

# Overview: Culturally Responsive Instruction for English Learners Project

Goal 1: Provide **high quality professional development** for educators responsible for teaching English learners.

Goal 2: Create and enhance **culturally responsive learning communities** by improving **the quality of instruction** for English Learners.

Goal 3: Increase English Learners' **academic performance** by providing quality **culturally responsive instruction**.

# Project Success

- 6 Cohorts (n = 72/90 completers) = **38 TESOL certifications, 23 MA TESL degrees.** 1,185 graduate hours.
- **114 teachers** complete **SIOP** professional development.
- 12 Family Engagement Events serve hundreds of teachers, parents, community providers and municipal participants with resources to **enhance ELL families' access to services.**
- Teachers of ELL students increase their understanding of the **immigration process** (housing, jobs, education).
- ELL parents enroll in ESL programs near their homes and children's schools. **Intergenerational learning** programs serve more ELL families to promote achievement.
- **Cross-sector coordination** (University, School District, Community Resources) – many **community assets leveraged** for ELL families and the school district.

# Challenges

- Validating progress toward a culturally responsive learning environment.
- Coordinating resource providers in an increasingly diverse community to establish bridges between schools, homes, and community assets.
  - Understanding shifting demographic patterns of families and the impact of these changes on schools.
  - Promoting intergenerational learning as the “norm” of school success.

# What OELA Can Do

- Champion **collective impact** through a common agenda, shared measures, continuous communication and mutually reinforcing activities across grantees.
  - Leaders Exchange (cross site “pollination”)
  - Link the NPD project with other federal programs promoting family and community engagement in schools.
- Promote replication and scalability via **moderate evidence evaluation designs**.
  - Post evaluation studies for grantees. Annual exchanges among evaluators, ex., listserv, Wiki.