Poverty in Jacksonville

Prepared for the Charter Revision Commission
– Urban Services District Subcommittee

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Lift Jax is an initiative of business and community leaders to eradicate generational poverty in Jacksonville.

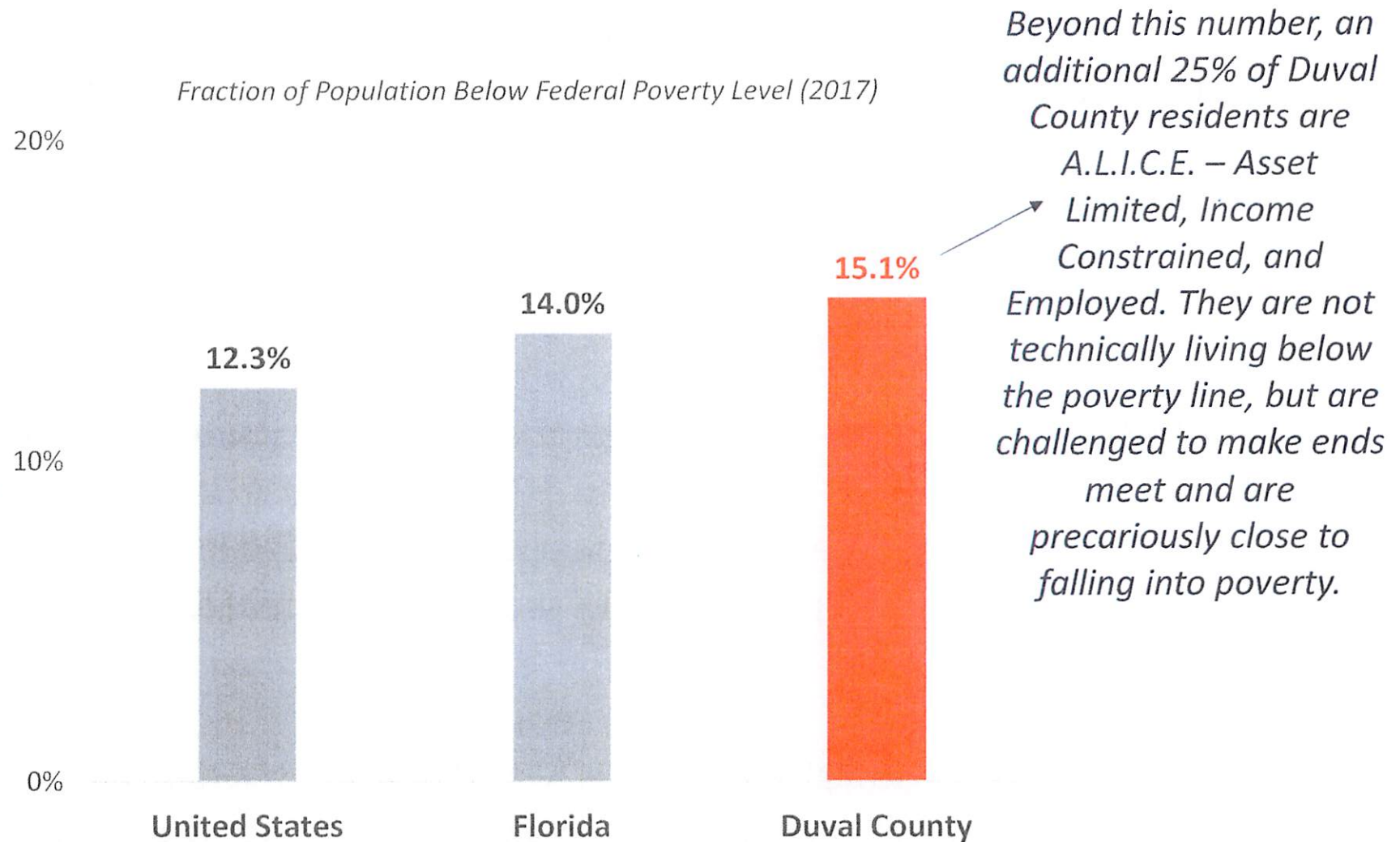# Our research has revealed that poverty takes on four fundamental characteristics in Jacksonville

Concentrated: Certain areas in Jacksonville, particularly those located near the urban core, experience the highest poverty levels

Generational: Children born into poverty tend to have lower incomes as adults

Racialized: People of color, particularly African-Americans, experience higher levels of poverty, on average, than whites

Multifaceted: Poverty manifests in different ways, and there is no single driver of or solution to poverty

Duval County experiences higher rates of poverty, on average, than Florida and the United States

Fraction of Population Below Federal Poverty Level (2017)

Beyond this number, an additional 25% of Duval County residents are A.L.I.C.E. – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, and Employed. They are not technically living below the poverty line, but are challenged to make ends meet and are precariously close to falling into poverty.

20%

15.1%

14.0%

12.3%

10%

0%

United States   **Florida**   **Duval County**

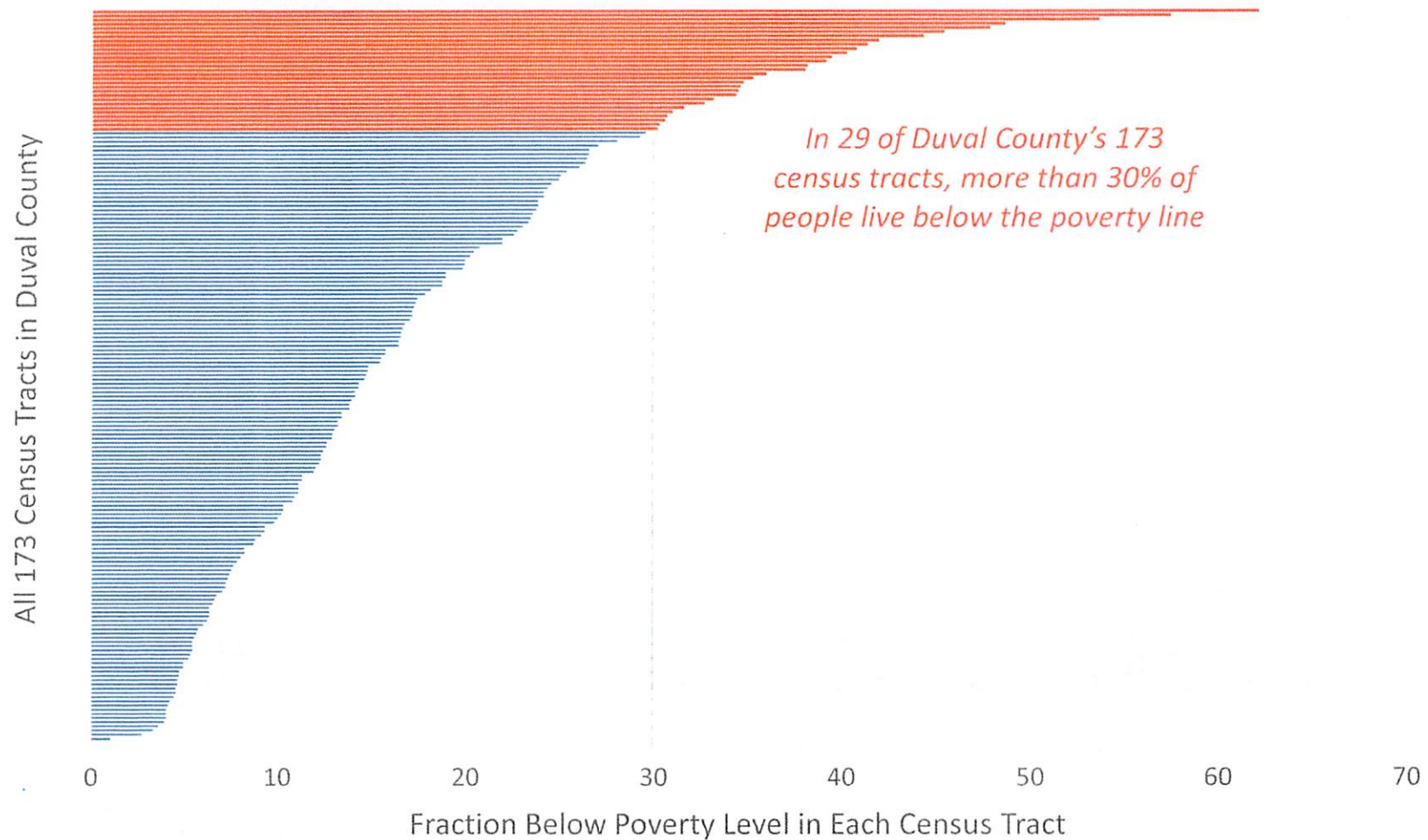SOURCE: American Community Survey 2017; United Way ALICE Report 2019

ALICE families typically earn above the Federal Poverty Level but less than the Household Survival Budget

Household Survival Budget, Duval County	
	2 Adults, 1 Infant, 1 Preschooler
Monthly Costs	
Housing	$931
Child Care	$960
Food	$547
Transportation	$644
Health Care	$634
Miscellaneous	$399
Taxes	$276
Monthly Household Survival Budget	$4,391
Annual Household Survival Budget	**$52,692**
Federal Poverty Level	**$25,750**

Sources: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA); Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); Internal Revenue Service (IRS); Florida Department of Education, Office of Early Learning.

The average poverty rate masks significant disparities within Duval County

Fraction of Population Living Below the Poverty Line by Census Tract

In 29 of Duval County's 173 census tracts, more than 30% of people live below the poverty line

All 173 Census Tracts in Duval County

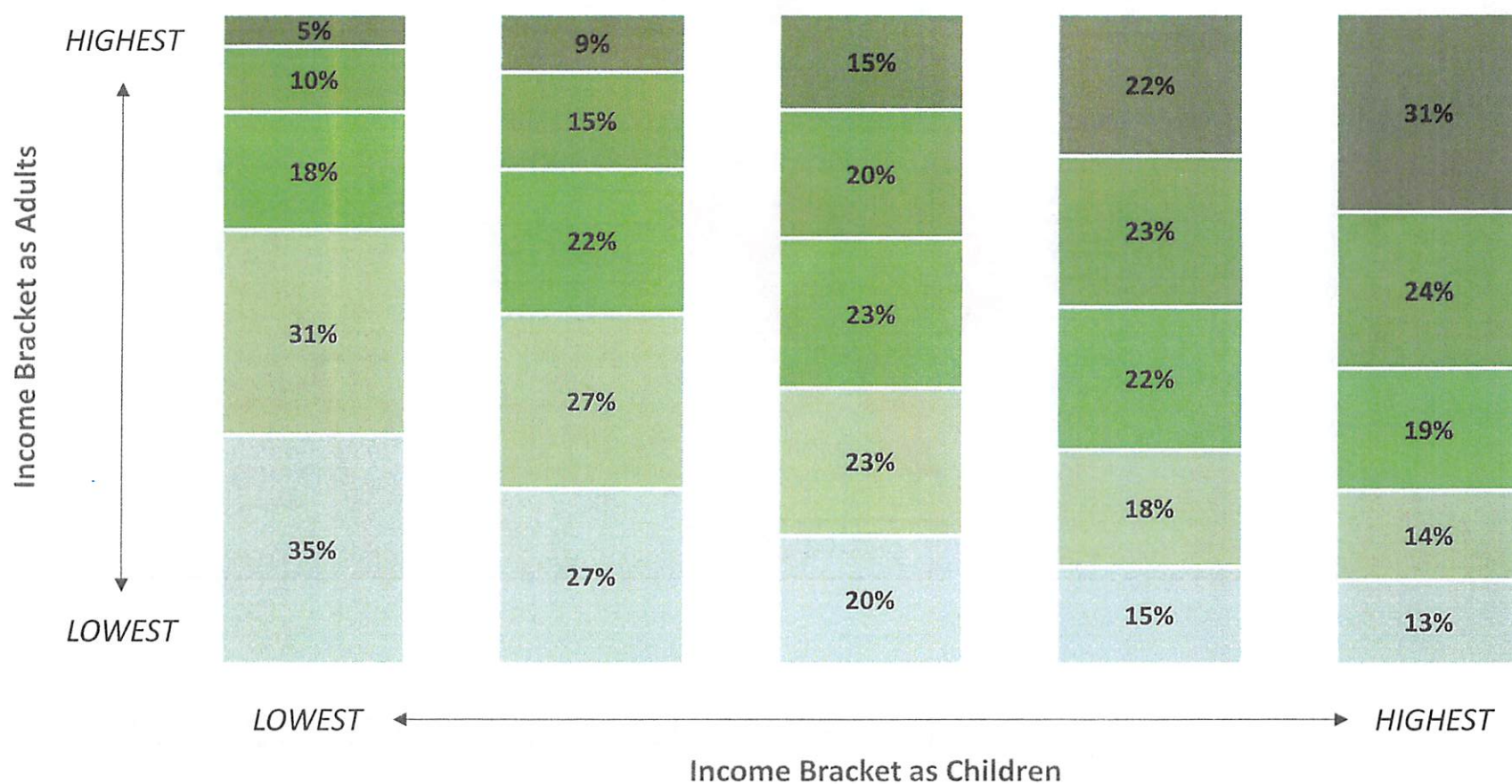Fraction Below Poverty Level in Each Census Tract

SOURCE: American Community Survey 2017

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Highlighting census tracts with the highest poverty rates reveals concentration largely around the urban core
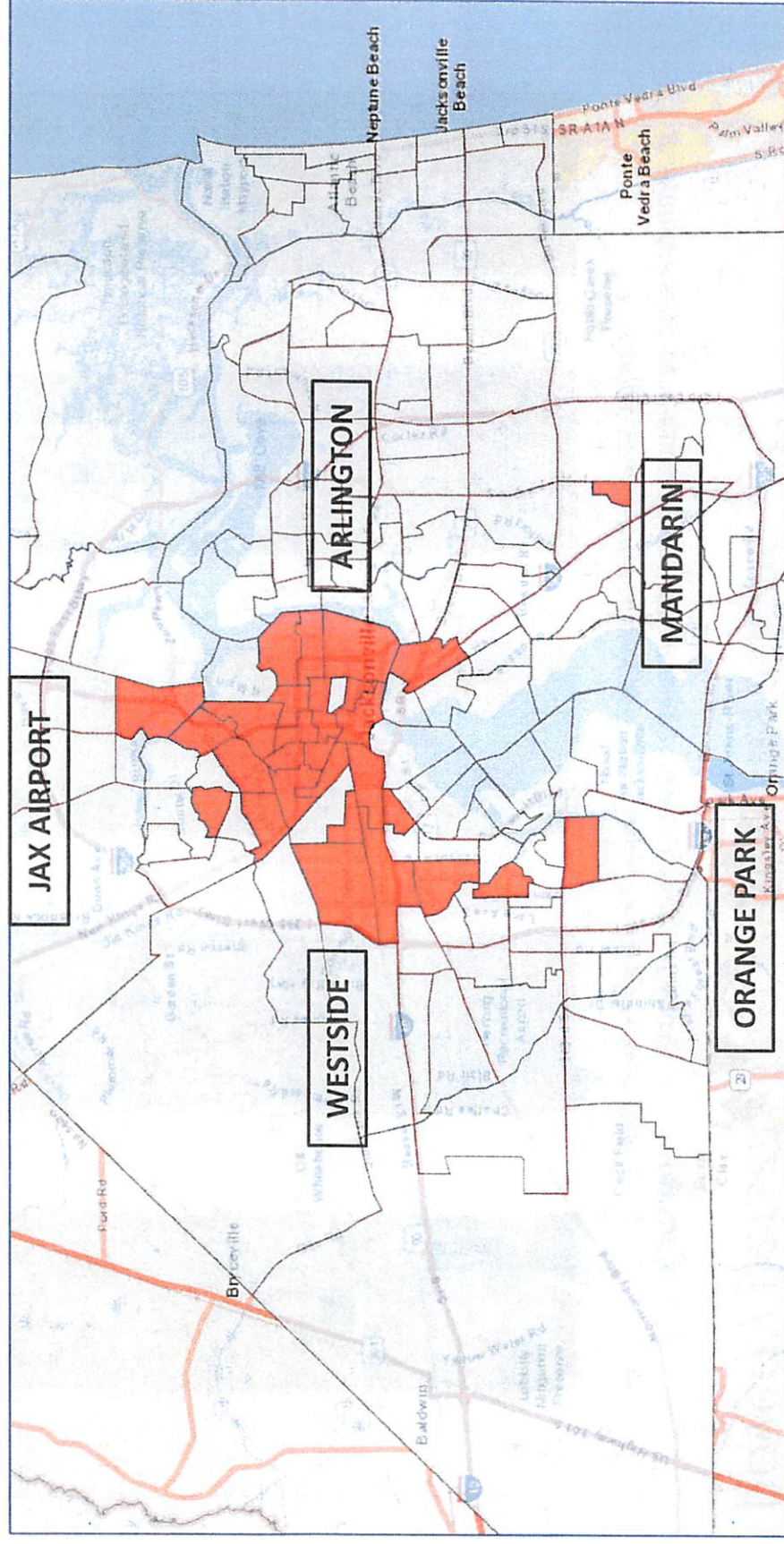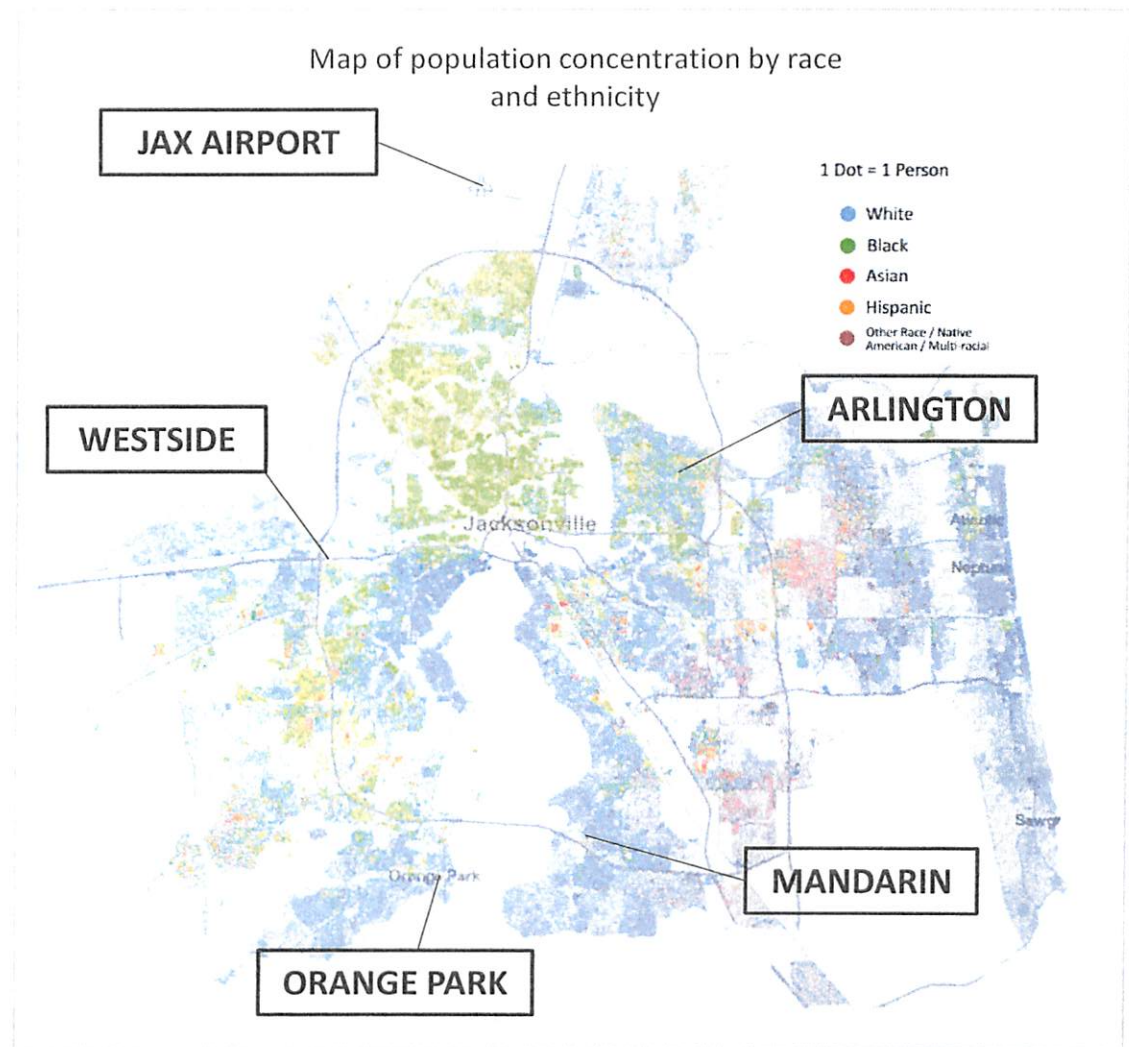
Thanks to new research, we also now know that poverty persists through generations

This chart shows the reality in Duval County: Children born to parents with the very lowest and very highest incomes are likely to remain there as adults

Income Bracket as Adults

HIGHEST

5%
10%
18%
31%
35%

LOWEST

9%
15%
22%
27%
27%

15%
20%
23%
23%
20%

22%
23%
22%
18%
15%

31%
24%
19%
14%
13%

LOWEST ← → HIGHEST

Income Bracket as Children

Disaggregating the data also reveals the black poverty rate is more than double the white poverty rate
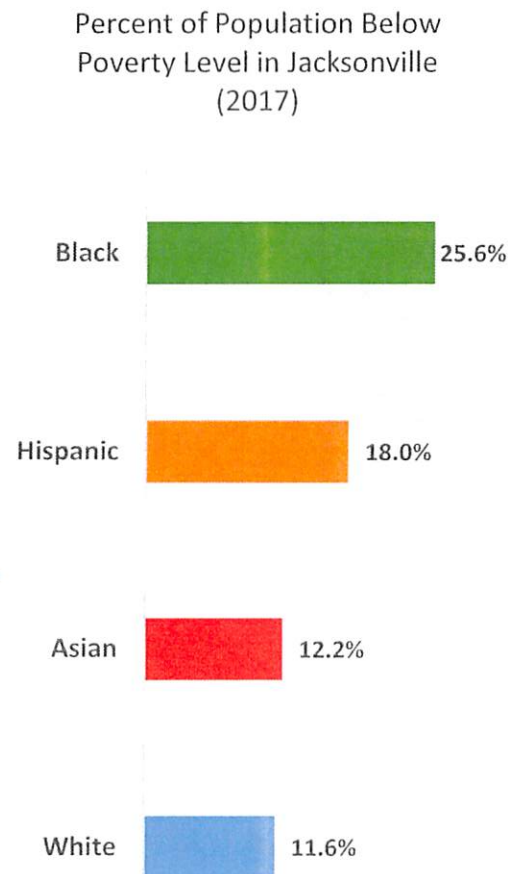
Percent of Population Below Poverty Level in Jacksonville (2017)

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
Black	25.6%
Hispanic	18.0%
Asian	12.2%
White	11.6%

Map of population concentration by race and ethnicity

JAX AIRPORT

WESTSIDE

ARLINGTON

MANDARIN

ORANGE PARK

1 Dot = 1 Person

- White
- Black
- Asian
- Hispanic
- Other Race / Native American / Multi-racial

People don't self-identify as data points in a census tract – they identify with neighborhoods

RIBAULT
NORWOOD
MONCRIEF
BRENTWOOD
DURKEEVILLE
EASTSIDE
NEW TOWN
WESTSIDE
LAVILLA
MIXON TOWN

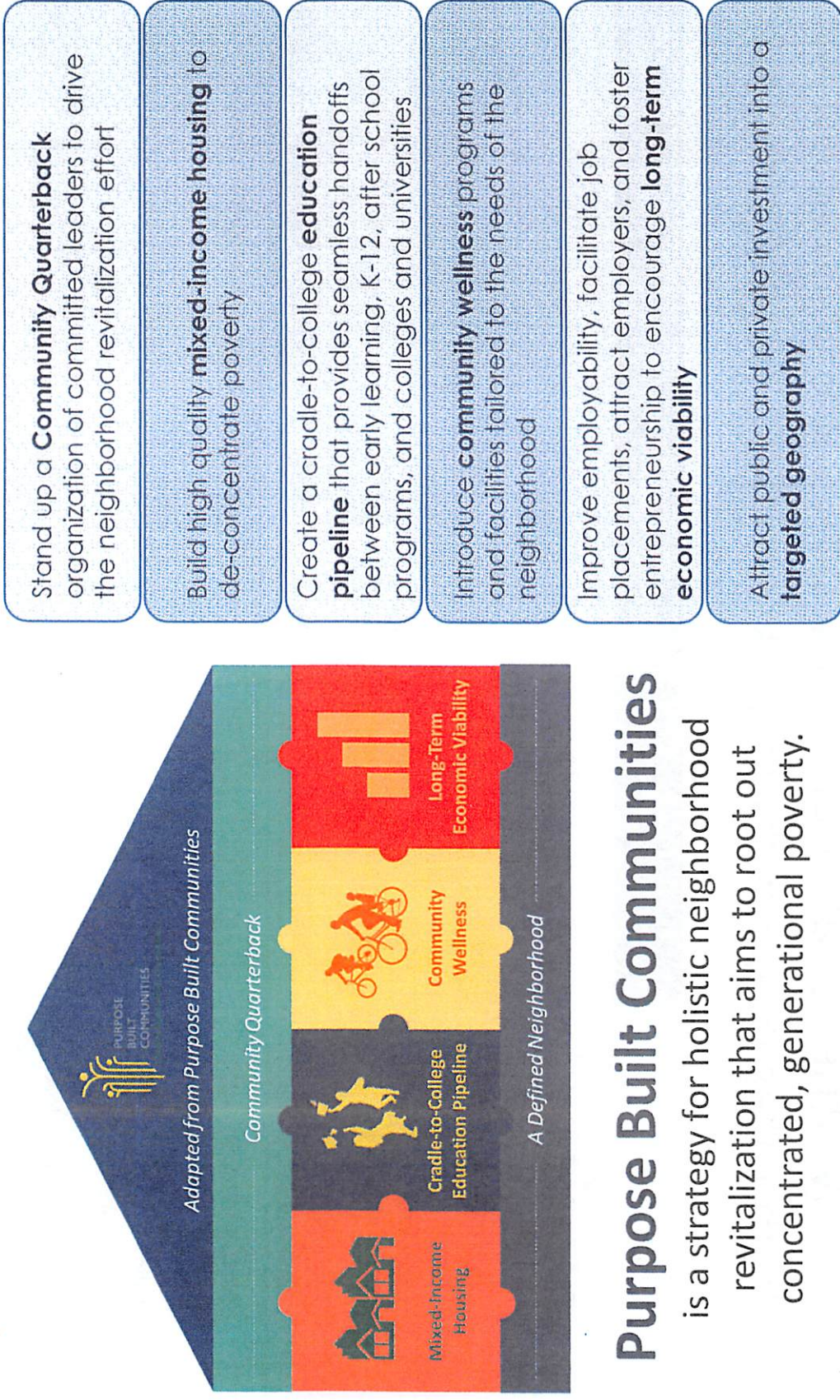*Not exhaustive of all neighborhoods in this area*
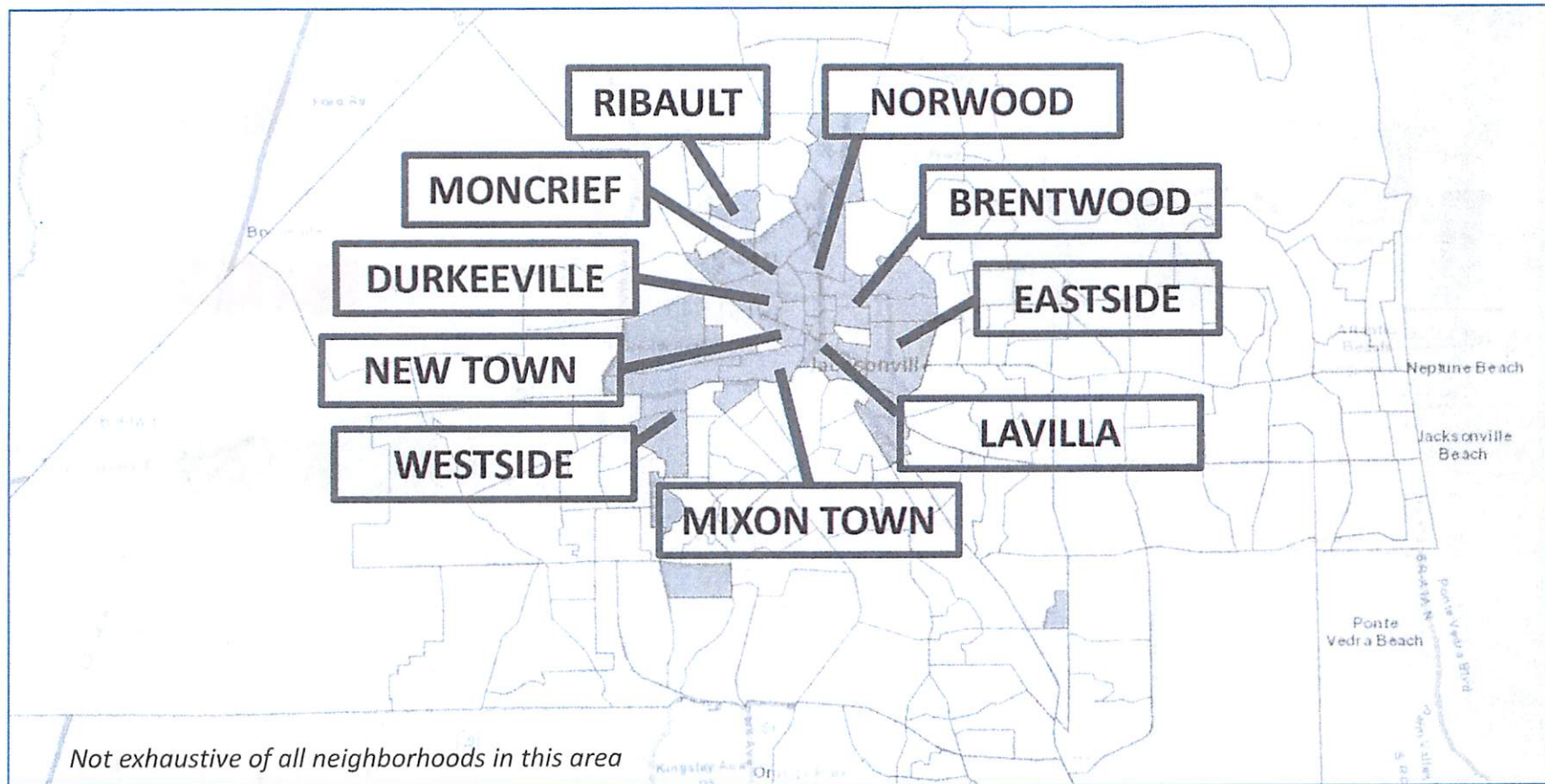
Many other challenging outcomes are correlated with high rates of poverty in Jacksonville's neighborhoods*

	Moncrief	Durkeeville	New Town	Eastside	Ortega	Mandarin	Jax Average
Poverty (2017)	47.8%	32.6%	31.5%	41.9%	4.6%	4.9%	15.1%
Unemployment (2017)	9.3%	11.0%	10.6%	12.8%	1.9%	4.0%	7.4%
Homicides per 100,000 (2014-2018)	63.4	55.1	74.7	63.0	0	0	13.0
Percent of adults incarcerated (2010)	9.0%	8.0%	8.2%	6.9%	<1%	<1%	2.7%
Percent of adults with high school degree (2017)	74.7%	74.8%	77.0%	69.1%	95.5%	97.7%	89.4%
Deaths by heart disease per 100,000 (2014-2018)	338	393	315	312	216	234	176
Babies born with low birth weight (2014-2018)	15.0%	17.3%	16.7%	15.5%	3.1%	7.5%	10.0%
Life expectancy (2017)	69.8	67.1	68.9	70.3	80.2	78.7	76.7

*Calculated using census tract data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey. Neighborhood boundaries do not generally align precisely with census tract boundaries. These figures are calculated using representative census tracts 29.01 (Moncrief), 29.02 (Durkeeville), 28.02 (New Town), 174 (Eastside), 24 (Ortega), and 167.11 (Mandarin).

Lift Jax is in the initial planning stages of implementing the Purpose Built Communities model
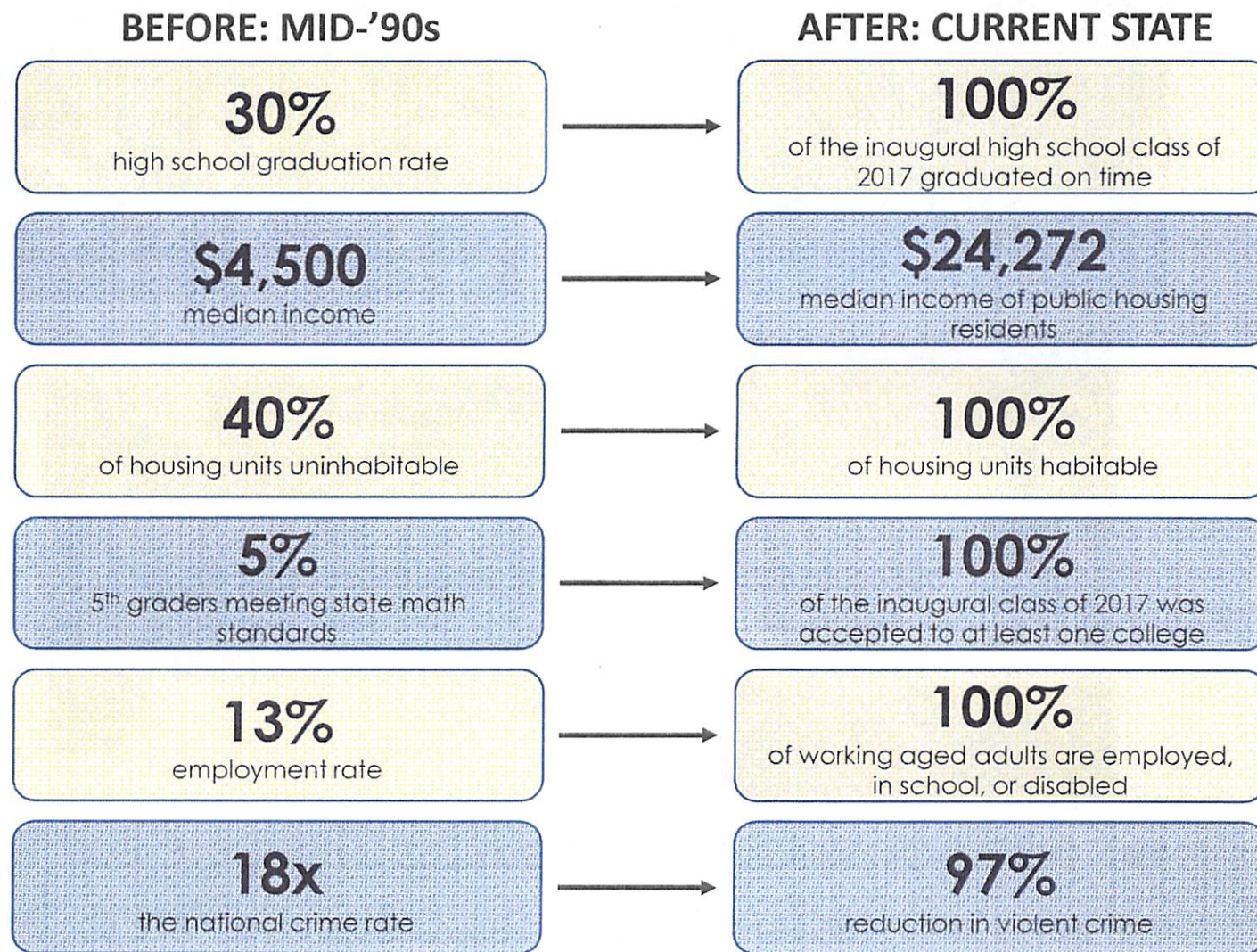

Adapted from Purpose Built Communities

Mixed-Income Housing | Cradle-to-College Education Pipeline | Community Wellness | Long-Term Economic Viability

Community Quarterback

A Defined Neighborhood

Purpose Built Communities

is a strategy for holistic neighborhood revitalization that aims to root out concentrated, generational poverty.

Stand up a **Community Quarterback** organization of committed leaders to drive the neighborhood revitalization effort

Build high quality **mixed-income housing** to de-concentrate poverty

Create a cradle-to-college **education pipeline** that provides seamless handoffs between early learning, K-12, after school programs, and colleges and universities

Introduce **community wellness** programs and facilities tailored to the needs of the neighborhood

Improve employability, facilitate job placements, attract employers, and foster entrepreneurship to encourage **long-term economic viability**

Attract public and private investment into a **targeted geography**

The Purpose Built Communities model was instrumental in transforming East Lake in Atlanta

BEFORE: MID-'90s

AFTER: CURRENT STATE

BEFORE: MID-'90s	AFTER: CURRENT STATE
30% high school graduation rate	**100%** of the inaugural high school class of 2017 graduated on time
$4,500 median income	**$24,272** median income of public housing residents
40% of housing units uninhabitable	**100%** of housing units habitable
5% 5th graders meeting state math standards	**100%** of the inaugural class of 2017 was accepted to at least one college
13% employment rate	**100%** of working aged adults are employed, in school, or disabled
18x the national crime rate	**97%** reduction in violent crime

SOURCE: Purpose Built Communities

While many neighborhoods do experience challenges, there are also significant local assets to build on
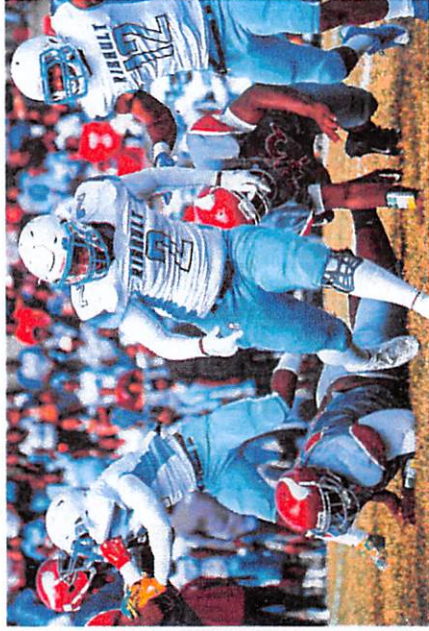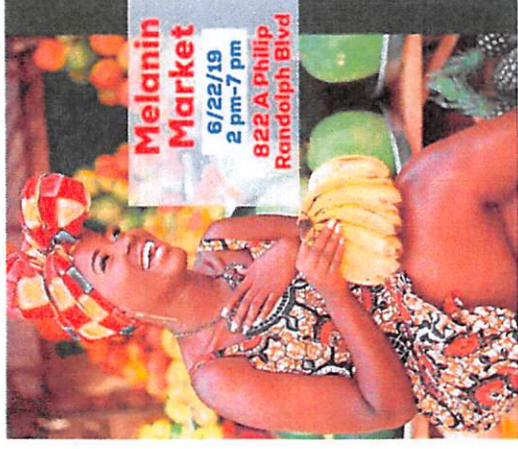
Our approaches to fighting poverty in Jacksonville should take these characteristics into account

Concentrated: Invest significant resources in areas that experience disproportionate levels of poverty

Generational: Invest for the long term, knowing that we seek generational change

Racialized: Invest significant resources in neighborhoods that are majority African-American

Multifaceted: Invest in solutions that address the multiple, interrelated drivers of poverty

...and don't forget to build on the *many assets that already exist* in our communities.

Sources

Secondary

- Centers for Disease Control: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/life-expectancy.htm

- Duval County Public Schools: https://dcps.duvalschools.org/domain/5682

- Jacksonville Block by Block Report: https://www.dupontfund.org/block-by-block-report-now-available-in-interactive-version/

- Jacksonville Public Education Fund: https://www.jaxpef.org/

- Florida Department of Health: http://www.flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=ChartsMaps.chartsMapper

- Network for Southern Economic Mobility: https://unitedwaynefl.org/nsemupdate/

- Opportunity Atlas: https://www.opportunityatlas.org/

- Purpose Built Communities: https://purposebuiltcommunities.org/

- U.S. Census Bureau / American Community Survey: https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?prefresh=t

- United Way: http://www.uwof.org/alice