

POMONA'S PROMISE



What is Pomona's Promise?

Pomona's Promise is a collective impact initiative with the common agenda of a building "Safe Neighborhoods, Strong Families and a Healthy Quality of Life". In October 2019, an assessment of Pomona's Promise began to define the structure and current status of the organization. This information was collected through interviews with the leaders of the 5 task groups addressing mutually reinforcing activities. These task groups are: Education and Career Readiness, Community Safety, Healthy in Pomona, Economic Development, and the Community Engagement Board. The assessment will further define the common needs within the organization and make recommendations based on the findings.



Education and Career Readiness

People in Pomona succeed in education from cradle through career.

Community Safety

People feel safe in Pomona.

Healthy in Pomona

People in Pomona have a healthy quality of life

Economic Development

Pomona's economy is thriving and prosperous.

Community Engagement Board

The community is the solution for a vibrant Pomona



Examining Pomona's Promise

Strengths The volunteers that make up Pomona's Promise have high intrinsic motivation to fulfill the goals of their task groups and the initiative as a whole. They have been able to leverage civil sector engagement and existing infrastructure within the community to complete activities. This is despite the limited resources made available to them.

Opportunities The task groups are active in planning events and activities that are mutually beneficial to the other task groups and the backbone organizations. As of 2019, a Governance Committee was created to align Pomona's Promise to meet their goals and to define the structure. The fiscal agent makes applying for funding

opportunities possible, this has included the support from Fairplex, PUSD, and the City of Pomona. There are an array of annual events, including Pomona Beautiful, Economic Development Summits, the Homelessness Summit, which have been useful for promoting engagement and collecting information. The EDI report was published in 2019 and has made evaluation and tracking progress possible. The first graduating class of the Pomona Leadership Network has been actively working with each of the task groups.

Aspirations All the task groups, especially Economic Development, aim to build the brand affinity and improve the brand recognition of Pomona. Additionally, there was the need to strengthen internal and external communication mechanisms, and have cohesive relationships between the task groups to better use their resources and support one another's activities was identified. Because much of the labor is volunteer based, there is moderately high turnover with no formal transition procedures, this leads to institutionalized knowledge and a vacuum when a leader leaves. Finally, one of the most commonly cited aspirations of the task groups and PPLT was the activation of the Results Based Framework, with support to upload and maintain data.

Recommendations/Ways Forward Upon analyzing the strengths, aspirations, and opportunities of Pomona's promise, three recommendations are identified to ensure the sustainability of Pomona's Promise:

1. A full-time, paid administrative manager. This individual would fulfill the logistic needs of the task groups, streamline the use of resources, improve collaboration, and manage the data within the Results Based Framework.
2. A regular funding stream. Pomona's Promise has operated on the resources of volunteers and fundraising through supporting organizations to complete activities. A regular funding stream would allow a strategic plan and advanced planning, which would also optimize the use of the resources on an annual basis.
3. A well-defined backbone. Currently, there are many support organizations and a fiscal agent, however the backbone of the collective impact is blurred. As one of the key elements of a collective impact initiative, Pomona's Promise requires a backbone organization to fulfill its goals.