



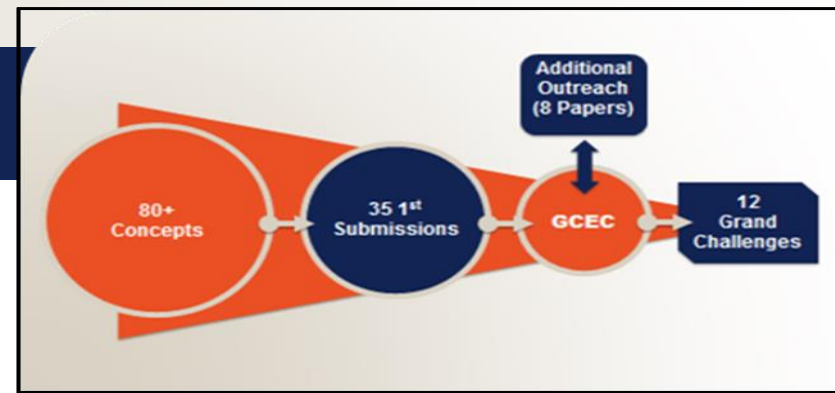
# Grand Challenges for Social Work

*Social progress powered by science*

Richard P. Barth, PhD, MSW  
NADD Panel on Grand Challenges Implementation  
San Juan, PR March 22, 2016

# Grand Challenges for Social Work Timeline

- **2012** Grand Challenges Planning Begins
- **2013** First GCs presentation and input : NADD Spring Conference 2013, Laguna Beach, CA.
  - Over 80 GC ideas generated on Academy website
- **2014** Call for papers
- **2015** Second Call for Papers
  - Grand Challenges Identified and Soft Roll Out Begins
- **2016 Grand Challenges Launch**



# Successful GCs Launch at SSWR 2016!



**Grand Challenges**  
for Social Work

Ensure healthy  
development for all youth

Create social responses to  
a changing environment

Close the health gap

Harness technology for  
social good

Stop family violence

Promote smart  
decarceration

Advance long and  
productive lives

Reduce extreme  
economic inequality

Eradicate social isolation

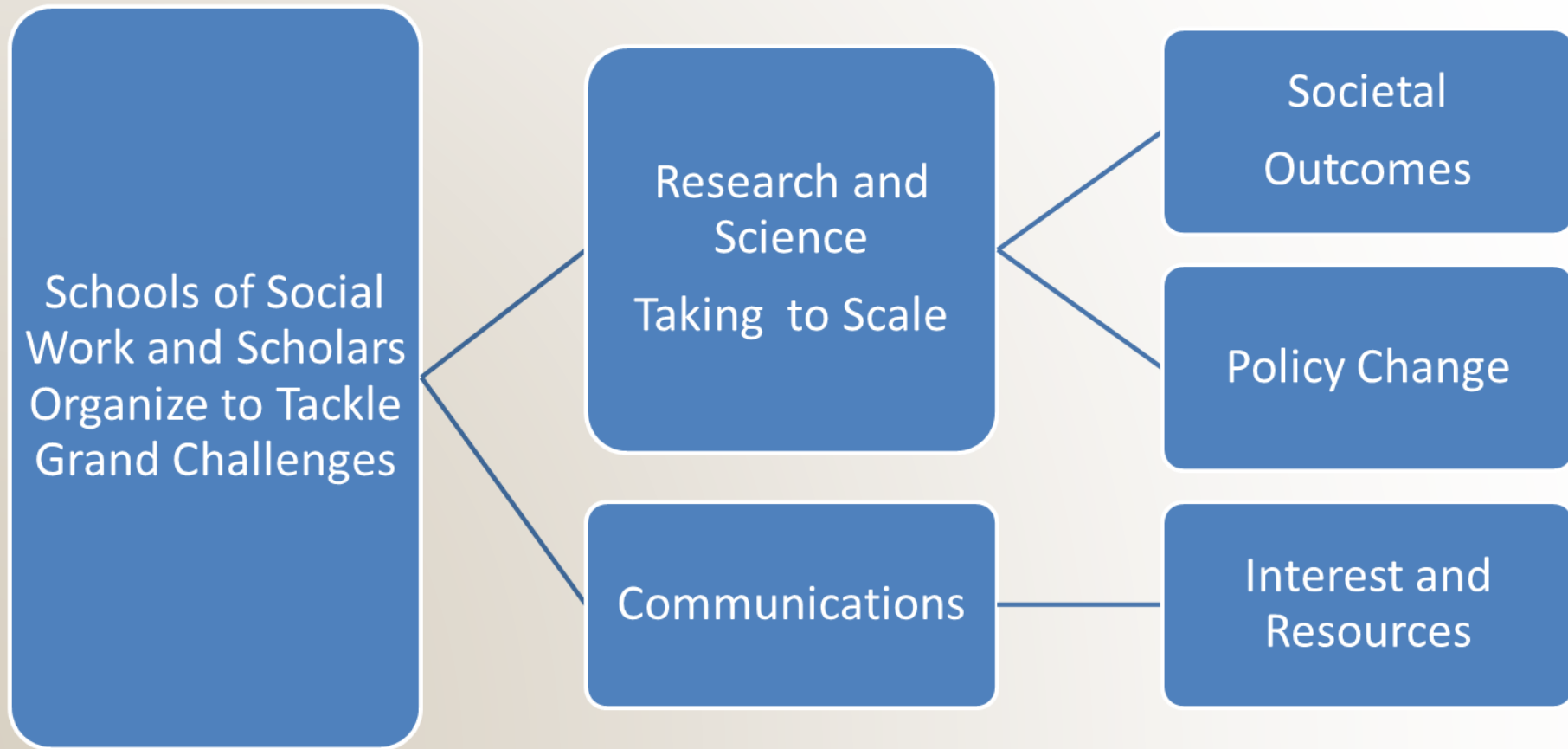
Build financial  
capability for all

End homelessness

Achieve equal  
opportunity and justice



# Moving from Internal to External Impact



# Internal Impact

- GCs used as organizing framework nationwide to work collaboratively and report impact collectively
- Influence social work education toward stronger links between science and social progress
- Influence the substantive career directions of social work scientists--particularly those who are emerging
- Attract new talent into social work careers



# External Impact

- Strengthen collaborative and inter-disciplinary research agendas
- Engage national and regional funders
- Broaden the benefactor pool
- Influence the perception of social work by the public and other disciplines and professions
- Generate measurable societal benefits

# Emerging Implementation Steps

- **New GC Co-Chairs:** Marilyn Flynn, Michael Sherraden, Edwina Uehara.
  - Grand Challenges Steering Committee, Executive Committee, and Academy staff facilitate structure for a:
    - Learning Community across 12 GC Networks,
    - Aids in promotion and communications—including robust website.
- **March 2016:** Leads are formally invited for each GC Network.
- **April 2016- April 2018 :** 2 Year Implementation Plans



# Past and Upcoming Events

- Inaugural Conference of the Smart Decarceration Initiative (September 2015)
- Financial Capability for All Convening in Washington, DC (January 2016)
- Grand Challenges for Social Work Manager's Conference in Los Angeles (June 2016).
- Grand Challenges Policy Conference, St Louis (September 14-16, 2016)
- Grand Challenges Summit, San Francisco, CA, (January 2017)
- End Family Violence Convening at UC Berkeley (January 2017)

# Please Join Us by “Signing up” at aaswsw.org



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oKbj3y-LUbw>