

Building Healthy Communities Initiative Update

- The Planning Process has been extended through the end of May (**SET IN STONE**).
- Community Congress is set (**SET IN STONE**) for May 1st.
 - Data Report has finally come out. Through 100+ House Meetings. If you have not received links through e-mail, you can find the report on the website, along with the Snapshot (www.MidCityCAN.org).
 - The Anti-Systemic Racism Training facilitated by Dr. Jesse Mills, has occurred twice here in the community. The other BHC communities and The California Endowment has found it to be a useful tool, and Dr. Mills has gone up to Fresno to implement the training. Out of this need for Anti-Systemic Racism Training has come momentum to create a State Anti-Systemic Institute that will be forming. More details to come.
- The BHC All-Team Co-chairs will be streamlining all the visioning at this Friday's BHC All-Team Meeting on Feb. 12, 2010. The goal of this is to get everyone on the same page and each team can move forward together.
- The Youth Resource Team is hosting a Youth Kick-Off Event on February 27, 2010 at the East African Community and Cultural Center. Located at 4061 Fairmount Ave. San Diego, CA 92105. More details and flyers will be coming within the next few days.
- The Communications Resource Team meets this Wednesday at 3PM at Mid-City CAN.

Promise Neighborhoods

Paul Krupski, Mid-City CAN Coordinating Council: Way back, a few of us attended a conference on the Harlem Children's Zone (**HCZ**). In December, it was decided that it would be best to host a debrief and discussion on best-practices and strategies at the Networking Council Meeting. Other models which have been mentioned are Safe Streets, Dudley Street, and Perry Hilltop.

We decided to have an introduction today and a follow-up at the next Networking Council Meeting.

Colin Mathewson, Coordinating Council Co-chair, has volunteered to take the lead on this. So we're asking if anybody here has knowledge or a specialty on these other models to please contact Colin, so we can hear presentations on these models at the next Networking Council meeting. Please keep that in mind and contact Colin (619.795.2062).

Introduction of Diana Ross (Mid-City CAN Collaborative Director)

Diana Ross: Promise Neighborhoods is a federal place-based strategy and the purpose of this meeting is to facilitate learning and discussion about the initiative.

Introduction of Panel; Steve Eldred, The California Endowment Program Officer, Tim Allen, Educational Collaborative Executive Director, and Paul Krupski, Mid-City CAN Coordinating Council Building Healthy Communities Co-chair.

Steve Eldred: The Promise Neighborhoods is a federal place-based strategy that we are all here to learn about today.

Tim Allen: In the Educational Collaborative we have 3 schools: Hoover, Clark, Park and in the past there has been an attempt to improve these school. We have created a full clinic at Hoover and Park, Parent Centers, and outreach to parents to help their children. With Harlem Children's Zone, there is a different approach to make the process work. The main points that make this initiative the way it is, is different.

With the Harlem Children's Zone, it's a project that was started in Harlem, New York, by Geoffrey Canada. This was started by one man. He found a pattern that children, while getting assistance through the schools were still failing because the assistance did not go into the homes and community. That despite these services, there was a higher level of things not going well, over-riding all the good things.

There are two (2) things to think about: (1) First, critical mass of people who can parent well. Harlem Children's Zone wanted parents that serve their kids, and help their children, to engage in education, health care. This all resonates real well with all of us. The idea wasn't to put the service out there and wait for them to come to us. But rather, to put it out there, engage and outreach the community. With a high number of the mass of parents, they can successfully prepare their children.

(2) Critical Mass of Services, ensuring that the children have what they need to progress through school. These services would ensure that the children had the necessary support needed to succeed.

What kind of outcomes were there?

The goals were lofty. The services were put together and charted.

The critical mass aspects were important, because they dealt with prevention. So that students were more ready for school, more ready for life in general. We weren't and can't wait for children to get to school to start. The critical thing was to start early, especially folks before they gave birth. So the help was given to the parents with children who weren't born yet.

A key aspect of Harlem Children's Zone was working with parents during prenatal. Not just childbirth, but beyond. The concept was: Cradle to College.

This was done by focusing on a block-by-block zone that began with 9 blocks and has now expanded to about 25 blocks.

They used a progressive model, of utilizing charter schools in the preschool, elementary and middle school levels. The problem was how do you grow to include everyone? For those of us who work in the

schools. Right now we have kids going to school, some get services, some don't. Some are engaged. We have outreached to parents, and some parents show up.

The concept here is if we take a zone and make it healthy, how can we guarantee a successful impact on the children in this zone. Harlem Children's Zone had this concept and wanted to expand that.

They've gotten a lot of press over the year.

President Obama wants to replicate the Harlem Children's Zone model across other sites. But you can't just copy the model of the Harlem Children's Zone and implement it at another site.

For one thing: Harlem Children's Zone is in Harlem. It was developmental and it grew out of perceived needs. Now that we have moved it to the institutional aspect, the Department of Education (**DOE**) is still defining how to run things to get the money. So it's not just strings attached, but ropes and nooses.

Many states didn't want the money, because of all the stipulations.

The Department of Education likes to have these conditions. The Department of Education is the funding agency. What will happen with the Promise Neighborhoods as a grant, what are the conditions? We need to look at different issues. Contradict it with other ideas.

We need to look at the following in address the needs of the specific areas to get the same outcomes. One of the things of the several large pieces we need to think about:

- Large place based program, defining the neighbor
- Something we have an impact on, the zone is important
- The group that comes together, collaborative
- Leadership or governance is handled, who is leading it
- Implementation, coordinating all the organizations involved
- Continued funding, coordinating other funding and not just dependent on the federal funding

Given the work of the Building Healthy Communities, all the pieces are there.

General Questions:

Question: What is the importance of Zero to Five, does this model include getting kids into preschool?

Paul Krupski: The Harlem Children's Zone, has Baby Colleges, working with expectant mothers and their partners and with toddlers, creating gyms, and charter schools. An issue in our community is how far do you go, before you create successful opportunities for our kids. There was a realization that we had to start younger.

Question: In the Harlem Children's Zone, was the community initially receptive to that? Were their provisions of incentives?

Steve Eldred: The parts that I know, to get the zone to be knowledgeable, a lot of folks were made aware of the services and the Harlem Children's Zone outreached out to the residents. As people attended Baby Colleges, they received gift cards, to have incentives, to get people to come because it was difficult for them (job, transportation, money).

Paul Krupski: As far as incentives, there are incentives the whole way, from the beginning.

Tim Allen: Harlem Children's Zone was not done in a blink of an eye. This was a 30-year project, within the last year it picked up a lot of steam and showed outcomes.

Paul Krupski: Showed a map of Harlem: 97 block radius of Harlem is the Harlem Children's Zone. 4 phases. Started with 10 blocks. As they gained more funding they rolled out more phases and expanded.

Refers to the pipeline. Below the entire pipeline: early childhood, elementary, middle school, high school, to college.

In the beginning, there was emphasis on early-childhood programs. Pre-natal to kindergarten. Realized that once the students started school (1st grade), they lost them. Thus there was a move to the charter school process.

So now, they're beginning to bring their classes through, cradle to college. The numbers are phenomenal. The schools are going from 7AM to 7PM, but not just school, but also other extracurricular activities.

This is run like a business. Every single workshop we were at, and speakers we spoke to were business like, business-based up through their governing board.

Important to remember that Harlem is not San Diego, not Oklahoma City, or Bismark, North Dakota. But we need to adapt the Harlem Children's Zone to San Diego.

Question: Is every student in the zone participating? Or is self-selected.

The staff goes out and recruits as the mother is pregnant to get them into the system. But it is up to them to go forth. But with the charter school, there is a selection process. There are so many slots available. A lottery system is utilized. If the children are not enrolled in the school, they can still attend before and after-school programs.

Question: How many students are left back?

Diana Ross: Just to provide some clarification regarding the lottery system. It's standing room only, as parents are waiting for their number to be called. Nobody is forcing the parents to enroll. Parents are emotional, some crying, feeling that this is their children's only chance to get to college and build a life. Harlem Children's Zone realizes that there are children they can't service. So Geoffrey Canada has demanded that schools in Harlem are up to par and trying to lift the numbers restriction on charter schools. Geoff drew a line in the sand. Saying: Not in my neighborhood, it's not okay. They started by

building this year after year, now they're holding policy makers accountable. Including in this are the schools that aren't necessarily Harlem Children's Zone schools.

Promise Neighborhoods – Federal Level

Steve Eldred: A couple of things I wanted to share and then give a few examples of sites around the country trying to replicate Harlem Children's Zone model.

Harlem Children's Zone Initiative was an early campaign promise of Obama. The budget allocation sits within the DOE, but the White House is very involved in. The White House is very hands on with how this will unfold.

The budget allocation of 10 billion dollars was approved and signed in December.

For the next fiscal year, \$200 million has been budgeted for implementation for the 20 selected zones. This may not be a one-shot opportunity. So if there needs to be more coalition building. There's opportunities for that.

This is just one place-based strategy being discussed at the federal level. Within the Department of Education budget, there are other funding opportunities. There are a number of things rolling out that can fit a place-based approach.

Which approach fits the best for City Heights? Even though Harlem Children's Zone is a shining star, there will be a lot of difficulties in attaining this.

Article 1. PolicyLink with Harlem Zone and Center for Social Policy – Why Harlem Children's Zone is successful, data indicators for communities to look at to measure their results. *A Results Focus for Promise Neighborhoods Initiative.*

We're not exactly sure what the Request for Proposals (RFP) will require.

The RFP breaks down into 4 sections or the scopes of

1. *Children are Healthy and Prepared for School Entry.* Addressing 0-5, health access.
2. *Children and Youth are Healthy and Succeed in School.* Academic program results, absenteeism, emotional issues preventing success. A goal of Harlem Children's Zone is for each child to pass above or at the average level. Ultimate goal is for youth to graduate from high school and college. Cradle to College, so we give them the resources and support through college.
3. *Youth Graduate from High School and College.*
4. *Families and Neighborhoods Support the Healthy Development, Academic Success and Well-being of Their Children.*

These are most similar to BHC, development of social networks. So these 4 components will need to be addressed in RFP. There will be 100 communities applying for these grants, with some ahead of others or further along in the process. It might favor them, it's not clear what the selection criteria is.

Article 2. ACF & UNCA - How To guide:

This article breaks down what a planning process needs to look like to be a successful model.

5 steps:

1. Identify the Neighborhood (Data driven process, academic outcomes, to identify the neighborhoods, assets and resources in the community) Indianapolis utilized the Data-driven process, looked at key partners to be involved: school district, city, county, etc.) They need to have a methodology as to why they selected one community over another. Not an automatic decision. Orlando used a grass-roots process. Utilizing youth agents 11-18 to speak about their experiences.
2. Politics of Implementation – multi agency application. Pittsburgh, PA used a top down, approach, put superintendent as the lead. Washington, DC: took the best practices and took leadership from the various organizations to run the program. In West Palm Beach, FL focused on elected officials to initiate the program. Found more difficulties with the City Commissioner and Mayor having political differences. Miami, FL used a state legislator to exert some pressure at the state level to set aside money to fund their Harlem Children's Zone model.
3. Programmatic Strategy: Harlem Children's Zone is the prime example, with years of experience, and many components. But it isn't the only strategy. Jacksonville, FL developed a multi-level leadership with co-chairs. Haven't coalesced around a single vision. In Rochester, NY aligned everyone behind a single leader but didn't have the skills or leadership to move folks along. Questions will arise as to who will lead, and coalesce behind the leader and vision to devote their resources
4. Organization and Leadership Strategy: important criteria for identifying executive director and management teams.
5. Federal Government will provide half the Funding. Not sure if that's just the planning process or is it implementation. Most sites have done it without federal funding, relying on the state, foundations, businesses, or sports teams. Within California, there are many sites moving quickly to take advantage of the Promise Neighborhoods. Richmond, Santa Ana, Boyle Heights. Getting ready to submit their proposal.

Questions: In terms of Harlem Children's Zone, how has Canada dealt with the problem of gentrification: has he worked with the gentrification problem?

Paul Krupski: As far keeping people in Harlem, Neighborhood Revitalization piece, Jeff buys up old properties to provide affordable housing. Students themselves that come out of Harlem, it is urged that students still in school come back during the summer to give back to their communities.

Diana Ross: Don't get me wrong, Harlem is still Harlem, despite the community movement. This last Halloween, they were confronted with gang-bangers that wanted to slash children's faces. Harlem was still Harlem with its challenges and pieces.

Paul Krupski: Generations giving back to their neighborhoods. As children made it through the pipeline, children and their parents are asked to come back and contribute.

Steve Eldred: One example: Detroit, economic revitalization (**ER**). Improve quality of life and ownership. Harlem Children's Zone is very developmental, didn't have ER in the first year. But as they progressed and saw the need, they developed a component. It's similar to charter schools. But what we see now is very comprehensive.

Question: First Question - 10 neighborhoods. Can we expand that? Second, just like the diversity in this room, were there many different organizations at the first meeting?

Steve Eldred: There are 20 sites are being budgeted this year, but potentially there could be more money set aside for next year. In terms of diversity, I do not know about the initial meetings, the White House is aware of Building Healthy Communities.

Paul Krupski: We don't know what the room has looked like in other places. If we use the 14 Building Healthy Communities as examples, we are one of the few that have a collaborative in place and in progress. We were able to hit the ground running faster than many other communities. In terms of Building Healthy Communities, we are one of the forerunners.

Question: Federal grants always ask: What can you do this year? What are the expectations?

Tim Allen: To reiterate the question, there are many constraints that don't make it impossible to implement, but there is a broader scope, the Department of Education has a history of strict guidelines. Even though they've had guidelines, they also haven't gotten back what they wanted. Realistically, you want to apply for a grant that you can meet the results. Read Jeff's book, one example is he had a problem with 8th graders.

Question: Would having the Building Healthy Communities already here be a hindrance?

Paul Krupski: I don't think that by any means, anyone is expected to show results similar to Harlem Children's Zone in 5 years. I think, a community with the ability to show some type of meaningful, successful, short-term results is necessary. Someone building from the ground up with nothing, it will be difficult. You need to show something in place. I think it's great that we are a Building Healthy Communities community. It's great, but you can make the argument that it's a hindrance.

Steve: The California Endowment has had this conversation. Even at the White House. Should Building Healthy Communities be initiated with Harlem Children's Zone. There are positives and negatives. It needs to be a community decision. The level of commitment is very different. It needs to be a thoughtful community process. Can we go in both directions at the same time and make it work together?

Question: Building Healthy Communities has begun to drain our citizen capacity in other established organizations. It's a good thing for them, we support Building Healthy Communities. We have a capacity question. It stumbled at the beginning and is slightly delayed. If we try to take

on a second major initiative, we have to think about institutional capacity. We don't want two failures. Give this business approach some serious thoughts.

Response: Unfortunately, with the Harlem Children's Zone, because he has prominent funders, a good model was Marva Collin's Preparatory School in Chicago, IL. It's just she didn't get the publicity.

Tim Allen: There are many great models. With Harlem Children's Zone, educational attainment is a result, not a goal. Looking at a whole community and providing children and families with services, so that where ever they go, they'll be successful.

Steve: We shouldn't go into this to expect a \$450,000 grant, because chances are with it being competitive you won't get it. We need to go into this with the thought to improve this community with or without funding from the government.

Question: The essence of what made the programs successful. How to the services delivered? Looking at existing programs and all?

Steve Eldred: Realign the services to make it effective.

Paul Krupski: 80% of the funds come from private funders. Of the funds it is broken down to 80% is for programs and 20% for administrative.

Question: Promise Neighborhoods is not asking anything more than what we are currently doing with the Building Healthy Communities? It wouldn't be hard to add more outcomes to existing teams we already have.

Steve Eldred: We need to direct them to the process.

Tim Allen: With the Harlem Children's Zone, there was one (1) person doing the steering, and not a group/collaborative effort.

Question: How many people live in the Harlem Zone?

Paul Krupski: 10,500 children, 7,500 adults served in 2009.

Question: Are there any of communities in San Diego looking at Promise Neighborhoods?

Steve Eldred: There could be a community in Southwest San Diego, but in terms of meeting together like this, we are not aware of any other communities moving forward. We know that the community down there, Jacobs Center is aware of Promise Neighborhoods.

RFP is due by May or June.

Diana Ross: It's important to have different players, politicians, and non-profits. The community needs to ask itself is this where we want to be? Is this enough? Is this a change we want to make? It's a period of reflection and these are the steps we want to take?