

"The Hayward Promise Neighborhood is a unique community of opportunity that is centered around strong schools where children can learn, grow, and succeed."



Visit our website



Executive Director Perspective

In 2011 we embarked on a journey to ensure all children have the support they need to thrive from cradle to college to career. The past four years has come with its unique set of challenges. But with the challenges have come several victories:

- Created a partnership with the Alameda County Community Food Bank to bring free food to the Jackson Triangle (Fresh Food for Families)
- Expanded high quality preschool slots to ensure children have a strong foundation to enter Kindergarten ready to learn.
- Improved access to healthcare via early intervention with family visits from a Home Visitation Nurse.
- Strengthened neighborhood safety with the focused attention of a Code Enforcement Inspector, Community Services Officer and Neighborhood Partnership.



As Geoffrey Canada of the Harlem Children's Zone often says, we were given five years worth of funding to fulfill a 20 year promise. Although we have reached our fifth year of federal funding, this doesn't mark the end of Hayward Promise Neighborhood. We are working diligently with our partners to: apply for private funding, advocate for additional federal funding and we'll also host a Keeping the Promise Sustainability Summit in May to bring together leaders from all of our partner agencies to begin the formal process of developing a strategic 3-5 year sustainability plan. Our work continues onward and forward!

Warmly,

Melinda Hall, Executive Director of Hayward Promise Neighborhood

Feeding Thousands with Fresh Food for Families



Hayward Promise Neighborhood, in collaboration with the Alameda County Community Food Bank has been fortunate to provide fresh fruits and vegetable items to Hayward residents consisting of milk, eggs, beans, rice, canned chicken, and corn to over one thousand (1,000) households in the brief

six months of distribution sessions at both the Eden Green Way Park and the Family Resource HUB (Hayward Unified School District).

Whether it is a bright and sunny day or a slight rain, the Alameda County Community Food Bank's Mobile Pantry (a large food truck converted to a farmers market on wheels), pulls up to a line of grateful Jackson Triangle residents, ready to make their food selections.

Families are served by an eager group of California State University, East Bay Chabot College students, Promotoras from Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center and community members; all facilitated by Hayward Promise Neighborhood's Community Resident Engagement Specialists.

Families are delighted and continue to strongly express their gratitude with warm smiles and hugs. Fresh Food for Families provides a wonderful opportunity to support healthy families and the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables to our Jackson Triangle residents.

To sign up to volunteer or for more information, check out the home page of our [website](#).

Resident Spotlight: Erica Barron



As a single mother of three children (two boys and 1 girl), Erica Barron struggled with the stress of not only providing for her children financially, but figuring out effective techniques for communicating with and disciplining her children.

Erica struggled the most with her younger son; who was very different from his older brother. The discipline techniques that worked well for her older son, didn't seem to be working with her younger son. In frustration, Erica resorted to just yelling at her children to get them to listen; which she

says often resulted in complaints from her neighbors. She had even taken her younger son to see a psychologist in an attempt to receive support with his poor listening and behavior.

After sharing some of her challenges with the Parent Outreach Worker, Claudia Cartagena, at her sons school (Harder Elementary); Claudia recommended that Erica enroll in Hayward Promise Neighborhoods Loving Solutions program to learn some effective parenting techniques.

After only a few weeks in the class Erica laughs remembering the time her landlord came knocking on her door to check on her because he didn't hear her yelling at her kids. "Loving Solutions taught me new techniques to communicate with my kids. Instead of yelling, I whisper what I'm trying to tell them and turn it into a game. I also learned kids often shut down when you tell them no. Instead of saying no, I tell them 'absolutely, after you clean your room' or etc," explained Erica. She also shares, "I also learned that for every negative I communicate to my kids, I need to also include a positive. I have a much stronger relationship with my kids, they are listening and I'm more aware of how I communicate with them."

Erica has now completed Hayward Promise Neighborhood's Loving Solutions, Project 2 Inspire and was selected as an Adult Leader for Hayward Promise Neighborhood's Unite2Green Hayward program with ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA.

Connect With Us



Upcoming Events

- **April 23rd, 10 am - 12 pm at California State University, East Bay (Art & Education 142)** - Advisory Board meeting. Community members strongly encouraged to attend.
- **May 6th, 12-4 pm at California State University, East Bay** - Keeping the Promise: 2016 Hayward Promise Neighborhood Sustainability Summit
- **May 9th, 2-4 pm at Eden Greenway Park (corner of Harder Rd. & Cypress Ave.)** - Fresh Food for Families free food distribution
- **May 18th at California State University, East Bay**- Strong, Kids, Strong Families, Strong Communities End of Year Celebration

- **May 20th, 9-10:30 am at the HUB (24823 Soto Rd., Hayward) - FREE**
Community Workshop on chronic disease