



ALL-AMERICA CITY FINALIST

SAN ANTONIO

Community Snapshot

San Antonio, site of tourist attractions such as the Alamo, River Walk and Sea World, is one of America's fastest growing cities. The city has a strong military presence, particularly Joint Base San Antonio; five Fortune 500 companies; a robust financial services industry; and the South Texas Medical Center, a national leader in research and care. San Antonio also has a disproportionately young population, which means greater demands on public education and a smaller proportion of adults paying taxes to support it. San Antonians are generally proud of their city but dissatisfied with the educational and economic factors that diminish the quality of life.

Community Solutions Action Plan

The Grade-Level Reading initiative offers an opportunity for San Antonio to develop a comprehensive education master plan to increase school readiness, attendance and grade-level reading performance, building on these key goals:

- Set measurable goals based on independently developed data
- Prepare students academically for postsecondary success
- Build teachers' capacity to deliver high-quality instruction to every student
- Expect parents to share in the responsibility for student learning

Partnerships

The plan to ensure all San Antonio third graders are reading at grade level by 2020 was developed by the City of San Antonio in partnership with Antioch Community Transformation Network, Big Brothers Big Sisters, City Year San Antonio, Excel Beyond the Bell, Generation Texas San Antonio, Harlandale ISD, KLRN San Antonio, Literacy San Antonio, P16Plus Council, San Antonio Public Library Foundation, United Way of San Antonio and Bexar County, University of Texas Science Health Center, Valero, Avance, Boys & Girls Clubs, Edgewood ISD, Family Services Association, Girls, Inc., H-E-B, Kronkosky Foundation, Northside ISD, San Antonio ISD, San Antonio Youth Literacy, USAA Foundation, University of Texas at San Antonio and YMCA.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 1,330,000 residents
- Approximately 356,000 students
- 23.3 percent of students living in poverty
- 78 percent to 94 percent reading at grade level, depending on district
- 19.5 percent dropout rate
- 94 percent to 96 percent attendance rates, depending on district
- Summer learning programs available

GOALS

- 100 percent of third graders read at grade level by 2020
- 99 percent of students attend at least 95 percent of school days
- 33 percent of students enter kindergarten with Phonemic Awareness skills, a predictor of reading success
- Increase percentage of students taking part in mayor's Summer Reading Program to 70 percent

"The training and technical assistance that follow the 2012 All-America City Award will strengthen local capacity to sustain and build on current efforts and achieve our grade level reading goal."