From the Executive Director: "To matter and belong"

At PTHV’s recent Hub coordinator planning retreat, we spent some time naming the values that motivate us and underlie our work. One that strongly resonated was “To Matter and Belong.” At their heart, Parent Teacher Home Visits show educators, students and families that they matter and that they belong to a learning community.

As summer winds down and we prepare for all the excitement of back-to-school, this sense of belonging is particularly important to start off the new school year.

Anxiety accompanies a new school year: students stepping into a new grade; teachers eager to inspire and motivate their young scholars; families wondering what the new school year will bring for their children. Educators who do home visits before or near the beginning of the school year can bridge the gap and connect with both families and students before the realities of academic rigor and social/emotional challenges begin.

On an individual level, this makes sense and makes a difference. This connection through PTHV has been proven to improve academic learning, attendance rates, behavior and school culture, including reducing suspensions and expulsions, and increasing the cultural capacity of both educators and families.

On a broader level, too, home visits matter. Dr. John Powell, Professor of Law and Professor of African American and Ethnic Studies at UC Berkley and Director of the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society, says that as society grows more...
diverse—it leads to greater anxiety. In turn, our structures, narratives, and leadership can go one of two ways: they can break us apart and cause fear and anger; or they can create a bridge among us that leads to greater empathy, belonging, and inclusion. The PTHV process of building connection is a powerful anxiety antidote at many levels.

Here’s to a great school year!

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New Superintendent's First Day on the Job Includes a Parent-Teacher Home Visit

"My Saturday ended with me participating in a Parent Teacher Home Visit, where I had the great honor of joining one of our dedicated and hard-working teachers for a visit with one of our families..."

Read more about new Sacramento City Unified School District Superintendent Jorge Aguilar, who cites his experience as a child of field workers as part of his commitment to educational equity and social justice in public education. The PTHV process is in accord with Superintendent Aguilar's goals for the district, including that we "Not view external conditions as factors limiting students, but instead treat those factors - including socio-economic ones - as assets to help them succeed."

Calendar/Trainings

Aug 2: Intro to PTHV, Leadership Institute, Amherst, MA
Aug 3: Intro for new teachers - Adams, CO
Aug 4: Intro Intern Pediatricians - Davis, CA
Aug 5: Intro Training - Las Vegas, NV
Aug 7: Intro Training - Vernon, CTA
Aug 8: Intro Training - San Jose, CA
Aug 9: Intro Training - Vacaville, CA
Aug 10: Intro Training - El Cajon, CA
Aug 11: Intro Training - St. Paul, MN
Aug 15: Intro Training - Oakland, CA
Aug 16: Intro Training - Greeley-Evans, CO
Aug 16, 18: Intro Training - Springfield, IL
Aug 16/17: CA Advisory Board Retreat
Aug 21-23: Intro Training - Pinellas Cty, FL

For more information, please contact Yesenia Ramirez, Training Director, yesenia@pthvp.org
Sacramento, CA
October 26-28, 2017
National Gathering of PTHV
A peer-led conference dedicated to sharing best practices, resources and celebration of relational home visits!
Registration starts Sept 1 at www.pthvp.org

Download flyer to post, please

Support Home Visits
PTHV is a nonprofit grassroots network that must fundraise its operating budget every year. Like the local home visit projects we help, our network is sustained by collaboration at the grass roots. We are a small organization with a big impact!

Your gift of any amount goes a long way towards helping PTHV say YES to communities that ask us for help in starting and sustaining home visits.

Give securely online

Save the Date
You are cordially invited to join us for PTHV 20th Anniversary Gala featuring a tribute to Carrie Rose October 27, 2017, The Grange Restaurant, Citizen Hotel, Sacramento, CA

Tickets to the Gala, which includes dinner and entertainment, is $85. Tickets will be available starting Sept 1, either separately via paypal, mail, or sign up with conference registration at pthvp.org. Gala tickets are not included with conference registration.

Immigration Concerns and PTHV
Your input needed! The political and cultural tone in the US has been divisive this summer, but educators trained in the PTHV process continue to build a culture of belonging and collaboration. Our network is compiling the questions, challenges and helpful strategies used by home visitors to address the fears of families, including those with immigration and other concerns. Do you have an experience or resource to share? Contact Elaine@pthvp.org or call 916 448-5290.

"Through our pilot home visits program, Framingham Public Schools staff and teachers have been building deeper relationships with our bilingual families. While some families have concerns about current immigration policy, they have graciously

About PTHV
Parent Teacher Home Visits are a fast, inexpensive and replicable strategy for engaging families, educators and students as a team. Our nonprofit network trains public schoolteachers and staff to make a meaningful relationship with the families of their students, starting with a home visit. In addition to proven increases in attendance and academic scores, these visits build trust, cross-cultural understanding, mutual accountability, more relevant instruction and leadership opportunities for the most important adults in a child’s life - the family and the teachers.

Learn more
welcomed teachers into their homes and shared their hopes and dreams for their children’s future. Through home visits we hope to form a stronger partnership to support their children’s success.

One staff member who went on a visit wrote: “I was treated with so much kindness, dignity, respect, and hospitality that I feel part of my student's family now. We laughed together and we ate together. We built a positive relationship.”

--Jennifer LaBollita, Assistant Director of Bilingual Education, Framingham Public Schools