this challenge?
   - What are some ways it is being addressed

4. Interrelations

“Migration is the primary population redistribution process in the United States. Selective migration by age, race/ethnic group, and spatial location governs population integration, affects community and economic development, contributes to land use change, and structures service needs.”

- Kenneth Johnson & Richelle Winkler
New York and Colorado

Tompkins County

Hamilton County

Saratoga County

What does this have to do with global forces?

- **Contributing to out-migration**
  - Loss of jobs real & perceived

- **Easing the impact of out-migration**
  - International in-migration

- **Energy & Technology**
- **Poverty & Inequality**
Why focus on Youth relative to In/Out Migration?

Youth Attraction & Retention (YR&A)

**Young people:**
- Innovate with passion & energy
- Develop businesses that are foundation of tax base
- Future labor force
- Provide elder care
- Regenerate/New family formation
- Social capital, human capital, future capacity
Opportunities to stem permanent OUT and increase IN migration of youth

Factors which influence YR&A youth

- **Factors (which communities may be able to influence)**
  - Relating to Retention
    - Feeling connected to the community
    - Feeling opinions valued
    - Seeing opportunities
  - Relating to Attraction
    - Economic opportunities
    - Social & cultural opportunities
    - Recreational opportunities


Ways in which YR&A is being addressed

- **Individual institutional strategies**
  - K-12, Colleges & Universities
  - Community-based Organizations
  - Employers
  - Governments

- **Multi-institutional practices**
  - Regional Education to Workforce Pipelines

Resources:

- [http://www.40belowsyracuse.com/](http://www.40belowsyracuse.com/)
- [https://www.beagenesee.com/](https://www.beagenesee.com/)
- [https://jobs.wegmans.com/wegmans-scholarship-program](https://jobs.wegmans.com/wegmans-scholarship-program)
- [http://sustainability.psu.edu/reinvention/scholarship-sustainability-civic-engagement](http://sustainability.psu.edu/reinvention/scholarship-sustainability-civic-engagement)
- [https://www.strivetogther.org/the-network/](https://www.strivetogther.org/the-network/)
YR&A Strategic Plan

Canadian examples at provincial level:

- Newfoundland and Labrador Government
  - Created a youth engagement minister
  - Created a quarterly youth partnership forum for youth to advise government on issues of importance to them,
  - Committed 3-year $15 million YR & A within the province.

- Attracting and Retaining People to Rural Alberta: A List of Resources and Literature Review
  - Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development publication
  - Designed to support local efforts to attract & retain young people+

https://youthcore.ca/download.php?id=112
Unintentional YR&A Deterrents

- Programs can enhance OR negatively impact factors that influence YR&A
  - Retention
    - Youth recreation programs
    - Youth employment programs
    - Youth leadership programs
  - Attraction
    - Natural resource preservation & recreation opportunities
    - Business & economic development programs
    - Main street revitalization
  - Do not want to unintentionally undermine


Parting thoughts

• Different but related

• Key is the OPPORTUNITY

• What can we learn from each other?

• How could we be more intentional to maximize the opportunity in-migration presents for our communities?
For more information


• *Resources for Addressing Brain Drain from Rural Communities*. Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development. Accessed online 10/11/17: http://aese.psu.edu/nercrd/community/rural-brain-drain


THANK YOU

CONTACT INFORMATION

Heidi Mouillessieux-Kunzman and Robin Blakely-Armitage
Community and Regional Development Institute
Department of Development Sociology
Cornell University
hmm1@cornell.edu / rmb18@cornell.edu