



PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS

Neighborhood Compass Newsletter: Winter Wrap-Up | Winter 2022

A quarterly greeting and update from your U.S. Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods team

Welcome to the winter Neighborhood Compass newsletter, the final edition for 2022. Congratulations to our eight new Promise Neighborhood grantees for completing their first year and to the entire group of grantees for another year of work to improve outcomes for their children, families, and communities! Join us as we look back on the year and preview the technical assistance and other activities planned for 2023!



U.S. Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods program team: (left to right) Richard Kress, Elson Nash, and Rich Wilson

Promise Neighborhoods technical and training assistance overview and highlights

Year 2022 closes with a full set of training and technical assistance (TTA) resources that grantees can continue to draw on in the coming year. You can access these resources at the links throughout the newsletter. Please email the TTA team at PromiseTA@InsightPolicyResearch.com with any questions.

TTA briefs. Our final TTA resources developed in 2022 are two briefs. The first is *Expanding Data Use to Support More Effective Post-High School Transitions: Measuring Postsecondary Success in Promise Neighborhoods*. The second is *Building the Cradle in a Cradle-to-Career Initiative: Three Opportunities for Promise Neighborhoods to Promote Kindergarten Readiness*. Both briefs have been distributed to grantees and can be accessed in the [Resources section of the Promise website](#).

Promise Neighborhoods and Full-Service Community Schools National Network Conference. Thanks again to all our grantees who presented at the conference! The conference would not be possible without all the hard work and volunteer efforts of our Promise communities that generously share their lessons learned, resources, and promising practices with their peers. You can continue to access all the conference resources at the [2022 conference website](#).



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Web meeting with Geoffrey Canada on sustainability. If you missed this insightful online meeting with Geoffrey Canada, founder of the Harlem Children’s Zone, you can still [access the meeting recording](#) using the following passcode: r4mf=cl&. Please feel free to send the link and passcode to your community partners and others who might benefit.

Virtual minicourses. Our series of virtual minicourses is over for this year, but grantees can still access all the minicourse materials and recordings using these links and passcodes:

- [Postsecondary and Career Supports and Planning, Session 1.1](#); passcode: fy7JPG?*
- [Postsecondary and Career Supports and Planning, Session 1.2](#); passcode: !2n1*T71
- [Postsecondary and Career Supports and Planning, Session 1.3](#); passcode: rsusT8@5
- [Postsecondary and Career Supports and Planning, Session 1.4](#); passcode: p6.X1p+!
- [Postsecondary and Career Supports and Planning, Session 1.5](#); passcode: u.C3N2Vg
- [Addressing Chronic Absenteeism, Session 2.1](#); passcode: W1\$.T7F0
- [Addressing Chronic Absenteeism, Session 2.2](#); passcode: 9vY2sL#e
- [Addressing Chronic Absenteeism, Session 2.3](#); passcode: &9^84cpj
- [Addressing Chronic Absenteeism, Session 2.4](#); passcode: \$i&!Dg1+

The TTA team has a full slate of resources and training activities under development for 2023. The team will gather feedback from grantees in the first quarter of the new year through a survey and an all-grantee meeting in early March. TTA offerings will continue with communities of practice, virtual minicourses, TTA briefs, and other resources announced shortly after the March meeting. Finally, the TTA team is already working on the next Network Conference, held in person—watch this newsletter for updates as the planning continues!

In the News

Highlighting Promise Neighborhoods making the news

Broward UP Promise Neighborhoods (fiscal year [FY] 2021). [New Broward College @ YMCA Brings Job Training and More to a Broward UP™ Community](#). The L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center recently celebrated its opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. This location will house many programs through the Broward UP Promise Neighborhoods, including afterschool programs for elementary students, adult education/GED courses, workforce development opportunities, and neighborhood building projects.

On December 3, Broward College’s BC Cares program held a volunteer opportunity for employees and their families. The Neighborhood Builders team collected trash in the community surrounding the newly dedicated L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center. Meanwhile, the Read UP team collaborated with the City of Fort Lauderdale and Action for Literacy to decorate and place little libraries throughout their communities. Sixty-eight faculty, staff, and family members attended the event. Volunteers painted 20 little libraries and collected 511 lbs. of trash from the neighborhood.



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Broward UP Promise Neighborhood volunteers painting little libraries with the Read UP team

Leflore Promise Community (FY 2021). The Leflore Promise Community supports all seventh-grade students in the county with the LifeSkills Training Program. Using evidence-based practices, the LifeSkills Training program aims to develop self-management skills in students to reduce violence, delinquency, and use of drugs and alcohol while learning risk-avoidance strategies. On December 6, Kierre Rimmer, Mr. Fly Zone, spoke to students at Leflore County High School. Mr. Rimmer stressed the importance of decisionmaking using his slogan, “If life were a game,” and different forms of games to show how decisions can help you win or lose.



Mr. Rimmer with students at Leflore County High School



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Camden Promise Neighborhood (FY 2016). [U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona Wraps Up Road to Success Back to School Bus Tour with Rep. Donald Norcross in New Jersey.](#) U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona concluded his education tour at Camden High School, where he met College Success Coaches and heard from students engaged in the college and career readiness programs.

Camden Promise Neighborhood's Academic Success Team hosted a College and Career Exploration Fair at Camden High School in November. The fair included representatives from over 60 colleges and universities in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, trades, public service, and military career pathways.



College and Career Exploration Fair at Camden High School

Camden Promise Neighborhood's Post-Secondary Pathways to Success recently received \$10,000 from New Jersey's American Water Charitable Foundation to support the In Demand Program, which provides adult basic skills, job training, financial literacy, employment support, and wraparound case management to Camden residents, aged 18 and older.



Representatives from Center for Family Services received a check for the American Water Charitable Foundation Workforce Readiness Grant



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Grand Rapids Southeast Promise Neighborhood (FY 2021). [Grand Rapids Southeast Promise Neighborhoods Project held a 2-day Appreciative Summit for all grant stakeholders.](#) The stakeholders from Grand Rapids Public Schools and partners worked together to bring all stakeholder voices to the planning table.



Grand Rapids Southeast Promise Neighborhood leadership team



Updates on the latest activities of your Promise TTA Team and selected resources for grantees

Announcements from the TTA partners will be back in our next newsletter when the 2023 TTA activities are finalized. For now, please see the following conference announcement and the new resource spotlight feature.

2023 Collective Impact Action Summit. Join the Collective Impact Forum April 25–27, 2023, as it convenes backbone leaders, practitioners, funders, partners, and more from around the world for its annual summit. The conference will include 25 virtual sessions that elevate cutting-edge thinking and lessons learned on how collaboration can help address complex social issues. To learn more about the conference or to register, [visit the Collective Impact Action Summit web page.](#)

Spotlight on Collective Impact Forum resources. The Collective Impact Forum hosts an extensive resource library of guides, reports, videos, and other supports for communities that work with collective impact initiatives. Promise grantees can [visit the forum's website](#) to learn more about its work and to access its resources.



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Funding Opportunities

Opportunities for funding that may support or continue the impact of Promise Neighborhoods in their communities

Spotlight on the Safer Communities Act. The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law June 25, 2022. The legislation expands vital mental health services and provides additional support for states and districts to design and enhance initiatives that will promote safer, more inclusive, and positive school environments for all students, educators, and school staff. The BSCA will provide over \$1 billion in funding through Title IV, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The funding will enable state education agencies to competitively award subgrants to high-need local education agencies to establish safer and healthier learning environments and to prevent and respond to acts of bullying, violence, and hate that affect our school communities at individual and systemic levels. Promise grantees can work with their local school district partners to identify opportunities to leverage these funds to support ongoing strategies and services. For more information, [visit the BSCA website](#).

Spotlight on Strategic Financing Resources. In addition to the resources provided in the Developing and Sustaining Promise Neighborhoods minicourse, grantees can access more information about sustainability planning through the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s publication [Strategic Financing Toolkit for Tested, Effective Programs](#).

Upcoming Events

Check this section in the next edition of the newsletter for updated dates on TTA offerings for 2023. For now, the prospective schedule of events includes the following opportunities:

Quarter 1

- March grantee meeting on TTA priorities

Quarter 2

- Kickoff for communities of practice
- Start of results-based accountability trainings for new grantees
- Start of TTA needs assessment process for new grantees

Quarter 3

- Kickoff for virtual minicourses

Quarter 4

- Annual Promise Neighborhoods National Network Conference
- Publication of TTA briefs