

Los Angeles Promise Neighborhood in the Promise Zone Los Angeles, California

The Los Angeles Promise Neighborhood (LAPN), which has served children and families in northern LA for over five years, recently expanded to the Pico-Union/Westlake community in central LA. The expansion communities sit in the Los Angeles Promise Zone, which is a federal designation to encourage economic activity and the pursuit of community priorities in high-poverty communities. The Youth Policy Institute oversees both portions of the LAPN and implements their cradle-to-college continuum in Pico-Union in partnership with eight schools—from traditional public to public charter to pilot—and numerous other agencies and institutions of higher learning.

PROGRAM IN ACTION

LOS ANGELES African American 5% White 9% Asian 16% Latino 69%

of LAPN residents live below federal poverty level (grantee reported)

:#: 28%

of LAPN households are families with children



average median household income (per year) in LAPN

6,369 neighborhood footprint



children are enrolled in partner schools



agencies

partner schools

ACADEMIC CHALLENGES

Kindergartener Development

of kindergarteners are ready for school

SELECT STRATEGIES

- Early Head Start (EHS): Health guestions, family services assistance, and case management system
- School-based preschool
- YPI state preschool

Academic Proficiency Math

of students are proficient in math

- Classroom support and focus tutoring for students provided by City Year AmeriCorps members
- Academic tutoring
- Expanded learning and after-school programming

Academic Proficiency ELA

are proficient in English language arts

- Classroom support and focus tutoring for students provided by City Year AmeriCorps members
- Academic tutoring
- Alignment of assessment tools organized by a Principals Exchange

Chronic Absenteeism

of students are chronically absent from school

- School climate and transformation counselor
- Psychiatric social worker support
- Summer transition programs

High School Graduation

of students graduate on time

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

Academic classroom support provided by City Year AmeriCorps members

- College and career advisors
- Family engagement workshops

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

When he was in the third grade, Raul did poorly on his math and English language arts proficiency tests. Because this can be a serious warning sign of future academic problems, Raul was enrolled in an academic tutoring program offered by the Youth Policy Institute from which he received in-class oneto-one and small group help sessions. The tutoring program is aligned with school curricula and is provided to third graders right in the school building because Raul's school principal and teachers have actively partnered with the Los Angeles Promise Neighborhood. Raul passed his last proficiency tests and even improved his math score by 270 points. His verbal and writing skills continue to flourish. Everyone is proud of Raul, including Raul.