

# Project 2INSPIRE

## Family, School & Community Engagement Program

### Parent Leadership Development

The California Association for Bilingual Education's (CABE) Project 2INSPIRE provides high quality education, resources, and leadership development to parents with an emphasis on outreach and services to parents of most disadvantaged students: low income, minority, and English Learners. CABE's i3 Project 2INSPIRE is an official partnership among CABE, the Garden Grove, Ontario-Montclair and Santa Ana Unified School Districts. Our other partners include: Novelas Educativas and Wexford, Inc.

#### *What does it mean to be a Project 2INSPIRE School?*

Being a Project 2INSPIRE School means that the school makes a commitment to recruit and engage parents in leadership development and to support and cultivate positive environments and build relationships with families that increase their capacity to support their children's educational needs and learning. The program consists of:

- **Mastery Level Training** - comprised of 12 three-hour modules for a total of 36 hours of parent leadership training. The participant-centered, intensive professional learning sessions at each school site also provide on-going follow-up coaching and mentoring for parent leaders.
- **Expert Level Training** - comprised of 16 modules for a total of 45 hours of parent leadership training and is considered a Trainer of Trainers program. It builds upon the knowledge and skills developed in the Mastery Level training and provide parents with optimal on-going coaching and feedback as well as opportunities to "practice" teaching of the program modules to other parents.

#### Project 2INSPIRE Mastery Level Graduates



*97% of parents in the program reported that they learned things that would have an impact on their family and that would help their child or their child's school.*



*"Este programa de padres me dio mucha información útil que yo antes no sabía para poder ayudar a mis hijos a realizar sus metas académicas."*

*("This program gave me a lot of useful information that I did not previously know to help my children reach their academic goals")*



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# Parent Leadership Development

*Project 2INSPIRE practices create inclusive and diversity-responsive relationships and collaborations within, among, and between parents, teachers, school/district administrators, and other school personnel to support the creation of a "sense of community" and a sense of belonging.*

*The i3 Project 2INSPIRE Family, School & Community Engagement Program is a school site-based reform model.*

The focus of Project 2INSPIRE's Parent Leadership Development program is on family friendly schools and parental engagement. The design features increase the project's impact in the following ways.

- The program builds a critical mass of parents at the school with the knowledge and skills to engage other parents in learning about how they can increase their children's learning.
- Ongoing coaching and assistance to the school increases the capacity building potential of the program.
- Action Team for Partnerships Model--Establishing a School wide Infrastructure to Increase Parent Engagement.
- School Leaders and staff who engage parents in the school community.

*Parents in the program, writing in their journals expressed that they learned:*

- How they can support and be engaged in their children in school.
- To have improved self-concept and confidence;
- To communicate more effectively with their children and the school —principal, teachers, and other staff;
- To share information with other parents; and
- How to advocate for their children.

*The P2I Parent Leadership Development program has at its core the Community Learning Theory (CLT) Approach.*

Community Learning Theory is an approach for bringing people together to create self-awareness, knowledge, relationships and power to advance the group's vision for self, community or social betterment. It is also a process for bringing parents together to establish relationships of community, create desired knowledge and wisdom, and develop their power for positive personal, family, community, and school change.

*Developing Social Capital - i3 Project 2INSPIRE Parent Leadership Development Program*

<b>Confidence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having sense of personal value and self-worth</li> <li>• Possessing a positive attitude that change is possible.</li> <li>• Confidence and can do attitude. "I can make a difference."</li> <li>• Sense of belonging—family, community, school</li> <li>• Viewing others as potential partners.</li> </ul>
<b>Capability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowing how to negotiate the system and enhanced communication skills</li> <li>• Ability to solve problems and challenges</li> <li>• Ability to process information and make decisions</li> <li>• Valuing self-improvement. Engaged in self-reflection and self-monitoring.</li> <li>• Aware of self—my behaviors, actions and their impact</li> <li>• Positive attitude and knowing how to go beyond old barriers, habits, racism.</li> <li>• Knowing how to collaborate</li> </ul>
<b>Cognition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowing I can have an impact—sense of efficacy.</li> <li>• Knowing how to confront barriers</li> <li>• Goal-setting. Knowing how to stay on track</li> <li>• School cultural proficiency and awareness of funds of knowledge</li> <li>• Knowing personal culture, history, e.g., teachings, values, principles learned from parents</li> <li>• Knowing core values</li> <li>• Knowing the policies that affect us</li> </ul>
<b>Connections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships: business, casual, school</li> <li>• Trusting and supportive relationships</li> <li>• Relationships that encourage, challenge and support</li> <li>• Core support group—3 to 7 persons who can support you</li> </ul>



*Providing parents, teachers, community liaisons, and principals the tools they need to work together as partners to improve schools and support the education of their children.*

