



West Philadelphia Promise Neighborhood

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

West Philadelphia Promise Neighborhood (WPPN) seeks to improve educational, health, and economic successes for children living or going to school in the West Philadelphia Promise Zone, which encompasses three zip codes and numerous distinct communities. Drexel University is the backbone organization and partners with seven schools and multiple other community-based organizations and system partners, including the School District of Philadelphia (SDP) and The City of Philadelphia. WPPN also supports parents to improve their children's outcomes and brings all stakeholders together around a common agenda and shared measures of academic and family success.

COMMUNITY COMPOSITION

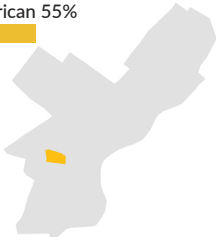
PHILADELPHIA

African American 55%

White 27%

Asian 10%

Latino 4%



50%

of WPPN residents live below federal poverty level

20%

of WPPN households are families with children

\$19,958

average median household income (per year) in WPPN households

7,646

children live in the neighborhood footprint

2,778

children enrolled in partner schools

20 partner agencies

7 partner schools

PROGRAM IN ACTION

ACADEMIC CHALLENGES

Kindergartener Development

13%

of kindergarteners are ready for school

Academic Proficiency Math

13%

of students are proficient in math

Academic Proficiency ELA

27%

are proficient in English language arts

Chronic Absenteeism*

75%

of students are chronically absent from school

High School Graduation

64%

of students graduate on time

SELECT STRATEGIES

- Quality improvement initiative for network of child care providers in the community
- In-home kindergarten readiness programming for very young children and their parents

- Math coaches to strengthen quality teaching
- Focus on students who need additional or specialized educational supports
- Out-of-school-time programs to support academics and wellness

- Comprehensive literacy strategy for early learners
- Focus on students who need additional or specialized educational supports
- Out-of-school-time programs to support academics and wellness

- School climate and behavioral health supports for all schools
- Academic transition counseling for middle and high school students
- Out-of-school time programs to support academics and wellness.

- Long-term planning for postsecondary entry and career training for students
- Internships and summer employment placements for older students
- Outreach and academic awareness-building for families

Source for academic challenges: APR ad hoc summary, year 1

*SDP chronic absenteeism rate reflects percentage of children missing 5% of school days; other PNs use 10%.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thanks to WPPN partner Fab Youth Philly, multiple streets throughout the neighborhood were more engaging and active for local children than in previous summers. This past summer, 21 "play captains," youth ages 14-19, from the Promise Neighborhood were trained to lead their younger neighbors in creative play, reading, sports, and outdoor activities. For many, this was their first job and two captains said, "To know I gave a kid their best summer is something I'm really grateful for," and "If you want to come out with a great group of friends and people who can recommend you for other things, this is the job for you!" WPPN has extended the fun and learning through the school year by employing play captains to support after-school programming.