

# Engaging Lived Expertise in Community-Driven Solutions

## Somos la comunidad

We use a values-based approach to co-create programs with those living and working in the community to facilitate programs that work for families.

### OUR NORTH STAR GOAL

We believe in the power of collaborating with families to nurture cultural connections, increase a sense of belonging, and create thriving communities where all can reach their full potential.



### PROBLEM STATEMENT

Many programs, institutions, and systems fail to work well with families because they have been developed without the direct collaboration of those most impacted by their policies.

### SOLUTION & VALUE PROPOSITION

We collaborate with families throughout the design, funding, and implementation of inclusive, community-driven programs.

### SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- Rates of retention and graduation among participants will be strong and/or growing
- Participants will refer friends and family to our programs
- Those who participated in our programs will become staff

### RESOURCES NEEDED

- Foundational values
- Relationships with community
- Values and approach aligned with funders
- Staff with community expertise from lived experience
- Partners with shared values
- Sustainable funding

### HOW IT WORKS

Valley Settlement's approach is rooted in its organizational values. The organization takes a community-driven and relational approach to its work, ensuring organizational priorities are rooted in its values.

### LEARN MORE ABOUT VALLEY SETTLEMENT'S APPROACH



Working together, staff and community create intentional, impact-driven programs that create connections and build social capital.



# 97%

of staff are representative of the community we work with, and many have participated in programs



# 75%

Growth achieved in fundraising from 2021-2023



# CONFIDENCE + INVOLVEMENT

Participants consistently demonstrate significant increases in involvement with child's education and confidence in accessing community resources

This concept poster codifies a program or best practice of a two-generation (2Gen) approach for practitioners to replicate and systems and policy leaders to scale in order to improve outcomes for children and their families. Ascend at the Aspen Institute and the 2Gen Accelerator Community developed this concept poster alongside a portfolio of resources so that leaders can advance opportunities for families to achieve intergenerational success and well-being.