

## **Poder Comunitario:**

Engaging and Empowering Families through Leadership Development

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State English Learners Alliance Conference

#### **Presentation Overview**

- Introduction
  - Historical Perspective
- Leadership Development Trainings
  - Participants
  - Description of trainings
- Evaluation Results
  - Participant Demographics
  - Interview Results
- Key Points
- Discussion/Questions



## **Introduction: Historical Perspective**

- Las Comidas Latinas Cultural and Language Specific Nutrition Education
- Benton County Health Department Voceros de Salud
- Casa Latino Unidos de Benton Organización de Latinas Unidas (OLU)
- Greater Albany Public Schools Welcome Center –

ALPAC (Albany Latino Parent Advisory Council)



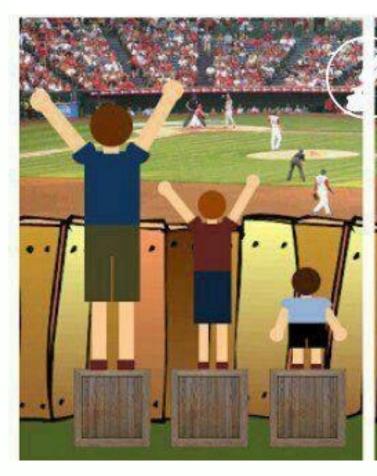
Building leadership skills, self-efficacy, and confidence of existing and emerging Latino community leaders to play a larger role in representing the needs, experiences, and strengths of Latino families is critical to ensuring health equity for all of our region's residents.



## What is Equity?

**Equality** 

**Equity** 





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## **Initial Participant Demographics**

N=34	
Gender	97% female
Age (average)	33.37 years old
Years in the U.S (average)	10.30 years
Country of Origin	Mexico
Education	81% high school or less
Average number of children	2 children in school
Acculturation	100% less acculturated



### **Unfair Treatment & Discrimination**

N=34	
Reaction to Unfair Treatment	72% Engage 28% Passive
Discrimination	68% Yes 32% No
Primary Reason for Discrimination	74% Race 26% age, education, other
<ul> <li>Areas of Discrimination</li> <li>School</li> <li>Employment</li> <li>Work</li> <li>Housing</li> <li>Medical Assistance</li> <li>Store/restaurant</li> <li>Seeking Credit</li> <li>Public Places</li> <li>Police</li> </ul>	31% No discrimination 41% 1 Area 7% 2 Areas 10% 3 Areas 10% 5 Areas Most Common: Housing 1-9 scale

ate

## Resource Knowledge & Access

N=34	
Health Information	25% No place 6% Private Clinic 59% Public Health Department 6% Hospital 3% Other
Resource Knowledge (1-6 scale)  • Pregnancy  • Domestic violence  • Alcohol abuse  • Drug abuse  • Access Health Insurance  • Mental Health	0-3% Areas 1-21% Areas 2-28% Areas 3-24% Areas 4-3% Areas 5-6% Areas 6-14% Areas
<ul> <li>Civic Participation</li> <li>Writing a letter</li> <li>Starting a service</li> <li>Participate in rally</li> <li>Filing a complaint/boycotting</li> <li>Attend a public meeting</li> <li>Cleaning project</li> <li>Participate in educational system</li> </ul>	0-54% participation 1-20% area of participation 2-13% area of participation 3-6% area of participation 4-6% area of participation

#### Year 2011-12

(funding: OSU PHHS)

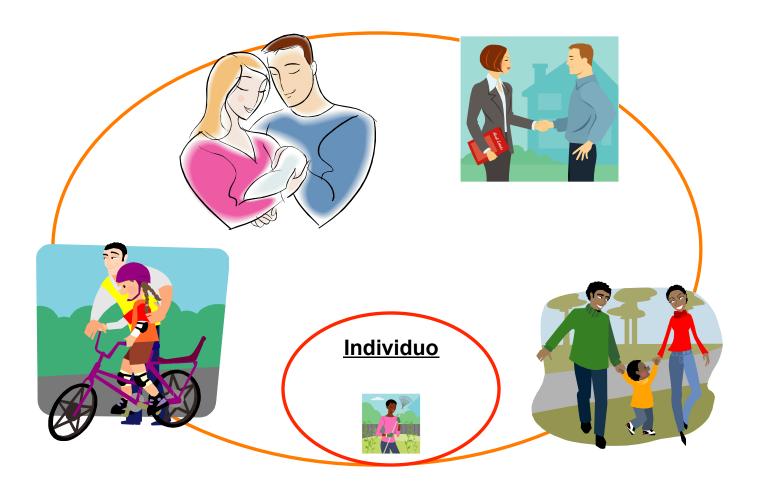
- Physical Activity and Nutrition classes
- CAUSA Oregon's Immigrant Rights
   Organization
- Educa e Inspira
- Public Health 101: SEM,
   Advocacy, Popular
   Education, Asset Mapping



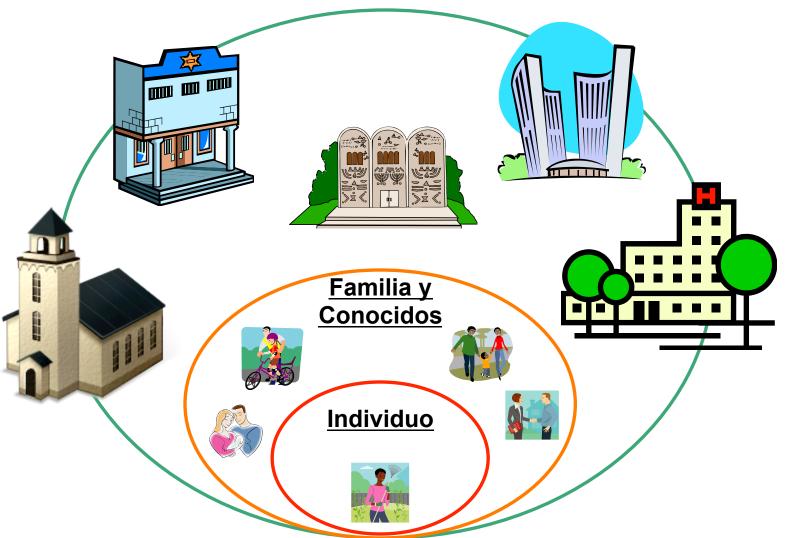
# Estructura del mundo social Socio-ecological model



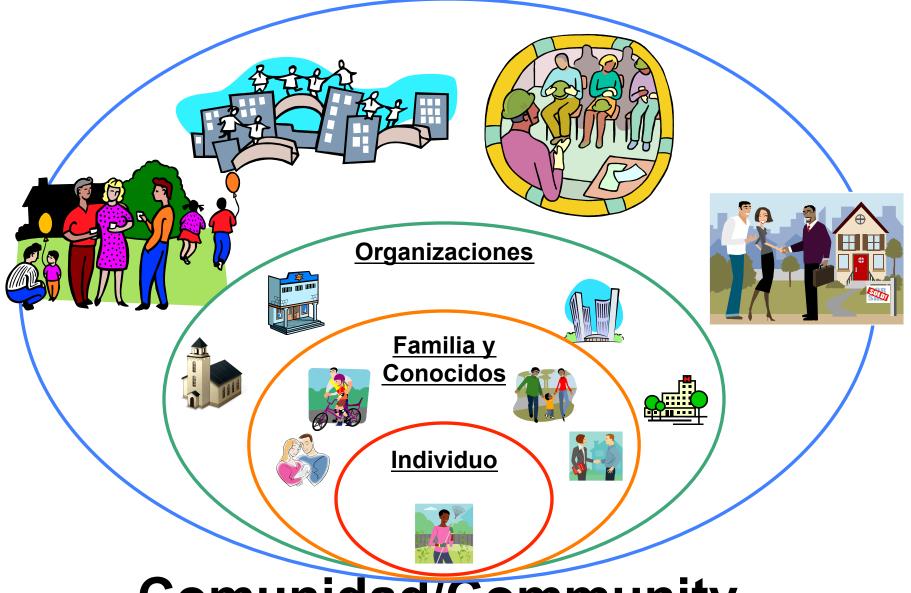
Individuo/Individual



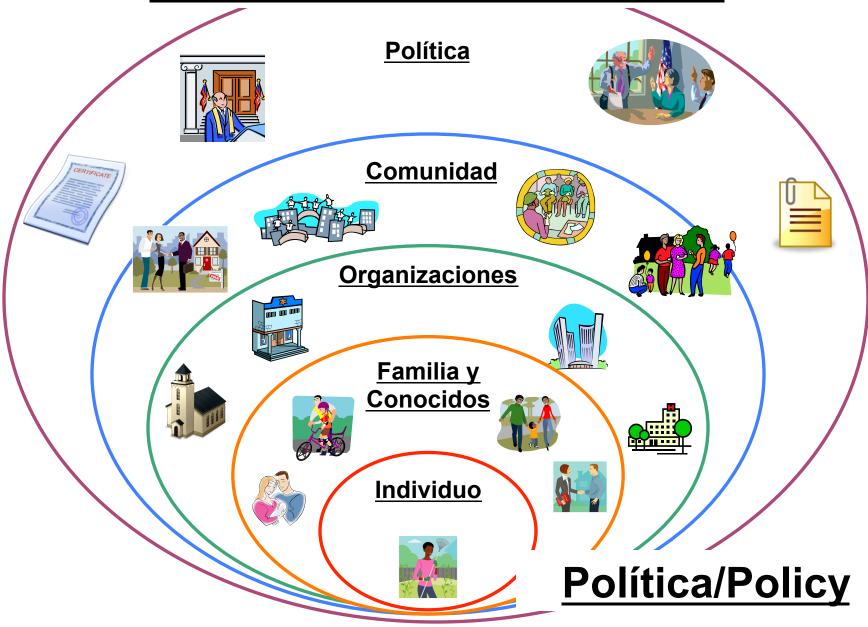
Familia y Conocidos / Family and social networks



Organizaciones/Organizations



Comunidad/Community



#### **Política**

La comida escolar no da comida latina con verduras



#### Comunidad

No hay un mercado en mi comunidad







No hay verduras en "Food Bank"

#### Familia y Conocidos

Mi familia no les gusta comer verduras

#### <u>Individuo</u>



No me gusta comer verduras



Estructura del mundo social



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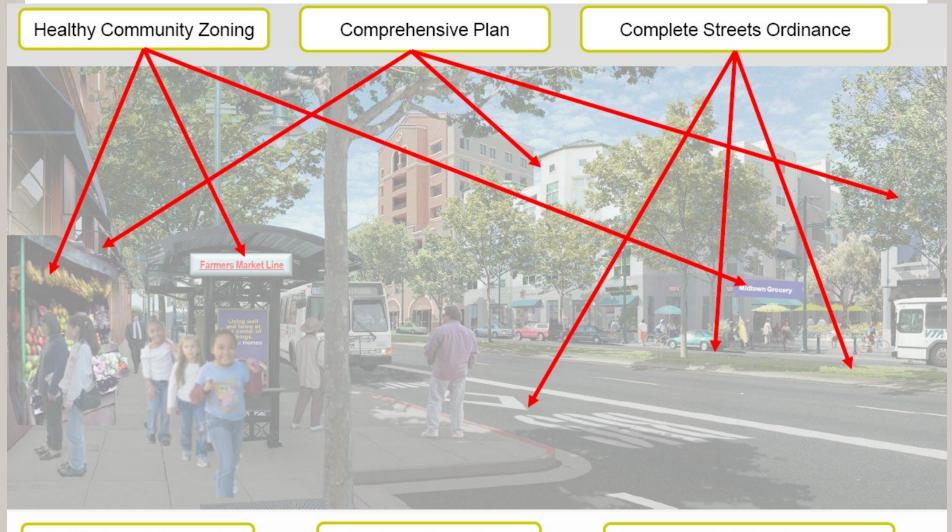


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## **Policy Behind the Environment**



Public transit bike rack

**Business incentives** 

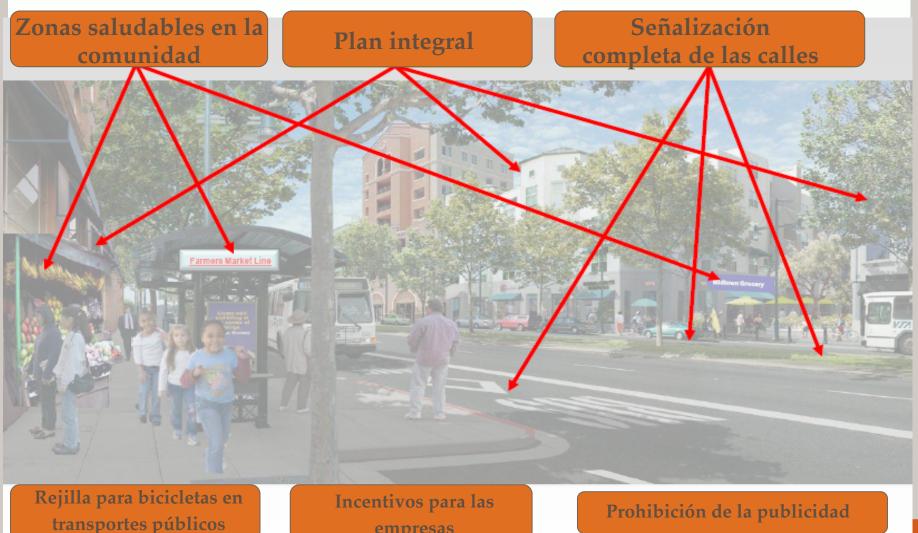
Advertising ban

Lighting

Fines for littering

Business improvement district

## La política detrás del medio ambiente



Iluminación

empresas

Multas por tirar basura

Distrito de mejora de negocios

#### Year 2012-13

(funding Health Equity, NWHF)

- Familias Activas
- Summer Family Zumba Classes
- Educa e Inspira
- Community Organizing Research Project
- OACE Conference





## **HEAL MAPPS™ Program**

Healthy Eating Active Living:

Mapping Attributes using Participatory Photographic Surveys

Phase 1: Create outreach plan

COMMUNITY ENGAGED ACTION RESEARCH

Phase 2: Learn the tools

COMMUNITY
PARTICIPATORY
PHOTO
MAPPING

MAPPS™ RESULTS CONSENSUS REPORT

Phase 5: Develop strategies

COMMUNITY
READINESS
CONVERSATION

Phase 4: Converse in community

FOCUSED GROUP DECISION-MAKING

Phase 3: Discuss in groups

healthy kids & communities

Oregon State

## What helps and hinders . . . Familias Activas

#### **Healthy Eating**

#### **Physical Activity**

#### **Helps**

- Access to affordable fresh foods
- Food assistance programs such as Women Infants and Children (WIC)
- Access to traditional foods and markets

- Playgrounds with equipment for varying ages
- Playgrounds with walking paths around them
- Affordable options (Zumba \$3/class)

#### **Hinders**

- Too many unhealthy food options
- Lack of information in Spanish
- Lack of affordable fresh high quality foods
- Lack of confidence in school food
- Lack of public transportation

- Poor infrastructure for navigating environment: lack of walking paths, broken and missing sidewalks, poor lighting, and secondary smoke
- Rainy and dark winters
- Unsafe and unhealthy living environments
- Lack of public restrooms in parks





## Familias Activas HEAL MAPPS™ . . .

## **3 Priority Areas Identified**

- 1) School nutrition
- 2) Opportunities for family physical activity
- 3) Smoke-free public spaces



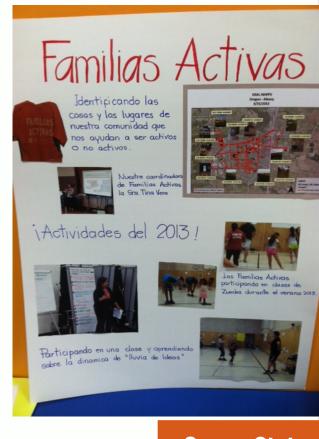




#### Year 2013-14

(funding: Health Equity Coalition, REACH)

- Familias Activas
- School Nutrition
- Summer P.A. classes
- Saturday workshops:
   Elementary, Middle, and High
   School
   School
   Eamilias

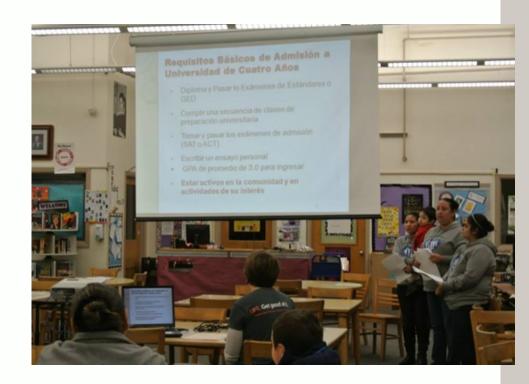




### Year 2014-15

(funding: Health Equity Coalition)

- Familias Activas
- Educational Equity for Latino Families Project
- Albany Parks and Recreation
- Parent Engagement at Middle School





## Year 2015-16

(funding: Health Equity Coalition)

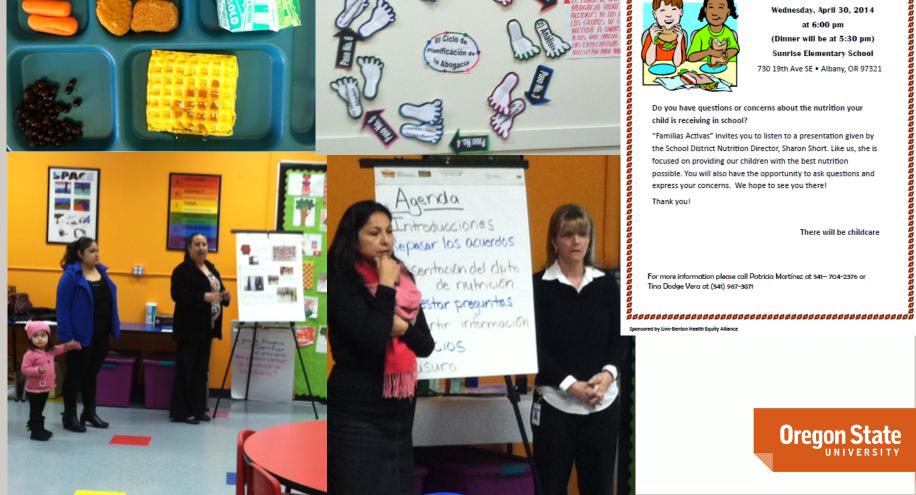
- Familias Activas
- Cultural Competency Training for staff/teachers
- Opportunities for Latino identity development
- School level advocacy group
- District level work plan



## **Parent Education workshops**



## **Improving School Nutrition**



#### **Familias Activas**



Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 6:00 pm (Dinner will be at 5:30 pm) Sunrise Elementary School

730 19th Ave SE • Albany, OR 97321

Do you have questions or concerns about the nutrition your child is receiving in school?

"Familias Activas" invites you to listen to a presentation given by the School District Nutrition Director, Sharon Short. Like us, she is focused on providing our children with the best nutrition possible. You will also have the opportunity to ask questions and express your concerns. We hope to see you there!

There will be childcare

For more information please call Patricia Martínez at 541-704-2376 or Tina Dodge Vera at (541) 967-3871

Sponsored by Linn-Benton Health Equity Alliance

Oregon State



## **Sharing community building experience**



## Mi Familia Weekend OSU



## **Get Outdoor Day 2014 McDonald Forest**



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#### **Discussion**

How does a community based project/program differ from a community driven project/program?



#### **Evaluation Questions**

- What motivated you to attend the leadership and parent education classes/workshops/ events?
- What impact if any has the classes/workshops/events and participating in Familias Activas had on you? What impact if any has participating in Familias Activas have on your family?
- What are the challenges to participating in the workshops?
- What does it mean for you to be a leader in the community?
- How have you developed leadership skills? Please provide an example.
- Did participating in the workshops help you be more involved in school? Community? Please provide an example.
- Has participation in the education workshops influenced your children's academic achievements?
- Did participating in the Familias Activas classes/workshops/events help you feel more informed on local issues? Has more confidence to be involved at your child's school or in the community?
- What did you find most helpful? What would you change?
- What is an example of something Familias Activas has worked on together to create change in Albany?

MarWhat 6ther workshops should we offer in the future?

## **Evaluation Participants Demographics**

N=10	
Gender	100% female
Age (average)	38 years old
Education (average)	8.4 years
Years in the U.S (average)	14.9 years
Country of Origin	Mexico
Number of Children (average)	3 children



**Impact** 

#### **Leadership and empowerment:**

- School achievement
- Increased family communication

"I am no longer afraid to ask question to the teachers, to go to school more often, more focused on asking questions in regards to my child's education. how do you say...how are their grades, if they are at the level they need to be according to the state standards. more involved in school"



**Impact** 

#### Health

- Nutrition-healthier eating
- Physical Activities –exercise

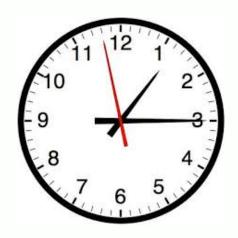
"We went to give testimony to the School District because we are not happy with the school meals."

"The Zumba classes that were offered, I feel that they were beneficial for diabetes prevention... We did not only learn how to exercise but also how to eat"



Obstacles to participation

#### Time conflict



"Well, I liked them (workshops) in the afternoon because we are done with work and we are home and available. During the day, or on the mornings we can't, we have to work. It would be better in the evenings"



## Obstacles to participation

### **Transportation**

driver license

"work and transportation because ,unfortunately, many people that had a driver license are now expired"





### **Key Points**

- Investment is long term
- It starts with engagement

**Parent Involvement** refers to parent participation in systems and activities that support them as they fulfill their duties as the child's first teacher, nurturer and advocate for their family.

**Parent Engagement** goes a little deeper into parent relationships. Engagement refers to the ongoing, goal-directed relationship between staff and families that are mutual, culturally responsive and support what is best for children and families both <u>individually</u> and <u>collectively</u>.

Popular Education teaching methodology







## **Questions/Discussion**



#### **Contact**

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