DISTRICT 11 ENGAGED LEARNING ZONE – PHASE I

Building Stronger Neighborhoods

Two years ago, San Francisco State University’s Institute for Civic and Community Engagement (ICCE) and the City’s Neighborhood Empowerment Network (NEN) created a partnership to find solutions that residents in San Francisco’s diverse neighborhoods had identified as being important to them. One of the first projects recently took place within District 11: Cayuga Terrace; Oceanview-Merced-Ingleside (OMI); Excelsior; Crocker Amazon; New Mission Terrace; and the Outer Mission. These neighborhoods were selected because of their diversity and because they contain a large number of families with children and seniors.

Engaged Learning Zone (ELZ) Project

With solid support from San Francisco Supervisor John Avalos’ office and the Mayor’s Office of Housing/Community Development Division (MOH/CDD), SF State staff and students conducted interviews of nearly 100 neighbors and business owners about their community.

Results

Most of the people who were interviewed thought that D11’s residents were its greatest assets—they are friendly, warm, and willing and able to work together toward common goals. The neighborhood’s diversity (particularly its ethnic and cultural diversity) was considered a strength, as were the contributions of seniors, who have strong ties to the neighborhood’s history. These creates a strong sense of community and cohesiveness. The District has numerous resources: 719 businesses; 35 public and private schools; 80 faith-based organizations; 31 food pantries; 151 non-government/community-based organizations (NGO/CBOs); 18 parks, playgrounds, and open spaces; 6 healthcare clinics; and 9 government/municipal facilities.

Strategies to Revitalize the Neighborhoods

- Promote leadership skills development
- Utilize community building to address issues of crime, domestic violence, graffiti, and garbage
- Deepen community and City collaborations for children and youth—after school and employment training programs
- Improve services for seniors, non English speakers, and immigrants

To request a full copy of the 46-page report, please contact: Perla Barrientos via e-mail at barrient@sfsu.edu or call (415) 338-3282.

Financial support for this project comes from the CSU Chancellor’s Office “California Call to Service Initiative” and California Campus Compact’s “Social Innovation Generation Initiative” grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service, Learn and Serve America.
11 Ways SF State is Working for District 11

Caring for your Neighbors.
More than 100 SF State Community Service Learning (CSL) students performed 14,715 hours of service in D11; providing among other things, services to approximately 361 economically disadvantaged youths. At minimum wage of $9.79 per hour, that represents more than $144,060 in services to the community.

Creating Tomorrow’s Leaders.
SF State faculty and staff are offering FREE workshops to D11 leaders: Marketing, Grant Writing, and How to Use Census data.

Promoting Educational Equity.
Partnering with community activists, ICCE helped organize two Town Hall Meetings, “Our Education, Our People,” that were attended by 356 youth, parents, teachers, and public officials, such as Kim Shree-Maufas, president of the San Francisco Board of Education. Attendees discussed A-G requirements, a need for ethnic studies in the SFUSD, and the effects of State budget cuts on multicultural students.

Celebrating Diversity.
Using U.S. Census data and other information, ICCE’s report shows how diverse D11 is and gives policy makers and neighborhood leaders an effective tool to advocate for funds and address neighborhood needs.

Fueling the Economy.
SF State generates $989 million in spending annually on the Bay Area economy, sustaining more than 13,000 jobs and generating nearly $53 million per year in tax revenue.

Keeping Us Healthy.
SF State students from the School of Social Work provide nearly 100,000 hours of community service each year to hospitals, clinics, homeless shelters and other programs.

Teaching Your Children.
An estimated 75 percent of San Francisco teachers received their training at SF State, and our doctoral program for urban public school superintendents helps districts run smoothly.

Building Bridges.
ICCE, OMI service providers, City agencies and neighborhood representatives formed a Community Collaborative in order to advocate for OMI residents, develop ongoing projects, and to foster communications with each other, residents, and City officials.

Fostering Communication.
ICCE developed a website for the OMI Community Collaborative so group members can communicate directly with one another.

Become a community member now at www.OMICCSF.ning.com

Contributing Money.
ICCE won $67,000 in grant awards for the D11 capacity building project, which generated $239,405 in services for the District, excluding faculty and staff time.

Supporting Youth Education.
SF State assigned 25 tutors to K-8 schools in D11 through its America Counts program; they tutored 1,125 students.

Institute for Civic and Community Engagement (ICCE)
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