



Parent Unity Across Communities Padres Unidos Cruzando Comunidades

Newsletter for Parents by Parents  Boletín para Padres creado por Padres

Let your voices be heard!

Spring Quarterly Meeting!

And Legislative Trip Training and Prep

Friday, April 24th, 2015

Eckhart Park, 1330 W. Chicago

9:30am Coffee and Refreshments

10:00-12:00 Meeting

12:00 Lunch

Every May, POWER-PAC celebrates Mother's Day by going to Springfield to tell legislators how they can do right by our families and children.

You MUST attend the April 24th meeting to go on "Moms on a Mission Springfield trip." Join us!

POWER-PAC Moms on a Mission!

Trip to Springfield

All day! Wednesday, May 6th

Details in attached flyer



Health and Recess Committee

In March, parent leader Heather Bunker joined 30 other participants, including COFI partner, Greater Chicago Food Depository, for the National Anti-Hunger Policy Conference in D.C. The conference brought together "anti-hunger and anti-poverty advocates; federal, state and local government officials; child advocates; representatives of food banks and food rescue organizations; and nutrition and anti-obesity groups" from across the country for three days of networking, training, and the sharing of advocacy methods. She was joined by fellow conference members for a day of Capitol Hill advocacy, visiting, among others, Representatives Danny Davis, Tami Duckworth, and Luis Gutierrez (D-IL4).



Stepping out of Poverty Committee



Stepping out of Poverty Co-Chair, Rosazlia Grillier, with new City Treasurer, Kurt Sommers, at a *Chicago Financial Education Initiative* event.

Committee members Lannon Broughton and Maralda Davis attended the first of many meetings with the Treasurer and other community partners to discuss financial security initiatives for parents and their children.

Restorative Justice on the Move!

During March, the Elementary Justice Campaign held 9 parent-to-parent workshops with over 160 parents of CPS's Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Parent Leadership Networks on how to use restorative justice in our schools, homes and communities. We shared our experiences with restorative justice, discussed the CPS Student Code of Conduct and helped parents understand how to handle everyday situations more restoratively. One participant shared that she was glad "there's other options besides harsh consequences". Meanwhile, the POWER-PAC Peace Centers were featured in a new video of the Mayor's Commission for a Safer Chicago.

National Parent Power!

4 POWER-PAC leaders joined 24 other parent leaders nationally to talk about parent leadership models and the impact of parents at the policymaking tables. We represented 7 organizations and came from Seattle, Oakland, Albuquerque, Montana, Denver, Chicago, Florida, Connecticut and New York! We shared our work and stories with 30 national funders and participated in a Policy Roundtable with staff from President Obama's Administration and Congress. We look forward to working together in the future and, as a next step, we have been asked to weigh in on national Child Support policy with the Obama Administration. If you are interested in this conversation, call Tracy at 312-226-5141. GO POWER-PAC.

Early Learning Committee

POWER-PAC members met with CPS to discuss the launch of the 2015 Ready to Learn Enrollment which started on March 2nd. We also met with Arnie Rivera, the Mayor's Deputy Chief of Staff for Education and discussed the increase in full day preschool slots for 4 year olds in, among other communities, Austin, North Lawndale and Englewood. We made recommendations about how to get the word out to families.



For more information about any of these campaigns or events, call COFI at 312-226-5141.