



The San Francisco Department of Children Youth and Their Families selects Mission Neighborhood Centers' (MNC) Youth Services Program to Provide Vital In-person Learning for the Most Vulnerable Students!

As a result of our strong track record at implementing high-quality and culturally competent Youth programming, we have been selected to provide quality in-person programming and learning environments at two Community Learning Hubs in the Mission district, specifically the Mission Girls Campus and Precita Valley Community Center.

As Mayor Breed recently said: "It will take a village to address the wide range of learning needs for our City's children and youth during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the Community Learning Hubs will provide a much-needed resource for our most vulnerable students."

Our Community Learning Hubs are designed to support children and youth from low-income households; residents of HOPE SF, public housing, and single room occupancy hotels; youth experiencing homelessness; foster youth; and English Language Learners.



The Hubs will provide full-day, in-person programming and will support children and youth's access to technology for distance learning and provide additional enrichment programming, including STEAM, literacy, and nature-based outdoor play and education. At safe and digitally connected centers within walking distance from our children's homes, the MNC Hubs will offer social-emotional support services, healthy meals and snacks, and recreation and physical activities.

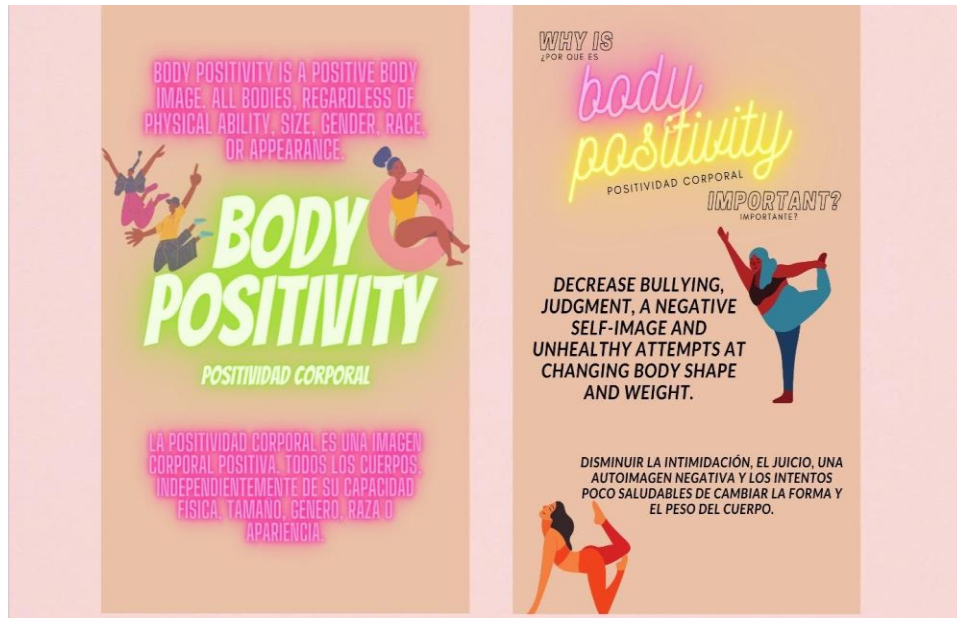
MNC will also serve as an "anchor agency" for our Learning Hubs, acting as a host to other partner organizations who need space to provide critical community services.

Other Exciting News from our Youth Department

- ◇ A generous donation from **STEMfinity**, a STEM learning platform, will allow our students to receive ten hours' worth of coding instruction.

- ◇ After successfully graduating 13 students in June, our General Education Diploma (GED) Program has continued to provide direct support and virtual classrooms to 26 Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) participants and monolingual adults.
- ◇ At Chief Probation Officer Kate Miller’s invitation, we have deepened our work with the District Attorney’s Office to establish solutions to the rise in unaccompanied, Latinx minors entering the justice system. We are working closely with the Juvenile Probation department (JPD) to lead the conversation in creating a more holistic, cultural, and restorative approach.
- ◇ Our Raices Girls Program that aims to empower young women, completed their summer internship and presented their “zine” (virtual magazine) focused on health, wellness, and empowerment for women of color. Our amazing young women virtually shared their summer learning experiences with other girls of color at three community-based organizations. Check out the links to their projects [Mental Health](#), [Feminism & Body Positivity](#), and [Her Body](#).





Two examples of the incredible artwork and presentations

MNC's Two Family Resource Centers (FRCs), Centro de Alegría & Centro Bayview Continue to Be Vital Lifelines for our Communities of Color

Seniors and families continue to have an urgent need for life's most basic needs: food, shelter, clothing and emergency personal protective equipment. Our FRC team members serve as a vital bridge in connecting families to resources. They are rapidly distributing rent subsidies, grocery store gift cards, food, diapers, baby formula, and wipes to families and seniors in need.

In collaboration with the Latino Task Force, we have been able to provide food to 300 MNC families, including home deliveries to those who are unable to travel or at high risk for COVID-19.



Families receive essential food supplies at our Family Resource Centers

Hear directly from an MNC Head Start Parent – Charlie Nael Torres

“The Mission Bay program has supported us as a family during this pandemic since the start by giving us a backpack with teaching materials for our children. During these difficult months, our MNC Family Specialist, Isabela, has provided us with information about any financial or food support, they sent us text messages with the schedules and locations where each help would be exactly. Also if we needed clothes for my son, they provided it. Every week the teachers called to check on the children’s well-being and to greet them. They taught through the ZOOM app 1 day a week for the children to continue connecting and not forget their classmates and teachers. Being connected to MNC’s Mission Bay team during this quarantine was extremely helpful for my family!”



MNC Says Thank You to Dignity Health

MNC would like to extend our gratitude to Dignity Health for facilitating an urgently needed donation of 250 boxes of food from AARP for our seniors. This vital food donation helped our MNC team to address food insecurities for our most vulnerable elders who are unable to leave their homes for groceries.



An MNC senior receives their food box

How You Can Help Today

Sadly, COVID-19 continues to bear a disproportionate impact on our Latinx community.

This pandemic has magnified years of health, social and racial inequities. Unfortunately, our communities of color are at greater risk of contracting the virus due to systemic racism that is literally built into the fabric of society. In addition, San Francisco's growing income and housing gap has highlighted these inequities. We live in overcrowded housing; we have no choice but to work for basic life necessities; and we are front line service workers who lack access to proper health care and health insurance. These conditions further highlight the need for culturally and linguistically relevant safety-net programs.

As Dr. Martin Luther King stated in 1966, "of all of the forms of inequality injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." These words remain true and are unfortunately, very relevant today.

Together, we must continue the fight to uplift and empower our community who is facing tremendous challenges. With your support, we will be able to provide much needed stability during these very uncertain times and circumstances.

[IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP, PLEASE DONATE HERE](#)

Your generous contribution will help ensure that our program's participants avoid food insecurity, house eviction, home violence, child abuse and other poverty induced adverse factors.

With gratitude,

Sam Ruiz