

*“Tell me and I will forget;
show me and I may remember;
Involve me and I will make it mine.”*



Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors (AP) supports parents as leaders of their families and as their child's first and most important teacher.

Our two-generation approach builds parent leadership skills and knowledge to promote well-being and positive education outcomes for children.

The Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors program starts by honoring parents' strengths and uses the “popular education” approach to engage participants in culturally familiar and interactive activities at every session.

The curriculum is grounded in research and reflects parent input, resulting in an experience that helps participants expand their parenting capacity in a safe and welcoming environment. Parents graduate from Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors empowered with the tools and knowledge to become powerful agents of change in the lives of their children and the community at large.



Curriculum

Parents have the most important – and sometimes the toughest- job in the world. The AP curriculum strengthens parenting behaviors, leading to better outcomes for families and children.

Available in Spanish and English, the 10 sessions foster school readiness, family well-being, and advocacy by addressing best practices in:

- Early childhood development
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Bilingualism
- Health
- Attendance
- Civic engagement
- Leadership
- Goal setting

AP PARENTS REPORT HIGH SATISFACTION

92% Learned Important Skills

96% Gained Self Confidence

100% Felt AP Respected Their Culture

Source: Child Trends Evaluation of the Abriendo Puertas Program, 2014.

Facilitator Training

The cost-effective train-the-trainer model certifies community based facilitators to deliver the program to parents, caregivers and partner organizations in their neighborhoods.

During the three-day institute, facilitators learn about the unique features of the Abriendo Puertas curriculum, including the following:

- Overview of the 10 sessions.
- An understanding of the cultural and linguistic relevance of the curriculum, and how to create a welcoming and safe environment for parent reflection.
- Popular education techniques, games, ideas for parent outreach and ways to engage local partners.

Deepening Impact

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors has grown rapidly in scope and impact since its launch in 2007, thanks to strong partnerships with national and local agencies and organizations.

Our partners include the National Head Start Association, Catholic Charities USA, Latino Policy Forum, Partnership for Community Action, United Way Worldwide, and school districts such as Los Angeles Unified.

Independent Evaluations

Two independent evaluations demonstrate the positive impact of the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors program. A national evaluation led by Drs. Bruce Fuller and Margaret Bridges at U.C. Berkeley found that parents made significant gains in knowledge of:

- Early learning and development
- Social-emotional skills
- Language and literacy
- School preparation
- Health
- Parenting
- Advocacy

The 2014 Child Trends Random Control Study of Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors confirmed that participating parents demonstrated significant growth in parenting practices that promote school readiness. The Child Trends evaluation also found that both participants and facilitators exhibited high satisfaction levels with the program.



TURNING ASPIRATIONS INTO REALITIES

“Parents have a real hunger for information that will enrich their parenting, and they have indicated that Abriendo Puertas has been an invaluable resource. Parents, organizations, and schools have expressed tremendous gratitude for having this incredible program available in Spanish.”

Sylvia Puente, Executive Director Latino Policy Forum



“I love this country and work hard so that my family can have opportunities and an education that I've never had. Abriendo Puertas ...helped me understand my role as the leader of my family.... For example, with reading — I don't want Miguel to not read well. I learned a lot of kids don't and it's hard for them to catch up. Miguel is 3 years old. We have fun going to the library, reading books and telling stories. It's like the saying — If you don't look forward, you stay behind. He will go to a University one day.”

Liz Ochoa, Parent

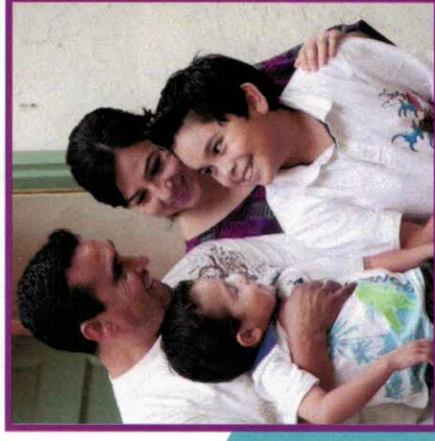
“‘Transformative’ is often used by families to describe their experience in the Abriendo Puertas classes we implement in New Mexico. The curriculum not only helps families gain knowledge around children's early development, but it is also a tool for organizing and developing leaders in communities.”

Adrián A. Pedroza, Commissioner, White House Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, Executive Director, Partnership for Community Action



Abriendo Puertas Opening Doors

Building a Better Future
Through Parent Leadership



The nation's first evidence-based comprehensive training program developed by and for Latino parents of 0-5 year old children.



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