Neighborhood Compass Newsletter | Quarter 1, 2024

A quarterly update from your U.S. Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) team

Welcome, new and returning readers! The Promise Neighborhoods TTA team issues quarterly newsletters packed with information about Promise Neighborhoods across cohorts and the country. The newsletter is tailored for Promise Neighborhoods grantees and partners, with updates on TTA activities for Promise grantees and TTA highlights, such as reflections on the December 2023 conference. However, most sections provide information relevant to a broad array of place-based and collective impact initiatives, such as meeting your newest neighbors—fiscal year (FY) 2022/23 Promise Neighborhoods in Ohio, California, and Indiana. The refreshed funding section is designed to support Promise Neighborhoods and similar initiatives to sustain and grow their impact. Data-driven readers may dive into Promise Neighborhoods data in a new section: Quarter 1 focuses on what we can learn from FY 12 grantees' more than a decade of results. The latest news about grantees and other helpful resources round out newsletter content.

Promise Neighborhoods TTA Highlights

Are you reflecting on the 2023 Promise Neighborhoods and Full-Service Community Schools National Network Conference?

The Promise TTA team would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who attended the 2023 Promise Neighborhoods and Full-Service Community Schools National Network Conference. We hope you enjoyed the sessions and networking with other Promise Neighborhoods and Full-Service Community Schools. The Neighborhood Walk was a new feature that we plan to make even better in the future. We are grateful to all grantees and invited speakers who made the conference possible, with a special shoutout to STEPS AK and South Hayward Promise Neighborhoods for presenting at three different breakout sessions each! We look forward to seeing you again at the 2024 conference!

Meet Your Newest Neighbors

Have you met the FY 22 and FY 23 Promise Neighborhoods?

This issue of the newsletter highlights three of the seven FY 22 and FY 23 grantees. Throughout the year, this section will feature all our FY 22 and FY 23 grantees and highlight their activities related to one or more key conditions from A Developmental Pathway for Achieving Promise Neighborhoods Results. Keep reading to learn about our newest cohort. For more information about the FY 22 and FY 23 grantees, find their infographics on the Promise Neighborhoods website!

Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood and Omega Community Development Corporation (Omega CDC) (FY 22 grantee). Omega CDC is the backbone for the Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood in northwest Dayton, Ohio. Omega CDC engages the Hope Zone community in a variety of ways and places itself in the ***early implementation (stage 2) for the engagement condition***. After completing the first Neighborhood Climate Survey in 2023, Hope Zone staff are digesting and disseminating the updated Scorecard data to their students, families, and neighborhood residents. Hope Zone hosted its Winter Results-Based Accountability Kickoff event, where residents, partners, and Omega CDC staff came together to prepare for this season's Results-Based Accountability™ certification course. Residents, partners, and staff are completing community organizing training and human-centered design training to build capacity. Omega CDC hired parents and residents as Student Success Navigators and formed a Family Advisory Council to begin managing the support systems and contributing to the solutions. Hope Zone workgroups and the collective impact model lift community voices for quick wins, such as starting a Farmers' Market, door-to-door canvassing, a Hope Zone Business Brunch, and a "Future Self Day." Although Omega CDC is still in the early implementation stage, the grantee is planning for full implementation, when residents will hold more leadership roles and strengthen their own families through solutions. For more information, please contact Sean Freeman at sean.freeman@omegacdc.org.

Downtown Hayward Promise Neighborhood (DHPN) (FY 22 grantee). California State University, East Bay leads DHPN, its third Promise Neighborhoods grant in Hayward, California. Although this third grant has many bright spots, the completion of DHPN's planning year also highlighted the pandemic's effects that DHPN families and communities continue to face.

DHPN's ***strong partnerships are a key condition*** for the first-year launch success. Partners—from organizational leaders to frontline staff—engage in one or more of three networks: the Early Learning Network, the Cradle-to-Career Education Reform Network (K–12 and postsecondary), and the Neighborhood Health and Empowerment Network. A partner and a backbone staff member co-lead each network to support shared accountability, program implementation, and capacity building. DHPN also works closely with its partners' leadership to make the City of Hayward an Education City, a vision put forth by Mayor Mark Salinas.

As a member of the California Promise Neighborhoods Network, California State University, East Bay also collaborates with Promise Neighborhoods across the state and country to build strong communities of practice and advocate for place-based, cradle-to-career models across the state, resulting in a historic state investment of $12 million in Promise Neighborhoods. This funding has enabled California State University, East Bay to sustain the South Hayward Promise Neighborhood and collaborate with new state entities such as the California Department of Social Services. For more information, please contact Edgar Chavez at edgar.chavez@csueastbay.edu.

Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) (FY 23 grantee). The University of Evansville's Center for Innovation and Change leads EPN in Evansville, Indiana. Since receiving its Promise Neighborhoods grant, EPN has worked tirelessly to establish the key conditions for achieving meaningful results in its footprint. During the October 2023 needs assessment site visit, EPN mentioned one of its goals was to enhance communications strategies. In January 2024, EPN made a ***huge stride in advancing its communications key condition*** by publishing its Brand Guidelines package. The package includes EPN's logos, specifications on logo size and logo clear space, examples of logo misuse, brand palette colors, typography, and more! EPN's marketing coordinator, Irais Ibarra, created a comprehensive framework for EPN's brand guidelines. A contractor, Jigsaw Digital Strategies, worked on choosing appropriate logo sizes and clear space, while Irais

focused on identifying key elements such as colors, typography, and imagery. The EPN logo was carefully crafted and underwent 24 variations and 9 color palettes before reaching the final published design. The Brand Guidelines will help EPN, its partners, and the community "create a consistent and professional brand identity that reflects the collective unity" EPN strives for. For more information, please contact Irais Ibarra at ii18@evansville.edu.

Source: Evansville Promise Neighborhood – Brand Guidelines

In the News

Which Promise Neighborhoods made headlines?

Partners for Rural Impact (FY 16/Ext, FY 17, FY 22 grantee): Promise Neighborhood Alum Empowering the Next Generation. A former student who attended Tyner Elementary School during Partners for Rural Impact's (PRI) first Promise Neighborhoods grant is the new Full-Service Community Schools coordinator at Tyner. She looks back on the impact Promise Neighborhoods had on her life growing up in Jackson County and acknowledges how valuable PRI's programs were in helping her navigate the path to college and beyond.

Delta Health Alliance (DHA) (FY 12/Ext, FY 16/Ext, FY 21 grantee): DHA Opens a Sixth Resource and Referral Center. DHA recently cut the ribbon on a sixth Resource and Referral Center in Batesville, Mississippi. Each center provides access to early childhood education learning materials for families, early childhood educators, and the community and offers referrals to families in need of other services such as childcare.

San Diego Promise Neighborhood (FY 18 grantee): SBCS Shines on "60 Minutes" – A Glimpse Into Compassionate Migrant Support. SBCS, the backbone organization of San Diego Promise Neighborhood and graduate Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood, has been extremely busy over the last few months providing crucial support for 600–800 migrants daily on their journey to their final destinations and loved ones. The segment highlights SBCS-led Migrant Welcome Center, which offers fundamental services to migrants processed by Border Patrol. The Center's services help hundreds of individuals avoid being stranded in San Diego and provide the support they need to continue their journey.

Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood (FY 22 grantee): Omega CDC's Collaborative Policy Planning Day With William Julius Wilson Institute and StriveTogether. Omega CDC, the backbone organization for Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood, welcomed key staff from the William Julius Wilson Institute and StriveTogether in

January. The visit explored Omega CDC's policy goal statement, policy priorities from the Northwest Dayton Partnership community vision, and Hope Zone Promise Neighborhood workgroup action plans.

TTA Talk

What is the Promise TTA team planning and curating for grantees?

Visit the Promise Neighborhoods Google calendar for dates and descriptions of all upcoming events.

Next quarter: We look forward to seeing you at the following events

Communities of Practice (CoPs)

Data and Performance Measurement CoP meets the first Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m. ET. Participating in this CoP provides grantees with an opportunity to share knowledge, network, and learn from the experiences of other grantees. The CoP began 2024 by discussing the topic "Building a Results Culture." If you are interested in participating in the monthly CoP sessions, please contact PromiseTA@westat.com to register.

- Wednesday, April 3, 2–3 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, May 1, 2–3 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, June 5, 2–3 p.m. ET

Racial Equity and Belonging CoP meets the third Wednesday of the month at 3 p.m. ET. Each month, steering committee members from STEPS AK, Albina-Rockwood, South Ward and more discuss tools and strategies their Promise Neighborhoods use to confront and address racism and equity. The CoP approaches its work with historical and current contexts and systems in mind. The first meeting of 2024 focused on fostering belonging with the communities we serve and within our organizations and refreshing group agreements and prioritizing topics for upcoming sessions. Please contact PromiseTA@westat.com to register.

- Wednesday, April 17, 3–4 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, May 15, 3–4 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, June 19, 3–4 p.m. ET

Promise Leadership CoP meets the fourth Monday of the month at 3 p.m. ET. Under the leadership of a steering committee with members from Mission, Indy East, Hayward, and Hope Zone, this CoP convenes Promise Neighborhoods leaders (project directors and their deputies). A unique feature of the Leadership CoP is that it encourages membership and commitment to the monthly meetings to create a trusting space among Promise leaders. Representatives from 18 Promise Neighborhoods registered in 2024! Please contact PromiseTA@westat.com if your leadership team wants to register.

- Monday, April 22, 3–4 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, May 27, 3–4 p.m. ET
- Wednesday, June 24, 3–4 p.m. ET

Department of Education Program Officer Office Hours. We will continue offering monthly calls with the Department of Education Program Officers. Please refer to the Promise Neighborhoods Google Calendar for updated dates and times. Please contact PromiseTA@westat.com with questions.

Looking ahead: Start planning for these events

2024 National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference (CSxFE), May 29–31, 2024. This year, the Institute for Educational Leadership hosts its National Community Schools and Family Engagement Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference brings together people from across the country who believe all children deserve a safe place to live and opportunities to learn and thrive. Inspired by the theme *Level Up for Success!,* the conference is designed to catalyze collaboration, action, and a renewed commitment to transforming practices, partnerships, and systems.

Helpful resources

A Developmental Pathway for Achieving Promise Neighborhoods Results
Authored by PolicyLink, we recommend revisiting this classic overview of the key conditions for achieving transformational impact with Promise Neighborhoods. In 2024, grantees can expect to continue to hear about the developmental pathways for the key conditions as part of ongoing TTA activities.

A Review of the Domains of Well-Being for Young People
The authors of this research report describe eight domains of youth well-being and considerations for their measurement. The youth field—or people working with and doing research related to young people, such as policymakers, funders, researchers, and practitioners—needs information as it considers investments and interventions to support youth development. The report summarizes traditional and emergent approaches to measurement of youth well-being and notable gaps in each area. It also includes key themes relevant to all domains and highlights the need to include young people in developing well-being concepts and indicators.

Top 10 Most Popular New Publications in 2023 From the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE)
OPRE's list of its top 10 publications was released in 2023. OPRE publishes a wide range of technical assistance and evaluation resources for human services and education programs. You can read more and subscribe to OPRE's blog and access its full catalogue of helpful resources.

You may have missed…

Recharge Webinar
At the start of each year, we like to convene grantees and TTA providers to recharge, network, reflect on 2023 activities, and look ahead to TTA offerings for 2024. Access the 2024 Recharge Webinar recording.
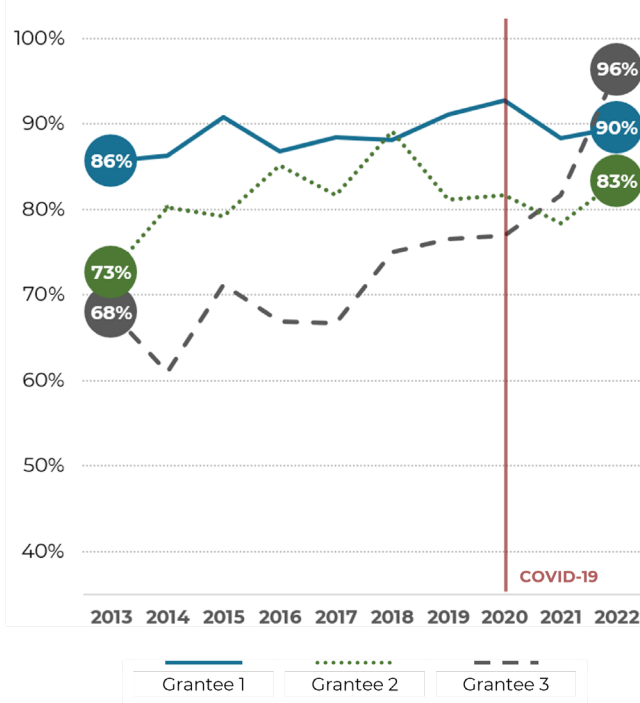
Data Deep Dive

What can we learn from the FY 12 cohort?

Promise Neighborhoods grantees collect a wide range of data to help tell the story of their communities, monitor progress toward goals, and spark inquiry into solutions. Each quarter, Promise TTA will take a deep dive into these data and highlight a story within the numbers.

The FY 12 cohort has collected a full decade of Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) indicator data. Let's explore how high school graduation rates have changed over the 10-year lifetime of these grants using this dataset. Examine trends in each grantee's data in the figure and consider how contextual factors like the COVID-19 pandemic might affect GPRA indicators. How can awareness of these impacts help newer grantees interpret their data and continually improve their solutions?

To explore more trends in GPRA indicators for all Promise Neighborhoods grantees, **check out the new and improved data dashboard** on the Promise Neighborhoods website.

All FY 12 grantees' high school graduation rates increased over the 10-year grant period

Funding Opportunities

Where can Promise Neighborhoods seek funding to sustain and grow their impact?

The National Science Foundation's Smart and Connected Communities
This grant supports use-inspired research that addresses communities' social, economic, and environmental challenges. Projects must work with community stakeholders on pilots that integrate intelligent technologies with the natural and built environments. Applications are due April 1, 2024.

The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation has issued a request for proposals for projects designed to improve economic mobility by focusing on the needs of communities. The Foundation will consider requests to support museums; cultural and performing arts programs; schools and hospitals; educational, skills-training, and other programs; environmental and wildlife protection activities; and other community-based organizations and programs. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Bank of America Charitable Foundation Philanthropic Strategy
The Bank of America Charitable Foundation has issued a request for proposals for projects designed to improve economic mobility by focusing on the needs of communities. Grant funding will support affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, and small business resiliency. Applications will be accepted from May 27, 2024, to June 21, 2024.

Securing Funding for the Collective Impact Backbone Role: Lessons From the Field
The Collective Impact Forum has a wide range of resources on financing and sustaining collective impact strategies. You can access its full library of resources.

Siegel Family Endowment and Walton Family Foundation's Learning Landscapes Challenge
The Learning Landscapes Challenge will help changemakers integrate social, digital, and physical infrastructure to bridge the learning of today with the learning of tomorrow. The challenge is a $2.2 million competition to design and build future-ready K-12 education environments. Siegel Family Endowment and the Walton Family Foundation invite changemakers to propose infrastructure solutions that deliver and connect digital, in-school, and community-based learning experiences. Phase 1 submission deadline is May 14, 2024.

Urban Institute's Student Upward Mobility Initiative
The Urban Institute (Urban) is seeking proposals that develop new or improved PK–12 measures or that connect measures of PK–12 skills and competencies to economic mobility, while ensuring we think about individuals in context. Urban expects to fund $3 million in research grants, ranging from $50,000 to $500,000, through this year's competition. The RFP opened March 11, 2024, and mandatory LOIs due April 30. Invited applicants will be able to submit full proposals between mid-May and June 28, 2024.

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