

American Graduate Meeting
November 18, 2013
10-11:30am

Attendees:

Angelo Gonzales- United Way Mission Graduate
Paula Barnes- United Way Mission Graduate
Cindy O'Neill- RFK Charter
Tom Miles- Education Consultant
Franz Joachim- GM NMPBS
Ian Esquibel- Learning Alliance
Rachel Cutrufello- Nuclear Museum
Tony Watkins- APS Truancy Office
Melissa Harris- Generation Justice
Rodney Bowes- UNM DEI- OAAA
Nicole Byrd- OAAA
Franklin Schargel- Author
Marvin Johnson- DA Office
Kay Provost- JAG
Michele Tigilaar- APS
Laurel Wyckoff-NMPBS
Hollie Lovely-NMPBS

Introductions:

Angelo Gonzales- Mission Graduate- aligning the work of American Graduate
Drop Prevention originally began from Americas Promise Summit in 2009
America Promise Alliance goals were transforming schools and closing the achievement gap.

The summit led to the formation of the Dropout Prevention Action Team (DPAT). In July 2011, the team proposed to focus the community's dropout prevention efforts on **7 high-impact priorities**:

1. Seat time and credits
2. Afterschool
3. Community schools
4. Youth engagement
5. Attendance
6. Professional development
7. Early warning data systems

These were used along with the Families United for Education engagement policy goals to produce the AmGrad 2011 Community Survey. From these community members prioritized their issues into 3 prevention priorities:

- Student engagement
- Family engagement
- School/community partnerships

American Graduate then became the Action Phase of DPAT- Work

Mission Graduate is a Cradle to Career initiative providing a backbone along with UNM CEPR and UNM Network for Education Policy Renewal. Mission Graduate is working to:

- create a coordinated effort to reform an education system
- With a goal to add 60,000 new postsecondary certificates and degrees to central NM by 2020
- Eliminate opportunity gaps
- Increase graduation rates

A Central NM Education Compact was signed by a number of community leaders including CNM and UNM Presidents, Rio Rancho and APS superintendents and private sector leaders.

The process of deciding on that number was based on data. Looking at the current data, HS Graduation rates are too low. 57,000 adults over 25 have not graduated from high school.

Guiding question of Mission Graduate- how can we build upon existing resources, assets to align and coordinate all efforts within the network?

Group looked at Student Success Roadmap

3 points of student success:

- 1) Excel and succeed from early childhood through high school
- 2) Graduate with a postsecondary degree or credential
- 3) Enter a career of ones choosing in Central New Mexico

- Looking at the outcome indicators we will form networks to work towards shared goals
- Backbone Support Structure means organizations that come together to support a cause.

The three elements of Mission Graduate backbone are

United Way

UNM CEPR

UNM for Education Renewal

How will we reach the goal of 60,000 degrees?

- 1) Focus on helping adults complete their college education
Right now 227,000 working adults with HS degree, have no college education

Build stronger educational pathways for children: start early!

Call to action: Become an Impact partner!

- Provide input into the priorities for community council members
- Help create action plans collaboratively by looking at outcome indicators

Collaborative Action Network Responsibilities:

- Develop an action plan to make improvements on a given outcome with strategies
- convene project teams to implement the plan
- use local data to identify effective practices into the action plan

Develop a network charter

Collaborative Action Primer:

STRIVE background: Every child cradle to career

-Strive framework discussed briefly with group-

STRIVE is a national network providing technical assistance locally

Examine Collaborative Action further:
Building a cradle to career network
Defining collaborative Action Network
Focus on a specific community/school level outcome
Prioritize local data to identify what works and examine national research

Key characteristics of continuous improvement:
-customer driven
Has improvement focus
Inclusion
Data based decision making
Modifying the action plan for continuous improvement
What are we tracking? Help keep focus on who, what data we are tracking-
Asking what are we prioritizing? Helps keep focus on the network priorities.

Network Charter has the following elements:
Purpose statement
Problem statement
Project scope
Membership roles
Operating Principles

Decide upon that data that shows what outcomes are we improving?
EX: 54% of graduates are enrolling into college
Look at ACT scores: 12.7%
FAFSA Completion: 29%
Free/reduced lunch 70%
Graduation rate: 73%

Targeting Outcome indicators:
Targets with measurements to identify projects within networks
Create Action Plans
Will help identify start/stop dates
Setting targets along the way
Example: FAFSA completion increases as a result
For American Graduate - Truancy rates decrease

Who will help accomplish?
What will be measured?
How will it be measured?

Dashboard indicators keep us on target:
-help identify other contributing factors to address

What is the role of the Collaborative Action Network?
-Develop Action Plans
-make decisions collaboratively
-Narrow the scope of work

- Analysis of data
- Determine the priorities (What is doable when?)

Criteria for seeking priority outcomes:

- Needs exist, align resources to align priorities
- help practice continuous improvement efforts
- momentum exists- keep it going

Value Exchange:

Why should you join Mission Graduate in this work?

What's in it for you? What do you need (not necessarily financial) to continue this work?

What does this community partner advisory group contribute to Mission Graduate?

Who else do we need to invite to this conversation to make sure this network is effective?

Aligning Efforts: discussion points from the group

- Aligning the work of American Graduate with Mission Graduate
- Looking at opportunity indicators
- adding early childhood piece- other network Early Childhood Accountability Partnership (ECAP) are doing this work
- aligning with all that is in progress
- JAG jobs for Americas Graduates- implementing the strategies of connecting employers
- are we missing the political voice
- There is value & power of creating common language for everyone to use
- Are CYFD Truancy and Juvenile Justice missing?

Group looked at Benefits and Expectations of Network membership:

- Hands on facilitation, training, and technical assistance
- support to collect and analyze data
- marketing support
- advocacy with policy makers to support Action Plans

Request for Engagement

A formal request to engage the broader community

Ideas, questions, concerns: contact Angelo Gonzales or Pauline Barnes at Pauline.barnes@uwcnm

Next meeting: Monday December 9th, 10:00am-11:30am at United Way of Central New Mexico