



Promise Zones Bulletin

November 22, 2016

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Welcome to the Promise Zone Bulletin

Welcome to the Promise Zones Bulletin, a collection of the news, press releases, and technical assistance opportunities specifically targeted toward Promise Zone lead organizations. We hope this bulletin provides readers with a snapshot of some of the activities occurring in the Promise Zones and can encourage connections and sharing of best practices. Feel free to share content from the Bulletin with your partners!

If you have stories, resources, announcements, or other content you would like to be featured in future bulletins or any suggestions, please email pzteam@hud.gov.

HUD HQ Corner



Update from HUD OFPM Leadership

Greetings! I serve as the career leadership for HUD's Office of Field Policy and Management and lead the transition efforts for the office. As Thanksgiving approaches, I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the work you put into fulfilling the potential of Promise Zones. As neighborhoods, cities, counties, and regions tackle complex and interconnected challenges, the place-based approach maximizes the support and resources of the entire federal family to adapt to the reality of these challenges. We have reached a great milestone with all 14 urban Promise Zone designation agreements are now signed. OMB also released a [memorandum](#) on September 2 that directs agencies to align preferences with Promise Zones whenever possible. As we transition administrations, we look forward to continuing to support your Promise Zone communities through the 10-year designation.

Sincerely,
Nelson R. Bregón
Associate Assistant Deputy Secretary

Promise Zone Information Collection Reporting Tools

The Promise Zone information collection reporting tools are going through the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) clearance process. HUD is working with OMB to finalize the tools. Once the reporting tools are finalized, HUD will request from each of the urban Promise Zone communities the list of grants that need to be verified. HUD anticipates requesting this information in December 2016.

Federal Preference Wish list

The next Promise Zone Steering Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 15, 2016. In preparation for this meeting, HUD would like to provide to federal agencies a list of programs that Promise Zone communities would like to see offer preferences and or priority points.

While HUD cannot guarantee that all the programs you identify in your wish list will offer PZ preference or priority in FY17 (as this is at the discretion of each agency and subject to available funding) many of our agency partners have expressed an interest in learning about what funding opportunities in their portfolios are of interest to Promise Zone sites.

Please provide us your wish list by **Monday, December 5, 2016** to your community liaison. In addition, if there are agencies that are not part of the initiative but that you would be interested in meeting with, please let us know. The attached tracker is optional.

Executive Order: Establishing a Council on Community Solutions

On November 16, 2016, President Obama signed an Executive Order establishing a Community Solutions Council. The Council will provide a lasting structure for Federal agencies to strengthen partnerships with communities and improve coordination across the Federal Government in order to more efficiently deliver assistance and maximize impact.

[Read the Executive Order](#)

[Read the White House Fact Sheet](#)

Office of Policy Development and Research Online Magazine, *The Edge*

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) supports the Department's efforts to help create cohesive, economically healthy communities. PD&R is responsible for maintaining current information on housing needs, market conditions, and existing programs, as well as conducting research on priority housing and community development issues. The Office provides reliable and objective data and analysis to help inform policy decisions. PD&R is committed to involving a greater diversity of perspectives, methods, and researchers in HUD research.

PD&R's online magazine, *The Edge*, provides a snapshot view of newly released research, periodicals, publications, news, and commentaries on housing and urban development issues. An initiative of HUD Secretary Julián Castro, the Prosperity Playbook will serve as a repository of ideas, best practices, and case studies for fostering equitable and inclusive community growth. The Prosperity Playbook is a HUD-sponsored online resource for local officials and planners that launched in the fall of 2016.

Initial contributions to the Prosperity Playbook were the result of discussions among officials and practitioners from five cities brought together by HUD and the American Planning Association (APA) earlier this year.

Featured discussions include [How Housing Matters for Education, Health and Economic Opportunity](#), [Partnering with Philanthropy for Community Impact](#), [An Interview With Natalie Robles](#), and more.

[You can subscribe to PD&R's online magazine, *The Edge* here.](#)

Promise Zone Spotlights

Hartford welcomes new Promise Zone Administrator, Courtenay Jackson

Courtenay Jackson, a Hartford native, has been appointed as the Promise Zone and My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Administrator. In this role, Courtenay will manage efforts related to the City of Hartford's Promise Zone and My Brother's Keeper federal designations, which includes strategic planning, resource development, community engagement and communications. In addition, he will oversee the activities of the North Hartford Promise Zone AmeriCorps VISTA's. Most recently, Courtenay served as the Senior Director of Programs at the Urban League of Greater Hartford where he managed its day-to-day operations. Previously, he has held positions supporting local workforce development and youth programs. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marketing and Communications from Nichlos College and has been volunteering with the Hartford Wildcats Football and Cheer Association since 2011. Welcome, Courtenay!

Sacramento Promise Zone Federal Partners Convening

The Sacramento Promise Zone (SPZ) hosted a Federal Partners Convening on Thursday, October 27. The convening brought over 30 SPZ federal partners from 12 agencies together, who toured the Promise Zone and met with local partners who are working together to implement strategies around health, education, jobs, economic development, and sustainably built communities. Throughout the day, the SPZ federal team heard from local partners about priority needs in the SPZ and shared information on federal programs and resources within their respective agencies in hopes of better linking and leveraging collective resources and efforts toward improving quality of life in the Zone. Congratulations, SPZ!



San Antonio Promise Zone Celebrates Opening of Eastside Education & Training Center



On November 2, the San Antonio Promise Zone celebrated the long awaited Eastside Education and Training Center (EETC) that will provide college level education to residents with a firm pathway to employment.

The 56,000-square-foot facility, a former elementary school, is a one-stop education and workforce development center designed for the Eastside community in partnership with Alamo Colleges and San Antonio Independent School District. The EETC is modeled after Alamo Colleges' highly successful

Westside Education & Training Center.

"We've accomplished a lot since the Promise Zone designation in January 2014, and opening this one-stop education and workforce training center is truly a milestone project," Mayor Ivy R. Taylor said. "I am so proud to be part of today's celebration because this facility will help us meet our goal of making sure that everyone on the Eastside has equal access to opportunity and prosperity."

The City identified and served as a co-applicant with Alamo Colleges and SAISD to secure a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration to renovate the facility. The City's Fiscal Year 2017 General Fund budget allocated \$100,000 to open and operate the EETC for the next two years.

"Since the City convened the Eastside Reinvestment Summits six years ago to identify issues and solutions to revitalize San Antonio's Eastside, we've achieved extraordinary accomplishments in the community," City Manager Sheryl Sculley said. "With the EETC, we are continuing to lay the foundation for transforming the Eastside into a community of opportunity."

In July 2015, the City partnered with Alamo Colleges and other organizations to launch the 'Promise Zone to Work' initiative to prepare Eastside residents for 21st century job opportunities by providing free job training classes in high-demand occupations. To-date, 325 residents have received career certificates in nursing, IT, welding, heavy equipment operation and other areas.

"As part of its mission to 'empower our diverse communities for success,' the Alamo Colleges is pleased to share in this effort with the City of San Antonio and San Antonio Independent School District to bring educational and workforce training services to eastside Promise Zone residents," said Dr. Bruce Leslie, chancellor of Alamo Colleges.

To sustain these efforts, the City partnered with SAISD to provide free job training classes, GED preparation, job placement, financial counseling, child care and a kitchen incubator in one location. The EETC will provide residents with direct access to workforce, education and supportive services that create pathways to quality jobs and/or high education. Congratulations, San Antonio!

Have a grant, federal or non-federal, that you'd like to highlight? Please share with your Community Liaison/Desk Officer any grants awarded to your Promise Zone to feature in our next Bulletin!

PZ Technical Assistance Opportunities

HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program: Strategies for Success Webinar

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) hosted a webinar on September 19 for communities on strategies for success in responding to HUD's Notice of Funding Availability for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP).

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) prioritizes system-level changes aimed at accelerating progress on the Opening Doors goal of preventing and ending youth homelessness. [Read the blog](#) for an overview of the highlights, and [watch the webinar](#) to learn more about how the NOFA builds upon the USICH vision for a Coordinated Community Response for preventing and ending youth homelessness, including priority actions for communities to consider during the application process.

White House Workshop on Research and University Engagement

The White House hosted a Workshop on Research and University Engagement in Promise Zones on September 23, 2016 for Promise Zone leaders at USDA and HUD, University partners, and anchor institutions. The event brought together over 100 attendees representing five federal partners, over 25 academic institutions, and a number of anchor organizations. Throughout the afternoon, university collaboration with Promise Zones was discussed in the context of crafting evaluation and data strategies, community engagement, and developing partnerships with anchor institutions. Workshop-related materials, including notes, agenda and presentation slides can be accessed via: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/tgusi08wu89hle0/AADsn8WVLiZHNNBAVCVI-U47a?dl=0>.

White House Convening on Outcomes-Focused Technical Assistance

The White House hosted a convening on Outcomes-Focused Technical Assistance (OFTA) on Monday, October 31 for a cross-sector group of leaders passionate about the opportunity for TA to create a more outcomes-driven social sector. The convening generated strong momentum to use TA to build the capacity of service providers to 1) identify the most important, measurable outcomes; 2) implement evidence-based practices in local communities; and 3) use data to inform smarter service delivery. Beyond momentum, it was clear from the pop-ups at the end of the event that there are many exciting TA efforts in place or soon to launch that will help achieve these goals.



HUD is working with the White House Office of Social Innovation to ensure that TA is deployed to build the evidence and data capacity of service providers. Ask your Community Liaison to share the list of participants, notes, and materials from the convening.

Coalition for Community Schools Webinar: Addressing Trauma in Community Schools

The Coalition for Community Schools Team will host a webinar on **November 29, 2016, 2 to 3PM EST** on **Addressing Trauma in Community Schools**. This webinar will discuss how community schools are helping to address trauma, as part of an effort to improve the health of communities. Speakers Include:

- Tracey Schear, Director, Center for Healthy Schools and Communities, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
- Lara Kain, Senior Director, Transform Schools, Los Angeles Education Partnership
- Andrea Blanch, Acting Director, Campaign for Trauma-Informed Policy and Practice

Come with questions, insights, and ideas for our Q&A session. [Register for the webinar here.](#)

Department of Education Webinar on “Happy, Healthy, and Ready to Learn: Insure All Children, A Toolkit for School-Based Child Health Outreach and Enrollment”

The Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) and the School Superintendents Association (AASA) will present their recently released “Happy, Healthy, and Ready to Learn: Insure All Children, A Toolkit for School-Based Child Health Outreach and Enrollment” on **Wednesday, November 30, 2016 from 1 to 2PM EST**. The online seminar is hosted by the Department of Education and will cover how to utilize the school-based health

outreach and enrollment toolkit in order to ensure that uninsured children who are eligible for health insurance are enrolled.

While the number of uninsured children in the U.S. is at an all-time low, nearly 3.9 million children under the age of 18 remain uninsured, and many of those children are eligible for Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) but not enrolled. Many of these children are affected by homelessness and other adverse childhood experiences. Schools are critically positioned to help close the insurance enrollment gap. Research continues to show that children learn best when they are physically and emotionally healthy. As we work to close the achievement gaps between students at different income levels, access to health care is a critical concern. Schools and community stakeholders can help ensure all children are covered through school-based enrollment and outreach.

The Promise Zones and stakeholders who work across education, health, and other sectors on a set of community-wide goals are invited to join and learn more about building a framework for school-based support for increasing healthcare enrollment. As you know, in order to improve health and educational outcomes, we must work together. Let's share ideas and learn practical steps towards school health outreach and enrollment, particularly around building community support for connecting children to health insurance through schools. Through greater coverage and access to health services, we can remove one more barrier to learning and support our children in reaching their full potential.

During this webinar, participants will:

- Learn about the CDF/AASA Toolkit and how to enroll students in healthcare coverage through routine school registration processes,
- Look to and learn from actual examples of successful urban, rural, and tribal school district implementation,
- Share ideas on how to increase school-based healthcare enrollment, and
- Ask questions.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

Webinar: 2Gen Opportunities in ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)

Join the Ascend at the Aspen Institute Team for a webinar on Thursday, December 1, from 3 to 4PM EST, to learn about two generation (2Gen) opportunities in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

ESSA was signed into law in December 2015, as a bipartisan re-authorization of the national education law, replacing the previous No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) from 2002. In this webinar, we will provide an overview of the law's major tenets, and explore how ESSA encourages increased collaboration in local communities so that parents, schools, and community organizations can work together to ensure equitable education for all children. Featured speakers include Marisa Goldstein, Research and Policy Associate, Aspen Institute Education & Society Program; Georgia Thomas, Vice President, Programs and Affiliate Network, and Cemeré James, Vice President of Policy, National Black Child Development Institute.

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities

October 1, 2016 started the new federal fiscal year, but the federal government is currently operating with a continuing resolution. FY2017 grant opportunities will be added once the budget is passed for this fiscal year. Here are some current opportunities that might be of interest to Promise Zone partners.

- [*The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program \(YHDP\)*](#), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Due November 30)
- [*Field Initiated Projects Program: Minority-Serving Institution \(MSI\)*](#), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Due January 31)
- [*Field Initiated Projects Program: Development*](#), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Due February 9)
- [*Grant Opportunity in Medications Development for Substance-Use Disorders*](#), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Due July 25)

Questions? Comments? Email pzteam@hud.gov