

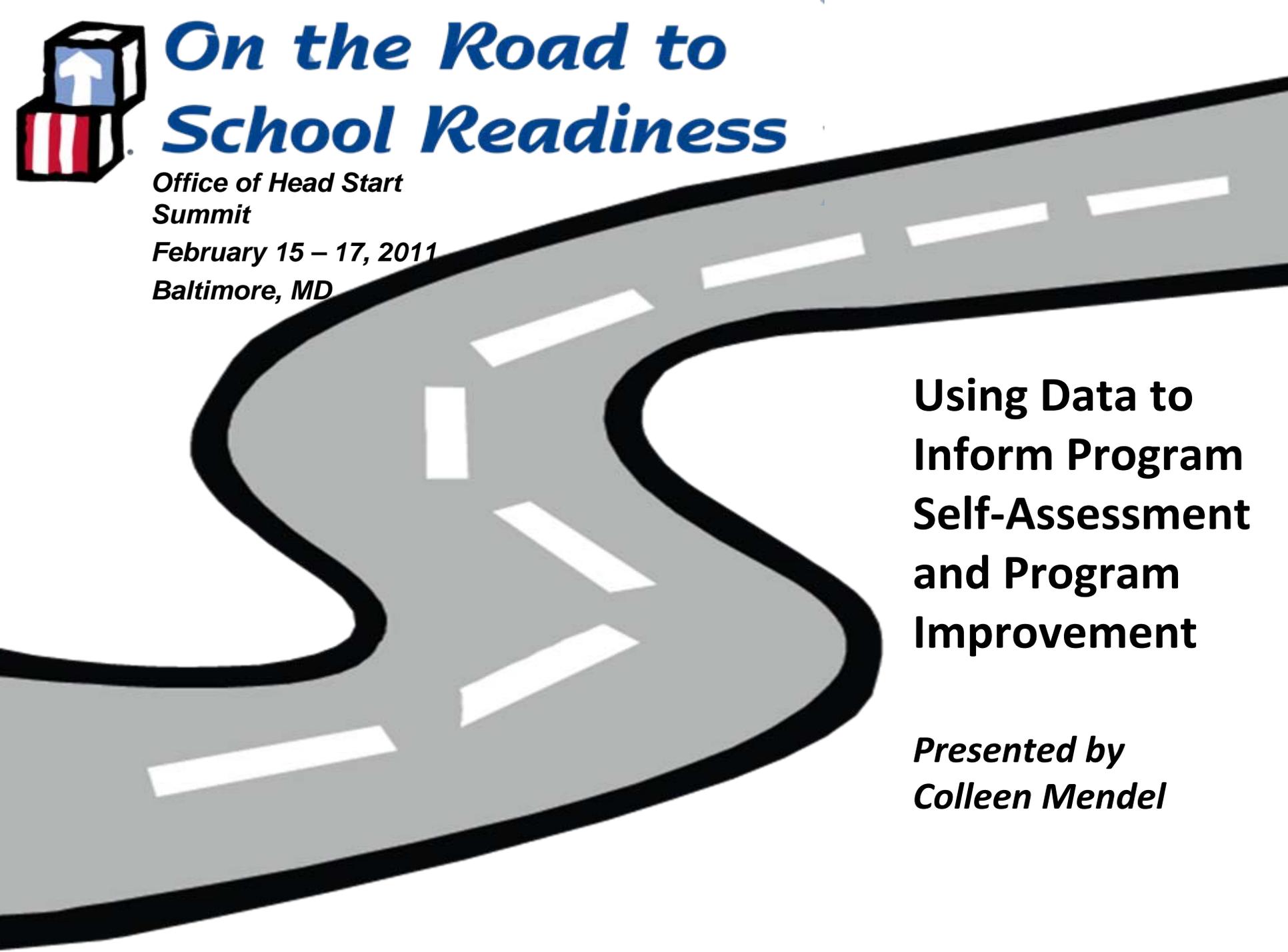


# ***On the Road to School Readiness***

*Office of Head Start  
Summit*

*February 15 – 17, 2011*

*Baltimore, MD*



**Using Data to  
Inform Program  
Self-Assessment  
and Program  
Improvement**

*Presented by  
Colleen Mendel*

# Off to Seek My Fortune!



# Goal of the OHS Summit: On the Road to School Readiness!

Programs can identify where they are, where they may need to go, and how they will get to school readiness.



# **Goal of Plenary #5: Using Data to Inform Program Self-Assessment and Program Improvement**

Programs will refine their understanding of program self-assessment and program improvement in relation to achieving school readiness goals.



# Systems

- Guide the pursuit of our goals
- Create a framework for our programs
- Must be informed by data to be effective and produce results
- Must be undergirded by our values



# Values

- Comprehensive services
- A focus on the whole child
- Parent engagement
- Governance
- Collaboration
- Professional development
- Diversity
- Continuous quality improvement



# Multiple Data Sources

- Qualitative and quantitative data from many different sources
- An abundance of data
- Often an absence of analysis



# Role of Head Start Leaders

- Establish an organizational culture where data are not only collected, but also analyzed, synthesized, and used to drive decision making
- Model how this is done
- Rethink your and your managers' jobs to include the use of data to guide decision making



# Establishing a Data-Driven Culture

- Replace *I think . . .* and *I feel . . .* with *We know . . .* or *Data suggest . . .*
- Use your numbers!
- Compare, contrast and provide context.



# Establishing a Data-Driven Culture

- Have good tools. Have the right tools.
- Example:
  - In 2010 Bill Gates' wealth was estimated at \$54 billion.
  - In 2010 the average (mean) net worth of an American household was \$434,782.
  - In 2010 the median (midpoint) net worth of an American household was \$91,304.



# Establishing a Data-Driven Culture

- Add this word/these words to your vocabulary: So? So what?
- Think differently.



# Welcome Four Programs Who:

- Use data creatively and productively
- Use data from a wide variety of sources
- Integrate data to provide better services and design more effective systems
- Are committed to using data for self-assessment and continuous quality improvement



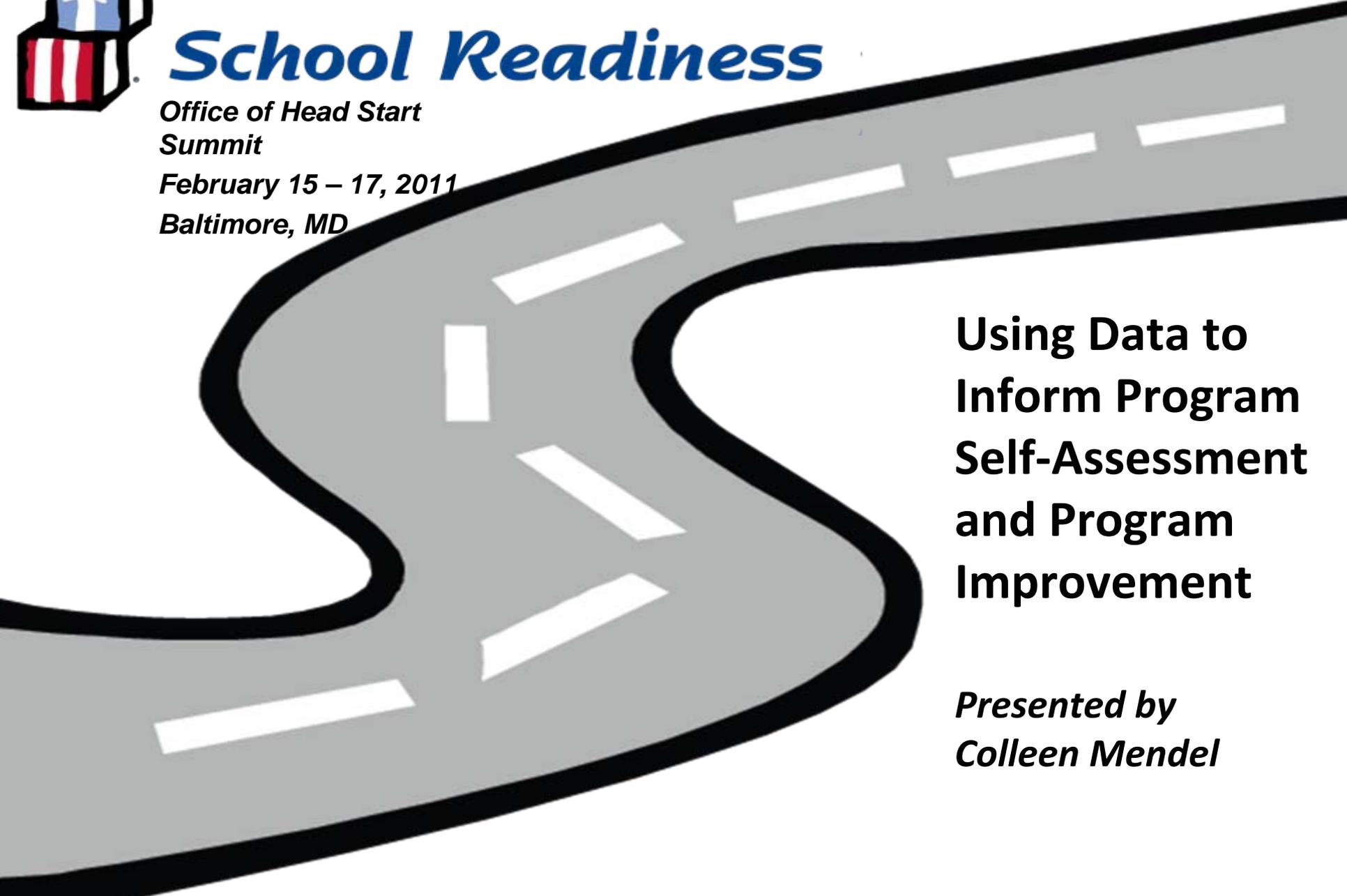


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