

THE PROMISE



MISSION PROMISE
COMUNIDAD PROMESA DE LA MISION
NEIGHBORHOOD



MAURA IN SACRAMENTO

SB 686 would increase the number of Promise Neighborhoods in California, which would be funded by the state rather than the federal funds as it is now being funded.

"My experience in going to Sacramento, the capital of California, was very emotional because I had never gone and to know that I can share my story on how the Mission Promise Neighborhood network of partners have helped my children and me. I always thought that my voice did not matter, but I realized that I was wrong. My voice is powerful and I have to use it for the well-being of my children and my family. When I went to Sacramento I felt very good and happy that they took me into account and had the opportunity to go and advocate for resources for my family and the community.

I was able to connect with another mom who has her daughter at Felton Family Developmental Center, where I have my son. We were able to take photos and talk about the way that the programs helped her daughter. Also, the support from the school and the special attention the social workers gave her daughter in the time she needed. Now, thanks to God and the programs we can see the progress her daughter and my son have made. After I found out about proposed SB 686, which will increase the number of Promise Neighborhoods and will be funded by the state instead of the federal funds, I would like to be more involved and continue supporting the cause.

We all deserve to have services that can help our children and families. Something very nice that I learned is to ask for help and that the worst thing that can happen is for them to say no. Thanks for this beautiful experience. I will never forget it. ¡Sí, se puede! Yes, we can!"



BAYRO AND THE "MOVE UP" PROGRAM

"Move Up" is a Summer Bridge Program for entering ninth grade John O'Connell students. The six-week program is a collaboration among MPN, John O'Connell High School and Urban Services YMCA with incoming students working closely with faculty and YMCA staff to gain leadership and organizational skills, build positive relationships and prepare for academic success.

Bayro decided to join the 2019 program. Flor Armas, Family Success and Transitions Coach, asked Bayro some questions to highlight his experience:

Why did you join the move up program?

I joined the "Move Up" Program because of the opportunity to earn 5 credits and a \$200 dollar stipend.

Tell me a bit about your experience so far.

My experience so far has been good; there have been three educational field trips, so far. For example, the PricewaterhouseCoopers trip was very educational. The staff educated us on about eight different types of technology. Artificial Intelligence is one of the many different types of technology.

Have you made any new friends?

Yes, I have made a new friend. His name is Eliseo, he is tall and from El Salvador, just like me.

Are you looking forward to high school?

Yes, I am looking forward to high school. I want to make my father proud: I want him to be proud of creating a smart, respectable human being.



TANDEM: EVERYONE UNITED OPENING DOORS

MPN's Abriendo Puertas strategy includes six partner organizations working collectively since 2017 to scale the program so that more families have access. This work includes increasing the number of facilitators that offer Abriendo Puertas. Recently through a collaboration between Abriendo Puertas, MPN, and First 5 S.F., four parents from Tandem's Literacy Champions program became certified to facilitate Abriendo Puertas.

During the last year and a half, Albertina, Rosario, Margarita, Ruth and Jacqueline have participated in the Literacy Champions program with Tandem, Partners In Early Learning. During this time they have learned about childhood development and early learning. They have worked together to start the "Todas Unidas" project, in which they have created programs focused on supporting parents with children 0-5 years of age in the community. They meet twice a month at the La Lantern Community Center. Now, together they are facilitating Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors for a new group of parents. Being able to share Opening Doors with parents in their community is important to them because ...

Albertina:

For me it is important to be a facilitator of Opening Doors because I have learned a lot of information that I can teach to other Latino families. This program also teaches us how we can advocate for our children, help them open doors for school success, connect them with other organizations and give them information about the health and well-being of the family. I can also share with other parents everything I have learned and how I have put it into practice. Opening Doors has helped me a lot.

Rosario:

Hello, my name is Rosario. I have four children ranging in age from 14, 11, 7 and 2. I am a very busy mom but Opening Doors has changed my life because I have been learning many things that I did not know. In addition, I have made many new friends!

But the most important thing is that what I have learned I can share with my community. Like me, we all have a lot to learn about our children and our concerns. That being said, Opening Doors is very good at informing all our Latino parents like me. I am very happy to be part of this project!

Margarita:

For me it is important to be a facilitator of Opening Doors, to let other parents know how to open doors for the educational success of our children. With our own cultures and values, we can help our children reach their goals. Also as a Latina mother, it is important to support my Latino community. For me, the most important thing about being a facilitator is being able to share everything [I learned from] Opening Doors [and how it] helped me in my own life.

Jacqueline:

Opening Doors allows me to be able to help my community and also it gives me more opportunities to improve myself. I believe that Opening Doors helps create a connection with our family and with our community.



THE PROMISE COMMITTEE

We: Alejandro, Ana, Pedro, Liz, Dannhae and Flor are The Promise Newsletter Committee. Our mission is to share accomplishments and stories by students, families and partner organizations that are part of our network. The Promise Newsletter will be published quarterly, so the next one will be on October 15, 2019. If you have an idea or would like to share your story, contact Alejandro at (415) 282-3334 ext. 126 or abautista@medasf.org.