

Boston Promise Initiative at Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative

Boston, Massachusetts



2012 Promise Neighborhood Implementation Grantee

Mission

The Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) empowers residents to organize, plan for, create, and maintain a vibrant, diverse, and high-quality neighborhood in collaboration with community partners. The Boston Promise Initiative (BPI) at DSNI is working toward six outcome areas: strong and healthy families; vibrant and thriving community; children entering school ready to succeed; successful students, successful schools; post-secondary completion; and career readiness.

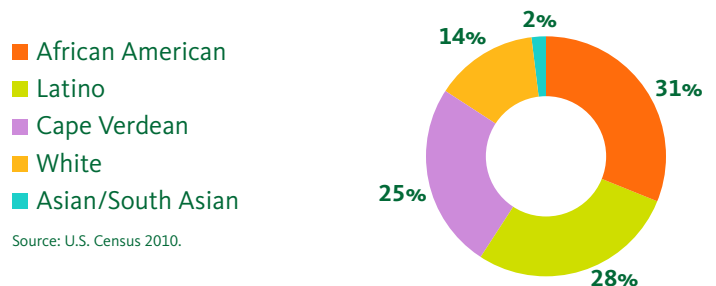
Early Results

- Enrolled over 400 families with young children into Dudley Children Thrive.
- Opened the Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School in September 2012.
- In the third year of its turnaround, Orchard Gardens, a K–8 pilot school, showed the greatest improvement in English language arts and math of any school in the state.
- BPI’s No Child Goes Homeless program created a safety net for almost 50 homeless students at its partner schools.
- Established the Boston Promise Initiative 0–5 work group to create and implement school readiness and quality early learning strategies for children birth to age 5.
- Hired 20 BPI organizers to collect data on 600 children and 100 adults in the Dudley Village Campus.

Community Served

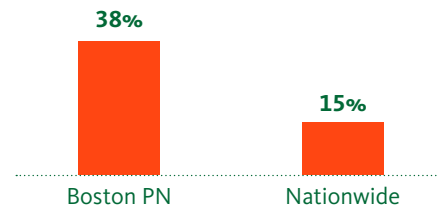
The Dudley Village Campus in Boston’s Roxbury and Dorchester area is home to 24,359 people of which approximately one-third are 19 or younger. Forty-one percent of residents speak a language other than English at home.

Neighborhood Composition



Source: U.S. Census 2010.

Residents at or below the Federal Poverty Line



Source: “The Dudley Village Campus: Select Family Profile” by James Jennings, PhD, Tufts University; U.S. Census Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) to the Current Population Survey (CPS).

Timeline for the Work

| 2013–2014 | 2015–2016 | 2017 |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define school readiness and implement early learning strategies. • Strategic planning with four K–12 schools to align partners and expand services. • Establish an infrastructure that supports families to become economically stable and mobile. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create plan for improved access to quality post-secondary education and workforce development opportunities. • Expand school partnerships to six additional K–12 schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue services while expanding model to other neighborhoods in Boston. |



Partners

Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative

Associated Early Care and Education

Barr Foundation

Boston After School and Beyond

Boston Children's Museum

Boston Housing Authority

Boston Opportunity Agenda

Boston Public Health Commission

Boston Public Schools

BPE

Children's Services of Roxbury

City of Boston

Dearborn Middle School

Dudley Street Neighborhood Charter School

Family Independence Initiative

Ford Foundation

Jeremiah E. Burke High School

Orchard Gardens K-8 School

Project Hope

Roxbury Community College

Technology Goes Home

The Food Project

Thrive in 5

University of Massachusetts, Boston

What Is a Promise Neighborhood?

Promise Neighborhoods represent a 20-plus year commitment by local leaders to create communities of opportunity that allow children to learn, grow, and succeed. Based on the operating principles of the Harlem Children's Zone, Promise Neighborhoods build partnerships between schools, community organizations, local businesses, and community members to wrap children in high-quality, coordinated health, social, community, and educational support from cradle to career.

About the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink

The Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink (PNI) helps build and sustain Promise Neighborhoods to ensure children are healthy, succeed in school, reach their full potential, and that families and neighborhoods support the healthy development, academic success, and well-being of their children.

PNI's system of technical assistance and disciplined approach moves communities from talk to action by:

- accelerating local leaders' ability to achieve results;
- building evidence that cradle to career systems are working across America; and
- supporting leaders' efforts to scale and sustain results.

www.promiseneighborhoodsinstitute.org

www.policylink.org

Promise Neighborhoods Results & Indicators

The Promise Neighborhoods program is one of the most results-based and data-driven efforts in America focused on collective impact. Every Promise Neighborhood works toward making progress on the same 10 results and 15 indicators through a mix of solutions and strategies that include families, programs, policies, and systems.

Table 1. Education Results & Indicators

| Results | Indicators |
|---|--|
| Children enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of children birth to kindergarten entry who have a place where they usually go, other than an emergency room, when they are sick or in need of advice about their health. • # and % of three-year-olds and children in kindergarten who demonstrate at the beginning of the program or school year age-appropriate functioning across multiple domains of early learning as determined using developmentally appropriate early learning measures. • # and % of children, from birth to kindergarten entry, participating in center-based or formal home-based early learning settings or programs, which may include Early Head Start, Head Start, child care, or preschool. |
| Students are proficient in core academic subjects. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of students at or above grade level according to State mathematics and reading or language arts assessments in at least the grades required by the ESEA (third through eighth and once in high school). |
| Students successfully transition from middle school grades to high school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendance rate of students in sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth grade. |
| Youth graduate from high school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation rate. |
| High school graduates obtain a postsecondary degree, certification, or credential. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of Promise Neighborhood students who graduate with a regular high school diploma and obtain postsecondary degrees, vocational certificates, or other industry-recognized certifications or credentials without the need for remediation. |

Table 2. Family and Community Results & Indicators

| Results | Indicators |
|---|---|
| Students are healthy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of children who participate in at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity daily. • # & % of children who consume five or more servings of fruits and vegetables daily; or possible third indicator, to be determined (TBD) by applicant. |
| Students feel safe at school and in their community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of students who feel safe at school and traveling to and from school, as measured by a school climate needs assessment; or possible second indicator, TBD by applicant. |
| Students live in stable communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student mobility rate; or possible second indicator, TBD by applicant. |
| Families and community members support learning in Promise Neighborhood schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For children birth to kindergarten entry, the # and % of parents or family members who report that they read to their child three or more times a week. • For children in kindergarten through the eighth grade, the # and % of parents or family members who report encouraging their child to read books outside of school. • For children in the ninth through twelfth grades, the # and % of parents or family members who report talking with their child about the importance of college and career; or possible fourth indicator TBD by applicant. |
| Students have access to 21st century learning tools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • # and % of students who have school and home access (and % of the day they have access) to broadband Internet and a connected computing device; or possible second indicator TBD by applicant. |