

# THE PROMISE



MISSION PROMISE  
COMUNIDAD PROMESA DE LA MISION  
NEIGHBORHOOD



Xochitl and her family.



Genesis delivering her poem at the MPN 10 Year celebration.

## ENTREPRENEUR MIND

Xochitl came to San Francisco with many dreams and needs, but thanks to her determination she has been able to take advantage of the opportunities that have presented to her. Xochitl arrived at Buena Vista Horace Mann School night shelter, where families have to leave with belongings every morning and return at night to only sleep. During the rainy season, Xochitl's baby got sick, and with anguish she realized that she had to find some way to improve her quality of life for herself and her children.

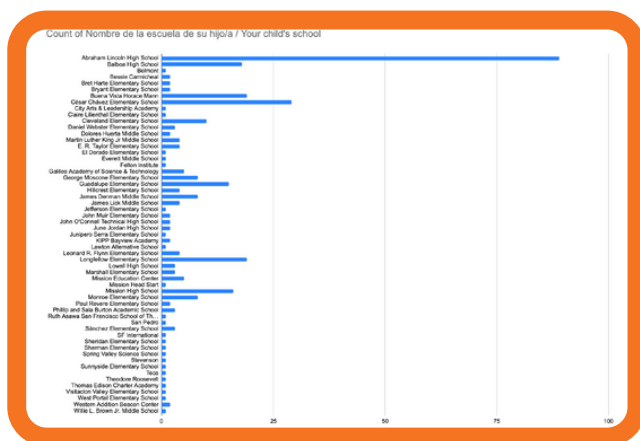
After her baby got sick, Xochitl looked for a shelter where families could stay inside during the day. She moved to the Oasis shelter, where she met Blanca Castillo, our Family Success Coach at Sanchez Elementary School, where she guides and helps families in emergency shelters.

From the first conversation, Blanca realized the strengths that Xochitl possessed since when she was living in Nicaragua. Xochitl had her own manicure and decoration of natural and false nails business. When Blanca realized Xochitl's talent, she helped her get the necessary tools to start his business, promote it and get clients.

Now, Xochitl, in addition to working in her own business, she also found work in a restaurant to maintain a fixed salary. She lives in transitional housing where they will support her family to find a permanent home in the area. Xochitl thanks Blanca for the great support she has given her and assures that she is an "Angel" that God sent her.

## THE POWER OF OPPORTUNITIES

Oh dear Mission Promise Neighborhood,  
With this poem,  
First I bless you and then I tell you.  
The teaching of life, has been my school day by day.  
The soul is purer when we have culture,  
It's been 10 years now, since your birth and throughout your life,  
On your way maybe you fell and you believed that you could not go against adversities and you went through each one of them.  
Work hard, for what you want, because the only thing that falls from the sky is rain.  
With you, families learned that books can be the best shield in the lives of their children,  
With your guidance and empowerment we can stop having suffering,  
And before God I promise that when I grow up I will fight for my people, Mission Promise Neighborhood, you are not worth it, you are worth life.



## STUDENT SUCCESS FUND

In November 2022, the citizens of San Francisco approved a proposal that will give money to the schools with the greatest need in the districts. Proposition G will give up to \$1 million each year to schools to use for student programs. The Latino Task Force (LTF) organization has been in charge of raising the voices of the community. The LTF Education Committee released a survey and held meetings with San Francisco parents and students to ask the question: "What would you do with the money at your school if you were in charge of the fund?" The organization hopes to share this information with the mayor and the school district.

Many parents and students in the city have given input thanks to this opportunity. LTF was in charge of accumulating the information to present the voices of our Latino parents. Every school where MPN is connected participated in the survey, and many more throughout the city of San Francisco.

Magali Valdez-Robles, former Family Success Coach, at Cesar Chavez Elementary School had the opportunity to support these efforts. Magali asked families to take a 5 minute survey created by LTF. The following were topics of conversation that stand out and are repeated among the Cesar Chavez families:

- One of the most highlighted issues was school safety. Families mentioned that they would like to see an investment in security. They think that the gate is not secure enough. They also mentioned that they can't rely on the school cameras. These concerns have been raised by the news of school shootings that have occurred in recent years. Families also shared that they don't feel safe walking to school.

- Families expressed that they would like to beautify the school by adding or improving the play structure. They would like to remodel the bathrooms and add a structure so that children can go out to the patio on rainy days and it can also provide shade during sunny days.

- In addition, parents would like to use the funds to provide educational materials for parents to help their children with homework and subjects where they're struggling. They also suggested more educational field trips for students and courses for parents such as English and computer classes. Families expressed interest in helping teachers during classes as they feel teachers are not supported enough by the administration.

Proposition G is additional funding for programs in the San Francisco School District (SFUSD) to improve school achievement and the social-emotional well-being of our students by providing an opportunity to address many of the concerns parents experience in their daily lives. Families are very grateful for the gesture of taking their opinions into consideration through the surveys conducted by LTF and Magali, former Family Success Coach at Cesar Chavez Elementary school.



## THE PROMISE COMMITTEE

Clockwise from top left: Magali, Ana, Liz, and Alejandro. Our mission is to share stories of students, families, and partner organization accomplishments and stories across our network. The Promise newsletter will be published quarterly, so the next one will be in Fall 2022. If you have an idea or would like to share your story, contact Alejandro at (415) 857-2834 or [abautista@medasf.org](mailto:abautista@medasf.org).