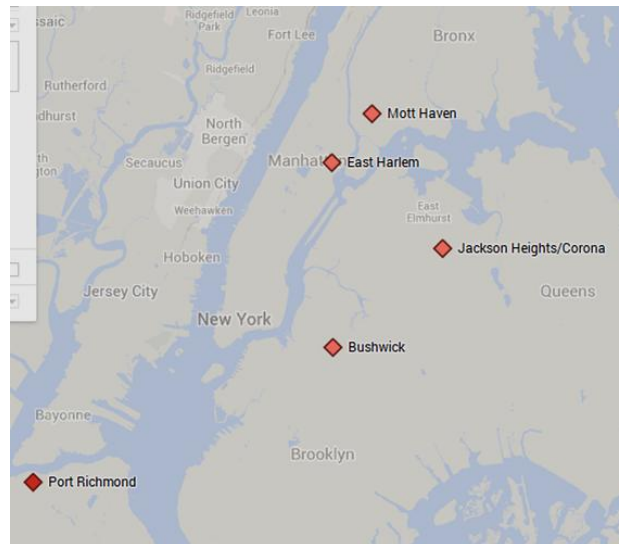




Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation

Anchoring Achievement in Mexican Communities Initiative Overview of Neighborhood Networks



Deutsche Bank is partnering with five Neighborhood Networks, one in each borough, to target young learners and high schoolers of Mexican origin who are most in need of effective education engagement. Many young learners do not have the proper supports to enter school ready to learn and perform— a course that can be corrected with the proper early interventions and guidance. Similarly, high school students have an extraordinarily high dropout rate and must be supported to remain in or be re-engaged in learning activities that better equip them for advancement in school and in the world of work. Critically, networks are attentive to the role of parents in these efforts, and are committed to addressing their needs. Networks are anchored in communities as integrated educational hubs.

Networks Focused on Young Learners

Reducing barriers to accessing strong early childhood programs and connecting families to wraparound services (East Harlem, Manhattan)

Union Settlement Association, with Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service and The Boys' Club of New York will establish a coordinated battery of supportive services for Mexican families in the neighborhood, including needs assessment, educational counseling and advocacy, referral and follow up. Essential to the network's ability to serve families efficiently and effectively, a codified and streamlined referral process among these organizations will be implemented, serving as the foundation for the educational hub. The network will increase parental knowledge and confidence, help families establish healthy home learning environments, and deliver both early intervention and school-age supports – all high-intensity services. Additionally, the network will train local public schools and other community-based organizations to better reach and engage Mexican families to ensure students' broader academic engagement and support.

Bringing new literacy and expanded educational supports to children, the toddler years through elementary school (Mott Haven, Bronx)

MASA-MexEd – with Parent-Child Home Program, the Mott Haven branch of the Public Library, the Committee for Hispanic Children and Families, and Hostos Community College – is introducing new and expanding existing programs that promote early literacy development, school readiness and



academic engagement among young children in the neighborhood. Specifically, the network will provide early learning services through a nationally-recognized home visiting program; facilitate toddler/parent play groups; deliver customized training and resources for licensed and unlicensed day care providers; and offer individualized tutoring for school-age youth. The network is structuring itself to serve as a portal for the Mexican community in Mott Haven to better access available social services. To that end, it will also conduct comprehensive assessments of families to determine appropriate referrals for housing, legal and employment assistance.

Forming home-school connections and parent leadership to boost 3rd grade literacy (Port Richmond, Staten Island)

Project Hospitality, in a network formed with Wagner College, El Centro del Inmigrante and Make the Road New York, will work closely with PS 20, the public elementary school most heavily attended by Mexican children in Staten Island, to increase reading levels of the school's K-3rd graders of Mexican descent through a three-pronged focus on basic language development, school-home connections, and parent participation and leadership. In concert with other education and social service providers that service Port Richmond, the network will form a literacy hub that: delivers a workshop series to parent leaders covering topics and activities in home language development, soft school skills, and navigating the public school system; facilitates parent-child workshops to introduce and practice home-based learning activities; hosts monthly family literacy events and weekly morning conversation "meet-ups;" connects families to the local library; assist PS 20's outreach and engagement of Mexican families; and provides homework help and other types of academic assistance to students. Parent leaders, and others as referred, will receive adult basic education classes, legal support and work preparation courses.

Networks Focused on High School Students

Creating a new high school to address academic needs and economic demands, and building 21st century skills (Jackson Heights and Elmhurst/Crotona, Queens)

Internationals Network for Public Schools will design and open a new public high school for newcomers (students who arrived to the US within the last 5 years) - predominantly young people from Mexico. Focused on reaching those who are out-of-school or have never engaged with school in the US, Internationals will design an educational program that puts students on track to obtain a high school diploma, provides access to college courses, and specializes in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) disciplines. Partnering with the City University of New York and Make the Road New York to form this neighborhood network, the school will extend to its students and their families a comprehensive support system that includes youth development, mentoring, internship and other work experiences. Parents will be involved in school committees, and will receive adult education classes in ESL, computer literacy and workforce development.

Re-connecting out-of-school youth and their families to educational resources and to work (Bushwick, Brooklyn)

There is no collaborative network among the education and social service organizations in Bushwick, and most in the neighborhood are not attentive to the unique needs of the Mexican community there. Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow - with Mixteca Organization, Churches United for Fair Housing and the Academy of Urban Planning High School - will partner to form a portal that enables access to educational services for Mexican families. The network will increase the number of out-of-school Mexican young adults in education and job training programs, and launch a menu of parent support services. It will provide academic support, mentoring, occupational skills training, supplemental social services for young people and their families, and extensive career counseling. The network will also publish a community guide for distribution to Mexican families in the community.