

# Impact Report 2022



**Parent  
Organization  
Network**

*Breaking Through Barriers*

# Director's Message



Dear Members and Partners:

The year 2022 was one of focus and positive growth for PON.

This year we invested resources to develop 4 English Learner Success (4ELS), a new program for parents of English learners to advance the EL Campaign in the school districts of Pomona, Long Beach, and Los Angeles. We successfully piloted the nine-session program this fall with 41 parents and our partners yielding promising results and broadening parents' knowledge about English Language Development (ELD) and their awareness of their children's progress toward reclassification. For more details about EL work, please see "Progress in 2022".

This year we will deliver the 4ELS program in eight schools, reaching over 100 parents who can then add their voices to the EL dialogue. Additionally, we will be launching Café con PON, providing follow-up sessions with 4ELS graduates to reinforce concepts and continue their learning and leadership development. This will enable parents to become aware of and observe how EL-related LCAP goals and the EL Roadmap are implemented at their schools and in their children's classrooms.

Also, this year our budget grew 24% for 2022 and we raised a total of \$818K, securing funding for 2022-2025 as new foundations were introduced to PON's work and some of our existing funders increased their grant support. The additional funding allowed us to expand our team and the projects we will embark on in 2023. For more details about new projects, please see "2023 Priorities".

Last, and equally significant, we made progress on our diversity goals. We recruited a new member organization serving African American families, an emerging non-profit called National Association for African American Parents and Youth. Our collaboration led to joint funding to support this important work. Also, we hired a consultant and formed a task force to support our cross-cultural solidarity and ethnic studies project in 2023.

We are grateful for your continued trust and look forward to collaborating on the new projects in the coming year.

In solidarity,

*Araceli Simeón*

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# About PON

## OUR MISSION

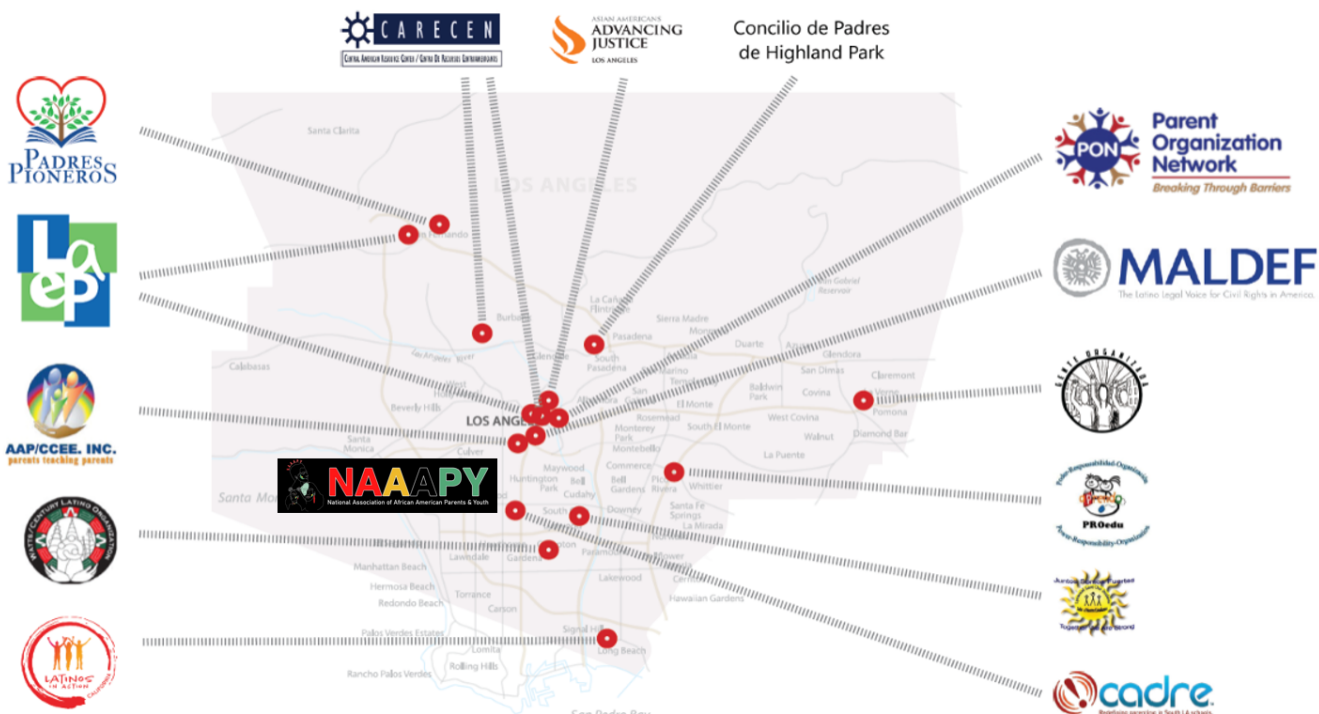
PON unites the power of underserved parents\* to break through barriers in public education, so parents and educators can effectively partner to ensure equity and excellence for all students.

PON defines "parents" broadly to include birth, adoptive, foster parents, and legal guardians, as well as grandparents, adults siblings, aunts and uncles, and other relatives and non-relatives who are involved in raising and educating a child.

## OUR THEORY OF ACTION

Advocate and build capacity to improve conditions and increase the readiness for effective family-school partnerships so that together, they can better support student success and close opportunity and achievement gaps in education.

## OUR MEMBERS



# Our 2021-2023 Goals

## 1

### ADVOCACY

To remove barriers to family engagement and build staff practices to promote and support family engagement.

## 2

### CAPACITY BUILDING

To strengthen parent capacity to effectively work with others (i.e., parents, organizations, school officials) on collective projects or campaigns to ensure equity and excellence for all students.

## 3

### ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

To strengthen PON's organizational capacity to sustain an effective and efficient parent engagement network.

## 4

### RAISE PUBLIC PROFILE

To raise our public profile to achieve greater visibility and name recognition, and highlight PON's successes among key stakeholders.

## 5

### DIVERSE NETWORK

To ensure a broad, diverse network of parents, organizations, partners, and allies committed to family engagement as a means to achieve educational equity.

# Our Progress in 2022

We are pleased to highlight progress in strategic goals related to advocacy, capacity building and organizational development.

## 1 **ADVOCACY: \$35 Million for Family Math**

Our research and advocacy to strengthen family engagement in the California Department of Education's Math Framework influenced other partners to include family math in a bill they championed. **The result:** \$85 million was approved for teacher professional development and parent coaching in math and science, with \$35 million awarded to the Fresno COE to expand the existing California Statewide Early Math Initiative in grade TK to 12.



## 2 **CAPACITY BUILDING: 4 English Learner Success (4ELS) Program shows promising results!**

This year PON focused considerable staff time and resources to develop a new program for parents of English learners to advance the EL Campaign in the school districts of Pomona, Long Beach, and Los Angeles.

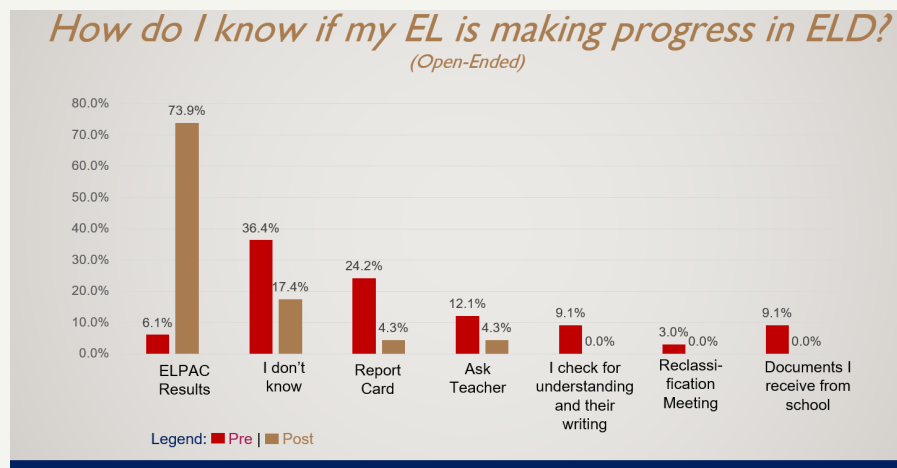
In the fall we successfully piloted the nine-session program with our partners Gente Organizada and Latinos in Action California empowering the 41 parents who actively participated. After completing the 4ELS program we observed the following results:

# Our Progress in 2022



## CAPACITY BUILDING (continued)

- Parents' general notions about bilingualism and their role in their children's education became more specific and nuanced. This changed their vocabulary and strengthened their EL knowledge base.
- Parents' knowledge about ELD program options, instruction, and how to monitor progress increased.



- Parents increased their awareness about their child's progress toward reclassification and whether their children have become LTELs. In some cases, this led to conversations with teachers and ELD coordinators to provide more targeted support for ELs.

	Yes		No		At Risk		I don't know	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
My child is an English Learner	73%	96%	15%	4%	--	--	12%	0%
My child is an LTEL	15%	39%	27%	48%	0%	9%	58%	4%

The collaboration between parents, school officials, and non-profits is beginning to yield concrete results in Pomona Unified School District (PUSD). **This year we saw an increase in the number of ELs scoring 4 on their ELPAC test, from 11.03% or 599 in 2020-21, to 15.31% or 843 in 2021-22 at PUSD.** We anticipate reclassification rates will increase in 2022-2023 and attribute this improvement in part to the district's and PON's efforts to increase parent and student awareness about the ELPAC test and reclassification criteria. This is an encouraging trend for EL students and their families!

# Our Progress in 2022

## 3

### **ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY: Budget increased 24%**

This year PON raised over \$818K through multi-year grants. The budget for the year grew 24% from \$358K in 2021 to \$444K in 2022. The new resources are allowing us to add two full-time staff members, a Program Director and a Policy Director. We also contracted consultants to help us develop and implement projects in 2022 and in the new year.

## 4

### **RAISE PUBLIC PROFILE: Membership in new Advisory Boards**

Higher exposure of our work at conferences and relationships with new funders led to invitations to join three new advisory committees: Community Engagement Initiative, PBS SoCal, and Loyola Marymount University's Center for Equity for English Learners. We are excited to begin this collaborative work in 2023.

## 5

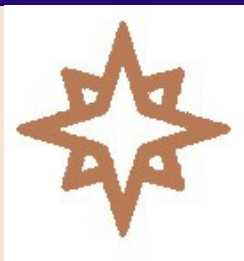
### **DIVERSE NETWORK: PON Welcomes the National Association of African American Parents & Youth (NAAAPY) as a new member**

For the past two years PON worked closely with The Knowledge Shop (TKS) on family math advocacy. TKS provides tutoring and out-of-school opportunities to support the academic success of Black students in South Los Angeles. In 2021 the families served by TKS formed NAAAPY to support Black families in advocating for their children. PON and NAAAPY applied for and were selected to receive a three-year grant from Amity Foundation. We will kick off 2023 by co-hosting a Black Family Summit in January.





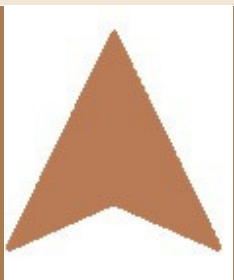
# Priorities in 2023



Our budget growth is allowing PON to expand its work into new areas.

## NEW PROJECTS

- Co-sponsor events with The Knowledge Shop and the National Association for African American Parents & Youth to support math learning and promote strategies that work with African American students and families.
- Monitor the planning and implementation of transitional kindergarten expansion in local school districts.
- Work with the Cross-Cultural Solidarity Task Force to develop programming for families to discuss the issue of race and ethnicity, and monitor the implementation of ethnic studies.
- Develop relevant videos, web pages, and social media content to improve our communication with families and partners.
- Participate in advisory boards with PBS SoCal, Loyola Marymount CEEL, and the Community Engagement Initiative to influence broader programming for families and promote other effective strategies to support authentic family engagement.



## WORK WE ARE CONTINUING

- Expand training and provide follow-up for parents of English Learners in schools so they can then more fully participate and drive the EL Campaign at the local level in their respective districts.
- Monitor policy at state agencies related to family engagement in math, educator professional development and credentialing.



## CHANGES

Given all the research and successful policy advocacy done in previous years, PON is now building on its past by being more focused on monitoring policy implementation and working directly with families, partners, and schools to test innovative ideas to improve outcomes for and with students.

# 2022 Financials

In 2022 PON raised a total of \$444K, with 89% coming from foundation grants, 11% from individual contributions, and less than 1% from service fees.

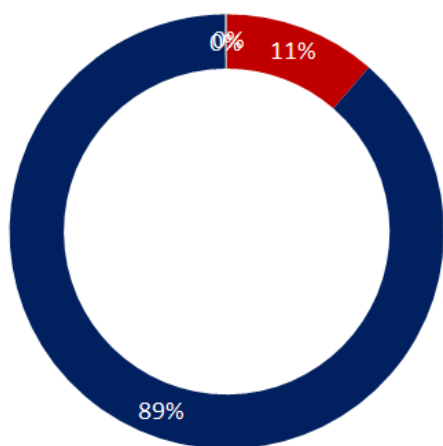
New funders contributing to our work include the Heising-Simons Foundation and United Way of Greater LA. Not reflected in this report are the in-kind contributions from Gordon Philanthropies, Inc, a new foundation supporting PON and its member organizations. Gordon is providing new books for children and families to help create a foundation for their children's learning experiences, nurture a love of reading and support family literacy.

This year PON spent \$356K. Of this amount, 64% or \$228,883 paid for personnel salaries and benefits. Eleven percent (11%) or \$40,146 covered fiscal sponsorship fees. The remaining 24% or \$92,505 paid for operating expenses including:

- Consultants (\$53,111 or 16%)
- 4ELS program expenses (\$13,339 or 3.7%)
- Equipment for new staff and programs (\$10,157 or 2.8%)
- Stipends, recognition, contributions (\$3,257 or 1%)

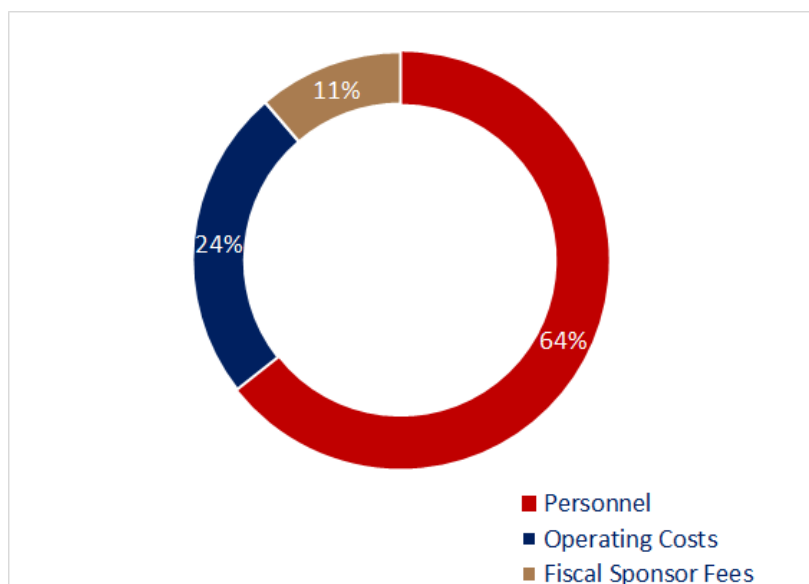
This year our consultants helped us interpret meetings, develop the content, layout, and marketing products for the 4 ELS program, and begin our important cross-cultural solidarity work.

## INCOME: \$444K



- Individual Contributions
- Foundation Grants
- Service Fee Revenue
- In-Kind Revenue

## EXPENSES: 361K



- Personnel
- Operating Costs
- Fiscal Sponsor Fees

# Acknowledgements

Our work would not be possible without the commitment of our funders, partners, members, parents and staff. This year we would like to acknowledge contributions from:

## Funders:

- Amity Foundation
- California Community Foundation & the Consortium for EL Success
- Heising-Simons Foundation
- Gordon Philanthropies
- Sobrato Philanthropies
- The California Endowment
- United Way of Greater LA
- Weingart Foundation

## Partners

- Gente Organizada & Padres Unidos
- The Knowledge Shop
- Latinos in Action California
- National Association of African American Parents & Youth
- Long Beach Unified School District
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Pomona Unified School District
- Public Advocates



We thank you for your continued support.

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