



AVANCE

AVANCE begins with parents and children birth-3 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: 388
Parent Graduates: 309

Parents reading 3 or more times weekly to their children: 77%
Parents eliminating spanking: 74%

AVANCE-El Paso

Board of Directors

Chair
JoAnn Kirkland

Vice-Chair
Lily Limón

Treasurer
Gary Sanders

Secretary
Anne Hernandez

Berthy Corral
Gloria Viramontes
Gerardo Sanchez
Carlos Noriega
Tracy Almanzan
Dan Olivas
Glenda Martinez

Note: Members listed as of 6/30/09. Board members serve 2 three-year terms. Meetings are held every other month on the second Thursday of the month, with special meetings as necessary. Committees include Finance and Development Committees.

Mission Statement

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

**Sites: 14 El Paso County schools,
1 Doña Ana Co. center & school**
Families: 711
Parents: 731
Children birth-4: 765

Parents with no HS diploma: 86%
Families below poverty level: 75%

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: 9
Adults in ESL classes: 275
Completion of ESL levels: 71%
Adults in GED classes: 121
Earning GED diploma: 18



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: 765
Children 2-4, increased vocabulary for age (Even Start): 98%

Fatherhood-Healthy Marriages



AVANCE recognizes that when mothers thrive, children and families thrive, but that we must also reach out to and involve dads. The Fatherhood-Healthy Marriage Program focuses on healthy relationship between couples. Over three to four months, trained facilitators help couples to improve communication and their mutual understanding of one another, the stages of marriage, and their management of time, stress, anger, parenting responsibilities, and family finances. Child care and light refreshments enable couples to attend evening sessions.

Sites: 16
Couples served: 163
Couples graduating: 82
Couples reporting their marriage has improved: 96%



Fiscal Year

Revenue:

Government Grants and Contracts	\$1,324,245	68%
Foundations and Corporations	\$ 422,648	21%
United Way	\$ 89,944	5%
Events, Donations, and Other Gifts	\$ 117,023	6%
TOTAL	\$1,953,900	100%

Expenses:

Programs	\$1,749,157	89%
Fundraising	34,502	2%
Administration	\$ 170,438	9%
TOTAL	\$1,954,097	100%

* In-kind revenue and expenses of \$401,977 not here.
 * Endowment totaling \$34,815 at year end.
 * AVANCE events included the *Toma Mi Corazón* Heart Auction and the Friends of AVANCE Fundraising Breakfast.

2008-09 Management Staff:

- Sanjay Mathur
Executive Director
- Margarita Sanchez
Parent-Child Program Coordinator
- Ernesto Mata
Even Start Family Literacy Coordinator
- Sonia Maldonado
Healthy Marriages Coordinator
- Robert Piñon
Accounting Manager

AVANCE Office
 616 N. Virginia, Ste. D
 El Paso, TX 79902

Tel.: (915) 351-2419
www.avance-elpaso.org

2008-09 School Districts

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