

2024 MPN HIGHLIGHTS



As we look ahead to the new year, Mission Promise Neighborhood (MPN) is proud to highlight the 2024 partner achievements, working to advance MPN's vision through strategic collaborations at the local, state, and national levels, and always driven by community voices.

Our Co-created Vision



During our partner retreat in 2023, MPN partners came together to co-create a vision for the future that is rooted in community and collaboration, fostering inclusive communities through co-creation, power sharing, and shifting inequitable systems. MPN is committed to understanding and eradicating structural racism, promoting justice and wellness, and ensuring that every individual is able to realize their full humanity from prenatal to career and beyond. Our mission is to foster justice, cultivate joy throughout the community, and strive for equitable futures, safety, and self-sustaining communities.

Change through Collective Action

In 2024, MPN made significant strides to identify and address community challenges by convening four action teams: Early Learning, K-12, Post-Secondary, and Family Support. From March through December, MPN action teams came together to find collaboration opportunities, celebrate successes, review relevant data trends, and chart the course for future initiatives. Here's a look at what each action team accomplished:

- **The Early Learning Action Team** zeroed in on the crucial need for transition support for families with incoming Kindergarten students. Partners emphasized the importance of strengthening the relationship between early care and education programs and the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), recognizing that **smoother transitions** set the stage for a child's academic success. Additionally, in order to minimize burnout and ensure wellness and mental health direct service staff have the tools, information, and resources to best serve the community, the Early Learning Action Team called for increased capacity building and professional development opportunities. Historically, the Early Learning Action Team has worked on increasing 0-5 slots, offering Abriendo Puertas collectively and increasing the facilitator's capacity through the professional learning community, and supporting families in their Pre-K to Kinder transitions through a family portfolio.
- **The K-12 Action Team** focused on tackling **chronic absenteeism**—a key barrier to student success. In addition to revisiting data from a needs assessment on absenteeism and strategizing how to integrate recommendations into the ongoing work, partners analyzed existing strategies in the first half of the school year and discussed plans to expand these efforts in the upcoming year. These collaborative efforts ensure that strategies are refined regularly to meet the evolving needs of students, families, and educators.
- **The Post-Secondary Action Team** focused on scaling MPN partner Mission Graduates' initiatives to support student journeys to higher education. Mission Graduates worked to refine and enhance existing programs at John O'Connell High School, focusing on providing tailored support to students who might face additional barriers to **college success**. By focusing on cohort-based models and personalized guidance, Mission Graduates is creating a strong framework for students to not only attend college but to thrive once they get there.
- **The Family Support Action Team** worked to deepen connections and functions within the MPN network, with an emphasis on improving mechanisms for collaborative efforts, sharing of resources, and improving overall community awareness of available support services. Furthermore, the Family Support Action team provided input to refine the network's referral system to ensure that families can easily access the services they need in an effective and timely manner.

Together, these action teams are making measurable progress in addressing the **needs of students and families** in the Mission District. MPN will continue to leverage the power of collective action to create meaningful change, ensuring that every child and family has the resources and support they need to thrive.

Data at the Heart of Decision-Making

For the MPN collaborative, data is a catalyst for change. Throughout 2024, MPN hosted four dynamic data meetings to dive deep into academic trends. The meetings were focused on co-creating an evaluation plan for the California Promise Neighborhood Network (CPNN), analyzing findings from community gatherings, the annual MPN Neighborhood Survey, and the School Climate Surveys. These sessions brought together principals from MPN network schools, SFUSD Community School Coordinators, School District administrators, and community-based organizations to turn data into action, shaping data-driven strategies that are focused, relevant, and poised to create equitable change for students and families.

You can find the meeting presentation materials in the links below:

- [Community Gathering](#)
- [2024 School Climate Survey](#)
- [Neighborhood Survey](#)

On our way to becoming a Promise City



In collaboration with the City of San Francisco and SFUSD, MEDA has been driving the Promise City Initiative, which focuses on scaling the MPN model in the District 11, Chinatown, and Hope S.F. Communities. By working closely with local partners, our goal is to identify lead backbone agencies and begin the collaborative planning process to create Promise Neighborhoods.

In July, MPN organized a multi-neighborhood Promise City retreat where partners gathered to co-create a vision for improving the academic and economic future of San Francisco's children and families. Attendees included representatives from the Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, Jamestown Community Center, SFUSD School Board, and former San Francisco Department of Children, Youth, and their Families (DCYF) Director Maria Su. This retreat marked a critical milestone in our journey toward realizing San Francisco as a Promise City—an initiative built on innovation, collaboration, and unwavering accountability to results.

Promise City partners were also part of a two-day Results-Based Facilitation (RBF) training intended to build partner capacity and deepen collective knowledge alongside MPN Beacon Directors and SFUSD Community School Coordinators. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with participants emphasizing how valuable the training was for staff who regularly engage with community partners.

California Promise Neighborhood Network (CPNN)



[CPNN](#) is coming together to highlight best practices and proven results as a network, working towards scaling Promise Neighborhood work across California. These groups are essential for tackling critical issues that impact students and families. In 2024, Felton Institute, Mission Graduates, and Parents for Public Schools SF volunteered to join the following learning groups:

- **College Retention:** Aims to improve retention rates by supporting students in enrolling, attending, and graduating from college.
- **Chronic Absenteeism:** Focused on reducing absenteeism through close collaboration with educators and school sites.
- **Family Resources & System Alignment:** Enhancing coordination between services like CalFresh, housing, and healthcare to support families.

These focus groups are pivotal in bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders to share knowledge, develop strategies, and refine approaches that directly improve student success and family well-being across California.

MPN at Harvard EdRedesign for Success Planning Collaboration



Led by **Harvard's EdRedesign Success Planning Institute**, MPN Partnerships Manager Ana Gonzalez, SFUSD Director of Community Schools Chris Tsukida, John O'Connell High School Principal Amy Abero, and MPN Vice President of Family Support & School-Based Services Jaqueline Marcelos participated in the second year of the Success Planning Community of Practice, a relationship-based approach that pairs each child with an adult navigator who collaborates with the child, their family, and other supportive adults to create a personalized action plan. By focusing on the child's unique needs and strengths, identifying resources to

remove obstacles, and support their success, the approach ensures that every child is connected to a caring adult and has a clear pathway to achieving their goals.

As part of this initiative, the MPN team attends monthly meetings with 12 other communities across the U.S. and receives individualized coaching on effective data collection and outcome planning.

Furthermore, MEDA's Mission Youth In Action (MYIA) program is piloting Success Planning components in San Francisco. Ana has played a key role in this effort by leading the planning of one-on-one sessions between MYIA staff serving as Student Success Coaches and students, developing toolkits for coaches to use during sessions, creating templates for check-ins, designing guiding questions, and supporting SMART goal-setting and attendance action plans.

Advancing Community Wellness



In 2023, Mission Promise Neighborhood (MPN) received a grant from the California Accountable Communities for Health Initiative (CACHI), which promotes collaboration among hospitals, schools, public health agencies, local businesses, and residents to align resources, prioritize prevention, and drive meaningful change.

As part of this initiative, MEDA, Mission Graduates, Felton Institute, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, Jamestown Community Center, and Mission Neighborhood Health Center are partnering on the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative by gathering community input, analyzing data, and working closely with healthcare providers to address the **behavioral health** needs of youth in the Mission. These efforts aim to develop solutions that will improve long-term mental health outcomes for families in the Mission District community.

Additionally, as part of a trusted messenger initiative led by the Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications, MPN Family Success Coaches (FSCs) are encouraging families and youth to utilize the mental health support apps Soluna and BrightLife Kids.

Strengthening Financial Capability for Families



Over the past year, FSCs have integrated financial capability services into their coaching sessions to better serve families, equipping them with essential tools and resources to improve their **financial well-being**. FSCs have expanded their services to assist families in creating comprehensive and personalized financial budgets, reviewing credit history and offering guidance on credit building, completing income tax filings, and support with applying for Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers (ITINs), increasing access to living wage job opportunities.

Looking into 2025, FSCs will continue to play a critical role in helping families access vital safety net programs like CalFresh and Medi-Cal, ensuring that they receive the necessary support, resources, and tools for prosperity and academic excellence.

With saving for college being a critical component to accessing higher education, FSCs, Mission Graduates' Parent Partner Program, and Jamestown Community Center actively promote **Kindergarten to College and CalKids**, government programs that aim to help students and families within MPN schools establish a strong foundation for long-term financial success.

MPN Impact

MPN Partners



Partner Contribution Highlights:

- Through [Abriendo Puertas \(AP\)/Opening Doors](#), Birth Companions, Parents for Public Schools, Homeless Prenatal, Tandem, Support for Families, Good Samaritan Family Resource Center, Felton, Mission Neighborhood Centers (MNC) Inspiring Success, and Homeless Prenatal served 452 participants. Additionally, 92% of participants at Homeless Prenatal who completed pre and post-surveys improved their knowledge in all the areas covered in the program. Families shared that these gains in knowledge would help them in their educational journey from Pre-K to High School. Additionally, Zoila Cartagena, our MPN consultant, facilitated a Professional Learning Community (PLC) for 14 AP facilitators across these organizations. Manuel, a PLC participant, shared that he has "learned to be aware and reflect on the value of self-knowledge as an ability to connect with our feelings, thoughts, and actions. This PLC has helped me be a better father, husband, and man who is able to contribute to my community."
- Support for Families, Felton Institute, Good Samaritan, and MNC Inspiring Success together screened 1,231 MPN children using the Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ). An overwhelming 94% of parents served at Support for Families reported learning strategies to advocate more effectively for their special needs child
- Mission Neighborhood Health Clinic (MNHC) served 1,192 MPN children with various medical services, including well-baby visits, age-appropriate vaccines, dental exams, weight assessments and counseling, health care enrollment, asthma services, and behavioral health. Additionally, the Nurse Midwives provided prenatal services to 298 mothers. Of these mothers, 99% gave birth to babies with a normal birth weight.
- The Urban Services YMCA supported 30 students during the summer as they prepared to become ninth graders at John O'Connell High School through the six-week Power Scholars Academy (PSA). In addition to introducing students to their new school, PSA is an academic program emphasizing math, reading, and science, which helps minimize summer learning loss. During the school year, the YMCA staff also served as Student Success Coaches, offering classroom support to 70 students and providing 1:1 support.
- During the 2023-24 school year, Mission Graduates served 740 students in their after-school program at the following MPN Schools: Bryant, Flynn, Sanchez, and Everett Middle School. At John O'Connell High School, the College and Career program served all seniors; 84% of students reported growth in confidence in the college application process throughout their senior year, and 88% of students planned on attending a two or four college. As part of the College Connect Program, which served 140 high school and college students, 100% of high school seniors participating were accepted into a 4-year school.
- Jamestown offers programming at Buena Vista Horace Mann, Cesar Chavez, and James Lick, where they supported 977 students in their after-school programs, and 728 students attended their summer program. 93% of students reported positive perceptions of their relationships and 81% positive perceptions of their safety while in Jamestown programs.
- Instituto Familiar de la Raza (IFR) provides mental health support at Chavez, Bryant, BVHM, and James Lick. IFR served 119 students, 198 families, and 209 educators in total. 100% of providers/staff at James Lick reported that consultation services improved their ability to communicate with parents, guardians, families, and teachers/staff.
- La Raza Central Legal (LRCL) provided 80 community members with immigration and worker's rights consultations. Additionally, 28% seeking immigration support received assistance in legal proceedings or representation, and 70% seeking workers rights support received assistance in legal proceedings or representation. LRCL offered 15 Know Your Rights workshops in the community focused on worker's rights, as well as the affirmative immigration program.

Recommended Reading from 2024

- [Everett Middle School Celebrates Newcomer Students' Achievements at Year's End](#)
- [Summer of Learning: How Urban Services YMCA Prepares New Students at John O'Connell High School](#)
- [Parents for Public Schools of San Francisco: Identifying Opportunity Gaps and Preventing Chronic Absenteeism](#)
- [How the Mission Economic Development Agency Created a Transformational Prenatal-to-Career Model](#)
- [Community-Led Solutions Aim to Measure Systemic Barriers](#)

Here's what's coming up in 2025

- **California Promise Neighborhood Network (CPNN) Convening:** Engaging with other Promise Neighborhoods across California to share best practices.
- **MPN Annual Neighborhood Survey:** Gathers insights and feedback from the community to inform future initiatives. We will be reaching out to partners for support with outreach and survey implementation.
- **MPN Partner Blogs:** Highlighting the impactful work of MPN partners through regular blog features.
- **MPN Network Retreat:** A dedicated retreat to align goals, foster partnerships, and plan for the year ahead.
- **Unidos for ECE and MEDA Alliance for Early Education:** Unidos for ECE has asked MEDA to cofound an alliance to advance Latinx early childhood outcomes. All partners are welcome to join this alliance. Additionally, Yohana Quiroz from the Felton Institute, and co-founder of Unidos for ECE, will collaborate with Claudia Quinonez from the Children's Council to develop a CPAC Latinx ad-hoc committee to advance the needs of our youngest children.



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