

CHULA VISTA

PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTEE PROFILE

Chula Vista, CA

Partners

LEAD AGENCY
South Bay
Community Services

PARTNER AGENCIES

- Castle Park Elementary School
- Castle Park Middle School
- Castle Park High School
- Hilltop Middle School
- Hilltop High School
- San Diego Association of Governments
- Chula Vista Elementary School District
- Sweetwater Union High School District
- Health and Human Services Agency South Region
- City of Chula Vista
- Chula Vista Police Department
- United Way of San Diego
- Chula Vista Community Collaborative
- Family Health Centers of San Diego
- Scripps Medical Center Chula Vista
- Southwestern College
- Barrio Logan College Institute (BLCI)

Mission

Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood (CVPromise) is coordinated by South Bay Community Services (SBCS) and brings together a collaboration of partners focused on family, education, health and community to provide children in Castle Park neighborhood with the kind of opportunities they need to excel in school, get into college, find good jobs and lead healthy lives.



Land Area: 33 census blocks
Population: 6,744

Located in the south region of San Diego County in California, the Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood is situated in the west side of the City of Chula Vista in the Castle Park neighborhood.

Fast Facts

Community Composition

<p>Socioeconomic Data</p> <p>Nearly a third of children in the neighborhood live below poverty. Two-thirds of adults do not have their high school diploma. More than 40% of households are female head of households.</p>	<p>Demographic Data</p> <p>More than two-thirds Latino; nearly two-thirds of households do not speak English; 58% of students are English language learners and 62% of pre-kindergarten age children do not attend preschool.</p>
---	--

Students Living in the CVPromise Catchment

6,744 students

<p># Schools Served</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p>	<p>Types of Schools</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Preschool, K-6; 7-8; 9-12</p>
---	---



Early Successes & Results

Promise Neighborhoods communities have been working to realize their vision for a cradle-to-career pipeline of seamlessly linked programs, services, and supports to help ensure all their children reach their fullest potential. Lead agencies are collaborating with a wide range of partners, including schools and community members, to build the capacity necessary to achieve better results for children and families. Guided by the Promise Neighborhoods program's clear results framework, lead agencies and partners have worked to develop critical infrastructure, such as strategic and accountable partnerships and systems and processes to collect, analyze, and use data for learning and accountability to create a culture of results.



In addition to enhancing their capacity and laying a foundation for more effective collaboration, Promise Neighborhoods communities have begun to implement significant pieces of their cradle-to-career pipeline, engaging children and families, providing access to needed programs, services, and supports, and achieving early successes and results. Highlights from this ongoing work in Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood include:

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Academic Advocates work one-one-one with student and his/her family, school counselor, and teachers to help create a personal plan for a successful pathway to college and career. As

students matriculate, their assigned Academic Advocate progress with them - beginning in 7th grade through their years in high school and into college. Through this support system, 600 students per year will receive the educational resources to create a clear and viable pathway to college and career success. In addition, CVPromise has partnered with various local community organizations specialized in creating college and career opportunities. For our elementary school students, CVPromise partner Barrio Logan College Institute offers college preparation services beginning in third grade that motivates students to excel academically plus supports parent involvement in their children's education. In addition, University of California, San Diego, provides SAT preparation courses as well as STEM-based courses for CVPromise students. In terms of

career readiness, partners like Manpower, San Diego Futures Foundation, and Sweetwater Union High School District have come together to create educational programs that prepare youth and adults for the workforce using comprehensive career readiness workshops, computer literacy, and English as a Second Language (ESL) classes.

IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF HEALTH FOR STUDENTS

Health and nutrition impacts the way a student learns, feels and thinks. However, sometimes parents may come across factors that inhibit their ability to access or provide adequate health care or healthy food choices. This is why support with nutrition and health is 'wrapped around'

PARTNER AGENCIES (continued)

- South Bay YMCA
- YMCA Childcare Resource Service San Diego
- Organizing Project San Diego Futures Foundation
- University of California, San Diego
- UCSD Academic Connections
- A Reason to Survive
- First 5 Commission of San Diego
- Manpower
- Lowell Blankfort
- Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center
- The Star News





CVPromise’s continuum of solutions to support from ‘cradle to career’. Among the various services provided, CVPromise provides health and developmental screening, behavioral health services, hearing and vision screening and treatment, as well as parent education, support and empowerment for families of children ages zero to five. CVPromise also implements the Castle Park Wellness Program, a school-wide initiative to increase the rate of healthy weight in the CVPromise catchment area. Wellness events and programs such as a Daily Walking Club, Project Lean, Zumba, Yoga, Total Body Fit, and 5K community runs are well attended.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

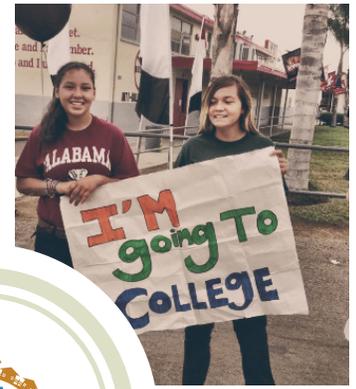
CVPromise believes school success is not limited to classroom academics. The whole community environment

plays a part. That is why an important pillar to CVPromise pipeline of services is the strengthening of community. To support this, CVPromise team of Promotoras, bilingual trained parents from the neighborhood, serve as an important linkage between programs and the Castle Park community. Promotoras are visible throughout the neighborhood and are based at each of the five CVPromise school campuses’ parent centers and literacy cafes to inform, share and engage families and students about CVPromise programs. Through their work, schools have experienced up to a 36x increase in number of parent volunteer hours as well as increase in total number of parents who participated in an event or CVPromise workshop.

Key Challenges & Opportunities

The Promise Neighborhood Initiative has truly brought revitalization to the social infrastructure currently embedded in the community. It has challenged social systems into finding ways to create alignment among various entities. This is perhaps the most significant challenge, as it requires organizations to rethink priorities and find ways to align under common results. While many have embraced the concept of alignment smoothly, others are struggling. CV Promise sees these challenges as opportunities to explore current policies and practices and advocate for changes that will bring community partners and key stakeholders together to reach alignment.





Making a Difference

Through comprehensive parent education, developmental services, and preschool educational programs, children ages 0-5 receive the supports that will prepare them to be school ready and successful in their future academic and professional life. Our schools, parents and students work together to achieve academic proficiency by making perfect attendance an expectation for every student and through comprehensive academic supports. More than half of CVPromise’s adult population has not graduated from high school, therefore it is essential for us to build a college-going culture where

schools, parents and youth share the mission of making college graduation an expectation for every youth in the Castle Park community. Families currently receive economic supports through employment assistance and professional development programs, which will lead to sustainable incomes and address poverty rates within the Castle Park neighborhood. Community members are active participants in the development and implementation of wellness, education and safety as integral pillars of their schools and entire community.

-Chula Vista Promise Neighborhood



U.S. Department of Education
Office of Innovation and Improvement

Website: promiseneighborhoods/ed.gov

Email: promiseneighborhoods@ed.gov