University Neighborhood Partners brings together University and west side resources in reciprocal learning, action, and benefit... a community coming together.
University Neighborhood Partners

15 Years of Asset-Based & Culturally-Rooted Partnerships

University Neighborhood Partners is celebrating its Quinceañera! This issue of Community Voices serves as a celebration of 15 years of community, university, and organizational work on Salt Lake City’s west side. The depth of partnerships and resident efforts are recorded here like a vine reaching through a winding garden of community capacity building, health and well-being, education pathways, leadership and advocacy, and community-engaged scholarship. Also, in celebration of this momentous UNP year, we re-engaged Kimbery Schmit, a previous long-time member of our staff, to study our long-term community impact and present her findings through a variety of mechanisms, including within this publication on pages 19 through 23. It is our hope that we can illustrate how UNP’s ripple effect spreads across Salt Lake’s west side and beyond.

Table of Contents

Directors’ Reflections ................................................................. 1
UNP Recommits to Partnership Principles ........................................ 2
2001: U of U President J. Bernard Machen launches the West Side Initiative .................................................. 3
2003: The First Partners in the Park Kicks Off ................................. 4
2004: UNP Hartland Partnership Center Opens at the Hartland Apartments .................................................. 5
2005: The Hartland Resident Committee is Founded ....................... 6
2005: The First Community Advocate Training is Held ................... 7
2007: Mestizo Arts & Activism is Founded in Partnership with UNP ....................... 8
2007-2008: Dr. Dolores Delgado Bernal Receives the Community Scholar in Residence Award ............... 9
2008-2009: Joan & Hal Wolf Partner with UNP to Award the First Wolf & Meritus Scholarships ............. 10
2011: UNP Finalizes the Purchase of a New Building to House the Hartland Partnership Center .................. 12
2013: The Glendale/Mountain View Community Learning Center Opens ........................................ 13
2013: Latino Behavioral Health Services is Established and Receives Its Nonprofit Status ....................... 14
2014: The Bridge Training Clinic West is Established ...................... 15
2016: In Partnership with Sustainable Startups, UNP Launches Its Startup Incubator ....................... 16
2017: Phase I of the U of U Civic Action Plan is Finalized .................. 17
Staff Photographic History .......................................................... 18
15 Years of Impact & Lessons Learned ............................................ 19
UNP’s Theory of Change & Impact Snapshot ............................... 20-21
Neighborhood Change ............................................................... 22-23
University Neighborhood Partners Inaugural & Current Comparative Partnerships Map ............................. 24
UNP Inaugural & Current Partnerships Lists & Map Keys .................. 25
2016-17 Partners .................................................................... 26
Funding Support for Fiscal Year 2017 ............................................ 27
Statement of Financial Activities for Fiscal Year 2017 .......................... 28
A Collection of West Side & University Community Voices .................. 29

Community Voices ~ i
When UNP was created we did not realize how powerful and transformative the idea of valuing people’s strengths and investing in long-term relationships would be. The idea that University and community partners would work as equals around the table, to learn from each other and ask better questions and find better solutions, was energizing and complicated; a puzzle that looked different every day.

The best solutions come from having multiple perspectives around the table and, for UNP, the best way to lead is in some sense by stepping back, since it is by stepping back that you can best appreciate the talents of others. We see what happens to people when they realize that they have something important to contribute and when they are involved in an enterprise that says, “Yes! Let’s try!” even when so many things around us seem fixed and unchangeable. This is as true in the neighborhoods as in higher education. Neighbors are transformed into leaders; ideas into fledgling organizations; advocates into City Council members; students into mentors; individual faculty into teams; everyone into both teachers and learners.

~ Sarah Munro, Director 2015 - present

Open Thy Heart
By Rosey Hunter

Open your Heart
Concentrate, visualize your heart opening
Feel it now, let go and in doing so,
feel it flow in abundance
Focus now; allow it to open, to stay open

One more time, you must practice it and physically feel it
Yes, it hurts at first – it is the intensity that you feel
Open your Heart…softly now, it is safe, completely now – there is no other way
Open your heart and let in the love

The magic of UNP is “the people”…all the way back to the beginning…to President Bernie Machen, Dave Pershing, Lorris Betz, Fred Esplin, and Irene…who were and still are committed to centering and serving communities. They may all talk about it differently, but they were the Dream Team that came together and were dedicated, persistent and sincere. Then it begins…the amazing UNP staff, the people in the agencies, the families, the schools, the children, the grassroots movements, the folks in coffee houses, restaurants, grocery stores… and all the U folks who are engaged. It is about people who share common values about what is needed for healthy, thriving communities and spaces of justice. So, UNP began its work from a framework of justice, learning, and love…and that is magic and it continues today. It is difficult to convey all that is UNP in a few paragraphs. So, instead, I will use some creative license and share a poem as my expression of the essence of UNP.

~ Rosemarie Hunter, Director 2006 - 2015

It all began in 2001, after several conversations with then U of U President Bernie Machen. I started work with a very general charge to create a partnership between the University and west Salt Lake City neighborhoods. We envisioned a future in which more and more west side youth would pursue higher education. We envisioned U of U participants – faculty, staff, students – working with west Salt Lake – schools, non-profits, community councils, residents – to address social issues that impacted these neighborhoods. We envisioned U of U and neighborhood partnerships that would help lead.

At the formal opening of University Neighborhood Partners I remember President Machen making the statement that, “these neighborhoods represent the future of Salt Lake City.” As a participant in the birth of the friendships, the partnerships, the programs facilitated through UNP, I have come to see the strength and the accuracy of President Machen’s words. Together, people who have spent their entire lives in west Salt Lake, and others who have come from across the globe, are building a shared future that focuses on the best for their children and, in the process, they are a living example of “a community coming together.”

~ Irene Fisher, Founding Director 2001-2006
In the Spring of 2004, the UNP staff and Advisory Board developed the organization’s Partnership Principles. This document served as the foundation of our commitment to our partners. We believe these principles have stood the test of time. They have developed into the strong foundation from which our work comes alive; each idea proving integral to the evolution and sustaining of partnerships, not only providing us with the language to articulate our work, but as the base from which we can take risks, build trust, challenge the status quo, ask questions, and keep relationships at the center of our work.

As part of the process of reexamining these ideals, UNP staff asked ourselves, “What does partnership work mean to me?” The answers are vibrant, thoughtful, and whole-hearted. We share them with you as a means to illustrate both our individual perspectives and our collective insights.

As we look forward, we recommit to the UNP Partnership Principles…to discussing them, to understanding the different ways in which they evolve, and to changing them if the time is right.

**WHAT DOES PARTNERSHIP WORK MEAN TO ME?**

The process from I to We.

Connecting and building the capacity of our community and our university.

Having a shared goal, but different ideas for how to get there, and figuring out how to work together.

A connection of strengths and vulnerabilities (because we all have both) coming together to create lasting, meaningful, significant change.

Internal and external ability to join with diversity – embracing difference and accepting/working through biases to strengthen relationships.

FUN, exciting, exhausting, frustrating, empowering, life-changing, and worthwhile. It is a process that takes time.

Recognizing that everyone, regardless of their background, has a story to tell that we can learn from.

Respect and humility.

“The University of Utah has become a stronger and more relevant institution through University Neighborhood Partners. UNP identifies and enables talented individuals from all backgrounds to consider the U for higher education, alerts U faculty to opportunities and needs for engaged research, and provides a valued avenue for feedback from communities to the University. The partnerships have brought talent and insights to the U, and have increased college access and completion in key Salt Lake neighborhoods. We celebrate these vital accomplishments.”

~President Ruth V. Watkins, University of Utah

---

**UNP Partnership Principles**

*How We Want to Work Together in Partnership*

UNP will work to create and sustain campus-community partnerships which:

- Are founded on a shared vision and clearly articulated values;
- Are beneficial to the partnering organizations;
- Build interpersonal relationships based on trust and mutual respect;
- Include the voices of those impacted by community work in the decision-making processes of the partnerships;
- Recognize conflicts as opportunities for collaborative problem-solving;
- Value short-term relationships that meet mutually beneficial purposes and which may grow into valuable long-term partnerships;
- Can, over time, be integrated into the mission and infrastructure of each partnering institution;
- Use a strengths-based approach in which all participants are recognized as teachers and learners in mutually-beneficial, power-sharing partnerships;
- All partners will contribute appropriate resources to enhance the partnerships.
"UNP is like a garden, flourishing all of these years. It started its way in our west side community by looking at our assets and honoring our community knowledge. The garden we have now is not a manicured garden, it’s messy! There are all of these connections that are based on reciprocity. This way of working should always be kept flowering in the veins of UNP."

~Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, West View Media

**Neighborhood assets compiled by Community Ambassadors**

Our diversity enhances our cultural understanding!

- Historical richness
- Lovely older housing stock
- Neighborhood House, one of oldest charities in Salt Lake
- Multiple-generation residents
- Active community participation
- Political awareness, community councils, neighborhood watch
- Neighborhood clinics, recreation centers, senior centers
- Boys and Girls Clubs
- Northwest Recreation and Sorenson Unity Centers
- IHC, Northwest, school-based clinics
- Adults empowering youth – it’s our future
- Neighborhood Housing Services
- Libraries
- Socio-economic equality
- Giving and cooperating, not competing
- Neighborhood parks and open space
- Jordan River Parkway trail and open space corridor
- Peace Gardens
- Skate-boarding park
- Riverside Park and others

"University Neighborhood Partners leads the way in the creation of meaningful, long-term partnerships between the University of Utah and the surrounding community. UNP’s enduring and successful model confirms the importance of engagement by large research universities, like ours, in neighboring communities and the resulting benefits to both. Investing in relationships creates personal connections that allow us to combine efforts, talents, and resources to create a better shared future for our community."

~ Dr. David W. Pershing, 15th President, U of U

"I remember those early days working with Irene, Charlotte, Mary Burbank, and the others. By working together we have made an impact. My granddaughter, Daisha, has been there with me the whole time...Community Day, Partners in the Park, Planning Commission meetings and all the rest. I tell her, ‘You are my replacement. You will do this next!’ She knows it. It is so important. It takes all of us.” ~ Carolynn Hoskins
Salt Lake City’s west side is home to an abundance of beautiful neighborhood parks. Community Ambassadors and other local partners had shared these gems with UNP staff in the early months of UNP. When the UNP House opened in Jordan Park, we turned our efforts to Salt Lake’s west side parks as the perfect venue to reach out to the broader community. In 2003 we launched the first Partners in the Park series, and that summer there was an event almost every Tuesday night!

In the first year a local organization and a University department would team up to co-sponsor each event. That year more than 20 groups partnered to host Partners in the Park. A few community councils also joined in to combine with National Night Out, so three events were held that inaugural night!

Attendance in the first year ranged between 50 and 100 people each evening. In contrast, in 2017 the smallest event saw over 300 people, while the largest hosted nearly 600. Much has changed over the years but the overarching goals remain the same: connecting with residents, involving different university departments and west side organizations; providing fun social and family experiences, celebrating partnerships, valuing diversity, and sharing resources and knowledge.

Over time Partners in the Park has become significant for UNP. Five events are held each summer at various parks across Salt Lake’s west side. UNP functions as the facilitator and works with partnering support from the University’s Alumni Association, Career Services, Health Sciences, and other departments. Rocky Mountain Power, Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, and Smith’s also provide annual funding support for the events. Finally, the UNP Community Advocate Network continues to be essential to Partners in the Park as facilitating volunteers working to ensure that things run smoothly. We look forward to the further evolution of Partners in the Park over the next 15 years.
The UNP Hartland Partnership Center opened in September 2004 in a three-bedroom apartment at the Hartland Apartments (now named The Seasons at Pebble Creek) and served as an educational and community center. The original Hartland apartment complex (located near 1700 South and Redwood Road) was once home to nearly 800 adults and children from all over the world, 75% of whom were non-native English speaking individuals from immigrant or refugee backgrounds.

After a successful partnership of five years, the Hartland Apartments were purchased by new management company and UNP, as well as hundreds of families, were forced to move. UNP had the opportunity to acquire a building that is next door to the apartments and began a capital campaign to raise the funds to purchase and renovate the building (see more on page 13).

Moving day from the apartments to the newly purchased building was exciting and full of potential and increased capacity. Partners could now work out of one 10,000 square foot building that could be accessed by the wider Glendale community. Some of the immediate partner additions were University of Utah BirthCare HealthCare, Hartland Community 4 Youth and Families, Karen Weavers and Dancers, Somali Bajuni Community, and Somali Community Self-Management Agency.

The Hartland Partnership Center has continued to allow UNP to be responsive to community-identified priorities and made room for new partnerships to emerge that reflect a growing scope of work and relationships. Additional resources that have become part of Hartland over the past 13 years include the Walk-In Center, Bridge Clinic West, Startup Incubator, Our CASA College Lounge, Youth Voices, and a brand new Head Start classroom.

As UNP continues to build new connections and develop new and deeper relationships with stakeholders that guide the focus of partnerships, the UNP Hartland Partnership Center continues to remain a place where magic happens and residents, community organizations and higher education meet to collaborate, create, and cultivate lasting relationships and change.

“My family moved into the seasons apartments in 2009, and were still fairly new to the American culture. My mother was always worried about being outside by ourselves. She didn’t want my siblings and I getting into any trouble. After a few months living in the Seasons apartments she found out about Hartland Youth Center. She wanted a place for us to stay safe and get help with our homework. I could see that she was really happy, because she didn’t have to worry about us getting into trouble and being able to learn and do our school work. I loved going to the Youth Center to make friends and learning something new. It’s a place that kept me out of trouble and I’m grateful.” ~ Japhet Sengiyumva

“My personal experience with the UNP has been amazing. My family is one beneficiary, our son is enrolled at the UNP Head Start full time which gave us peace of mind and not to worry about picking him up in three hours as most preschools do. We are very grateful for that. As we all also know that South Sudanese community was the first one to start using the UNP center on the weekends and its not just being the first one to use it but it has been the life line of most activities and services we have been giving to our community members since 2012. Without UNP we wouldn’t be able to make the differences that we have made up to this point. Millions thanks to UNP staffs and the University of Utah for extending their services to our communities.” ~ Anet Akot

Demba Boundy with Hartland youth in 2004 (left) and Hartland youth in 2014 (right).
Hartland Resident Committee members are community leaders, organizers, educators, parents, and youth who are all united for a common purpose: to improve the community in which they live through education, leadership, and capacity building. These members come from all over the world, representing the continents of Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and South America. In 2004, when UNP opened the Hartland Partnership Center in the Hartland Apartments, it was evident that in order for the center to succeed, community leaders had to be engaged and invested. The center coordinator at the time, Kimberly Schmit, and Americorps VISTA Sharif Kaharaba went door to door to build relationships with the leaders and asked for their involvement and support. Since that day, over 40 different community leaders have been engaged.

The Resident Committee plays a key role in developing and supporting culturally responsive programs at UNP’s Hartland Partnership Center. In order to engage the community in a space that encourages cultural exchange, the committee spearheaded an annual community festival each spring where people share their cultural heritage through food, clothing, performances, and music, and celebrate each other’s achievements. A Resident Committee member even created an anthem song for the celebration titled Hartland. In 2017, the committee celebrated its 9th annual community festival.

Through this community engagement process, UNP has learned that in order to develop successful and sustainable partnerships for the community, building a sincere and trusting relationship with community leaders is necessary and vital. It is also important to co-create partnerships with the community so that ownership is shared.

“The Resident Committee taught me to see the community from a strength perspective instead of a deficit. Every time we met we talked about how to best support the community and that made me want to be more involved. We shared ideas, food, and each other’s unique cultures. And, my favorite part, everyone around the table received the utmost respect and were encouraged to get involved.”

~ Abdirizak Ibrahim, Founder, Somali Self-Management Agency

Joel Glenn Wilson, Hartland Resident Committee Member, In Memoriam 1958 to 2017

Glenn is remembered as a man full of life, kindness, knowledge, and with an incredible ability to find lightness and humor. As we continue every day in building and deepening relationships through partnerships, we do so in honor of Glenn; forever grateful for his example to slow down – take the time to listen, time to gather our thoughts, time to cherish relationships, and the time to be present.
When UNP began building partnerships with parents and schools on Salt Lake’s west side it was called Youth, Education and Success (YES). The goal was to bring parents, faculty, school administrators and teachers together to figure out how to support academic success for students for whom the education system wasn’t working and to make higher education a viable option.

As part of this early work, university faculty and school partners offered a Community Advocate Training to parents of the west side neighborhoods in 2005. Eighteen residents participated, gaining more skills to advocate for their children and themselves in school settings. When the training was finished, UNP continued to work with the families individually and followed the group of parents into their individual children’s school sites. The parents were quickly increasing their involvement in their children’s schools. They were collaborating to overcome difficult challenges and barriers and using the skills they had gained through the trainings.

These same parents were also beginning to get excited about their own next-steps and were coming to UNP staff and partners with ideas and questions about how to further their own educations. This was an exciting time for everyone and soon after UNP renamed YES to Education Pathways; an effort to broaden the scope of the work and an acknowledgement of what parents were teaching UNP about how this partnership work could look…parent educational pathways are a necessary ingredient for student success, but also an outcome of UNP’s work.

Today this same group of parents, with many new additions, is called the Community Advocate Network and is the outcome of working with parents and families throughout the academic school year at schools in west side neighborhoods. These advocates are at the core of Education Pathways partnerships and guide the work of UNP broadly.

Over the years, word has spread across education institutions about the Community Advocate Network and its successes in bringing families and schools together. Invitations are extended regularly for advocates to share their knowledge at conferences, in university classrooms, at K-12 school events, and more. Believing in the power of their work, the invitations are always accepted, allowing for advocate learning to reach broader audiences and for new relationships to emerge. There are currently 38 parents participating in the Community Advocate Network.
2007: Mestizo Arts & Activism is Founded in Partnership with UNP

Mestizo Arts & Activism (MAA) is a University-community partnership that was founded by faculty to work with youth in community spaces. Its inter-generational, after-school model includes high school and college student leaders, faculty, researchers and multi-disciplinary artists from diverse ethnic and academic backgrounds. College students mentor high schoolers and work collaboratively to create change in west side communities through engagement in the arts. MAA supports youth in being active researchers regarding issues they care about, and was founded with the purpose of centering the knowledge and experiences of west side youth. Over the years, participating youth have created blogs, videos, artwork installations, and other forms of research concerning issues such as migration and education. MAA also works to connect youth to educational pathways, highlighted by the fact that, of 65 high school seniors who fully participated in the program, 96% of them have gone on to higher education.

MAA is part of a series of new structures that have emerged at the University of Utah to support up and coming generations of diverse students entering higher education. The Office of Engagement focuses on youth from a broad range of backgrounds, and the Diversity and Beacon Scholars programs help establish youth connections to retain students who are new to college. In this way, MAA has been part of the larger collaborative effort to transform the values, opportunities, and relationship that the University of Utah has with young people in communities.

Below are snapshot narratives of this journey, over the course of 11 years, that highlight different generations of the MAA collective and its impact.

"I remember joining Mestizo Arts & Activism my senior year back in 2015. All the memories we create together is what lead us to become a Familia. The space and individuals I have met throughout MAA has helped shape the person I am today. Throughout High School I knew what college was but I didn’t know how to get there let alone know if I was even capable of it. Many students can relate when coming from the West Side of Salt Lake City. Meeting people who share similar stories to mine is what gave me the motivation to keep going and that will be a memory I will keep with me for a life time. I graduated High School and three years down the road I have the privilege to be half way done with my Bachelors degree at the University of Utah, while still being part of this wonderful collective. This is what makes this program so special, because it gives students the opportunity to grow and believe in the process of being able to succeed, and we all know that wherever we go to on our journeys, we know we will always have a family."

~ Itzel Nava, Current Mestizo Arts & Activism Student

"As co-founders of Mestizo Arts and Activism (MAA) we continually return to the photograph, Caution (MAA Collective, 2008, left) for inspiration, joy and power. Caution was taken and composed by youth researchers in the MAA collective who capture a moment of conscientization, where we confront, name and respond to the discrimination our collective struggles with everyday. Caution allowed our collective to work across varied positions in order to mobilize action, heal, resist and reclaim our commitments to social change. A decade of research, art and activism with MAA and Caution reminds us of what we do and why. What we envisioned then remains today: a creative sustainable space of social justice for activist scholars of all ages to come together, make art, do participatory research, and engage in change in our community."

~ MAA Founders (pictured left).
In 2005, Dr. Dolores Delgado Bernal, Dr. Octavio Vilalpando, and Dr. Enrique Alemán were on faculty at the U’s College of Education, working to counter the failures of the education system when it comes to students of color, and Chican@Latin@ students in particular. They were also all parents of young children attending Jackson Elementary School, in SLC’s Rose Park neighborhood. In a bid to bring their personal resources together with those of the school, the university, and the community, the three colleagues approached Principal Sandra Buendia and the leadership at Jackson. Their proposal: to improve the college-going culture of the school, beginning with Jackson’s youngest students. The resulting partnership, Adelante (meaning “forward moving” or “looking forward”) began working with its first cohort of kindergarteners in 2005. As Delgado, Bernal, and Alemán write, “Adelante is premised on the simple, yet radical belief (for some) that all young people, including young people of color, should be expected and prepared to enroll and succeed in college, and that college preparation must emphasize students’ intellectual development in relation to their racial and cultural identities and their communities.”

“Adelante was the clincher for me in terms of taking this job offer. I’d been a teacher for years in Texas, and I had seen the inequality. I thought it was amazing that we had a partnership with the U where students could take field trips and get a feel for college life. They could see a higher education institution as so familiar, that when they visited it wouldn’t be an ‘other,’ it would be part of their culture. It’s a special place, but it’s unattainable.

“Adelante integrated the University into the school. It brought in mentors, college-age students who could be a kind of big sibling or friend they could look forward to seeing. It hosted talks with the parents about how to begin saving for college. When Jana Edward came in as principal she kept Adelante alive, fighting to make us a community center. I believe in the mission of Adelante. Our message is ‘You will go further. You are going to graduate from high school, and it doesn’t stop there.’ That spirit, that expectation is such an ingrained part of Jackson. It’s who we are.”

~ Jennifer Hair, 6th Grade Teacher at Jackson Elementary
2008-2009: Joan & Hal Wolf Partner with UNP to Award the First Wolf & Meritus Scholarships

Featured below are just 6 of the 43 individuals who have received these scholarships over the years.

**Political Science and International Studies Student at the U of U.**
Recieved the 2015 Meritus VI Scholarship.

“I want to do an internship. So, I’m working with the Hinkley Institute. We’re trying to get me to Washington D.C. [through] the Woodrow Wilson Center to do research, because I also want to go to graduate school. [The internship will be] research based, specifically in Latin American politics.”

**Parttime Student at Salt Lake Community College.**
Recieved the 2013 Meritus I Scholarship.

“This scholarship is a really good opportunity because it motivates people and kind of pushes them, like ‘here you have some help, you can pursue something else.’ It’s not like you have to stay where you were and be stuck.”

**Bachelors of Education, May 2017, U of U.**
Recieved the 2013 Meritus III Scholarship.

“I want to do something in my community. I want to get to know my families. [At] Backman we go on home visits. We meet our families and we talk to them about their goals and dreams for their children and what they can do to help them get there.”

**Parttime Student at Salt Lake Community College.**
Recieved the 2016 Meritus III Scholarship.

“I think I’d like to be a therapist or counselor because I like to talk to kids and get to know their story. Then if they have problems at home they can come to me and talk it out. I would help them with behavioral issues, or even work with kids in special education.”

**Social Work Student at Salt Lake Community College.**
Recieved the 2015 Wolf Scholarship.

“My first major was nursing and I knew that I liked helping people. I guess once I figured the whole nursing thing out I decided I don’t like helping people in that way. I like helping people more in community environments, just like UNP’s community-based work. So, I like doing more of that and having one-on-one interactions with people.”

**Business Student at the U of U.**
Recieved the 2016 Wolf Scholarship.

“[These scholarships] are an investment in other people’s lives - people that maybe have troubles in their lives. So, investing in them and giving them the opportunity to obtain a higher education than maybe what their parents did is just a great feeling. I’m grateful for the scholarship, because without it I don’t know if I would have been able to come to the U.”

“We are both children of immigrant parents who, despite limited access to formal education, valued education highly and made it an important priority for their children. The opportunities we have had to pursue higher education influenced the course of our lives and the lives of our sons. This scholarship program was begun in grateful acknowledgment of the passion for education instilled in us.” ~Joan Wolf

Please check out the list of the other committed Wolf & Meritus Scholarship donors on page 27.
The New American Academic Network (NAAN) was established in the fall of 2009 to assist foreign-trained refugees and immigrants in obtaining the assessments, course work, and resources needed to return to school and/or advance their careers and integrate into professional employment.

In the summer of 2017, Farah Ali joined the partnership as its coordinator. A NAAN participant herself, she shares similar background experiences and goals with the other members and, consequently, is able to effectively act as a connector, guide and mentor.

“I would not be exaggerating when I say that NAAN changed my life! It changed my entire point of view, gave me the hope that being in the U.S. could be a great start for us, rather than the end.

“NAAN has taught me that there are dedicated people out there who care sincerely about helping others, especially those of refugee backgrounds who came to the U.S. looking for better life.

“If we [refugees/immigrants] had peaceful, normal lives in our countries, we would not leave our memories, our families and our lives to start somewhere else from scratch.

“By giving us the chance to re-certify or pursue our higher education degrees, NAAN is helping educated people to get back on their feet and look for a brighter future.

“Since I joined NAAN, I have developed both academic and profession skills. I hold a Bachelor’s in Software Engineering, as well as a Higher National Diploma in Business Information Technology. I came to NAAN through a friend who is also a participant. She referred me because I had been extremely interested in pursuing a master’s degree. Luckily, I got an offer of working with this caring program as its coordinator. As such, I aim to build and develop coordination strategies that will impact the program and its participants. Working with NAAN has helped me understand the process of pursuing higher education. It has taught me the steps to take in order to reach my goals personally, as well as NAAN participants’ goals. My personal goal is to get into the David Eccles School of Business, get my MBA or Masters in Information Systems.

“NAAN has helped me and the other participants to connect opportunities at the University of Utah. Whether they are job opportunities or academic, we are linked directly to the U.”

~ Farah Ali

“The Center for Research on Migration & Refugee Integration (CRMRI) has been working with UNP and its NAAN program to develop connections for education and employment on the U of Utah campus for people of refugee backgrounds. Together, we have created a coordinator position to (1) identify opportunities at the U of Utah, (2) develop a database to track progress for participants in obtaining employment and/or applying and being accepted to university, and (3) reformatted NAAN meetings and discussions.” ~ Caren Frost, Center for Research on Migration & Refugee Integration
University Neighborhood Partners

2011: UNP Finalizes the Purchase of a New Building to House the Hartland Partnership Center

An integral piece of the UNP Hartland Partnership Center is its Youth Center, providing afterschool care, social guidance, and academic tutoring. Many partners provide programming in the Youth Center. One of them is the U of U’s College of Fine Arts. For more than a decade Kelby McIntyre has been conducting theatre and dance education for youth in Hartland’s afterschool partnership. Below she shares the value of the experience for both the children involved and to the University.

“From time to time, my colleagues and friends outside of the arts education field will ask me, ‘How do you engage in this work?’ The answer is, ‘I do what a good majority of the youth at the Hartland Youth Center like to do; dance, tell stories, create, and share.’ Dance and theatre are simply the vehicles I utilize to promote dialogue, interest, empowerment, and at times change. I have found that reciprocal conversation allows youth, university students, and faculty opportunities to genuinely connect with each other via the creative process. They are able to understand, on a deeper level, the greater entity to which they are contributing, while at the same time being valued for the knowledge and expertise they are bringing to the collaborative work.

“From dancing at a community event to performing for government officials and departments at the University of Utah, the youth and I are constantly co-creating spoken word pieces, monologues, duologues, original scripts, and dances that are relevant and pertinent to them. This creative process has built trust and given them a platform to share their perspectives, thoughts, and feelings through performance art. As with any performance invitation, I ask the youth if it is something we would like to be part of. We discuss the purpose, the audience, the venue and the value of sharing our work in each space. With each collaborative performance piece that is created, the youth are provided opportunities to research a topic that they are passionate about as well as build upon and enhance their artistic strengths.

“Access and empowerment are central to the Theatre and Dance Education Program. They drive what I strive to achieve each week. Whether it is access to youth arts programs across Salt Lake City, higher education, or the expensive water park located across the street from the UNP Hartland Partnership Center, I want the youth to know that anything is possible and their voice, talents, and experiences are valued.

“In the spirit of being “cutting edge” or innovative, I find myself at a loss, but refreshed by the simple realization that the arts are a powerful force and incredibly essential to who we are as human beings, no matter where we come from. I appreciate the opportunity to share a snap shot of the community engaged work I am so honored to be part of.” ~ Kelby McIntyre, Assistant Dean, Arts Education, College of Fine Arts

Self-Identity Duologue written, devised, and created in the Hartland Theatre and Dance Education Program.

CHICANO by Bryant (10 years old) and Jonathan (7 years old)

Mixed, Biracial, Chicano, so many labels.
It is hard to know “what we are,” but our Dad calls us Chicano.
The urban dictionary says that Chicano is someone of Mexican descent where one or both parents were born in Mexico. We are half-white, half Mexican.
For the longest time we didn’t know what a cucumber was, we knew it as pepino, we still call it that!
Dad tries to teach us Spanish, but it is hard.
Jonnie is lighter than me, but I don’t mind.
Mixed, Biracial, Chicano or something else. So we decided to make our own label……. We call ourselves, AWESOME!
2013: The Glendale/Mountain View Community Learning Center Opens and Becomes a Key UNP Partner

“It was late in 2011 when I joined a large group of Glendale community members gathered in the City Council chambers. The council was holding a special hearing to consider a spending proposal — $250,000 to aid the school district in constructing a community center next to the Glendale Middle and Mountain View Elementary Schools. One by one, these parents and grandparents rose to speak. They told about the classes, programs, and services already available at the schools, and how these efforts had impacted them and their families. And, they shared their hopes for the opportunities to come with the construction of the new building.

“The City Council had planned to put off the vote for a couple of weeks, but after hearing from the community they moved to vote immediately. Support for the proposal was unanimous. Approximately six months later, the district broke ground on the Glendale-Mountain View Community Learning Center (CLC).

“The story of the Glendale/Mountain View CLC began in the mid-1990s. At the time I was working at Mountain View Elementary as the coordinator of the after school program, and saw a growing recognition among school leaders that they could not improve educational opportunities for all students if they did not partner with families, and if they ignored the many barriers that their communities faced. We began expanding youth programming offerings during out-of-school hours, and engaging new partners who could offer supports for students and their families.

“Glendale and Mountain View were extremely overcrowded, with classes spilling out into portable trailers. Finding room for family programming was a constant struggle. When a small, rickety, wood-paneled trailer was dropped off around 2005, it was given to me for community engagement efforts. That trailer became the first CLC — a cozy, welcoming space where parents could meet, take classes, cook, share stories, and become more engaged in their children’s schools.

“In 2010, with fundraising already begun for a CLC at Rose Park Elementary, the Salt Lake City Education Foundation turned its attention to Glendale and Mountain View. The district spent two years raising money and drawing up plans for a stand-alone CLC building. Parents themselves raised over $3,000 through sales of hand-made arts and crafts, and were essential in getting the city to throw its financial support behind the project. With support from UNP, I began building new university and community partners that could help build up a thriving CLC.

“In August 2013 the Glendale/Mountain View CLC opened, and I became its first coordinator. We offered a range of opportunities for families, students, and educators. Programs addressed academic enrichment, youth leadership, health care, family engagement, community development, and more. And the Glendale/Mountain View CLC became one part of a larger movement in the district to bridge schools and communities.

In 2016, as part of the district’s five year Student Achievement Plan we saw the creation of the Office of Family-School Collaboration at the district, and the launch of the first Our CASA spaces (rooms dedicated to building a welcoming and college-going culture in the schools). In 2017 the third CLC in the district was opened at the newly constructed Liberty Elementary.

“Our experiences of the Glendale/Mountain View CLC demonstrate that if these efforts are going to succeed, families must be at the center — their interests, their needs, their leadership, and their voices.”

~ Keri Taddie, CLC Coordinator, SLC School District
Over the years, UNP has worked closely with residents, local organizations and the University community, convening and facilitating multiple initiatives that respond to gaps in community leadership and services. One of those initiatives responded to the needs of the Latino community by developing a peer-run nonprofit organization, Latino Behavioral Health Services (LBHS). LBHS is the result of multiple west side resident, university, and organization partners, working to respond to the urgent need for mental health and substance use (MHSU) services for Latino families in the Salt Lake Valley. Launched initially as a group project in UNP’s Westside Leadership Institute (WLI) by residents, LBHS is the outcome of over 7 years of consistent and committed partnership work.

At multiple meetings, the need for a more solid and larger structure took form. Individuals engaged with the NAMI Latino de Utah Task-force decided to create their own organization to support the Latino community to gain access to culturally and linguistically-responsive programs and interventions. U of U Honors College student Julia Chandler, residents Leticia Frías and Margarita Gerardo, NAMI Latino de Utah founder Jacqueline Gomez-Arias, and UNP associate director Teresa Molina, became the LBHS founding board of directors. The LBHS mission can be condensed to three words: AWARENESS, EMPOWERMENT, RECOVERY. Its vision is to enhance mental health awareness and well-being for people with mental illness and substance use disorders, as well as to provide resources to care-givers and loved ones.

Organizational Outcomes

- Families have received support and education for suicide prevention, mental health, and substance use consumer and family programs.
- English-Spanish bilingual residents have received training and certified as mentors, facilitators and/or instructors for Peer-to-Peer programs including: Certified Peer Support Specialist; Family Resource Facilitator; CRAFT; ASIST; QPR; SOSA; and NAMI signature programs - Family to Family, Basics, Sharing Hope, Peer to Peer, and Progression.
- Participants are now U of U undergrad and grad students.
- Participants have also received U of U Continuing Education Certifications and Social Worker Case Management Certificates.
- Now a practicum site for BSW and MSW interns from both the U of U and Utah State University.

Jacqueline Gómez-Arias In Memoriam 1964 to 2018

UNP’s long-time friend and partner, Jacqueline Gómez-Arias, died in January following complications from a surgery she had the previous month. Her friend and colleague, Mary Jo McMillan (Executive Director of USARA) shared the following tribute. "Jacqueline was an amazing woman, mother, a tireless advocate, and a strong community leader. She has worked as a Certified Peer Support Specialist and a Family Resource Facilitator for both NAMI Utah and USARA. In 2013, Jacqueline co-founded the non-profit organization Latino Behavioral Health Services and became the Executive Director. She lived her passion and intense dedication to helping all people and Utah Latinos recover from immigration impact, mental illness, and addiction. Jacqueline will be remembered as a beautiful human being and missed by many.”
The Walk-In Center, located in the UNP Hartland Partnership Center, remains a creative, welcoming neighborhood space supporting connections between individuals, families, schools, and communities. Since opening in 2004, the Walk-In Center has continued to grow in both capacity and relevance in supporting vibrant west side community capacity building and well-being efforts.

In 2014, UNP and the U of U College of Social Work formalized a long-standing field education partnership, now named the Bridge Training Clinic: UNP Hartland. The Clinic ensures continued culturally responsive support for individuals, families, and community groups in our neighborhoods and meaningful field training opportunities for social work students. Social workers actively provide accessible, culturally-responsive mental health support to residents in need. The clinic is supported by social work practicum students, College of Social Work faculty, and a full-time Clinical Director.

We are profoundly grateful for the trusting relationships that allow us to join residents in their unique, dynamic, and significant capacity building efforts. We work together as reciprocal learners and experts, with a strong belief that residents generate the knowledge and strength needed.

“UNP will forever hold a special place in my heart. As a west side resident and University of Utah Social Work student, UNP Hartland is a space where I always feel welcomed, connected, heard, valued, supported, and empowered. At Hartland, I gained a lifelong mentor who has helped me find my voice and purpose. In the future, I envision UNP being a second home for me, my sister, family, friends, colleagues, community members and much more. I love UNP!” ~ Christina Andino

“Because Hartland is focused on resident involvement, it has a direct impact on the community it represents. I think of Hartland as a place that works to empower community members to make decisions that honor and encourage the continuation of their interests, needs, and traditions. As a student, Hartland taught me how to work with people from varying backgrounds with a respect for their individual needs. I learned to refrain from making generalizations by instead valuing the unique experience that each person presented.” ~ Lily Ferreira, 2017 BSW Intern

“During my 13 years of involvement with UNP Hartland I have gained so much from my interactions and collaborations with faculty, students, and, of course, community members. I have always had a tendency toward working independently but have learned that through idea sharing, having an open mind to new ways of thinking, and through collaboration, the end result is far better and richer than anything I would have done on my own. My relationships developed there are deep and strong and I have so much admiration for the great talent I have been exposed to. My teaching and fieldwork supervision have benefitted in more ways that I can count and I have the great delight of now having a life-long partnership with the Karen and Karenni weavers. I am forever grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the UNP Hartland experience!” ~ Yda Smith, Division of Occupational Therapy, U of U
University Neighborhood Partners

2016: UNP Launches Its Startup Incubator in Partnership with Sustainable Startups

Over the course of UNP’s 2016/17 academic year, UNP partnered with Sustainable Startups to open a Startup Incubator space in the UNP Hartland Partnership Center. The Startup Incubator is now flourishing as a free co-working space for entrepreneurs and community partners who are interested in developing goods, services, or programs focused on benefiting west side communities. In addition to opportunities and education regarding networking, capacity building, and organizational structure, the Startup Incubator also provides competitive startup investment grants to qualifying participants. The shared space of the Incubator provides access to professional and academic support, mentorship, workshops, and additional resources.

Highlighted here are several of the startups that participate in the partnership and utilize the coworking space provided in UNP’s Startup Incubator.

Current Startup Incubator Participants
- Glendale Community Council
- Communidad Materna Utah
- Centro Eres
- Center for Creating Community
- Royal Outreach Foundation (Teine Malohi Softball)

Weekend Startup Incubator Partners
- Somali ESL Class
- Arabic Class for Sudanese & South Sudanese
- Karen Weaving Group
- Congolese Christian Leaders

GLENDALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
The purpose of the Glendale Community Council is to promote the well-being and interests of the Glendale Community and to make recommendations, support, and take action upon community measures and policies in the best interest of the Glendale Community.

The 2018 officer election meeting of the Glendale Community Council.

Teine Malohi Softball uses the fundamentals of softball to empower young girls from underrepresented communities to build self-confidence through involvement in civic and community projects, promoting student success and strengthening cultural identity.

The young athletes of Teine Malohi.

The MISSION of Centro ERES is to help women and families in the Latino community to develop emotional competencies.

Our VISION is that women move forward in productive ways and become leaders in the community.

“UNP is uniquely positioned to guide Salt Lake City and many communities within SLC toward embracing the concepts of Learning Cities. Learning Cities co-create ‘personal growth and social cohesion through the development of the human potential of all its citizens (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). While I can’t say for certain what my ongoing involvement with UNP will look like in the future, I am confident that my professional goals align well with the work of UNP and I hope to continue learning from and growing with the UNP Team.”
~ Sean Crossland, Immediate Past President of the Glendale Community Council

Dr. Jason Castillo receives the 2015-2016 UNP Community Scholar in Residence award.

UNP’s Youth Voices partnership is launched.

A series of Design Circles are conducted with west side School-Community Councils.

First Community Organizing class starts.

The Somali Community Self-Management Agency partners with UNP to conduct Let Your Voice Be Heard voting rights events at Glendale Library.

Jacqueline Gómez-Arias receives the 2015-2016 UNP Community Resident in Action award.
When the University of Utah adopted phase 1 of its formal Civic Action Plan in May 2017, it took an important step in a decades-long effort to cultivate community engagement at the University.

As a key part of our partnership model, UNP advocates for community-engaged scholarship (CES) — research and teaching carried out in partnership with communities. This work can only be sustainable if there are systems at the university-level that support resources and honor such engagement.

One strategy for supporting CES has been to create awards and grants. In 2003, UNP began offering a “Community Scholar in Residence” award for engaged faculty, followed a few years later by the “Community Resident in Action” award for residents doing CES with faculty. In 2011, UNP and the U’s Vice President for Research launched The Community-Based Research (CBR) Grant Program, an annual grant competition for community engaged research projects, and 2017 saw the announcement of a new faculty award recognizing excellence in CES.

A second strategy for UNP has been to be a part of efforts to recommend changes to University policy through research and committee work. In 2010, the Lowell Bennion Community Service Center led the effort to have the U classified by Carnegie as a Community Engaged Institution. This effort evolved into a Faculty Task Force on community engagement, which presented recommendations to the U in 2011. Many have been implemented. In 2013, the U conducted a survey of community engagement among faculty to better understand how to support and document this work. In 2015, Ruth Watkins (now President of the U) convened a working group to recommend ways of assessing and valuing CES across the university, which led to new language about valuing CES in promotion and tenure decisions. This group included representatives from three campus units dedicated to building partnerships between the U and its surrounding communities — the Bennion Center, UNP, and the Office of Engagement.

Now UNP and its partners are working to share and implement the Civic Action Plan’s four strategies through campus-wide engagement. We hope to continue making the U an environment in which CES can flourish and strengthen the U’s position as a national leader in community engagement.

Below: some of UNP’s CES awardees over the years - (L to R): Jason Castillo; Doris Watson; Maged Senbel; Trinh Mai; Luke Garrott; Maria Barajas; Ruby Chacón; Caitlin Cahill, Matthew Bradley, & David Quijada; Dolores Delgado; Lourdes Flores; and Sonia Aleman-Tuttle.
University Neighborhood Partners

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY

December 2005  
May 2009  
December 2010  
April 2013  
June 2016

April 2006  
November 2009  
August 2011  
April 2014  
September 2017

December 2006  
January 2010  
December 2011  
December 2011  
September 2014

April 2013  
April 2014  
September 2017  
January 2018

Community Voices ~ 18
We at UNP are excited — very excited! Our 15-year anniversary gives us the opportunity to share our impact and to understand more clearly how our work is helpful to our shared communities. We recognize that the findings don't belong to us alone; rather that they are yours, they are ours, they are all of ours. We are strengthened by this and believe collective success reveals shared ownership of the work and is a significant sign of a healthy endeavor and process.

Over the years UNP has grappled with authentic and effective ways to capture and share our impact. We are a unique entity at the University and across institutions of higher education nationally, and we have emerged as a young pioneer in a developing field, which means we have had little blue print to follow. We are excited to report that since 2016 we have made great strides in capturing our work through close collaboration with Dr. Kara Byrne from the Social Research Institute at the College of Social Work. She led UNP through a process of rethinking how we measure success, and to the creation of UNP’s Theory of Change and 6 Areas of Impact. Our hope is that this serves as a useful model for other universities engaged in this work.

What follows is a description of these foundational impact pieces as well as a snapshot of our outcomes and lessons learned over the last fifteen years. The information is meant to enhance the stories within this publication, bring cohesion to our learning and illuminate the magnitude to which success and growth is occurring. The information was gathered in much the same way that UNP started: by building relationships, by asking questions and by listening. The findings are significant…revealing personal, professional, familial and systemic shifts, as well as the beginning of generational impact within families and across university departments as early-involved faculty pass the torch to new faculty. Further, UNP appears a healthy organization that is dynamic, deeply committed to issues of equity, constantly evolving, ok with taking risks, and continually engaged in understanding itself and its work. Charlotte Fife-Jepperson speaks to this on page 3 when she deftly compares UNP and its’ growth to a garden; an unruly garden that is built on the strengths of the community and is evolving organically. She then goes on to envision the future, hoping that this way of working continues to run through UNP’s veins.

As we move with her into planning for the future, we share this sentiment. We hope to honor what she and others have told us and what we have learned together. We strive to glean new ideas from our success, learn from our mistakes, and be thoughtful about the future. And, then, we must remember that we are only 15 years old! We are young in the timeframes of institutional change and efforts toward economic, cultural and educational equity. We have a lot to learn and we must keep asking questions; new kinds of questions that we create together.

Happy birthday to our unruly garden!

Lessons Learned

UNP is deeply engaged in social justice work through its efforts to center minoritized voices and engage in efforts that promote systemic change.

Our process is our product.

Locating a variety of different kinds of partnerships in a single space creates cross-pollination of information; ideas and relationships develop, resulting in hubs of activity.

We are seeing a ripple effect, with partners taking the work in new directions independent of UNP. This is exciting!

UNP’s ability to maintain consistency allows for partners to step in and out as needed and the work to flourish when the time is right.

Relationships, in all their forms, are the backbone and heart of the work.

With an eye always towards systemic change, we celebrate all success and look to individual successes as models to help build community pathways for success.
UNP’s central role is to convene and sustain meaningful and long-term partnerships between higher education institutions, community institutions, and Salt Lake west side residents in reciprocal partnerships aimed at shared goals.

1. In 2004 UNP had 15 partnerships in 11 locations. In 2017, partnerships had grown to 79 in 31 locations throughout the west side, with additional partnerships in other neighborhoods and at the University of Utah.

2. In 2004 UNP worked with 9 U of U departments, 12 organizational partners, and 1 school. In 2017 this had grown to 5 Higher Education Institutions, 34 U of U departments, 77 organizational partners and 12 schools.

3. Over the past five years an average of 55 faculty and 198 students have been involved.

In 2017 UNP was able to begin measuring partnership quality, and...

1. 100% agreed or strongly agreed that their partnership has group cohesion.

2. 84% agreed or strongly agreed that there is shared power among partners.

3. 72% agreed or strongly agreed that their partnership co-creates knowledge.

4. 96% agreed or strongly agreed that there is good partnership management.

In UNP zip codes (84104 & 84116), between 2002 and 2016...

1. Enrollment at the University of Utah has increased by a relative change of 240%. In contrast, comparison zip codes (84109/84124) increased by 28%. Enrollment of Hispanic students also increased by 900% (from 21 to 210 students).

2. Enrollment at Salt Lake Community College has increased by 97%. In contrast, comparison zip codes (84109/84124) increased by 33%.

3. Graduates at the University of Utah have increased by a relative change of 260%.

4. Graduates at Salt Lake Community College have increased by a relative change of approx. 90%.

Data on this page was compiled by Dr. Kara Ann Byrne.
Impact Snapshot
UNP’s Six Areas of Impact

1. Since 2002, west side graduation rates have tripled at the U of U and doubled at Salt Lake Community College.

2. UNP joined a national research project, Family Leadership Collaboration, based out of the University of Washington’s College of Education to develop and facilitate Design Circles, helping to build momentum in the valuing of family voice in educational transformation.

3. The Community Advocate Network has evolved into a parent leadership and organizing model for supporting educational success for minoritized families and is sought out by local and national venues to share its learning.

4. Education partnerships have evolved from a 25-member Youth, Education and Success (YES) working group into a network of pathways that support active communication between youth and adult students, teachers, administrators, and parents. This past year, partnerships spanned 14 schools and reached 474 elementary students, 362 middle school students and 372 high school students. 1265 community residents also gained access to higher education partnership resources.

1. Thirty-four new courses were created across 11 U of U departments, linking academic teaching and research with community-based partnerships. Most have been contract courses, allowing nonmetriculated west side students to register and received credit, creating a higher education access point.

2. Currently there are over 230 entries in UNP’s bibliography of community-engaged scholarship, including books, journal articles, conference presentations, public scholarship, and student research. This growing list of academic scholarship demonstrates powerful new knowledge created through partnerships that often shape academic disciplines and work.

3. The U of U’s support of community-engaged scholarship is building momentum through policy recommendations on retention, promotion, and tenure (RPT) for engaged scholars, phase 1 for the new Civic Action Plan. UNP’s ongoing Community-Engaged Scholar and Community Resident in Action awards, 3 reports, 1 University-wide grant, and 1 University-wide award.

1. Six-hundred west side residents have graduated from leadership programs, including the Westside Leadership Institute (as well as to broad economic impact throughout neighborhoods, 10 new non-profit organizations, and the creation of a ripple effect of community-based projects.

2. The UNP Hartland Resident Committee and the Westside Leadership Institute have become leader ship models shared nationally, as well as adapted and implemented by other nonprofits and city and county entities engaged in neighborhood development.

3. The engagement of 160 parents as leaders in K-12 schools (in 2017) that enhance school parent leadership groups, parent-teacher-student relationships and student learning.

4. The hiring of 23 UNP resident partners and former student partners (as well as the creation of new positions in healthcare, education, government, and nonprofit systems) contribute to more equitable representation of diverse peoples.

1. Momentum has continued for partners and collaborators from public education, city government, higher education and the Chamber of Commerce to cultivate city-wide college, career, and civic ready environment through A Capital City Education (now called the Salt Lake City Education Alliance).

2. Major institutional investments in the Glendale neighborhood (i.e. Glendale/Mountain View Community Learning Center, Sorenson Unity Center, the Salt Lake Public Library System, and the UNP Hartland Partnership Center) are directly linking residents, under the guidance of resident leaders to generate a neighborhood campus and network of services that center the community and are enhanced by shared U of U student placements and faculty involvement.

3. In 2016-2017, UNP connected directly with 4,056 residents and indirectly reached 39.6% (23,959 residents) of west side residents. In our first five years partnerships connected with an average of 2,300 residents per year.

4. Partners created a national peer to peer model that builds the capacity for residents to respond to mental health and substance abuse issues.

Please note: Additional impact information is found throughout this publication. In the late spring of 2018, UNP will also be sharing 4 short films that provide more in-depth stories about our work, as well as a detailed 15 Year Impact Report and accompanying community presentations.
University Neighborhood Partners

Neighborhood Change

“Before UNP, institutions of higher education often utilized the west side as a source of research, but not as partners. Through UNP’s involvement this has shifted. I see reciprocal learning, action, and benefit as our communities are treated as experts and partners.”  ~Kate Rubalcava, Community Resident

In 2003, when UNP opened its doors in Jordan Park, we were fortunate to join a community with many strong assets — long-time residents with pride in the neighborhood, energized first-generation immigrants and young families, a plethora of stable organizations, beautiful parks and the Jordan River, an interest in access to higher education, and many thoughtful and innovative leaders. The seven neighborhoods that UNP joined (zip codes 84104 and 84116) were home to almost 30% of the city’s total population. The residents were younger, the average family size was larger, and many more of our city’s minoritized and foreign-born populations were living here. The Winter Olympic Games were also occurring in Salt Lake, bringing a flurry of opportunity and economic development.

The economic impact of the Olympics was temporary, however, and west side neighborhoods faced a diverse array of challenges, including high foreclosure rates and diminished access to affordable housing, a declining economic and retail base, high levels of poverty, low enrollment and graduation rates in higher education, underrepresentation in city and state institutional decision-making spaces, and confusion and mistrust accompanying the rapidly diversifying neighborhoods. UNP learned quickly from our neighbors that many residents felt isolated and marginalized from the city as a whole, a feeling that was exacerbated by the neighborhood’s geography — cut off to the east by railroad tracks and the I-15 freeway, as well as industrial zones to the north and west — and by negative media portrayals that ignored success stories, framing the neighborhoods as crime ridden and poverty stricken. Further, the University was seen as inaccessible by most, and as an institution that only came into neighborhoods to do research “on” residents.

UNP was not the only institution to take notice of west side neighborhood dynamics at the time. Salt Lake City’s government was envisioning a west side master plan aimed at economic revitalization; the Salt Lake City School District was moving forward with an investment in new buildings and remodels for most west side schools, as well as growing a Community Learning Center model; the Utah Transit Authority was planning a TRAX expansion through the area; Salt Lake Community College was partnering with local schools; and there were rumblings within the City Library System about the possibility of new west side libraries.

Fifteen years later, despite 2008’s national economic recession and the resulting drop in household income and home ownership in 84104 and 84116, most of these neighborhood investments have come to fruition. Many of these positive changes are viewed as being more viable and relevant due to direct involvement from west side residents — evidence of a community beginning to be valued for its own strengths and assets.

Despite growth, residents remain keenly aware that systemic change takes time, as does the creation of truly equitable decision-making spaces within institutions, and that economic,
Neighborhood Change

“15 years ago there was a lot of potential and vibrancy in terms of diversity, but there was not a lot of opportunity. Now there are spaces for growth and there has been a lot more development. It is so much more hopeful.”

~Charlotte Fife-Jepperson, West View Media

educational and social equity across the city is a long-term endeavor. As a result, the past fifteen years have seen a renaissance of west siders starting schools, businesses, publications, healthcare networks, community celebrations, and nonprofits. Further, the Salt Lake City School District reports that school mobility (% of students not finishing the school year at the same school at which they began) is down significantly in fourteen of the west side’s sixteen schools, with some down by as much as 20%.

While the successes of west side residents are entirely their own, we at UNP continue to be excited by the partnership processes which have supported their growth and value shifts across our communities. Specifically, through the centering of resident ideas and knowledge and the bringing together of University and community resources, west siders are being viewed as creators of resources, rather than passive consumers; and the University is now seen as a valuable, long term partner.

While these shifts provide energy and hope for the potential of maximized neighborhoods, a closer look at some of the economic, education, housing and transportation data over the past fifteen years has revealed questions around the kinds of changes being seen in the 84104 and 84116 neighborhoods. There is still much to be done to advance west economic and educational equity on Salt Lake’s west side.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DEMOGRAPHIC</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>84104</th>
<th>84116</th>
<th>SLC</th>
<th>SLCs</th>
<th>Utah</th>
<th>USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Under Age 18</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>33.3%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
<td>23.6%</td>
<td>30.5%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>31.2%</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
<td>28.5%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>23.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Minoritized</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>59.9%</td>
<td>53.8%</td>
<td>29.4%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>53.9%</td>
<td>62.1%</td>
<td>36.4%</td>
<td>27.2%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Hispanic</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>40.5%</td>
<td>39.3%</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>17.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median Household Income</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>$35,133</td>
<td>$31,544</td>
<td>$36,944</td>
<td>$48,373</td>
<td>$45,726</td>
<td>$41,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$37,964</td>
<td>$40,140</td>
<td>$47,243</td>
<td>$62,117</td>
<td>$60,727</td>
<td>$53,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Below Poverty Level</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>12.3%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Homeownership</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>61.1%</td>
<td>55.5%</td>
<td>73.8%</td>
<td>75.0%</td>
<td>68.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
<td>56.7%</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
<td>66.2%</td>
<td>69.5%</td>
<td>63.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households spending 30% or more of monthly income on housing</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>29.7%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td>23.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>47.7%</td>
<td>42.7%</td>
<td>35.4%</td>
<td>31.8%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% High School Graduate or Higher</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>62.6%</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>83.4%</td>
<td>86.8%</td>
<td>87.7%</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>64.6%</td>
<td>71.6%</td>
<td>87.4%</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Bachelor's Degree or Higher</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>34.9%</td>
<td>27.4%</td>
<td>26.1%</td>
<td>24.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>43.1%</td>
<td>32.1%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
<td>29.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Foreign Born</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>34.4%</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>31.9%</td>
<td>29.5%</td>
<td>17.4%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
<td>13.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data were collected by the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute and prepared by Mallory Bateman. Sources are the U.S. Census, American Community Survey, Center for Neighborhood Technology, and AlloTransit. The data presented are based on samplings and are subject to variable margins of error.
### Inaugural Partnerships

**MAP KEY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood Involvement Alliance and Glendale Community Partnership</th>
<th>Location: UNP House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNP-Hartland Partnership Center</td>
<td>Location: Hartland Apartments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Parent Resource Center</td>
<td>Location: Northwest Recreation Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United for Kids</td>
<td>Location: Westside Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Park Community Council</td>
<td>Location: Fair Park Community Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Democracy and Poplar Grove Community Council</td>
<td>Location: Pioneer Police Precinct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners in the Park</td>
<td>Location: Jordan Park, Sherwood Park, Poplar Grove Park, Riverside Park, Westpointe Park</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Current Partnerships

**MAP KEY**

| Community Advocates Network Early Development Health URELD | Location: UNP House |
| Hartland Youth Center, Grow Your Own Educator, Youth Leadership, Youth Voices, Head Start, and Our CASA Network | Location: UNP-Hartland Partnership Center |
| Westside Leadership Institute | Location: NeighborWorks SLC |
| Neighborhood Democracy and Poplar Grove Community Council | Location: Pioneer Police Precinct |
| Teine Malohi | Location: Sorensen Multicultural Center |
| Integrative Health | Location: Sorensen Unity Center |
| Neighborhood Democracy and Rose Park, West Pointe, Jordan Meadows Community Council | Location: Day-Riverside Library |
| Neighborhood Democracy, Glendale Community Council, Citizenship Class, Arts, Community, Museums, Education, and Hip-Hop Dance | Location: Glendale Library |
| Casa Quetzalcoatl | Location: Marmalade Library |
| Mestizo Institute of Culture & Arts | Location: Mestizo Coffee House |
| Somali Community Self-Management Agency | Location: Organization Office |
| Westview Media | Location: Citifront Apartments |
| Arts & Bilingual Radio | Location: Utah Arts Alliance |
| Utah Behavioral Health Planning and Mental Health, Substance Abuse Conference, Certified Peer Support Training Specialist | Location: Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health |
| Hartland Community 4 Youth & Families | Location: Mountain View Elementary |
| Healthy Schools & Communities, Our CASA Network, JAYHAWKS, and Integrative Health | Location: Backman Elementary |
| Adelante and Mestizo Arts & Activism | Location: Jackson Elementary |
| Trauma-Informed Arts Education Pedagogy | Location: Washington Elementary |
| Science in the Schools | Location: Newman Elementary |

### Current Partnerships Located Off the Map

- **University of Utah Campus**
  - Substance Use Disorders Certificate | Location: College of Social Work |
  - New American Academic Network | Location: United Center for Research on Immigration and Refugee Integration |
  - Case Management Certificate | Location: College of Social Work |

- **Clemente**
  - Location: East High School |

- **StartUp Incubator Course**
  - Location: Sustainable Startups |

- **Certified Peer Support Specialist Training, SOSA Support Group (Spanish), Unidos por la Recuperación Support Group (Spanish), MENTORship, CRAFT Classes, Suicide Prevention Specialist Certificate, Mental Health First Aid, Question Persuade Refer (QPR), Mental Health First Aid, Question Persuade Refer (QPR), Emotional Intelligence, Familia a Familia, Bases y Fundamentos, and Progression**
  - Location: Latino Behavioral Health Services |

- **Peer to Peer (Awareness, Education, Empowerment, and Recovery)**
  - Location: NAMI Utah, USARA, and Latino Behavioral Health Services |

- **Family to Family, Basics, and Progression**
  - Location: NAMI Utah |

- **12-Step Program Meetings**
  - Location: AA Hispanic District 12, Area 69 AA Intergroup Central Office
University Neighborhood Partners

2016-17 PARTNERS

COMMUNITY

Arts & Bilingual Radio
Asian Association of Utah
Refugee & Immigrant Center
Big Brothers Big Sister of Utah
The Boyer Company
Capital City Education
Casa Quetzalcoatl
CitiFront Apartments
Comunidad Maternas de Utah
Comunidades Unidas
Community Advocate Network
Congolese Christian Community
English Skills Learning Center
Fairpark Community Council
Glendale Community Council
Google Fiber
Hartland Community 4 Youth and Families
Hartland Resident Committee
Jayhawks
Jordan Meadows Community Council
Jordan River Commission
Karen Community of Utah
Karen Weavers
Latino Behavioral Health Services
Mestizo Arts & Activism
Mestizo Coffee House
Mestizo Institute of Culture & Arts
National Alliance on Mental Illness - Utah
Neighborhood Involvement Alliance
NeighborWorks Salt Lake
ONE Refugee
Pioneer Hospital
Poplar Grove Community Council
Primary Children's Medical Center
Radio Bilingue Utah
Rose Park Community Council

SALT LAKE CITY

Transportation Division
Housing & Neighborhood Development
Office of Diversity & Human Right
Office of the Mayor
Redevelopment Agency
Parks
Jordan Park
Sherwood Park
Peace Labyrinth
Poplar Grove Park
Riverside Park
Westpoint Park
Police Department
Pioneer Precinct
Public Library System
Day-Riverside Branch
Glendale Branch
Marmalade Branch
Sorenson Unity Center

SALT LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Backman Elementary School
East High School
Glendale Middle School
Glendale/Mountain View Community Learning Campus
Jackson Elementary School
Mountain View Elementary School
Newman Elementary School
Northwest Middle School
Pacific Heritage Academy
Rose Park Community Learning Center
Rose Park Elementary School
Salt Lake Center for Science Education
Salt Lake Education Foundation
Washington Elementary School
West High School
Community Education

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Council on Diversity Affairs
Department of Health
Lead Safe Housing Program
Northwest Recreation Center
Sorenson Multi-Cultural Center
Youth & Family Programs Division
Somali Bajuni Community of Utah
Somali Community Self-Management Agency
South Sudanese Community Association
South Sudanese Community
South Salt Lake Clinic

STATE OF UTAH

Department of Workforce Services
Office of Child Care
Refugee Services Office
Refugee Education & Training Center
Sustainable Startups
Teine Malohi
Tracy Aviary
Urban Utah
Utah Arts Alliance
Utah Behavioral Health Planning & Advisory Council
Utah Community Action
Head Start
Utah Food Bank
Utah Network for Arts & Social Justice
Utah Nonprofit Association
Utah Partners for Health Mobile Clinic
Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities
Utah Safety Council
Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness
West Pointe Community Council
West View Media

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Academic Affairs
Alumni Association
College of Architecture + Planning
Department of City & Metropolitan Planning
College of Education
Department of Education, Culture & Society
Department of Educational Leadership & Policy
Department of Educational Psychology
College of Fine Arts
College of Health
Occupational & Recreational Therapies
College of Humanities
Department of English
Department of Writing & Rhetoric
Studies
College of Social & Behavioral Science
Master of Public Administration
College of Social Work
Case Management Certification Course
Center for Research on Migration & Refugee Integration
Social Research Institute
David Eccles School of Business
Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute
Sorenson Impact Center
Institutional Advancement
Natural History Museum of Utah
Office of Equity & Diversity
Diversity Scholars
School for Cultural & Social Transformation
Ethnic Studies
Gender Studies
Office of the President
School of Medicine
Department of Population Health Sciences
Department of Psychiatry
Student Affairs
Office for Inclusive Excellence
Undergraduate Advancement
Admissions
Women's Resource Center
Lowell Bennion Community Service Center
Continuing Education & Community Engagement
Academy of Hope
Youth & Professional Education
Office of Engagement
University Marketing & Communications

HIGHER EDUCATION

LDS Business College
International Student Resources
Salt Lake Community College
Community Relations
PACE Scholarship Program
School of Arts, Communications & Media
Thayne Center for Service & Learning
University of Washington
College of Education
Utah State University
Center for People with Disabilities
Funding Support for Fiscal Year 2017
(July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017)

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT
Department of Workforce Services
Salt Lake City ACE Fund
Salt Lake City Arts Council
Salt Lake City School District
Salt Lake County Mayor’s Office
Salt Lake Education Foundation
Utah Community Action - Head Start

CORPORATE SUPPORT
American Express
Google Fiber
Larry H. Miller Charities
PacifiCorp/Rocky Mountain Power
Smith’s Food & Drug
Synchrony Bank

FOUNDATION SUPPORT
Brent & Bonnie Jean Beesley Family Foundation
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Foundation
Lawrence T. & Janet T. Dee Foundation
George S. & Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation
Roger & Mary Lowe Charitable Fund
Sorenson Legacy Foundation

WOLF & MERITUS SCHOLARSHIPS SUPPORT
Arthur D. & Mary Jo Broom
Barbara I. & Dennis J. Crouch
Harriett M. & Raymond F. Gesteland
Yumi C. & Michael W. Hansen
Robert P. & Dixie S. Huefner
Paul C. & Rosemarie Hunter
Helane B. & David E. Leta
Jeannine S. Marlowe & Dana Carroll
Lynda H. & Gary M. Oderda
C. Dale & Susan R. Poulter
Douglas E. Rollins & Cathleen C. Cunningham
H. Steven & Kathryn White
Joan S. & Harold H. Wolf

INDIVIDUAL GIFTS
Anonymous Donors
Dawn Aoki
M. John & Linda C. Ashton
William L. & Cathryn Barnhart
Emily W. & Steven B. Bleyl
Barbara B. Brown
Kayleen Cameron
Mary DeBernard Burbank & Matthew J. Burbank
Amanda K. Finlayson & Darrell J. Moore
Irene S. Fisher & A. Craig Hansen
Robert L. Flores & Rosemary Gacnik-Flores
Carla M. & Peter F. Flynn
Hugh D. & Judy J. Graham
Richard N. & Carolyn Greene
Yumi C. & Michael W. Hansen
Douglas J. Hasbrouck
Rebecca Horn & Stanley T. Holmes
Paul S. Kelley & Susan M. Olson
Poonam A. C. Kumar
Toni L. Lehtinen
Jane J. Lloyd & Philip M. Babitz
Frances Luehrs
Marilyn K. & Duane J. Luptak
Paul David Majnik
Sarah Morton & Steve Taggart
Chuck E. Norlin & Marcia L. Feldkamp
Maude E. & Van B. Norman
Pamela S. Perlch
Sally K. Planalp & George E. Cheney
Karla Rogerson
Michael C. Tyler

University Neighborhood Partners apologizes for inadvertent omissions. Please contact Amanda at a.finlayson@partners.utah.edu or 801-972-2863 with corrections and/or questions.
Statement of Financial Activities for Fiscal Year 2017
(July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017)

Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U of U Funding</td>
<td>1,002,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U of U Funding - Hartland O &amp; M</td>
<td>52,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Gifts &amp; Grants</td>
<td>251,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>99,431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Payroll Deduction Gifts</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>27,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland Building Head Start</td>
<td>199,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,632,789</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel - Wages</td>
<td>644,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel - Benefits</td>
<td>290,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNP Operating Expenses</td>
<td>87,843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland Operating Expenses</td>
<td>40,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland Programing</td>
<td>103,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Pathway Programing</td>
<td>148,423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Leadership</td>
<td>46,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathfinder Scholarships</td>
<td>758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wolf Meritus Scholarships</td>
<td>21,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity Building</td>
<td>8,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartland Building Head Start</td>
<td>5,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,397,232</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Income Surplus: 235,557

Have you considered supporting UNP and investing in Salt Lake’s west side communities?
The support you give UNP has the greatest dollar to dollar direct-impact on student lives and west side communities. Your support will fund partnerships and solidify your investment in the culturally-rich and equitable future that we desire for all of our children. Your support helps our community come together, now and into the future!

Method of Payment:
☐ Enclosed is a check, payable to University of Utah
☐ Please charge my credit card:

Card number

Name on card

Expiration date

Signature

I would like to give:
$______ monthly!  $______ quarterly!

**Recurring gifts must be set up with a credit card.

Make this a recurring monthly or quarterly gift.**

Monthly gifts make giving easy, sustaining, and eco-friendly! Cards are charged on the 15th of the month. Donors receive receipts and giving history at the end of the calendar year. Update gift or payment information at any time at (801)581-6825.

Please designate my gift of $______

To support:
University Neighborhood Partners
Appeal #04224

Save a stamp! Give now at: Utah.edu/giving

Make sure to designate UNP as the recipient of your gift.

U of U Funding - Hartland O & M
Private Gifts & Grants
Government Grants
Employee Payroll Deduction Gifts
Other Income
Hartland Building Head Start
 Personnel - Wages
 Personnel - Benefits
 UNP Operating Expenses
 Hartland Operating Expenses
 Hartland Programing
 Education Pathway Programing
 Community Leadership
 Pathfinder Scholarships
 Wolf Meritus Scholarships
 Capacity Building
 Hartland Building Head Start

Method of Payment:

DETACH THIS SLIP TO SEND WITH YOUR DONATION, OR FOLLOW THE WEB ADDRESS TO GIVE ONLINE.

Community Voices ~ 28
“Reciprocal learning, action, and benefit.’ This phrase was incorporated in an early mission of UNP, stemming from the necessity to ensure that experts existed at both the neighborhood and the university level. Before UNP, institutions of higher education often utilized the west side as a source of research but not as partners. Through UNP’s involvement this has shifted. I see reciprocal learning, action, and benefit as our communities are treated as experts and partners.” ~ Kate Rublacava, Chief Executive Officer, Utah Nonprofits Association

“Each time I look back, I can see that my membership in this committee has helped me tremendously. Through it, I have gained leadership qualities, more commitments to community service, volunteer work, compassion for others, and great exposures socially and educationally. I have benefited from the resources in the community and I have invited others to do the same. I have invited people that benefited from the Walk-In Center, ESL class and I have received support to get a job when it was frustrating. As a member of the Hartland Resident Committee, I have improved myself by participating in two certificate courses from U of U (Case Management) and Community College (Leadership Training for the Refugees) respectively.” ~ Beam Deji Alatunde, Hartland Resident Committee

“UNP has been and is a school for me. For my family UNP is something special as UNP has made it possible for me to achieve goals like HC4YF and being a stronger advocate for the children and families I serve. As I continue growing in learning and serving communities, UNP will always be a very important part of my work, being one of my strong supporters of what I do. Thank you UNP, I could not do all this without you.” ~ Gilberto Rejon Magaña

“My work in community leadership has led me to be hopeful in the face of adversity. Whereas formal political participation makes me feel disenfranchised, collaborating with others to make change in the neighborhoods where we live inspires me.”

“I have reshaped the way I teach students at the University of Utah. I have shifted from asking academic questions to asking questions about how academic knowledge can serve to build better communities.”

“Teaching the WLI gave me the opportunity to connect with neighbors I would not have otherwise met. I feel a deeper sense of commitment to the place we call home.” ~ Susie Porter, Director, Gender Studies, U of U

“Since its inception, UNP has embodied both spirit and actions dedicated to equity and access in education. By embracing people, places, and possibilities, the vision of UNP came to life.”

“Early conversations to identify pathways from Salt Lake’s west side to graduation from the U of U evolved into long-term collaborations among stakeholders, committed to opportunities for students and families from traditionally underrepresented communities. Central to this work, is an understanding and valuing of each partner’s assets, histories, and contributions.”

“For the College of Education, UNP’s pledge to community engagement opened doors that have shaped pipelines to teaching and leadership, encouraged family engagement, and informed dialogue on what makes education possible… and, in some cases, where barriers remain.” ~ Mary Burbank, College of Education, U of U

“I have been the lead faculty instructor for the English language WLI for more than a decade. My primary responsibilities involve teaching the English language WLI curriculum, maintaining and ‘updating’ the curriculum. During this time, I’ve also served on the WLI Steering Committee. For me, this work provides an opportunity to serve residents as they take action for positive change in their communities. This work is my way to make a difference for the communities and residents served. UNP is a primary means to enable my contribution of making a difference.” ~ Ken Embley, Senior Research Associate, Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute, U of U

“Here are three ways that UNP is a Light in our community: 1) UNP is an example of people making a difference in other people’s lives, of inclusivity, and of soulful loving compassion for each other; 2) in an era of Social Work practice that focuses upon providing short term interventions that arguably especially serve our primarily for-profit insurance industry, UNP provides care for people who belong to our most underserved populations, and also provide CSW students with spaces to study this kind of community-based social work; 3) in a city that is actually two cities, one on each side of the I-15 freeway, UNP is an example of the University reaching out to diverse populations of people on what we call the west side of town.” ~ David Derezotes, Professor, College of Social Work, U of U

“I have absorbed to the bone that building just and caring communities across many types of borders is what it takes to educate and promote well-being for my family, my west side neighborhood, and my world. Thank you UNP for teaching and modeling this lesson for 15 years.” ~ Trinh Mai, Director, MSW Field Education, U of U

“It was early 2001 when I crossed paths with Irene Fisher. We discussed the resources that both the west side neighborhoods and the University of Utah offered and how a relationship might change the dynamics of these two great communities. I stated strongly that if the University was serious, they needed to walk their talk and establish a neighborhood-based office. She accepted that challenge and invited me to walk my own talk and serve as founding co-chair for the newly established University Neighborhood Partners advisory board. UNP board, staff, and many volunteers in their years of serving the west side have been thoughtful in nurturing relationships that are truly reciprocal.”

~ Maria Garcia, NeighborWorks Salt Lake

“I remember when I first found out about UNP nine years ago. I was a high school senior interested in attending the U of U, yet unaware of the steps I needed to take in order to apply. UNP supported me in the process of applying to the University as an undocumented student. This was a critical moment in my life and has led to meaningful educational opportunities. Today, I have the privilege of coordinating the University’s Dream Center, which is the first Dream Center in the state of Utah. I cannot imagine my life without UNP and I cannot imagine a future in our community without such incredible partnership and organization supporting many individuals like myself in achieving their full potential. I sincerely look forward to a lifetime of collaboration and positive transformation in our community and social world.” ~ Alonso Reyna Riarola, Dream Program Director, U of U

“Providing quality early childhood experiences for young children is the most important investment of resources. The way to make a difference is to reach children early with support services so they are successful in school. We also want the teachers working with young children to have challenging experiences and these children with their diverse needs will provide wonderful learning opportunities for our students to get teaching experiences with a diverse group of children and families.” ~ Cheryl Wright, Family and Consumer Studies, U of U

15 Years ~ 29