

## Overview of Promise Neighborhood Initiative Proposal for Austin, TX

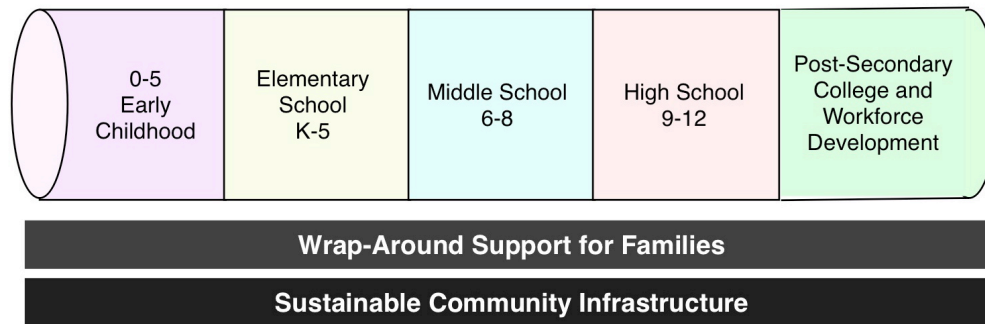
(Revised 2-9-10)

The Obama administration is developing the Promise Neighborhood initiative, through the Dept. of Education, to replicate the successful Harlem Children's Zone model in 20 cities. An RFP for a \$500,000 planning grant will be released in November/December with awards early in 2010. Cities successfully completing the planning phase will then be eligible for 10-year federal grants (based on 50% municipal/private match) to take their projects to scale.

**Core Mission/Purpose:** The Promise Neighborhoods program seeks to provide children in poverty with every possible chance to succeed through the combined development of high-quality, comprehensive, coordinated, neighborhood-based programs for children, youth, young adults, and parents, combined with efforts to rebuild the fabric of the community.

**Program:** Over time, each designated Promise Neighborhood would create a pipeline of accessible, linked, best practice programs and high quality schools for neighborhood children and young adults from 0-23 years old, starting when parents are pregnant and finishing when children graduate from college. The pipeline should be enveloped with additional programs to support parents, families and the larger community.

Seamless Pipeline for Development of Youth, Ages 0-23



Applicants will be a coalition of community-based organizations, non-profits, municipal agencies, business supporters, school districts and foundations that have experience with working together to improve the lives of children in their communities. A lead agency (not the school district) will coordinate funding and operations.

**Steps for Developing a Promise Neighborhood Proposal:** With planning grants being awarded to just 20 cities (there is, potentially, another round of grants), a number of cities have spent the last year gathering data, building coalitions and developing proposals. While Austin is not at that level of planning, the basics are in place to develop a coalition quickly.

1. We are data rich, with a number of coalitions at work. The United Way, in particular, has spent the last several months putting together neighborhood data that will be helpful in choosing potential neighborhood(s) and supporting a proposal.

2. A large number of potential partners has been looking at the Promise Neighborhood/HCZ model over the past year. Support exists from AISD, City of Austin, Travis County, non-profits, foundations, business organizations and community groups.
3. A number of key entities (City of Austin, AISD) are engaged in early-stage strategic planning, allowing for alignment of the Promise Neighborhood initiative with broader goals and strategies for youth and families.
4. Proposals developed by other cities, along with existing HCZ replication sites, gives Austin resources with which to develop a plan quickly.
5. A team of city and community leaders from Austin will be attending the Harlem Children's Zone Conference on Promise Neighborhoods November 9-10. This information-gathering team will be able to bring back the tools necessary to begin putting an Austin proposal together.

### **History of Austin Promise Neighborhood Effort**

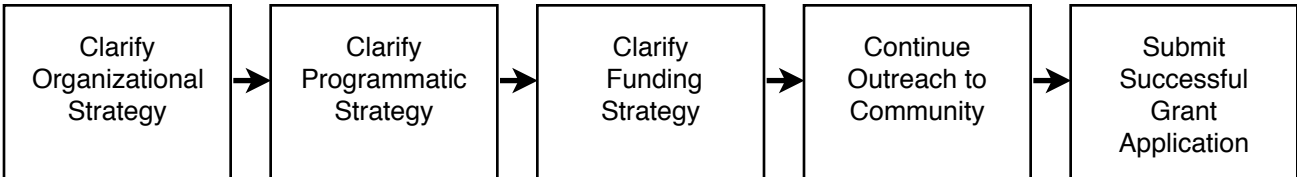
2008-09	Interest in the Harlem Children's Zone model leads to several pockets of discussion throughout Austin, including among school officials, neighborhoods, service providers and funders.
Fall 08	Then Sen. Obama announces intention to replicate HCZ model into 20 cities if elected. Eventually becomes the Promise Neighborhood initiative through the US Dept. of Education.
Spring 09	Several neighborhoods, including St. John and Govalle, begin discussions around submitting Promise Neighborhood grant applications.
Summer 09	Sooch Foundation and Webber Family Foundation look for pockets of interest in Promise Neighborhood Initiative. Approach St. John Community School Alliance and Southwest Key Partners about possible partnerships.
September 09	Austin Promise Neighborhood Planning Committee is formed as a coalition of city, county, AISD, non-profit and community representatives, with the goal of bringing a Promise Neighborhood planning grant to Austin.
October 09	An open citywide meeting is held at Cornerstone Church in east Austin to bring together organizations and individuals interested in being part of the APNCP initiative. Over 100 attend.
November 09	A delegation of 10, including school, city, state, non-profit and community representatives, attends an HCZ-sponsored grant conference in New York City. A determination is made by the team to proceed with an HCZ-type effort in Austin whether or not the city is a recipient of the Promise Neighborhood grant.

- November 09     A meeting is held at the Carver Museum to update service providers and community members about the PN effort. Over 130 attend, with interest high in supporting the effort. Both St. John and Southwest Key representatives are invited to present.
  
- December 09    The APNPC data team presents findings about various Austin communities in order to narrow down selection process for a target neighborhood. Through data analysis, two neighborhoods, the Govalle/Johnston Terrace and St. John neighborhoods, remain as candidates. Southwest Key Partners presents to the APNPC and informs the committee of their intention to submit an application for the grant whether chosen by the APNPC or not.
  
- January 10      The APNPC continues the neighborhood selection process and sponsors several community meetings in the St. John neighborhood to gauge interest. Based on those meetings, the St. John neighborhood (as well as the neighborhood Coronado Hills neighborhood) are chosen as the target communities for the grant application. The APNPC also clarifies the governance structure for the initiative, including an 18-member steering committee, consisting of community, municipal, AISD and service provider/foundation members, along with an advisory committee and area work groups. The team also proposes that the steering committee be related to the city/county/AISD joint subcommittee.
  
- Feb 10          The planning team transitions leadership of the PN effort to a formal steering committee.
  
- April 10         Promise Neighborhood grant submission (tent.)

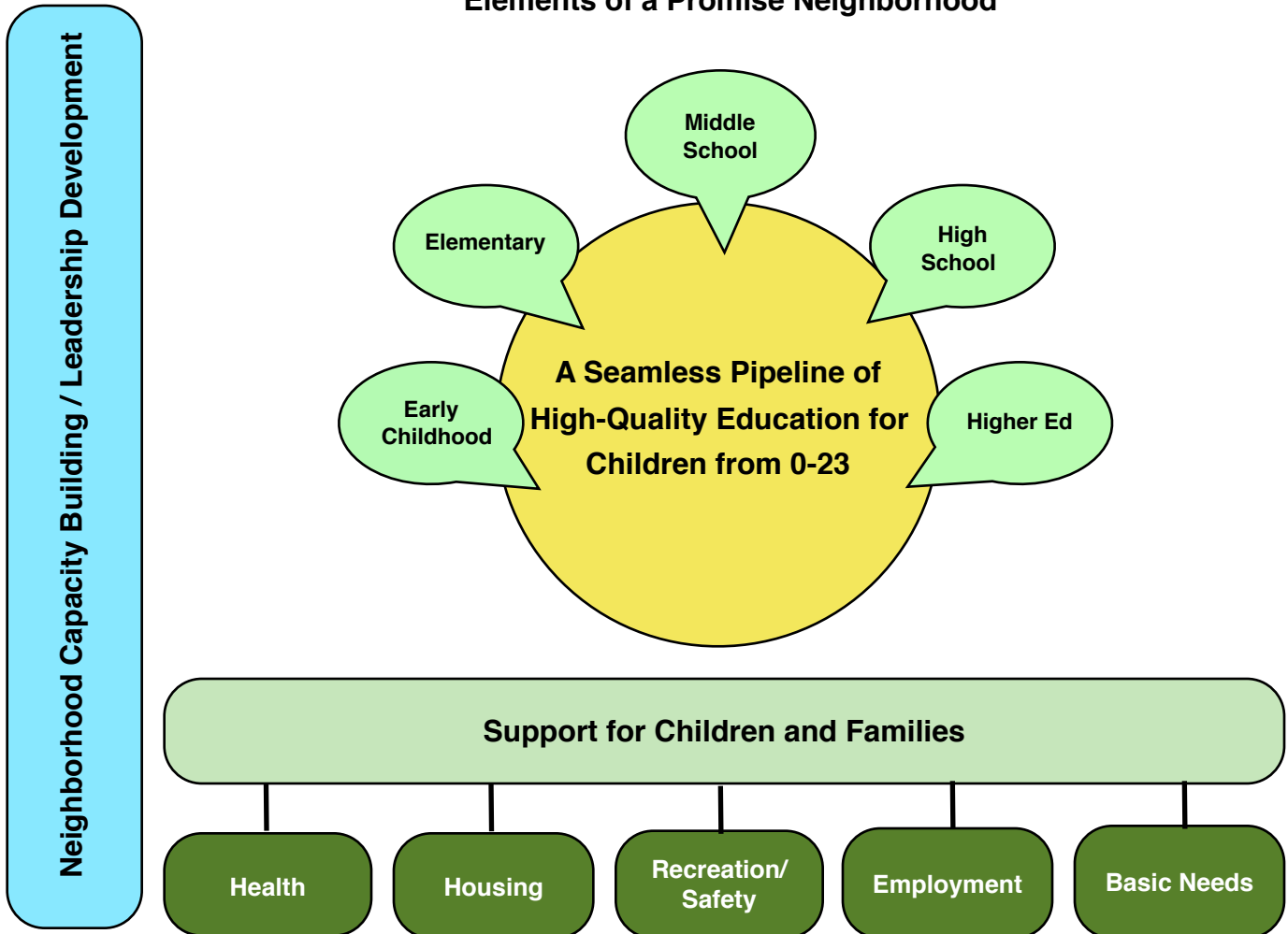
**September 09-February 10**



**February-April 10**



## Elements of a Promise Neighborhood



### Key Questions for Developing Our Logic Model:

1. What are our objectives?
2. How can we measure success?
3. How does our model produce sustainable change?
4. How does our model grow from the assets already found within the community?
5. How does our model take into account the dynamic (mobile) nature of the population of this community?