



March 4, 2011

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Norman Dicks
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Inouye, Senator Cochran, Chairman Rogers, and Congressman Dicks:

The undersigned public officials and national, state, and local organizations write in strong support of the Administration's request for \$150 million in funding for the Promise Neighborhoods program for FY 2012.

The federal Promise Neighborhoods program, administered by the U.S. Department of Education, has garnered support and prompted action in diverse communities across the country, including 21 grantees awarded one-year planning grants and over one hundred high-scoring runners-up to the competitive grant application process. The success, message, and lessons of the Harlem Children's Zone model permeate across regions and communities.

The excitement generated by this program is tremendous. There were 339 cities, rural areas, American Indian communities, and other types of locales that applied for the federal funds in 2010. Due to limited resources, only 21 were chosen as part of the Department's competitive grant process. For this program to reach its full potential it must be continued and expanded in the years ahead in order to supply critical planning and implementation resources.

The Promise Neighborhoods model, which combines high-quality education with community and family-based supports, provides continuous services from cradle through college to career. Research demonstrates that young people are more likely to succeed in school when their comprehensive needs are met. Promise Neighborhoods does not focus on a few isolated issues faced by children, or attempt to improve educational and life outcomes of just a small number of children in low-income communities. Instead, it focuses on the whole child and whole community, lifting up and transforming them in a process that emphasizes what works.

The undersigned organizations and public officials thank you for your continued commitment to advancing the cause of vulnerable children and youth. We strongly urge you to adopt the Administration's FY 2012 budgetary request for the Promise Neighborhoods program.

Respectfully,

National / Multi-State Associations

Afterschool Alliance
Alliance for Children and Families
America's Promise Alliance
American Camp Association
Board of Child Care of the United Methodist Church
Boys Town
The Bridgespan Group
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for the Study of Social Policy
CFED
Children's Defense Fund
Clinical Social Work Association
Coalition for Community Schools
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Institute for Community Peace
First Focus Campaign for Children
Forum for Youth Investment
Foster Family-Based Treatment Association
Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc.
Lutheran Services in America
MENTOR
National Assembly on School-Based Health Care
National Human Services Assembly
National Organization of State Associations for Children
National Parent Teacher Association
PolicyLink
Public Allies
Results Leadership Group, LLC
SeaChange Capital Partners
Social Solutions
United Neighborhood Centers of America
United Way Worldwide
Voices for America's Children
YMCA of the USA
Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

Alabama

C & C Child Development, Inc. (Birmingham, AL)
Presbyterian Home for Children (Talladega, AL)
True Love Community Learning Center (Birmingham, AL)
Tuskegee Macon County YMCA (Macon County, AL)

Arizona

Balsz School District (Phoenix, AZ)
Child and Family Resources, Inc. (Tucson, AZ)
United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona (Tucson, AZ)
Valley of the Sun United Way (Phoenix, AZ)

Arkansas

University of Arkansas at Little Rock (Little Rock, AR)

California

A World Fit For Kids (Los Angeles, CA)
Advancement Project California (Los Angeles, CA)
Advocates 4 Family Caregivers (Carson, CA)
Boys & Girls Clubs of Monterey County (Seaside, CA)
California Alliance of Child and Family Services (Sacramento, CA)
Community Legal Services (East Palo Alto, CA)
East Bay Asian Youth Center (Oakland, CA)
El Sol Academy (Santa Ana, CA)
EMQ FamiliesFirst (Davis, CA)
Fighting Back Partnership (Vallejo, CA)
Five Acres (Altadena, CA)
Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services (Pasadena, CA)
Home of Neighborly Service Board (San Bernardino, CA)
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (Los Angeles, CA)
Jewish Family Service of Silicon Valley (Los Gatos, CA)
Jireh Technologies, Inc. (San Francisco, CA)
Neighborhood House of North Richmond (Richmond, CA)
Nuestra Casa (East Palo Alto, CA)
Peninsula Interfaith Action (San Carlos, CA)
Preschool California (Oakland, CA)
Prescott-Joseph Center for Community Enhancement, Inc. (Oakland, CA)
Ravenswood Family Health Center (East Palo Alto, CA)
SAY, San Diego, Inc. (San Diego, CA)
St. Francis of Assisi Church, LOC (East Palo Alto, CA)
True Hope Church (San Francisco, CA)
Urban Needs In Teacher Education (UNITE)
United Ways of California (South Pasadena, CA)
United Way of Merced County (Merced, CA)
United Way of San Diego County (San Diego, CA)
United Way of the Wine Country (Santa Rosa, CA)
Urban Strategies Council (Oakland, CA)
Victor Treatment Centers, Inc. North Valley Schools (Chico, CA)
YMCA of the East Bay (Richmond, CA)
Youth Policy Institute (Los Angeles, CA)

Colorado

Clayton Early Learning (Denver, CO)
Growing Home (Westminster, CO)
Mile High United Way (Denver, CO)
Pikes Peak United Way (Colorado Springs, CO)

Connecticut

Community Health Center, Inc. (Meriden, CT)
Connecticut Parent Power (Hartford, CT)
CT Family Resource Center Alliance (Meriden, CT)
CT Parent Power (Hartford, CT)
FSW, Inc. CT (Bridgeport, CT)
The James H. Napier Foundation (Meriden, CT)
Meriden Children First (Meriden, CT)
United Way of Coastal Fairfield County (Bridgeport, CT)
United Way of Meriden and Wallingford (Meriden, CT)
United Way of West Central Connecticut (Bristol, CT)
Village for Families and Children, Inc. (Hartford, CT)
The Village Initiative Project College Preparatory & Life Skills Program, Inc. (Bridgeport, CT)

Delaware

Children & Families First (Wilmington, DE)
Duffy's Hope, Inc. (Wilmington, DE)

District of Columbia

Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools for Public Policy
Community Learning Partnership
DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative
Eastland Gardens Civic Association
Horton's Kids, Inc.
Humanitas Global Development

Florida

Association of Early Learning Coalitions (Tallahassee, FL)
Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Inc. (Tampa, FL)
The City of West Palm Beach (West Palm Beach, FL)
Mayor Buddy Dyer (Orlando, FL)
Mt. Zion Developments (Miami, FL)
New Town Success Zone (Jacksonville, FL)
Opa-Locka North Dade Front Porch (Opa-Locka, FL)
SENetwork of Youth and Family Services (Bonita Springs, FL)
Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA (Tampa, FL)
United Way of Northeast Florida (Jacksonville, FL)

Georgia

Athens Clarke County Family Connection, Inc. (Athens, GA)
Hon. Tyrone Brooks, Georgia House of Representatives (Atlanta, GA)
Georgia Alliance to End Homelessness (Marietta, GA)
United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta (Atlanta, GA)
Universal Humanities, Inc (Atlanta, GA)

Hawaii

Alternative Structures International (Waianae, HI)
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Honolulu (Honolulu, HI)
Child & Family Service (Ewa Beach, HI)
Good Beginnings Alliance (Honolulu, HI)
Halau Hui Hō'ala – E Ala E (Waianae, HI)
Hale Na'au Pono (Waianae, HI)
Hawaii Family Services Inc. (Ewa Beach, HI)
INPEACE (Kapolei, HI)
Kamehameha Schools (Honolulu, HI)
Keiki O Ka 'Āina Family Learning Center (Honolulu, HI)
Learning Disabilities of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI)
The Learning Hale Instructional Center (Honolulu, HI)
Nānākuli Homestead Community (Waianae, HI)
Parents And Children Together (PACT)
State of Hawai'i Department Of Education (Honolulu, HI)
Waianae CARE (Waianae, HI)
Waianae Coast Coalition-Waianae Business Center (Waianae, HI)
The Ware Group (Honolulu, HI)

Idaho

Catholic Charities of Idaho (CCI) (Boise, ID)

Illinois

Angelfare Ministries (Riverdale, IL)
Brand New Beginnings (Chicago, IL)
Chicago Commons (Chicago, IL)
Chicago Youth Centers (Chicago, IL)
Children's Home + Aid (Chicago, IL)
Gary Comer Youth Center (Chicago, IL)
Lawrence Hall Youth Services (Chicago, IL)
Lloyd Consulting, Inc. (Evanston, IL)
Logan Square Neighborhood Association (Chicago, IL)
Lutheran Child & Family Services of Illinois (River Forest, IL)
Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois (Springfield, IL)
One Hope United (Chicago, IL)
Rockford Housing Authority (Rockford, IL)
Sangamon County Community Foundation (Springfield, IL)
Sankofa Children's Fund (Chicago, IL)
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago (Chicago, IL)

Indiana

Children's Bureau, Inc (Indianapolis, IN)
Lampion Center (Evansville, IN)
Monroe Smart Start: Birth-to-Five Coalition (Bloomington, IN)

Iowa

Family Enrichment Center (Davenport, IA)
Iowa Valley Community College District (Marshalltown, IA)

Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc. (Marshalltown, IA)
United Way of Central Iowa (Des Moines, IA)

Kansas

Kansas Children's Service League (Topeka, KS)

Kentucky

Bellewood Presbyterian Home for Children (Louisville, KY)

Center for Great Neighborhoods of Covington
(Covington, KY)

Community Coordinated Child Care (Louisville, KY)

Family & Children's Place (Louisville, KY)

Making Connections Network (Louisville, KY)

Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence
(Lexington, KY)

Louisiana

Alliance for Children and Families in Louisiana (Baton Rouge, LA)

Bayou District Foundation (New Orleans, LA)

GNO Afterschool Partnership (New Orleans, LA)

Louisiana Association of United Ways (New Orleans, LA)

Operation REACH (New Orleans, LA)

Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana
(Baton Rouge, LA)

The Wellspring (Monroe, LA)

Maine

United Way of Eastern Maine (Bangor, ME)

United Way of Greater Portland (Portland, ME)

Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern
Maine (Portland, ME)

Youth Alternatives Ingraham (South Portland, ME)

Maryland

Belair-Edison Healthy Community Coalition New Life
Family Asset Center (Baltimore, MD)

College of Education, University of Maryland (College
Park, MD)

Maryland State Association of United Ways (Baltimore,
MD)

The School of Public Health, University of Maryland
(College Park, MD)

Side by Side, Inc. (Laurel, MD)

Suitland Family and Life Development Center (Suitland,
MD)

University of Maryland College Park Herschel S.
Horowitz Center for Health Literacy (College Park,
MD)

Massachusetts

Berkshire United Way (Pittsfield, MA)

Ellis Memorial & Eldredge House, Inc. (Boston, MA)

Family Services of Central Massachusetts (Worcester,
MA)

Lutheran Social Services of New England (Wellesley,
MA)

Massachusetts Family and Child (Woburn, MA)

United South End Settlements (Boston, MA)

United Way of Central Massachusetts (Worcester, MA)

United Way of Pioneer Valley (Springfield, MA)

Michigan

Black Family Development, Inc. (Detroit, MI)

Focus: HOPE (Detroit, MI)

HighScope Educational Research Foundation (Ypsilanti,
MI)

JC Human Services (Detroit, MI)

Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic
Relations, Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo,
MI)

Samaritan Center (Detroit, MI)

Minnesota

ACES (Minneapolis, MN)

Alexandra House, Inc. (Blaine, MN)

American Indian OIC (Minneapolis, MN)

Amherst H. Wilder Foundation (Saint Paul, MN)

Bolder Options (Minneapolis, MN)

Bright Water Montessori and Bright Water Elementary
School (Saint Paul, MN)

Camden Music School (Minneapolis, MN)

Hon. Melvin W. Carter III, Saint Paul City Council (Saint
Paul, MN)

Mayor Chris Coleman (Saint Paul, MN)

CEAP – Community Emergency Assistance Program
(Brooklyn Park, MN)

Children's Home Society & Family Services (Saint Paul,
MN)

City of Lakes Community Land Trust (Minneapolis, MN)

Episcopal Community Services, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN)

Genesis II for Families Inc. (Minneapolis, MN)

Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys
(Minneapolis, MN)

Hon. Elizabeth Glidden, Minneapolis City Council
(Minneapolis, MN)

Hmong American Partnership (Saint Paul, MN)

Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis
(Minnetonka, MN)

Kinship of Greater Minneapolis (Minneapolis, MN)

La Creche Early Childhood Centers, Inc. (Minneapolis,
MN)

Learning Disability Association of Minnesota (Golden
Valley, MN)

The Link (Minneapolis, MN)

Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (Saint Paul, MN)

Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board (Minneapolis, MN)
 Gretchen Musicant, Minneapolis Commissioner of Health (Minneapolis, MN)
 Neighborhood Involvement Program (Minneapolis, MN)
 New Horizon Academy (Plymouth, MN)
 Nexus Community Partners (Saint Paul, MN)
 NorthPoint Health and Wellness Center (Minneapolis, MN)
 Northside Achievement Zone (Minneapolis, MN)
 Northway Community Trust (Minneapolis, MN)
 Patchwork Quilt Neighborhood Outreach Programs (Minneapolis, MN)
 PEACE Foundation (Minneapolis, MN)
 Phyllis Wheatley Community Center (Minneapolis, MN)
 Pillsbury United Communities (Minneapolis, MN)
 Plymouth Christian Youth Center (Minneapolis, MN)
 The Refuge Network (Cambridge, MN)
 Resources for Child Caring (Saint Paul, MN)
 Reuben Lindh Family Services (Minneapolis, MN)
 Mayor R.T. Rybak, City of Minneapolis (Minneapolis, MN)
 SquashScholars (Minneapolis, MN)
 Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity – Family Services Department (Minneapolis, MN)
 Twin Cities RISE! (Minneapolis, MN)
 University of Minnesota (Minneapolis, MN)
 Urban Homeworks, Inc. (Minneapolis, MN)
 Vision Loss Resources (Minneapolis, MN)
 Washburn Center for Children (Minneapolis, MN)
 Way to Grow (Minneapolis, MN)
 West Broadway Business and Area Coalition (Minneapolis, MN)
 WISE Charter School (Minneapolis, MN)

Missouri

Catholic Family Services (St. Louis, MO)
 Emmanuel Family and Child Development Center (Kansas City, MO)
 Hogan Preparatory Academy High School (Kansas City, MO)
 Housing Authority of KCMO (Kansas City, MO)
 Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri (St. Louis, MO)
 Mid America Regional Council (Kansas City, MO)
 Ozanam (Kansas City, MO)
 Save Tomorrow's Outstanding People (Kansas City, MO)

Montana

Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation (Lame Deer, MT)
 United Way of Missoula County (Missoula, MT)

Nevada

St. Jude's Ranch For Children – National and Nevada Campus (Boulder City, NV)

New Hampshire

Granite State Organizing Project (Manchester, NH)

New Jersey

Center For Family Services, Inc. (Camden, NJ)
 Children's Aid and Family Services, Inc. (Paramus, NJ)
 New Jersey Alliance for Children, Youth and Families (Hamilton Square, NJ)
 United Way of Essex and West Hudson (Newark, NJ)

New Mexico

PB&J Family Services, Inc. (Albuquerque, NM)
 United Way of Santa Fe County (Santa Fe, NM)

New York

Abbott House (Irvington, NY)
 The Andrus Children's Center (Yonkers, NY)
 Baden Street Settlement (Rochester, NY)
 Baker Victory Services (Buffalo, NY)
 Boys and Girls Clubs of Buffalo (Buffalo, NY)
 Buffalo Urban League (Buffalo, NY)
 Care Management Coalition of Western New York, Inc. (Buffalo, NY)
 Catholic Charities of Buffalo (Buffalo, NY)
 Center for Children's Initiatives in NY (New York, NY)
 Charles Settlement House (Rochester, NY)
 Child and Family Services, Inc. (Buffalo, NY)
 The Children's Aid Society (New York, NY)
 The Children's Village (Dobbs Ferry, NY)
 Deputy Mayor Henry Conyers (Hempstead, NY)
 Economic Opportunity Commission of Nassau County, Inc. (Hempstead, NY)
 The Elmezzi Foundation (Long Island City, NY)
 EPIC (Buffalo, NY)
 Family and Children's Association (Hempstead, NY)
 Gateway-Longview, Inc. (Buffalo, NY)
 Mayor Wayne J. Hall (Hempstead, NY)
 Harlem Children's Zone, Inc. (New York, NY)
 Imagine Syracuse (Syracuse, NY)
 Jewish Board of Family & Children's Services (New York, NY)
 Joan A. Male Family Support Center (Buffalo, NY)
 Liberty Resources, Inc. (Syracuse, NY)
 Hon. Carolyn McLaughlin, President, Albany Common Council (Albany, NY)
 New Directions Youth and Family Services, Inc. (Buffalo, NY)
 New Life Christian Center (Hempstead, NY)
 The New York Academy of Medicine (New York, NY)
 New York City Charter School Center (New York, NY)

NYS Citizens' Coalition for Children (Brooklyn, NY)
NYS Council of Catholic Charities Directors (Albany, NY)
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Inc. (Albany, NY)
Trustee Perry Pettus, Board of Trustees for the
Incorporated Village of Hempstead (Hempstead, NY)
Project Ignite (West Hempstead, NY)
Trustee Livio Rosario, Board of Trustees for the
Incorporated Village of Hempstead (Hempstead, NY)
Trustee Don Ryan, Board of Trustees for the
Incorporated Village of Hempstead (Hempstead, NY)
Silver School of Social Work, New York University (New
York, NY)
Hon. Barbara Smith, Albany Common Council (Albany,
NY)
Hon. Robert Troiano, Legislator, 2nd LD, Nassau County
(Mineola, NY)
United Neighborhood Houses (New York, NY)
United Way of Broome County, Inc. (Binghamton, NY)
United Way of New York City (New York, NY)

North Carolina

Imprints (Winston-Salem, NC)
New Hanover County Blue Ribbon Commission on the
Prevention of Youth Violence (Wilmington, NC)
Warner Temple AME Zion Church (Wilmington, NC)

Ohio

Cleveland Metropolitan School District (Cleveland, OH)
East End Community Services (Dayton, OH)
Hon. Marcia Fudge, D-OH11 (Cleveland, OH)
Greenleaf Family Center (Akron, OH)
Neighborhood House, Inc. (Columbus, OH)
Oberlin Community Services (Oberlin, OH)
Schoenbaum Family Center, The Ohio State University
(Columbus, OH)
St. Stephen's Community House (Columbus, OH)
United Way of Greater Cincinnati (Cincinnati, OH)
United Way of Portage County (Ravenna, OH)
The Village Network (Wooster, OH)
TOPS, Inc. (Dayton, OH)
Voices for Ohio's Children (Cleveland, OH)

Oregon

CASA of Marion County (Salem, OR)
Exchange Club Forever Families (Salem, OR)
Family Building Blocks (Salem, OR)
Fostering Hope (Keizer, OR)
Juntos Podemos Centro Para Familias (Salem, OR)
Life Directions (Salem, OR)
Mano a Mano Family Center (Salem, OR)
Marion County Department of Children and Families
(Marion County, OR)
Salem Leadership Foundation (Salem, OR)
Washington Elementary School (Salem, OR)

Pennsylvania

Allentown Promise Neighborhood (Allentown, PA)
Ase Academy (Philadelphia, PA)
The Children's Home of Reading (Reading, PA)
Congreso de Latinos Unidos (Philadelphia, PA)
Ethos Best Practices, Inc (Philadelphia, PA)
Family Resources (Pittsburgh, PA)
Family Service of Chester County (West Chester, PA)
Family Services of NW PA (Erie, PA)
Green Tree Community Health Foundation
(Philadelphia, PA)
Homewood Children's Village (Pittsburgh, PA)
Methodist Home for Children (Philadelphia, PA)
Pressley Ridge (Pittsburgh, PA)
Project H.O.M.E. (Philadelphia, PA)
Rosedale Block Cluster, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA)
Southeast Philadelphia Collaborative (Philadelphia, PA)
Turning Points for Children (Philadelphia, PA)
United Way of Beaver County (Monaca, PA)
United Way of Westmoreland (Greensburg, PA)
Westmoreland Community Action (Greensburg, PA)

Rhode Island

Baby Steps (Newport, RI)
Children's Friend and Service (Providence, RI)
Mayor David N. Cicilline (Providence, RI)
Dorcas Place Adult & Family Learning Center
(Providence, RI)
Family Service of Rhode Island (Providence, RI)
Meeting Street (Providence, RI)
Providence After School Alliance, Inc. (PASA)
(Providence, RI)
Providence YMCA Youth Services (Providence, RI)
Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and
Families (Providence, RI)

South Carolina

Carolina Youth Development Center (North Charleston,
SC)
Creative Educational Concepts, Inc. (North Charleston,
SC)
Family Services, Inc. (North Charleston, SC)

Tennessee

Family Service Association Howard County (Kokomo,
IN)
Impact Families, Inc. (Memphis, TN)
Martha O'Bryan Center (Nashville, TN)
North Memphis Community Development Corporation
(Memphis, TN)
United Way of Greater Chattanooga (Chattanooga, TN)
United Ways of Tennessee (Franklin, TN)

Texas

Austin Achievement Zone (Austin, TX)
Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of San Antonio, Inc.
(San Antonio, TX)
Collaborative for Children (Houston, TX)
Communities in Schools of Central Texas (Austin, TX)
Ella Austin Community Center (San Antonio, TX)
Family Service Association of San Antonio (San Antonio,
TX)
Goodwill Industries of San Antonio (San Antonio, TX)
I.N.S.P.I.R.E. Houston (Houston, TX)
Neighborhood Centers Inc. (Houston, TX)
The Relationship Fitness Center (Houston, TX)
United Way Capital Area (Austin, TX)
United Way of San Antonio & Bexar County

Utah

United Way of Salt Lake (Salt Lake City, UT)

Virginia

Smart Beginnings Central Virginia (Lynchburg, VA)
United Way of Central Virginia (Lynchburg, VA)
YMCA of Greater Richmond (Richmond, VA)

Washington

HopeSparks (Tacoma, WA)
Neighborhood House (Seattle, WA)
Seattle Housing Authority (Seattle, WA)
Southwest Youth and Family Services (Seattle, WA)
The Tacoma Hilltop Promise Neighborhood Coalition
(Tacoma, WA)
Tacoma Housing Authority (Tacoma, WA)
Wellspring Family Services (Seattle, WA)

Wisconsin

Braininsights (New Berlin, WI)
Planning Council for Health and Human Services, Inc.
(Milwaukee, WI)
Wisconsin Association of Family & Children's Agencies
(Madison, WI)