

## Urban Issues and Promise Programs

8:45 a.m. Friday, November 8, 2013

Urban Issues: High frequency of violence, high poverty, segregation, drugs, high teen pregnancy, low marriage, under educated (illiterate), single-family, high unemployment, poor transportation, blight, lack of nutrition, food deserts, undocumented students, lack of opportunity, homeownership level is low, mindset of hopelessness.

Lansing is having significant challenges with crime, poor school district, and apathetic leadership. Same urban issues above.

Kansas City MO, the school system is a mess. Absentee landlords, bad property management, causes a terrible neighborhoods.

Saginaw has been ranked by the FBI as one of the most violent city in America. Our kids are so exposed to negative messages, we have to continue to put out positive messages.

Pittsburgh, violence, drugs, but predominately the mindset of people. The mindset is one of the issues. The Promise mission is to provide hope for the kids. Pittsburgh, divided by rivers. Segregated and most of the violence is in the urban areas. Daily, there is murders and people have become apathetic to it. People see you based on your zip code. The schools also reflect the negativity of the area. Urban areas don't necessarily have the best schools. Kids are still in silos. Segregated in one city.

Kalamazoo is still somewhat segregated. The Northside of Kalamazoo (Interfaith Homes) is used as a tool to get grant money. Lots of community groups come in but the outcomes remain the same. Two blocks from Kalamazoo College is a different world. The Promise is great but without understanding the story. Get the children to envision themselves as a graduate from high school. Northside of Kalamazoo has an invisible line of segregation.

Detroit has publicly funded private schools. Renaissance and Cass (upscale, examination schools) with kids who are coming from the same neighborhoods with the same issues. Detroit has a largest Chaldean community. The school makes the difference in Detroit. The worst performing schools are under EAA (government run rescue), DPS, Charter, Self-governing DPS (self-governing schools with public funding for private school). There are 60 high schools in Detroit. There were 4,000 seniors in 2013. The Detroit Compact was in existence since 1989. About 120 students are sent to college each year through Detroit Compact. The Detroit Scholarship Fund (2,500 were awarded, 700 are in college).

Battle Creek has five school districts and is facing the same issues as other urban areas. Transportation is limited.

New Haven, Ct. The city has 135,000, 44 schools, and 11 high schools. Has urban issues and a very thriving inter-district magnet program. Two schools (Wilbercross) lots of segregation within the school system. Career is a magnet school that is highly desired for suburban school students. There are seven other magnet/choice schools. The seven magnet schools are choice schools. New Haven seniors are 800 and remainder are coming from the suburbs. The Hill is mostly African American students but most of the neighborhoods are segregated. New Haven funds undocumented students because they do not require FASFA completion.

Pontiac students do not have long-term goals because they have no consistency in their life. Teachers may teach for one week and resign. The substitute teacher bill for one month was \$60,000. Lots of immigrant families who are poor and do not understand the language. Pontiac has a great deal of undocumented students (of 300 students on 28 completed the FASFA).

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What works when communicating with urban communities?

1. Offer childcare.
2. Offer dinner/lunch/breakfast.
3. Include people they trust to get and give information.
4. Transportation.
5. Communication at the level and language that is understood by the community.
6. Understand the fear of getting information (mistrust).
7. Build trust.
8. Work through the college to pre-enroll – then, get college wraparounds to help with FASFA.
9. The School District and the County Data give a complete picture of the child’s academic and life services. Gather data and micro-target.
10. Treat people with dignity.
11. Go after all dollars available for them.
12. Pay for books! Seek partnership from the college for a lending library. Explore with colleges the need for new versus old books. Ask colleges to put information online. Push students to share books.
13. Utilize Fraternities and Sororities.

**Best Advice: “Hello Captain Obvious!”**

Consider Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs

Kids Don’t Care What You Know Until They Know That You Care

Do not pretend to understand but to spend time to understand what they are going through

Covey: Seek first to understand then to be understood (spend quality time)

Always be willing to teach (do not get frustrated in well-doing)

Be flexible for kids who do not fit into your promise

Have a forward looking engagement strategy (all stakeholders, moms, business, educators, etc.)

Talk with the students and take it to their level

Mentoring and modeling success and genuine interest

Share your own struggles and experiences and be open and real (no cookie cutter)

Meet people where they are at, let them know you care

Housing environment affects the neighborhoods and disposition of the children

Always be willing to learn

Love must be sincere – a scripture but a way to approach Promise Programs

# The Urban Promise

PromiseNet 2015



A photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, with several skyscrapers and a body of water in the foreground. The image is partially obscured by the title text.

# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

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A photograph of a city skyline, likely New York City, with several skyscrapers visible against a hazy sky. The image is positioned in the top left corner of the slide.

# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- Lansing is having significant challenges with crime, poor school district, and apathetic leadership. Same urban issues above.
- Pittsburgh, violence, drugs, but predominately the mindset of people. The mindset is one of the issues. The Promise mission is to provide hope for the kids. Pittsburgh, divided by rivers. Segregated and most of the violence is in the urban areas. Daily, there is murders and people have become apathetic to it. People see you based on your zip code. The schools also reflect the negativity of the area. Urban areas don't necessarily have the best schools. Kids are still in silos. Segregated in one city.

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# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- Kansas City MO, the school system is a mess. Absentee landlords, bad property management, causes a terrible neighborhoods.
- Saginaw has been ranked by the FBI as one of the most violent city in America. Our kids are so exposed to negative messages, we have to continue to put out positive messages.
- Battle Creek has five school districts and is facing the same issues as other urban areas. Transportation is limited.

A photograph of a city skyline, likely Kalamazoo, Michigan, featuring several tall buildings and a body of water in the foreground. The image is partially obscured by the title text.

# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- Kalamazoo is still somewhat segregated. The Northside of Kalamazoo (Interfaith Homes) is used as a tool to get grant money. Lots of community groups come in but the outcomes remain the same. Two blocks from Kalamazoo College is a different world. The Promise is great but without understanding the story. Get the children to envision themselves as a graduate from high school. Northside of Kalamazoo has an invisible line of segregation.

A small image of a city skyline, likely Detroit, is visible in the top left corner of the slide. The title "PromiseNet 2013 Feedback" is centered at the top in a large, black, sans-serif font.

# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- Detroit has publicly funded private schools. Renaissance and Cass (upscale, examination schools) with kids who are coming from the same neighborhoods with the same issues. Detroit has a largest Chaldean community. The school makes the difference in Detroit. The worst performing schools are under EAA (government run rescue), DPS, Charter, Self-governing DPS (self-governing schools with public funding for private school). There are 60 high schools in Detroit. There were 4,000 seniors in 2013. The Detroit Compact was in existence since 1989. About 120 students are sent to college each year through Detroit Compact. The Detroit Scholarship Fund (2,500 were awarded, 700 are in college).

A photograph of a city skyline, likely New Haven, Connecticut, showing several skyscrapers and buildings along a waterfront. The image is partially obscured by the title text.

# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- New Haven, Ct. The city has 135,000, 44 schools, and 11 high schools. Has urban issues and a very thriving inter-district magnet program. Two schools (Wilbercross) lots of segregation within the school system. Career is a magnet school that is highly desired for suburban school students. There are seven other magnet/choice schools. The seven magnet schools are choice schools. New Haven seniors are 800 and remainder are coming from the suburbs. The Hill is mostly African American students but most of the neighborhoods are segregated. New Haven funds undocumented students because they do not require FASFA completion.
- Pontiac students do not have long-term goals because they have no consistency in their life. Teachers may teach for one week and resign. The substitute teacher bill for one month was \$60,000. Lots of immigrant families who are poor and do not understand the language. Pontiac has a great deal of undocumented students (of 300 students on 28 completed the FASFA).

# 2013 Urban Promise - What Works?

- Offer childcare.
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- Include people they trust to get and give information.
- Transportation.
- Communication at the level and language that is understood by the community.
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- Work through the college to pre-enroll – then, get college wraparounds to help with FASFA.
- The School District and the County Data give a complete picture of the child's academic and life services. Gather data and micro-target.
- Treat people with dignity.
- Go after all dollars available for them.
- Pay for books! Seek partnership from the college for a lending library. Explore with colleges the need for new versus old books. Ask colleges to put information online. Push students to share books.
- Utilize Fraternities and Sororities.



# 2013 Best Advice: “Hello Capt. Obvious”

- Consider Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs
- Kids Don't Care What You Know Until They Know That You Care
- Do not pretend to understand but to spend time to understand what they are going through
- Covey: Seek first to understand then to be understood (spend quality time)
- Always be willing to teach (do not get frustrated in well-doing)
- Be flexible for kids who do not fit into your promise
- Have a forward looking engagement strategy (all stakeholders, moms, business, educators, etc.)
- Talk with the students and take it to their level. Mentoring and modeling success and genuine interest
- Share your own struggles and experiences and be open and real (no cookie cutter)
- Meet people where they are at, let them know you care
- Housing environment affects the neighborhoods and disposition of the children
- Love must be sincere – a scripture but a way to approach Promise Programs



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# PromiseNet 2015 Feedback

## The Urban Promise

1:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 11, 2015

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**No Change**



# PromiseNet 2015

## **The Urban Promise**

1:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 11, 2015

The Rally Cry for Young Men of Color (Feb. 2014)

President Obama, along with Judge Greg Mathis, Dr. Freeman Hrabowski, General Colin Powell, Texas Congressman Joaquin Castro, and Businessman Magic Johnson met in Washington to address Young Men of Color.

See: <http://aprildryan.com/2014/02/28/the-rally-cry-for-young-men-of-color/>



# PromiseNet 2015

## The Urban Promise

1:45 p.m. Wednesday, November 11, 2015

A Night of Magic (April 2015)



A message from Earvin "Magic" Johnson  
Chairman and CEO, SodexoMAGIC

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# PromiseNet 2013 Feedback

- The Lansing Promise, two years later.
  - Greater community investment and impact.
  - Support from teachers, parents, school officials and elected officials.
  - Better communication of the Lansing Promise.
  - Earvin Magic Johnson support and drawing attention to the needs of the students and importance of the Promise.
  - Hired our first Executive Director, Justin Sheehan.
  - Commitment, commitment, commitment from the Lansing Promise Board of Directors and experts – Since 2009!
  - Lansing Community College and Michigan State University Partners.
  - Promoting Jobs: Identification and Driver Licensing are needed. Most of the jobs in MI require a driver license. Let's promote Driver Education!

# **Your Urban Promise?**