

Detroit's Clark Park/Osborn Promise Neighborhoods Partner with Schools...

Creating a Pipeline of Best Practice Services from cradle to college and career!

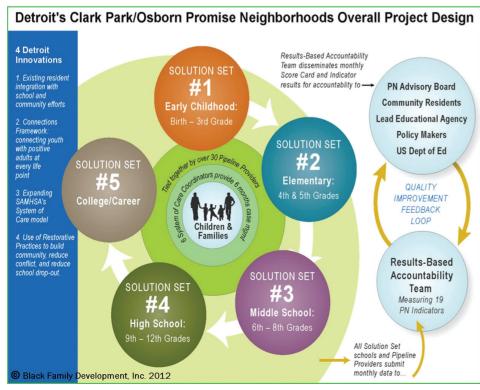
"In the 21st century, one of the best anti-poverty program is a world-class education."

President Barack Obama

President Obama made a promise. He promised in 2008 that he would advance the educational needs of children in America through a number of innovations, one of which was replicating the Harlem Children's Zone. He has kept the promise. Promise Neighborhoods (PN) is a Department of Education (DOE) initiative inspired by the approach and achievements of the Harlem Children's Zone. Promise Neighborhoods is about creating a pipeline of services from cradle to college and career. The phrase "creating a Pipeline of Services from cradle to college and career" refers to a data driven planning and implementation process that helps families support children and youth through all developmental and academic phases to successful adulthood. Black Family Development, Inc. is funded by DOE to lead a planning year for PN work in Detroit. The communities of Clark Park (zip code 48209) in Southwest Detroit and Osborn (zip code 48205) on the east side of Detroit are the targeted Promise Neighborhood communities.

Detroit's Clark Park/Osborn Promise Neighborhoods Vision is . . . "All children will have access to excellent schools, positive youth development opportunities, graduate from high school on time, and be prepared for college without the need for remediation courses. And, families will have all the support and resources they need to make their children successful in life."

This shared vision, supported by over 39 accountable partners, will begin by supporting seven (7) schools: Brenda Scott Academy for Theatre Arts; Earhart Elementary/Middle School; Maybury Elementary School; Osborn High School Academy of Mathematics; Osborn High School Evergreen Academy of Design & Alternative Energy; Osborn High School College Preparatory Academy; and Western International High School; and scaling up the work to support additional schools in the city.



Promise Neighborhoods partners, representing public, private, and philanthropic arenas, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to develop and implement a plan to dramatically improve outcomes and opportunities for children, youth, families and their communities. The partners have embraced a collaborative theme of "Results Based Accountability". Results Based Accountability is a disciplined way of thinking; taking action to solve problems; and using current, reliable data to improve performance.

Alice G. Thompson, CEO, Black Family Development, states, "Our Promise Neighborhoods work in the Clark Park/Osborn Communities is helping to lift up the voice of residents; shape and achieve community goals; ensure all students have access to excellent schools; increase graduation rates and readiness for college without the need for remediation; and, ensure access to positive youth development opportunities."

Detroit's Promise Neighborhoods is federally-funded with support from both The Skillman Foundation and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Promise Neighborhoods is data-driven, community-led, and governed by a 15 member advisory board chaired by Heaster Wheeler, Wayne County Deputy CEO.

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