



AVANCE

AVANCE begins with parents and children birth-4 years old. AVANCE is based on the philosophy that education begins in the home and that the parent is the child's first and most important teacher. Education is the way out of poverty and towards self-sufficiency.



Parent-Child Education Program

At the heart of the AVANCE model is the Parent-Child Education Program. The purpose of the program is to break the cycle of educational failure early in life and to prepare children for school by educating parents. Parents learn to meet the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive needs of their children and to see themselves as their children's first teachers. The program has a direct impact on children's health and well-being and their future school readiness and success. In addition, parents learn to see themselves differently, to discover their value not only as a parent and family member but as a member of the community. Self-esteem increases, personal goals begin to form, and use of community resources increases along with literacy and education.

AVANCE enrolls parents and children through door-to-door recruiting in school neighborhoods, word-of-mouth from past graduates, flyers through the schools and community, and referrals from other agencies and individuals. Parents attend AVANCE together with their babies, toddlers, and pre-school age children. Through home visits, and evening and summer activities, we interact with school-age children and other adults, and we are able to influence healthy relationships and support the entire family.

Graduation

A graduation ceremony symbolic of future graduations of both parents and children is held for families who complete the weekly, 9-month program and curriculum.

Child Graduates: 384
Parent Graduates: 366

Parents reading 3 or more times weekly to their children: 77%

Sites: 17 El Paso County schools

Families: 657
Parents: 688
Children birth-4: 742

Parents with no HS diploma: 93%
Families below poverty level: 99%

AVANCE-El Paso

Board of Directors

Chair
Dan Olivas

Vice-Chair
Anne Hernandez

Treasurer
Gary Sanders

Secretary
Tracy Almanzan

Board Members
Berthy Corral
Lily Limon
Glenda Martinez
Elizabeth Montes
Gerardo Sanchez
Gloria Viramontes

Note: Board members serve 2 three-year terms. Meetings are held every other month on the third Thursday of the month with the exception of May, with special meetings as necessary.

Mission Statement

To Help Young Families Break the Cycle of Poverty through Early Childhood Development, Parenting, Adult Literacy, and Healthy Marriages.

**El Paso Chapter Annual Report
July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010**

**Adult and Family
Literacy**

While parents are motivated to come to AVANCE to do the best they possibly can to help their children succeed, they also nourish a desire to continue their education where they left off. For most AVANCE parents, this means enrolling in ESL and GED classes. When these classes are offered by AVANCE, the focus is functional, “real life” English helping adults in their daily lives as parents, workers, and community members. Language, and the power of the spoken and written word, open the door to learning and opportunity.

Sites offering ESL/GED: 11
Adults in ESL classes: 180
Completion of ESL levels: 71%
Adults in GED classes: 153
Earning GED diploma: 46



While parents attend AVANCE one day weekly for parenting classes and 2-3 days weekly for ESL and GED classes, their babies, toddlers, and pre-school age children are cared for in on-site early childhood classrooms. The foundation for success is laid early: children develop learning routines and social skills that will place them “ahead of the curve” when they enter school. Most of all, they develop language.

Children birth-4 years: 742
Children 2-4, increased vocabulary for age (Even Start): 100%

AmeriCorps



AmeriCorps members, the vast majority of whom are recruited and enrolled from our AVANCE parenting and GED graduates, assist with all of our intensive direct service activities. Parents become motivated when they hear about the possibility of serving in the AmeriCorps capacity, and it encourages them to complete the AVANCE program and obtain their GED. At the end of their service year, AmeriCorps members who have completed the 1700 hour requirement are awarded an educational grant to assist them in furthering their education. AVANCE now offers a continuum and sequence to parents we serve: 1) graduate the AVANCE nine-month parenting program; 2) acquire your GED at AVANCE or an adult learning center; 3) do a year of service at AVANCE as an AmeriCorps member and acquire training and money for college; 4) come back and work for AVANCE as a child teacher or even a parent educator or literacy instructor. We believe that there is tremendous value in this continuum as a ladder out of isolation and under-education.



Fiscal Year

Revenue:

Government Grants and Contracts	\$2,119,481	79%
Foundations and Corporations	\$ 411,140	15%
United Way	\$ 66,500	2%
Special Events and Individual Gifts	\$102,283	4%
TOTAL	\$2,699,404	100%

Expenses:

Programs	\$2,299,876	87%
Administration	\$ 294,544	11%
Fundraising	\$62,309	2%
TOTAL	\$2,656,726	100%

Management Staff:

- Nydia Correa
Executive Director
- Taylor Moreno
Assistant Executive Director
- Margarita Sanchez
Chapter Operations Manager
- Ernesto Mata
Even Start Family Literacy Coordinator
- Maria Gallegos
Program Coordinator
- Robert Piñon
Chapter Finance Manager

AVANCE Office
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 El Paso, TX 79902

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Sites in School Districts

Canutillo ISD	San Elizario ISD
El Paso ISD	Ysleta ISD
Clint ISD	