



# North Hartford Ascend

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education Promise Neighborhoods Grant Program

## Community Conversation

Wednesday, February 19, 2025



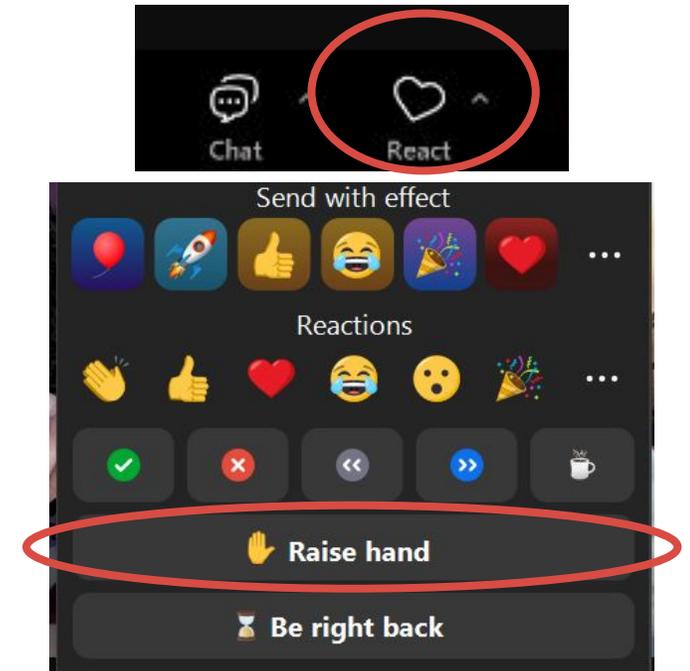
Por favor recuerde seleccionar su lenguaje en el globo de la parte inferior de su pantalla para interpretación Desde su celular, toque los 3 puntos y seleccione su lenguaje.

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Please remember to select your language on the globe at the bottom of your screen for simultaneous interpretation. From your cell phone, click the 3 dots and select your language.

# Discussion Guidelines

- Everyone deserves to be heard. Listen and respond respectfully.
  - Questions and comments should be added to the chat at any time.
  - Please use the Zoom “raise your hand” feature to speak.
- We are interested in hearing your authentic thoughts—please do not use AI or ChatGPT to respond to questions.
- Let’s stay on topic— time is limited, so let’s value each other’s time.
- Successful dialogue is the responsibility of all participants.



# Incentive Available to Hartford Residents

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Let us know in the chat:

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**Why are you attending today's meeting?**

# Agenda

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- Welcome & Guidelines
- Ascend Overview
- Featured Presenter and Topic: Hartford Adult Education Center
- Discussion
- Next Steps and Closing Remarks
- **Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 19**

# North Hartford Ascend: Overview

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Connect children and families, prenatal through career, living in the **North Hartford Promise Zone** to the programs, services and other resources they need to **reach their full potential.**

# Department of Education (DOE): Promise Neighborhoods Program

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## Overview

- **Purpose:**

Significantly improve the academic and developmental outcomes of children living in the most distressed communities of the United States, including ensuring school readiness, high school graduation, and access to a community-based continuum of high quality services

- **Strategy:**

Create a pipeline of services – a continuum of supports, services, and opportunities for children from birth through entry into and success in postsecondary education and career attainment.

- **Project Period:**

January 2022 – December 2026

# DOE Promise Neighborhoods Program Results



## Students . . . .

Enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school.

Are proficient in Math and English Language Arts.

Successfully transition from middle to high school.

Graduate from high school.

Obtain post-secondary degrees, certifications, or credentials.

Are supported by families and communities in their learning.

Are healthy.

Feel safe at school and in the community.

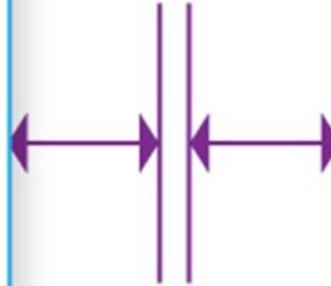
Live in stable communities.

Have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century learning tools.

# Current State

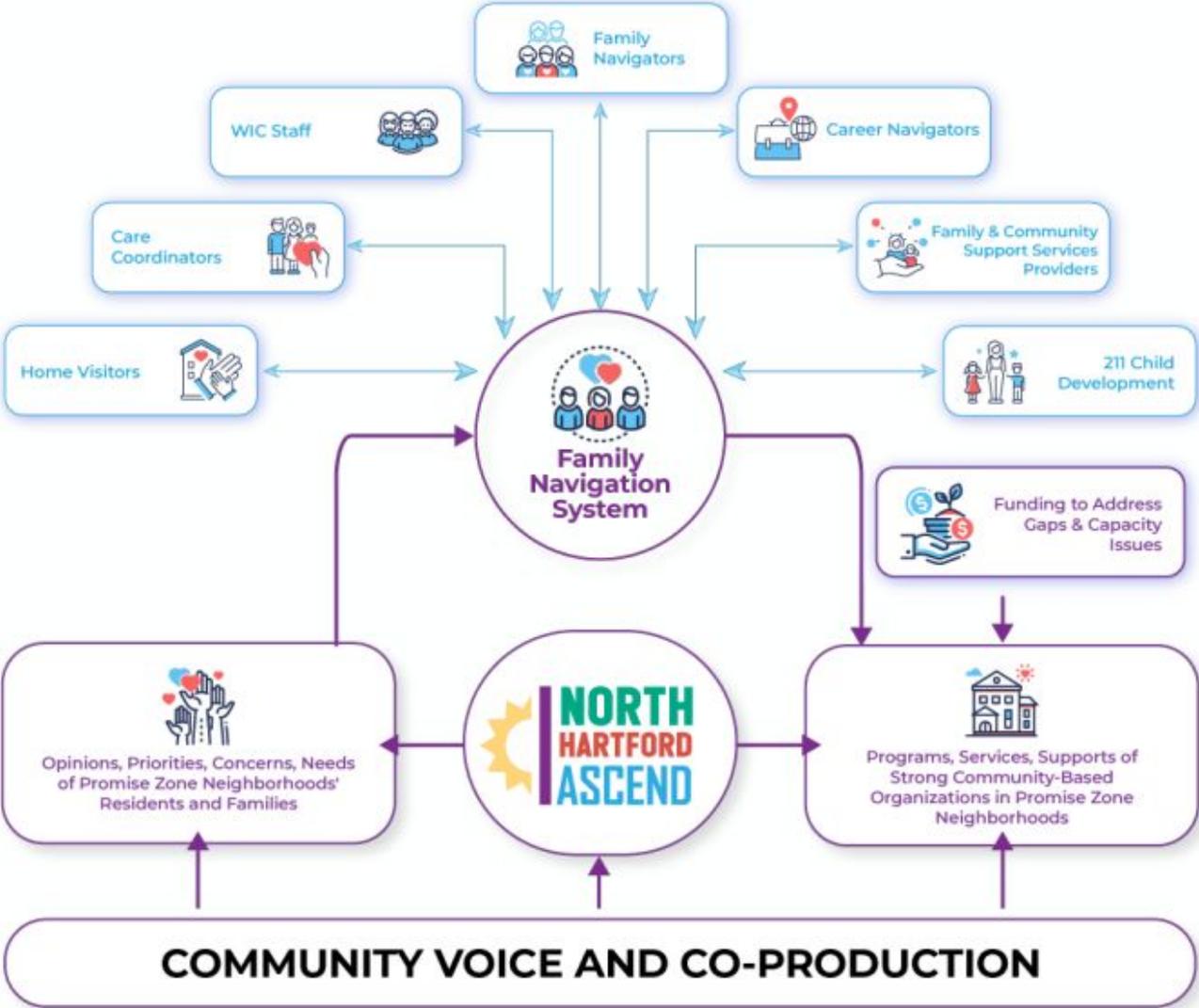


Opinions, Priorities,  
Concerns, Needs of Promise  
Zone Neighborhoods'  
Residents and Families



Strong Array of Programs,  
Services, Supports of Community-  
Based Organizations in Promise  
Zone Neighborhoods

# Ideal State-Ascend System Building



# Ascend & Community Updates

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# Ascend & Community Updates



Namandje Wali

Connecticut Children's  
Ascend Program Manager



Chelsey Logan

Connecticut Children's  
Ascend Administrative  
Program Coordinator

# Ascend & Community Updates



## Community Workshops: In-Person

- 3/26 from 6:00pm-7:30pm - [Building Professional Relationship](#) presented by KJR at Parker Memorial Community Center

## Community Events:

- Link in Chat: [Upcoming Community Event Flyers](#)
- Read Across America Day - [Volunteer in Hartford Classrooms!](#)
  - Read Across America Day highlights the importance of building early literacy and language skills for every child, so that all children read proficiently by the start of fourth grade.
- Share other community events that are happening in the chat!



## Featured Presenter and Topic Hartford Adult Education Center



# Hartford Adult Education Center

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## Program Overview

Director: Terence Cunningham

# About Adult Education

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- Adult Education - According to Section 10-69 of the Connecticut General Statutes, each local and regional board of education in Connecticut is required to establish and maintain a program of adult classes or provide for participation in such a program through cooperative arrangements with other boards of education, eligible entities, or a regional educational service center. Hartford Public schools provides its own Adult Education services.

# Programs Overview

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- **GED** stands for General Educational Development. It is a high school equivalency test that measures a person's knowledge and skills in core academic subjects, including mathematics, science, social studies, and language arts. The GED test is designed for individuals who did not complete high school and want to earn a credential that is equivalent to a high school diploma.
- **NEDP** stands for National External Diploma Program. It is an alternative pathway to earning a high school diploma for adults who have acquired significant life and work experiences but did not complete high school. The NEDP is a competency-based program that allows individuals to demonstrate their knowledge and skills through a series of assessments, rather than traditional classroom instruction.
- **Adult ESL** is an educational programs designed specifically for adults whose native language is not English. These programs aim to help non-native English speakers improve their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in the English language.
- **Citizenship classes**, also known as civics or naturalization classes, are designed to help immigrants prepare for the U.S. Citizenship Test and become naturalized U.S. citizens. These classes provide instruction on U.S. history, government, and civics, as well as help students improve their English language skills, which are essential for passing the citizenship test.

# Credit Diploma Program

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- The Credit Diploma Program, also known as the Adult High School Diploma Program or the External Diploma Program, is an alternative pathway to earning a high school diploma for adults who did not complete high school. Unlike the General Educational Development (GED) program, which involves taking a single test, the Credit Diploma Program allows participants to earn high school credits through a variety of means, such as:
  - Credit Transfer: Participants can transfer credits earned in high school or other accredited educational institutions toward their diploma.
  - Prior Learning Assessment: Adults can demonstrate their knowledge and skills acquired through work, and receive credits for them.
  - Independent Study: Participants can complete coursework independently or through online programs to earn credits toward their diploma.
  - Classroom Instruction: Adults can enroll in traditional classroom courses offered at adult education centers, community colleges, or other institutions to earn high school credits.
- Students must complete 48 hours of instructional class time to get 1 complete credit for an in person class.

# Adult Education Program Course Outline

Program	Credential Received	Program Content	Class Times	Locations
<b>GED English And Spanish</b>	High School Diploma Equivalency	Language Arts/ Social Studies/ Math/ Science	Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons	Adult Education Center 85 Edwards Street Hartford CT
<b>Adult English Language Learners</b>	None	Studies in different levels of English	Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons	Adult Education Center 85 Edwards Street Hartford CT
<b>Credit Diploma Program</b>	High School Diploma( 25 Credits needed to graduate)	High School Core Courses	Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons	Adult Education Center 85 Edwards Street Hartford CT
<b>National Education Diploma Program (NEDP)</b>	High School Diploma	NEDP is designed for adults who have life/work experience. They demonstrate competencies to 100 accuracy, have their portfolio reviewed, and earn a local high school diploma	Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons	Adult Education Center 85 Edwards Street Hartford CT
<b>US Citizenship</b>	US Citizenship	Social Studies and knowledge of American History and political structure	Monday through Friday, mornings and afternoons	Adult Education Center 85 Edwards Street Hartford CT

# Registration Process

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- *Call to make an appointment:*
- (860) 695-5866 or (860) 695-5919
- **Monday - Thursday**
- Current photo ID
- Proof of your address
- Students 18 and under, proof of withdrawal from high school
- You will need to take placement tests, which are available in the morning from **8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** or in the evening from **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**
- **No registration available on Friday**

# Other support services include:

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- (Bilingual-Spanish) Certified Social Worker
- School Counselor
- College-Career Specialist
- Computer labs
- Attendance Incentives
- Free parking
- Bus passes available

# College and Career Readiness

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- CNA Training
- Family Literacy Program
- Plumbing, Electrician and Graphic Design Training(Plan school year 25/26)
- Partnership with the Capital Workforce Partners
- American Job Center
- Hartford Public Library

# Conclusion

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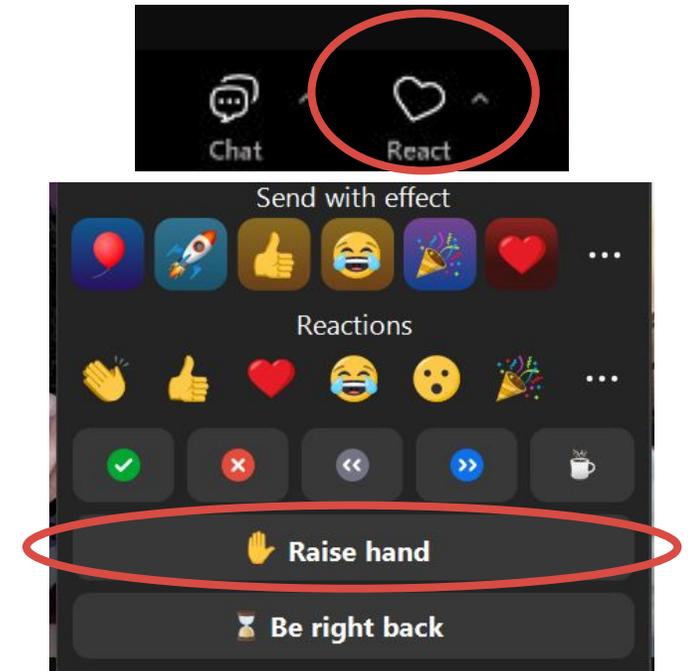
The Hartford Adult Education Center has a rich tradition of serving the community. We are always looking to incorporate new ideas into our programs with the hope of growing our services. We are confident that our instructional programs will inspire our students to reach their academic and personal goals as adult learners.

# Questions

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# Discussion Questions

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- What other resources exist in the community for adult education that we should know about? What barriers to access may exist?
- What suggestions do you have that could better support adult education programs?
- What opportunities do you see for partners, including HPS, to collaborate to support adult education?

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# Thank You!



- **Next Conversation: Wednesday, March 19, 2025**
- Please take the [Post Meeting Feedback & Incentive Survey](#) to share your thoughts and feedback and access the incentive for Hartford residents. Use the QR code, or visit the link sent out via email following the meeting. Contact Ally McGinty at [amcginty@unitedwayinc.org](mailto:amcginty@unitedwayinc.org) with any questions.
- Feedback or questions? Contact [nhap@connecticutchildrens.org](mailto:nhap@connecticutchildrens.org) or share your thoughts in the open [Community Feedback and Ideas Form](#) at any time.

Feedback & Incentive

