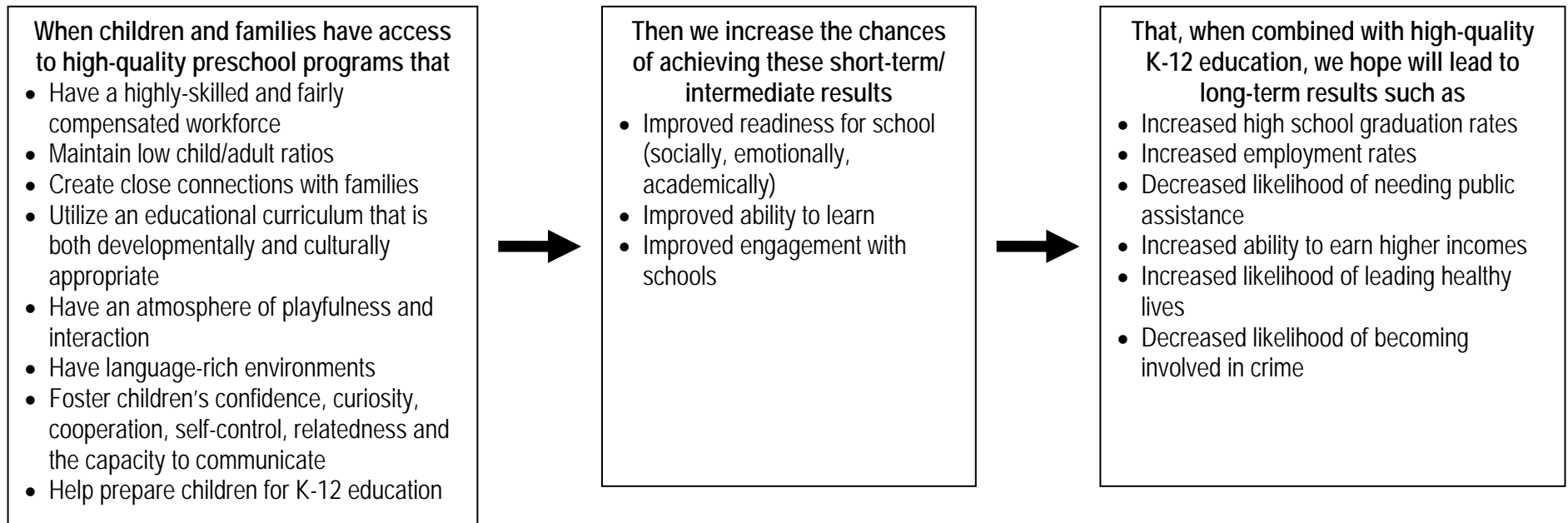


Preschool “Logic Model”

VISION: All children in Santa Cruz County have the opportunity to attend adequately-funded preschool programs that prepare them for success in school and life.

WE KNOW THAT:

- In Santa Cruz County, preschool-age children are being taught and cared for in a variety of settings.
- There is existing information that identifies essential elements and indicators of quality preschool, kindergarten readiness and school “success”.
- High-quality preschool provides children with early social and academic skills that prepare them to be effective learners throughout their education.
- Years of research and practical experience tell us that:



THE PROBLEM IS: According to recent research about preschool programs in California,

- There is plenty of room for improving the quality of preschool for all children.
- The children who lack access to quality preschool are disproportionately children of color, children whose home language is not English and children whose parents did not graduate from high school.
- Much of the gap in fourth-grade reading scores between Latino and white children can be attributed to a gap that exists when they start kindergarten.
- When kids start school behind, many will only fall further behind.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW at a local level in order to address this problem?