

## Abstract

Lead Agency Oakland Promise has brought together the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), Peralta Community College District (PCCD), and more than a dozen local community-based organizations in an unprecedented collaboration to envision and launch a Promise Neighborhood in East Oakland, in the San Francisco Bay Area, California.

**Project objectives and activities.** The EOPN's overall objectives are (1) Increase safety and stability within the community, decreasing displacement/mobility of Black, Brown, and other marginalized communities; (2) Increase students' holistic academic development/proficiency, integrating social-emotional learning and 21st-century skill-development across TK-12 into post-secondary education, and (3) Increase families' access to wrap-around services to support the holistic well-being of children as well as family well-being and success.

Our coalition has designed a person-centered, family-friendly, and culturally-inclusive cradle-to-career pipeline of services to support young people to succeed in their education and enable families to thrive. The pipeline spans *four domains*: **1) Early Learning** will support children from birth to age 5, their families, and early learning providers so that children enter kindergarten ready to learn. **2) K-12** will incorporate and strengthen OUSD's Community School model to support students holistically, with educators collaborating with community partners to provide academic support, mental health services, expanded learning programs, transition support, family outreach, and other vital supports. **3) College and Career** will provide comprehensive college readiness support, so students are prepared, access, and succeed in postsecondary education and/or meaningful employment upon graduation, and support adult residents to advance their education and/or secure sustainable employment. **4) Community**

**Supports** will focus on enhancing quality of life and community connection, so children grow up in safe, stable families and parents are able to support their children’s learning and success.

This “Early Implementation” grant will provide resources to: (1) codify EOPN operating, governance, and data structures, and develop a long-term sustainability plan; (2) bridge immediate needs for programmatic interventions to disrupt the downward spiral of student chronic absenteeism, often violence- and trauma-related and fueled by personal safety fears; and (3) leverage and formalize youth participation and leadership in systems of strategic planning, resource allocation, civic engagement, and community violence prevention and response.

**Proposed project outcomes.** The collaborative will make measurable progress on each of the U.S. Department of Education’s Promise Neighborhoods 10 Program Results and 14 Performance Indicators, as detailed in our project narrative.

**Number of participants.** The EOPN initiative will serve at least 10,000 EOPN residents, including 4,000 young people under 18, their family members, and other community residents.

**Project sites.** The EOPN initiative includes four OUSD schools: East Oakland Pride Elementary (serving grades TK-5), Frick United Academy of Language (6-8), Elmhurst Middle (6-8), and Castlemont High (9-12). The EOPN includes zip codes 94621, 94605, and 94603.

Our proposal addresses ***Absolute Priority 1***, as we are proposing a Promise Neighborhood in the non-rural, non-Tribal community of Oakland, CA (city population 436,504). We also address ***Competitive Preference Priority 1***: Strengthening Cross-Agency Coordination and Community Engagement to Advance Systemic Change...to address community violence prevention and intervention; ***Competitive Preference Priority 2***: Applications from New Potential Grantees; and ***Competitive Preference Priority 3***: Promoting Equity in Student Access to Educational Resources and Opportunities.