

EAST LUBBOCK

PROMISE NEIGHBORHOOD

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTEE PROFILE

Lubbock, TX

Partners

- LEAD AGENCY**
Texas Tech University College of Education
 in collaboration with the College of Human Sciences, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Department of Health Exercise and Sports Science, School of Nursing, Office of Community Engagement and the Office of the Chief Information Officer
- PARTNER AGENCIES**
- 100 Black Men of West Texas Amerigroup
 - Catholic Charities of Lubbock
 - Communities in Schools
 - Community Health Center of Lubbock
 - Covenant Health
 - East Lubbock Community Alliance
 - Early Learning Centers of Lubbock
 - Grace Campus
 - Housing Authority
 - Larry Combest Clinic
 - LEARN Talent Search
 - Link Ministries
 - Literacy Lubbock
 - Lubbock Area United Way
 - Lubbock Children's Health Clinic
 - Lubbock StarCare

Mission

The East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood (ELPN) brings academic, social, and economic revitalization to East Lubbock area citizens. This work empowers local school systems and acts as a catalyst for community development and improvement and is led by an emerging coalition of prominent employers and service providers organizing to offer a coordinated continuum of cradle-to-college-to-career services. Texas Tech University (TTU) serves as the anchor for the East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood, helping to build the collective capacity and sustainability of partner institutions and programs that develop the potential of children, families, and communities in East Lubbock.



Land Area: 24 square miles
Population: 33,178

Situated to the east of downtown Lubbock, Texas, the East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood is bounded to the north, east and south by three separate city boulevards, and to the west by a state highway, and divided by Loop 289, a freeway designed to connect all portions of the city together.

Fast Facts

Community Composition

<p>Socioeconomic Data</p> <p>One third of residents live below the poverty line. The neighborhood has a 38% teen pregnancy rate.</p>	<p>Demographic Data</p> <p>The area is 49.2% Hispanic and 28.5% African-American.</p>
<p>Children Enrolled in Target Schools</p> <p>2,826 students</p>	<p>Children Living in Footprint</p> <p>8,347 under 18 5,266 school-aged</p>
<p># Schools Served</p> <p>4</p>	<p>Types of Schools</p> <p>PreK-5; 6-8; 9-12</p>



Early Successes & Results

Promise Neighborhood 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 Neighborhood 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 Neighborhood communities are implementing 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 East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood include:

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND READINESS

Over 150 families are being served by the East Lubbock Family Academy (ELFA) which is now in three different apartment complexes in the ELPN footprint. Parents learn about their child's development and how to ensure that they are school ready while children engage in a number of age appropriate activities.

Every other week children and parents gather at the library branch located in East Lubbock to listen to stories, participate in activities, and fellowship as part of ELPN's Ready to Read Program targeted at children 0-5.

IMPROVING ACADEMIC OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

Joan Y. Ervin Elementary School has seen a dramatic reduction in student referrals, suspensions, and lost classroom instruction time as a result of work made possible by the ELPN grant. In addition to improvements in student behavior, ELPN has helped the school to achieve drastic double digit gains in state standardized testing scores. Ervin Elementary has excellent and dedicated teachers, administrators and staff. These individuals, along with TTU, successfully launched the Granger Transformation Model, (GTM), and developed a rich array of after-school enrichment options for Ervin students rivaling the most affluent schools. These outreach efforts are now expanding to Alderson Elementary and Estacado High School.

Estacado High School is in the process of applying for designation from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as an Early College High School (ECHS). ECHS designation means that students will graduate from high school with 60 college credit hours, or the equivalent of an Associate's Degree. Texas Tech University will be one of the only large research universities partnering with a local school district to provide this opportunity.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

ELPN has an array of solutions to support college and career readiness for its students. These solutions are offered at every grade level beginning with K-5, introducing the idea of college to get children excited about attending, teaching college terminology, and using games like "bingo" to help make key concepts more accessible to younger students. One Saturday a month, TTU introduces students in grades 6-8 to a different area of collegiate study. For students in grades 6-12, ELPN offers a Café con Leche program for parents and students that focuses on pre-college preparation and specifically targets



Hispanic families. This bilingual program was designed by experts from the UT Institute for Public School.

ADULT EDUCATION THROUGH A “ONE STOP SHOP” FOR SERVICES

ELPN’s partnership with the Bridge of Lubbock has opened up a wealth of opportunities to create a “one stop shop” for adult education services in a community center type setting. ELPN’s offerings include: GED instruction and testing; vocational education courses in Phlebotomy Tech, Pharmacy Tech, EKG Tech, and general office work; diabetes nutrition and management courses; financial literacy and first-time home buyer workshops; and job training and placement services in collaboration with South Plains College.

In addition to offering the vocational courses in the neighborhood, residents are able to attend these courses free of charge and can receive a full reimbursement for licensing fees when they successfully complete their final exams.

IMPROVING CONDITIONS OF HEALTH FOR STUDENTS

ELPN has coordinated with local hospitals and health clinics to provide extended clinic hours so that all children in the ELPN can have a medical home. These same clinics provide a dental van so that all children in the ELPN have an opportunity to receive appropriate dental care. ELPN also works collaboratively with community partners to provide a range of afterschool physical activities. Students in afterschool programs were asked to identify physical activities that they would like to participate in.

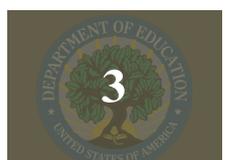
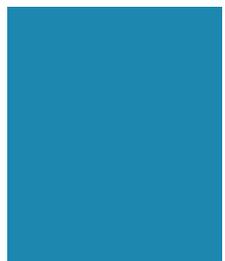
Based on those survey results, ELPN provided a Sports Center and rigorous physical activity for children, with a trained professional group from TTU’s Health, Exercise & Sports Sciences (HESS) present to monitor these activities. ELPN has also made training available to school dieticians; provided nutrition programming and counseling through its Combest and Parkway health centers; provided fruits and healthy snacks (daily) at after-school enrichment and other ELPN events; implemented an adult physical education program at an ELPN Church and retirement community; and conducted several nutrition and cooking programs for ELPN students and families through TTU’s College of Human Sciences.

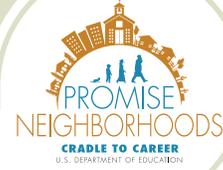
INTEGRATING ARTS AND HUMANITIES

The College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) at TTU is leading ELPN’s efforts around the Arts and Humanities. The CVPA has been very active in the ELPN afterschool activities. Faculty and students from the CVPA have offered theater, dance, drum line, quilting, clay creations, and summer enrichment camps in the arts for ELPN children. In addition to the rich variety of afterschool programming, the CVPA hosted a week long summer arts camp where students were exposed to different forms of art including music, dance, theatre and visual arts. The camp culminated in the creation of a public art installment at the Bridge of Lubbock and a showcase of student work at the First Friday Art Trail. Though the art trail occurs mere miles from the students’ homes, most had never been given the opportunity to attend, nonetheless be a featured artist.

Key Challenges & Opportunities

ELPN will continue to improve by redoubling its efforts to support early learning, with a particular emphasis on age-appropriate functioning and school readiness. One indicator of a healthy and vibrant community is self-governance and expectations of excellence. A healthy community has strong representative leaders and, collectively, the community has a “voice” and influence. East Lubbock does NOT have a voice, especially amongst the 18-to-30-year-olds. ELPN is providing a continuum of services and there is evidence that the GPRA indicators are moving in the desired direction, but there is neither a GPRA measure, nor have we implemented specific actions designed to foster autonomy, leadership and voice among this age group. In addition, we have learned that it is not enough to provide services FOR the residents of East Lubbock, we have to help the 18-to-30-year-olds find an autonomous voice for community leadership direction, vision and communications with the rest of the world.





Making a Difference



Our coordinated programs and services are reinvigorating a sense of community pride and personal responsibility and yielding measurable changes in attitudes, behaviors, and performance. Services aimed at the basic needs of citizens have increased their participation in health, social, and educational programming and improved outcomes in these areas. Through changes in instructional methodology, behavioral modification,

and services offered to students, the neighborhood schools are building a sustainable platform to renew hope and build a vision for the next generation. The ELPN system of community revitalization has served as a means to build a strong infrastructure for investing in the neighborhood.

-East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood



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

Website: promiseneighborhoods/ed.gov

Email: promiseneighborhoods@ed.gov