The Role of Teachers’ Unions in Parent Teacher Home Visits

Our History
In 1998, parents from a low-income neighborhood in Sacramento, CA used community-organizing principles to develop a strategy intended to build trust and accountability between parents and teachers, starting with a voluntary home visit. In an unprecedented collaboration, the local teachers’ union (SCTA), the local school district (SCUSD) and the community organizing group, Sacramento ACT, formed a pilot project.

Our National Network
The project evolved into a non-profit organization and word of the program’s success spread beyond Sacramento. Our founding parents and teachers have since answered thousands of requests to train communities like theirs, from Washington to Florida, in rural, suburban and urban districts across the US. Local collaboration with union partners is a core readiness metric we use when considering a group’s application to be trained. We credit our longevity, sustainability and the long-term integrity of our work to the dynamic support of our union partners.

Our Leadership
The PTHV Board of Directors, representative of the work across the country, includes our national union partners American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and National Education Association (NEA), and local affiliates such as St. Paul Federation of Teachers and Sacramento City Teachers Association. At the state Hub level, our union partners, such as Springfield Education Association, Boston Teachers Union and Denver Classroom Teachers Association serve on advisory boards for state Hubs.

References
NEA Foundation Issue Brief: Parent Teacher Home Visits
AFT "What works" Community Schools Case Study
AFT Resolution re PTHVP
American Educator Article re St. Paul Federation of Teachers PTHV
SCTA MOU re PTHV in Sacramento
See more in Toolbox at www.pthvp.org

“We’ve been proud to support PTHV as high-impact engagement for students and their families, professional development for educators and powerful relationship building between school and community.”

Lily Eskelsen Garcia, President
National Education Association