

Community of Promise

The Community of Promise is a product of America's Promise. Formed under the leadership of General Colin Powell, retired, in 1997, sought to secure a national commitment to ensure all children, including the disadvantaged would have access to the following five promises:

- On-going relationship with a caring adult
- A safe place with structured activities during non-school hours
- A healthy start
- Marketable skills through effective education; and
- An opportunity to give back through community service

Communities of Promise were local venues created to fulfill these promises to specific groups of children who would be known by all by name

The New York State Education Department became a partner of America's Promise through the Liberty Partnerships Program in 2000 because (1) missions of the Community of Promise and LPP are the same; (2) the structural framework and training for developing a Community of Promise was consistent with LPP's expectations for developing *Cooperative Relations*; and, (3) like LPP, Communities of Promise allows the ability of each community to reflect its unique personality and design while maintaining commitments to the delivery of statewide services/Promises.

The Liberty Partnerships Program is by design and statute, a collaboration of stakeholders committed to addressing the needs of at-risk students through comprehensive programs and services that considers the needs of the whole student as the Program prepares each child for higher education and the workforce.

CORE Strategies of the Communities of Promise/Embraced by LPP:

1. Engage a diverse community team of key leaders (LPP Advisory Board)
2. Assess current needs of youth in community and map existing programs and assets
3. Set specific measurable goals to deliver resources to young people most in need (LPP student body)
4. Establish a lead contact and community home (LPP and host agency)
5. Develop a site-based delivery strategy (campus, school, community center, etc)
6. Secure local commitment from all sectors that will help reach target goals.
7. Develop a local communications and marketing plan
8. Measure qualitative and quantitative outcomes
 - a. Tracking the delivery of services
 - b. Tracking the receipt of services
 - c. Keep record of stories of individual students