



ALL-AMERICA CITY FINALIST

SAN FRANCISCO

Community Snapshot

Second only to New York City in population density in the United States, San Francisco is home to more than 800,000 people. The city is known for its physical beauty, fine cuisine and concern about the environment, and is a center for innovation, with strong leadership in technology, arts and culture. San Franciscans are ardent supporters of social justice and have embraced policies that support equity and improve quality of life for all residents. Despite the fact that San Francisco is rich in resources compared to other communities, intractable racial, linguistic and economic disparities persist and are especially evident in educational statistics.

Community Solutions Action Plan

San Francisco realizes that making progress in any area requires tackling the underlying issues. Therefore, planners have organized their approach around three sets of strategies that address the following:

- Barriers to parent involvement
- Provider and teacher capacity
- Structural and systemic issues

They chose these key issues because they are the fundamental drivers of the readiness, attendance, summer learning and reading outcomes that they are committed to achieving.

Partnerships

San Francisco's plan to ensure all of its third graders are reading at grade level by 2020 was prepared by the San Francisco Unified School District Early Education Department, First 5 San Francisco, the Office of the Mayor and the Department of Children, Youth & Their Families.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- 805,235 residents
- Approximately 56,000 students
- 12 percent of children live in poverty
- 30 percent of third-graders are proficient readers (STAR E-LA tests)
- Nearly half of first and second graders are English language learners
- 18 percent of students drop out
- 57 percent of kindergarteners are ready for school
- 9 percent of students are chronically absent
- 61 percent of low-income youth have access to summer programming

GOALS

- Increase grade-level reading among third graders to 60 percent
- Reduce chronic absenteeism to 7 percent in preschool and kindergarten
- Have 91 percent of children enrolled in preschool
- Increase availability of summer programs to 80 percent

“There is more hope and faith in this work today than ever before, and it is with dedication and enthusiasm that we produce this plan and commit to