

Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 9/14/10 10:22 AM

Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Reader #1: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Need for Project		
1.Need for Project	10	10
Quality of Project Design		
1.Project Design	20	19
Quality of Project Services		
1.Project Services	15	13
Quality of Project Personnel		
1.Project Personnel	25	25
Quality of the Management Plan		
1.Management Plan	20	18
Significance		
1.Significance	10	10
	Sub Total	95
	Total	95

Technical Review Form

Panel #18 - Panel - 18: 84.215P

Reader #1: *****

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Need for Project

1. a) The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project.
- b) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers-
 - i) The magnitude or severity of the problems to be addressed by the proposed project as described by indicators of need and other relevant indicators;
 - ii) The extent to which the geographically defined area has been described; and
 - iii) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities will be identified and addressed by the proposed project.

Strengths:

The applicant describes a distressed neighborhood suffering from substandard housing conditions, family instability (single-parent families, young mothers, renter occupied housing), poor health indicators, and extremely low student achievement rates. The targeted schools are serving high concentrations of low income children and English-language learners. There appears to be almost no pathways to college created through the neighborhood or schools. The application thoroughly describes the Boyle Hills area through geographic boundaries and mapping as ~30 residential blocks on the eastern edge of Los Angeles. The applicant discusses several gaps and weaknesses in services- adult education, substandard housing, food deserts, and low student achievement. The applicant has identified, in detail, how partners will address these gaps in services.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - i) The extent to which the applicant describes how it will plan to build a continuum of solutions designed to significantly improve the academic and family and community support indicators in this notice;
 - ii) The extent to which the continuum of solutions includes a strategy, or a plan to develop a strategy, that will lead to significant improvements in one or more schools described in paragraph 2 of Absolute Priority 1;
 - iii) The extent to which the applicant describes strategies for using data to manage program implementation, inform decision-making, engage stakeholders, and measure success;
 - iv) The extent to which the applicant identifies and describes academic and family and community support indicators to be used for the needs assessment during the planning year;
 - v) The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with the Department and with a national evaluator for Promise Neighborhoods to ensure that data collection and program design are consistent with plans to conduct a rigorous national evaluation of the Promise Neighborhoods Program during the implementation phase and of specific solutions and strategies pursued by individual grantees; and

vi) The extent to which the proposed project will be coordinated with similar or related efforts, and with other appropriate community, State, and Federal resources.

Strengths:

The applicant have chosen partners that currently provide services in the area, have expertise in community engagement, and share a history of collaboration. The governance structure of community engagement teams, a general body, work groups, and steering committee combines community input and provider expertise. The most relevant part of the plan is the creation of the three workgroups that review data on need, service gaps, priority issues, and effective solutions (pg.11). The applicant places a large amount of responsibility on the General Body to make decisions but has created methods to ensure the GB is properly trained (pg.11). The applicant will partner with two Boyle Hill secondary schools. One of the workgroups will evaluate the success of the district's turnaround model and make suggestions for changes. The applicant also plans to support the schools through community partnerships to extend learning time to include time for physical activity, arts and youth development. There is an extensive plan for data usage with a strong focus on participatory methods. The applicant plans use youth and adult surveys, focus groups, and meetings with school staff. There is potential to link student data with the needs analysis. The applicant has already completed extensive work in surveying community members to determine needs in the area. The applicant provides several local indicators on pg. 31. The applicant is heavily involved in other federally funded efforts (p.23-24)

Weaknesses:

Eight hours from each partner may not be sufficient during the planning process.

Reader's Score: 19

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Services

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the project services, the Secretary considers:
 - i) The extent to which the applicant describes proposed solutions to be provided by the proposed project that are based on the best available evidence including, where available, strong or moderate evidence;
 - ii) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards; and
 - iii) The extent to which the applicant explains how the needs assessment and segmentation analysis will be used to determine that children with the highest needs receive appropriate services to meet academic and developmental outcomes.

Strengths:

The applicant identifies several existing programs that are supported by best available evidence and have a strong record of success in the community. For example, IMPACTO uses the "Out-of-School-Time" best practices, a research-based program to support after-school and summer activities. The applicant has completed several surveys (p.13) and gathered school and community data to inform decision-making. The applicant plan to collect resident and students response as well as school and organization effectiveness data. The applicant has a clear plan to link student data to outcomes through the segmentation analysis.

Weaknesses:

The applicant doesn't address the question of alignment of solutions with rigorous academic standards.

Reader's Score: 13

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel

- 1.a) The Secretary considers the quality of the project personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the project personnel, the Secretary considers the qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the applicant, including the project director, and the prior performance of the applicant on efforts similar or related to the proposed Promise Neighborhood.
- c) Relevant experience includes the applicant's experience in and lessons learned by
 - i) Working with the school or schools described in paragraph 2 of Absolute Priority 1;
 - ii) Serving the neighborhood and its residents;
 - iii) Collecting, analyzing, and using data for decision-making and ongoing improvement;
 - iv) Creating formal and informal relationships, and generating community support to achieve results; and
 - v) Securing and integrating funding streams from multiple public and private sources.

Strengths:

The applicant discusses significant work done to build relationships at the target schools, community-based organizations, and government officials. The applicant has always worked specifically in the target neighborhood. The applicant has developed programs after consulting with community members. The applicant uses both quantitative and qualitative data to direct programming.

The applicant demonstrates a depth of experience in managing multiple funding streams (p. 36).

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

- 1.a) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the management plan of the proposed project, the Secretary considers--
 - i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;
 - ii) The extent to which the memorandum of understanding described in paragraph 5 of Absolute Priority 1 describes each partner's financial and programmatic commitment; how each partner's existing vision, theory of action, and theory of change, and existing activities align with those of the proposed Promise Neighborhood; and the governance structure of the proposed Promise Neighborhood;
 - iii) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of families, school staff, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate; and
 - iv) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to sustain

and scale up the proposed Promise Neighborhood.

Strengths:

MOUs thoroughly describe each partner's contribution.

Weaknesses:

The applicant did not adequately explain sustainability plans.

Reader's Score: 18

Selection Criteria - Significance

- 1.a) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
- b) In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers
 - i) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in long-term systems change or improvement;
 - ii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population;
 - iii) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies; and
 - iv) The potential to sustain and apply the model of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation of the model in a variety of settings.

Strengths:

The applicant's commitment to bringing community members, funders, and other stakeholders together demonstrates potential for a strong long-term collaborative group. The applicant proposes a clear plan to train project participants to recognize challenges to project implementation and to address them through political organizing,

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 10

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Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Reader #2: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Need for Project		
1.Need for Project	10	10
Quality of Project Design		
1.Project Design	20	18
Quality of Project Services		
1.Project Services	15	15
Quality of Project Personnel		
1.Project Personnel	25	25
Quality of the Management Plan		
1.Management Plan	20	20
Significance		
1.Significance	10	10
	Sub Total	98
	Total	98

Technical Review Form

Panel #18 - Panel - 18: 84.215P

Reader #2: *****

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Need for Project

1. a) The Secretary considers the need for the proposed project.
- b) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers-
 - i) The magnitude or severity of the problems to be addressed by the proposed project as described by indicators of need and other relevant indicators;
 - ii) The extent to which the geographically defined area has been described; and
 - iii) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities will be identified and addressed by the proposed project.

Strengths:

The proposal includes a clear demonstration of need through education and economic indicators, a clear identification of schools, a clear explanation of the target geographic area and a rationale for selecting it based on significantly greater need than state averages or federal academic standards.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:
 - i) The extent to which the applicant describes how it will plan to build a continuum of solutions designed to significantly improve the academic and family and community support indicators in this notice;
 - ii) The extent to which the continuum of solutions includes a strategy, or a plan to develop a strategy, that will lead to significant improvements in one or more schools described in paragraph 2 of Absolute Priority 1;
 - iii) The extent to which the applicant describes strategies for using data to manage program implementation, inform decision-making, engage stakeholders, and measure success;
 - iv) The extent to which the applicant identifies and describes academic and family and community support indicators to be used for the needs assessment during the planning year;
 - v) The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with the Department and with a national evaluator for Promise Neighborhoods to ensure that data collection and program design are consistent with plans to conduct a rigorous national evaluation of the Promise Neighborhoods Program during the implementation phase and of specific solutions and strategies pursued by individual grantees; and
 - vi) The extent to which the proposed project will be coordinated with similar or related efforts, and with other appropriate community, State, and Federal resources.

Strengths:

The proposal cites clear policy wins achieved by the applicant that have equated to additional education and family supports. There is a clear plan to develop a strategy,

based on a solid rationale of resident participation, data gathering, and local provider collaboration. An community-inclusive and rigorous plan for collecting data is evident which leverages data already collected.

Weaknesses:

PLAS' track record of success is not clear from the proposal. Data presented shows that Hollendbeck's scores had a 5% increase, however there is no evidence of PLAS' past track record beyond that modest increase. Additionally the application would be strengthened if the lead applicant required more than 2 hours a week for each partner.

Reader's Score: 18

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Services

- 1.a) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the project services, the Secretary considersâ
 - i) The extent to which the applicant describes proposed solutions to be provided by the proposed project that are based on the best available evidence including, where available, strong or moderate evidence;
 - ii) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards; and
 - iii) The extent to which the applicant explains how the needs assessment and segmentation analysis will be used to determine that children with the highest needs receive appropriate services to meet academic and developmental outcomes.

Strengths:

The proposal demonstrates how the applicant will develop and use the needs assessment and makes a strong case that the services provided will lead to significant educational outcomes based on the school transformation model proposed and based on research cited on on community engagement's impact on education outcomes, among others things.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 15

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel

- 1.a) The Secretary considers the quality of the project personnel who will carry out the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the project personnel, the Secretary considers the qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the applicant, including the project director, and the prior performance of the applicant on efforts similar or related to the proposed Promise Neighborhood.
- c) Relevant experience includes the applicantâs experience in and lessons learned byâ
 - i) Working with the school or schools described in paragraph 2 of Absolute Priority 1;
 - ii) Serving the neighborhood and its residents;
 - iii) Collecting, analyzing, and using data for decision-making and ongoing improvement;
 - iv) Creating formal and informal relationships, and generating community support to achieve results; and
 - v) Securing and integrating funding streams from multiple public and private sources.

Strengths:

Project personnel have a strong history of working in the neighborhood, with schools, collecting and analyzing data, securing and integrating varying funding sources, and creating a diverse set of relationships.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.
- b) In determining the quality of the management plan of the proposed project, the Secretary considers--
 - i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;
 - ii) The extent to which the memorandum of understanding described in paragraph 5 of Absolute Priority 1 describes each partner's financial and programmatic commitment; how each partner's existing vision, theory of action, and theory of change, and existing activities align with those of the proposed Promise Neighborhood; and the governance structure of the proposed Promise Neighborhood;
 - iii) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of families, school staff, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate; and
 - iv) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to sustain and scale up the proposed Promise Neighborhood.

Strengths:

The MOU indicates level of support, time commitment and responsibilities of all parties, and that the scope of the proposed plan is likely to be achieved on time and within budget. Community perspectives are integrating throughout as much as possible and the engagement methodology is highly likely to succeed. The current partners, funders and momentum of the collaborative together make it highly likely that it can be scaled up throughout Boyle Heights.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 20

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. a) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
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 - i) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in long-term systems change or improvement;
 - ii) The extent to which the proposed project is likely to build local capacity to provide, improve, or expand services that address the needs of the target population;
 - iii) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies; and

iv) The potential to sustain and apply the model of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation of the model in a variety of settings.

Strengths:

The use of the resources sub-committee, the track record in securing significant funding (i.e. California Endowment) all point to the proposal's high chance of sustainability. The proposed use of community organizers to take a data-oriented approach and to partner with education management organizations is an innovate approach that has a framework and track record behind it that lends itself to success. The success of this project, the success of the providers- particularly reinforced by community ownership and participation-will yield significant improvement in the neighborhood and systems change if carried out as planned.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 10

Status: Submitted

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Status: Submitted

Last Updated: 8/26/10 11:39 PM

Technical Review Coversheet

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Reader #3: *****

	Points Possible	Points Scored
Questions		
Selection Criteria		
Need for Project		
1.Need for Project	10	10
Quality of Project Design		
1.Project Design	20	19
Quality of Project Services		
1.Project Services	15	14
Quality of Project Personnel		
1.Project Personnel	25	25
Quality of the Management Plan		
1.Management Plan	20	19
Significance		
1.Significance	10	9
Sub Total	100	96
Total	100	96

Technical Review Form

Panel #18 - Panel - 18: 84.215P

Reader #3: *****

Applicant: PROYECTO PASTORAL AT DOLORES MISSION -- n/a,n/a (U215P100240)

Questions

Selection Criteria - Need for Project

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- b) In determining the need for the proposed project, the Secretary considers-
 - i) The magnitude or severity of the problems to be addressed by the proposed project as described by indicators of need and other relevant indicators;
 - ii) The extent to which the geographically defined area has been described; and
 - iii) The extent to which specific gaps or weaknesses in services, infrastructure, or opportunities will be identified and addressed by the proposed project.

Strengths:

The applicant provides a clear description of the need for the program and the severity of the problems to be addressed. The applicant provides a clear description of the distress of the targeted area including its isolation from LA, extremely high population density, high percentage of residents who were born outside of the country and sub standard housing conditions.

Applicant clearly describes gaps and weaknesses in services in Section 2 p e20 of this proposal and defines lack of sufficient infrastructure, need for stronger mechanisms for linking services for shared accountability.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 10

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Design

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 - iii) The extent to which the applicant describes strategies for using data to manage program implementation, inform decision-making, engage stakeholders, and measure success;
 - iv) The extent to which the applicant identifies and describes academic and family and community support indicators to be used for the needs assessment during the planning year;
 - v) The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a commitment to work with the Department and with a national evaluator for Promise Neighborhoods to ensure that data collection and program design are consistent with plans to conduct a rigorous national evaluation of the Promise Neighborhoods Program during the implementation phase and of specific solutions and strategies pursued by individual grantees; and
 - vi) The extent to which the proposed project will be coordinated with similar or

related efforts, and with other appropriate community, State, and Federal resources.

Strengths:

Applicant presents a strong project design which effectively meets each of the requirements for this section. The applicant proposes build a continuum and will start with the two secondary schools from the target area. They will also collaborate with planning partners comprised of diverse public and private partners including the California Endowment (e6) with established reputations in the for providing quality services and engaging stakeholder support. The applicant also proposes to build upon a successful planning process that was recently completed and ensure that the continuum planning is community that the process is community driven. Finally, the design incorporates the core philosophy that youth and adults will lead the school and transformation process at every stage and work closely with stakeholders.

Weaknesses:

Reviewer would like to have seen more cohesiveness in the definition of the roles of the partners.

Reader's Score: 19

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Services

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.
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 - ii) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the achievement of students as measured against rigorous academic standards; and
 - iii) The extent to which the applicant explains how the needs assessment and segmentation analysis will be used to determine that children with the highest needs receive appropriate services to meet academic and developmental outcomes.

Strengths:

Applicant presents a targeted presentation of the services for this project and utilizes best available evidence to implement services that ensure rigorous academic standards and achieve desired outcomes for those with the highest needs. They submit a plan for a longitudinal data system and have allocated 10% of the funding to support a local evaluator, and have also engaged the efforts of the Data Committee members and several partners including the California Endowment (p.e27).

Weaknesses:

Reviewer would like to have had more detail regarding the services to be provided, particularly referencing the chart on page (e31) of the application.

Reader's Score: 14

Selection Criteria - Quality of Project Personnel

1. a) The Secretary considers the quality of the project personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

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 - ii) Serving the neighborhood and its residents;
 - iii) Collecting, analyzing, and using data for decision-making and ongoing improvement;
 - iv) Creating formal and informal relationships, and generating community support to achieve results; and
 - v) Securing and integrating funding streams from multiple public and private sources.

Strengths:

Applicant provides a solid mix of professionals with related experience based upon the requirements of this section attachment (e1-e36). The applicant also presents a clear description of their organizational capacity (e32 to e37) to plan and implement the Promise Neighborhood. Specifically, they describe relevant experience with partner schools, government leaders, community organizations and neighborhood residents. The applicant also describes abilities to collect analyze and use data, as well as their experience creating relationships, generating community support and securing funding.

Weaknesses:

Reader's Score: 25

Selection Criteria - Quality of the Management Plan

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- i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks;
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 - iii) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of families, school staff, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate; and
 - iv) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to sustain and scale up the proposed Promise Neighborhood.

Strengths:

Applicant presented project design that met the overall requirements for this section and depict how they will plan, scale up and sustain the Promise Neighborhood. Each partner has also agreed to a formal commitment to ensure the success of the project. The commitment of the California Endowment (e39) is also significant and speaks to the long term success of the project.

Weaknesses:

Reviewer would like to have seen more detail from the applicant on how each milestone would be achieved. Reviewer also questions if the 8 hour commitment (e-39) that has been made by each partner is sufficient to achieve project goals.

Reader's Score: 19

Selection Criteria - Significance

1. a) The Secretary considers the significance of the proposed project.
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 - i) The likelihood that the proposed project will result in long-term systems change or improvement;
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 - iii) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies; and
 - iv) The potential to sustain and apply the model of the proposed project or strategies, including, as appropriate, the potential for implementation of the model in a variety of settings.

Strengths:

The applicant provided a solid description of the significance and sustainability of this project including well established similar work in the community.

Weaknesses:

Reviewer would like to have seen more info on the future of sustainability and less emphasis on what has already been invested in the community.

Reader's Score: 9

Status: Submitted

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