Families, not surprisingly, are a significant factor. Parents may not seem supportive of their teen taking college placement tests or filling out applications, and don’t know that there is help for test and application fees. Some are afraid to sign financial aid papers, fearing it will trigger attention from immigration or social services authorities. Some families value marriage and childrearing for their daughters over higher education. And some simply need their child to get a job and help out. Could home visits cut down these barriers?"
Photo spotlight on: Oakland, CA PTHV

Above: Training team members from Oakland Unified School District

Report from Sayuri Sakamoto, 6th grade Math Teacher and Inclusion Teacher

"After a slow start, we are actually doing visits, and the growing interest is overwhelming. I am super proud of the depth of our ethnically diverse team which includes:

- Teacher on Special Assignment
- Restorative Justice coordinator
- Special Education Teacher (3)
- Arabic speaking Librarian/Family Resource Center
- School Nurse
- Newcomer Teacher
- Math Teacher (2)
- Paraeducator
- Academic School Counselor
- Academic School Counselor Intern
- Sign Language Interpreter
- Art Teacher
- Dance/Math Teacher
- OUSD interpreters

In the photo below, a Special Education Inclusion Teacher and Paraeducator with 8th grade student and his two dads."

Sacramento
National Gathering of PTHV

Keynote speaker

Dr. Kevin Kumashiro, the former dean of the School of Education at the University of San Francisco is an award-winning author and editor of ten books, including Troubling Education (recipient of the 2003 Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award), Against Common Sense: Teaching and Learning toward Social Justice (now in its Third Edition), and Bad Teacher!: How Blaming Teachers Distorts the Bigger Picture.

Download flyer to post, please

In the News

Rethinking the parent-teacher conference: Meeting more often, working as a team by Alejandra Matos, The Washington Post
"Home visits mean different things to different people. For the parents of
the 8th grader promoting to high school, they felt reassured that we are
doing our best to provide a smooth transition to high school for their son.
The incoming 6th graders now know where all the best boba places are,
thanks to their future math teacher! In both cases, it was very bonding."

IEL Network Spotlight:
Denver Public Schools
Family Engagement
An interview with

Landon Mascarenhas, Executive Director,
Strategy Development and Family
Empowerment

Calendar/Trainings
July
Washington, DC - AFT TEACH
conference presentation

Washington, DC - Hub Coordinator
strategy retreat

For more information, please contact
Yesenia Ramirez, Training Coordinator,
yesenia@pthvp.org

Incoming 8th grade twins!
"We have a mobile Adult Education class at Bret Harte Middle School that teaches ESL and a computer literacy class. Don Curtis attended our training on Monday! We also had a district Home Hospital teacher, Anne Hamilton, attend the training and she thinks her team could really benefit from PTHV practices."

"Now More Than Ever" - California Teachers Summit
July 28

With activities and speakers at 34 sites throughout the state, the CA Teachers Summit is a free event that brings teachers together to listen and learn from each other. Dr. Jill Biden will be the keynote speaker. This year, Sacramento State's College of Education will launch the ReinventEd competition ($5,000 prize for ed innovation).

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

From the Executive Director

“My name is Zully Rodriguez, and I’m just a parent.” Then she paused, collected herself, and started over, “My name is Zully Rodriguez and I am a parent leader.” The room erupted in applause.

This year’s IEL conference was inspiring to me in many ways, but primarily in the way that parent voice and parent leadership was honored both in the formal agenda and in the spirit of the more than 1,600 attendees. Zully, a parent leader with Partnership for Community Action and Abriendo Puertas, reminded us what a difference it makes when parents see themselves as real leaders not only in their own children’s education, but also in the collective work of ensuring that our schools are

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 school teachers 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
places where all children thrive and all families are deeply engaged.

Parents of color, low income parents, parents who speak a language other than English, immigrant parents, and many other parents who have historically been marginalized (shut out? Silenced?) by our educational institutions have a wealth of experience, skills, and knowledge to contribute to strengthening our educational systems. How do we in the field honor and embrace that contribution?

I want to thank Kwesi Rollins, IEL's Director of Leadership Programs (and PTHV board member), and the entire conference planning team for highlighting the importance of parent leadership. And I want to thank all the parent leaders I have the honor of working with at Parent Teacher Home Visits – I learn so much from them every day and their courage to stand strong in the face of challenges is deeply motivating.

Thanks for reading our newsblast. And thank you for your support of Parent Teacher Home Visits! As always, don't hesitate to contact me with your questions, success stories, challenges, kudos and suggestions.

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