

Project Abstract

The University of Evansville, the Evansville Vanderburgh County School Corporation, Evansville Promise Zone, and the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership, along with several community partners, propose a comprehensive and sustainable cradle-to-career continuum to increase student achievement and success among Evansville's highest-need students, neighborhoods and schools. Meeting Absolute Priority 1 - Non-Rural and Non-Tribal, the Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) will serve students and families living in 12 target census tracts in Evansville's urban core: 10, 11.01, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, and 25. These tracts are located in the 47708, 47711, 47713 and 47714 zip codes. The six focus schools are Evans Elementary School (K–6), Delaware Elementary School (K–6), Glenwood Leadership Academy (K–8), Lincoln School (K–8), Lodge Community School (K–8) and Bosse High School (9–12).

The Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) addresses target population needs, gaps and barriers by providing two-generational support to impact students, parents and families. These interventions focus on whole-child development and evidence-based curriculum, and the programs and practices are embedded in a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). The EPN objectives are to make significant and sustained improvements in the required Promise Neighborhood's GPRA results through comprehensive solutions and programs under four Pipeline Blocks.

Pipeline Block 1 - Improving Early Health and Kindergarten Readiness. Solutions are a high quality home visiting program, high quality early childhood education, free early literacy resources for families, free adult learning programs for parents and caregivers, and prenatal early childhood medical care.

Pipeline Block 2 - Improving Student Achievement and Success. Solutions are chronic absenteeism and dropout prevention and intervention programs, high quality in-school academic support programs, high quality out-of-school time programs, school social work services, free adult learning programs to parents and caregivers, and the YouthBuild program.

Pipeline Block 3 - Improving Postsecondary Education Access, Affordability, Completion and Success, and Workforce Readiness. Solutions are post-secondary preparation, coaching and exploration programs, neighborhood-based employment and job skills assistance, and YouthBuild.

Pipeline Block 4 - Improving Neighborhood and Community. Solutions are health and nutrition education, healthy food access in distribution, family stability programs, neighborhood revitalization, and community safety and violence prevention programs.

The proposed project outcomes align to the ten required GPRA results, which are that more EPN children will enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school, students will have improved proficiency in core academic subjects, improved attendance, and reduced absenteeism to support successful middle- to high-school transitions. Parents will have increased engagement in their child's education and career planning. An increased number of EPN students will graduate high school and transition to a post-secondary degree, certification or credential. Students will have increased daily consumption of fruits and vegetables, and more students will feel safe in their community with increased access to 21st century learning tools.

By the close of grant year five, the EPN is estimated to serve and impact 14,566 individuals, defined as children from birth through grade 12 and family members. The EPN addresses CPP 1, 2 and 3.