



NORTH HARTFORD ASCEND PIPELINE

Connecticut Children's will administer a five-year, \$30 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Promise Neighborhoods Program. Under the grant, Connecticut Children's Office for Community Child Health will work with the City of Hartford and other partners to implement the North Hartford Ascend Pipeline. The pipeline will be a cradle to career effort to ensure children living in the North Hartford Promise Zone – which includes the Clay Arsenal, Northeast, and Upper Albany neighborhoods – have the supports they need to reach their full potential.

The goal of the pipeline is to:

- Improve developmental outcomes so children are healthier in their earliest years and ready to learn upon entering kindergarten;
- Enhance academic outcomes including increased standardized test scores, reduced absenteeism, and increased graduation rates; and
- Strengthen long-term well-being and quality of life so children can successfully transition to college or career.

Key activities include:

- Improving accessibility and quality of existing programs and services;
- Designing new initiatives to address unmet needs;
- Creating a family navigation system to identify and address families' priorities and concerns; and
- Strengthening families' protective factors to better position them to help children overcome life's stressors and thrive.

Project partners identified \$36 million in matching funds to invest in the community, bringing the total benefit to North Hartford to \$66 million over the five-year project period.

"This means children and families in the relatively small Promise Zone will have the coordinated support, coordinated services, and coordinated care of these incredible partners, which will make a true difference in their long term well-being and quality of life." - **Luke Bronin, Hartford Mayor**

"We have a tremendous opportunity to build a comprehensive system to strengthen families and ensure optimal academic, occupational, and quality of life outcomes for their children."
- **Paul H. Dworkin, MD, Connecticut Children's Office for Community Child Health**