



Together We Grow

No Child Held Back™

 Hartford Parent
University

 **Achieve
Hartford!**
Strong Schools, Strong City

No Child Held Back™

that would guarantee better education outcomes. By training parents on how to use technology to bridge the information gap and communicate with their school, by changing their mindset around who determines the quality of education their children receive, and by tapping experienced parent leaders to coach them along the way, we have achieved a lot so far.

Over 100 parents have successfully completed a No Child Held Back™ training (NCHB) in six schools, while over 10 Hartford Parent University coaches have been trained by Hartford Parent University and Yovel Badash to guide parents through the transformation.

Over 100 computers and chrome books have been put into the hands of parents, with training, helping to bridge Hartford's digital divide. Over 2,500 hours of parent training and coaching have been delivered in the neediest communities, and dozens of family and student wins have been accomplished – manifesting in student behavior changes, parents getting jobs, families securing housing, student academic growth, and so on. Perhaps the most important result so far has been the ascension of 7 NCHB graduates into positions of leadership on their schools' PTOs and School Governance Councils.

Through the NCHB program, we have made Hartford one of a few cities to successfully cultivate *21st Century engaged urban parents*, and together as partners we are redefining what's possible in urban education.



How Does It Work?

The No Child Held Back program is based on a revolutionary approach where Hartford Parent University coaches train parents in an authentic way.

The parents go through a seven-step program that helps them change their mindset around the education system and their role in it.

The HPU parent coaches are focused on supporting and empowering the participants to gain confidence as advocates for their child's education.



HPU Coaches Petra Mulero and Beayanka Pinckney assisting parents Maria Avila and Yolanda Maldonado.

Step 1:

Why Are We Here?

*Mindset Shift, Education Then &
Now, and Student Centered
Learning Principles*



Parents are introduced to the program and supported by their Hartford Parent University coaches so they are ready for success. Parents discuss the purpose of the program, view various videos showing education then & now and are introduced to the principles of student centered learning.

Photos (this page): Parent, Ada Roman Sanchez (opposite page): Parent Maria Ortiz and her grandson Christian J. Lebron, 17 years-old



“One of the biggest changes for me and my son was understanding how a positive mindset can change the way we see the future for his education and help open doors that once seemed shut. ” -Maria Ortiz, Parent

Step 2: Student Centered Learning

Blended Learning Station

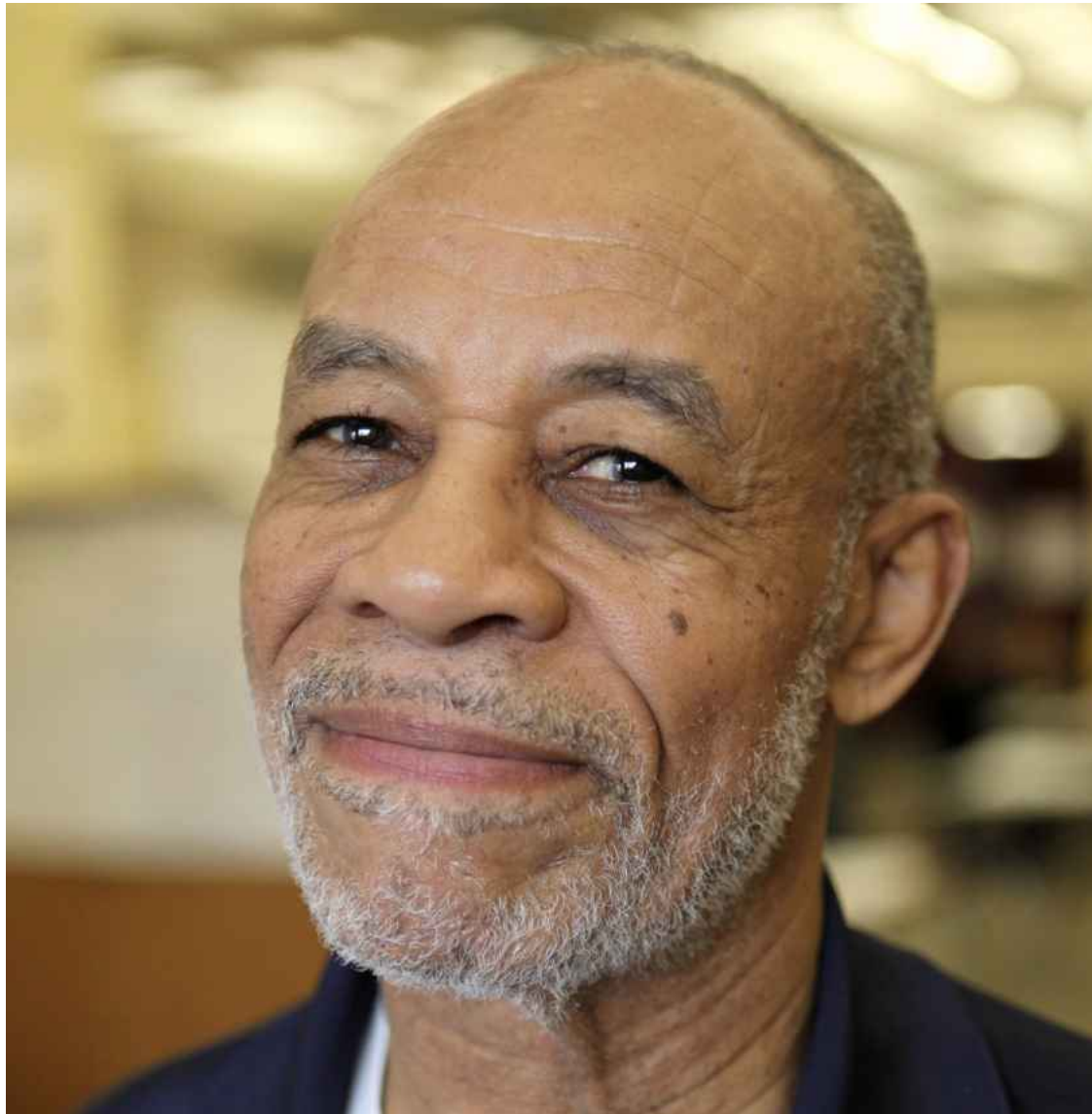
Rotation Models



Using a station rotation model and other SCL approaches to learning, parents learn about the 21st Century education system and what the students experience in a blended learning environment.

Through the parent mindset survey, parents explore what their role is in working with their child's teacher, and bring the survey back to their children.

Photos (top): HPU Coach-Petra Mulero (bottom): Parents - Auria Huertas and Dioseline Angulos Matos (opposite page): Grandparent - William Ball



"I came to No Child Held Back to help my grandson develop the tools he needs to create a plan for after high school, find funding for college, and learn how to organize his time to take on life's responsibilities."

-William Ball, Grandparent

Step 3:

Know Your Child

*Learning Style Assessment,
Student Success Plans, Naviance,
and Connecting with the Guidance
Counselor*



In this step, parents learn about learning styles, intelligence types, and reflect about their own education as well as their child's future.

Parents and Hartford Parent University coaches discuss the purpose of the student success plan and how they can be an active partner driving their child's success in the school system.

Parents connect with the guidance counselor and the online Naviance tool being used by the school to understand each child and their aspirations.

Photos (this page): Lisbeth Chavez - mother, Gema - 16 years-old , Lyliette 9 years-old, Liher -2 years-old (opposite page): Stephanie Joseph, mother, and her daughter Amber



"A mind is a terrible thing to waste. Through the No Child Held Back training, I learned the questions to ask my daughter and this allowed me to really see what's inside her mind, her dreams, and what inspires her. We now know where she wants to go and can figure out how to get there." -Stephanie Joseph, Parent

Step 4: Find Your Purpose



Finding your Purpose and Implementing the Student Success Plan

In this step, parents and students explore the concept of one's purpose in life. They create a purpose statement to act as a guidepost in developing their student success plan.

The parents and students review and add to the student success plan in order to make the document come alive and reflect the aspirations, needs, and interests of the students.

Photos (left to right): HPU Coaches-Milagros Vega and Beayanka Pinckney, Parents Maria Ortiz, Lisbeth Chavez, Ana Ortega Valdes, Student Vera Newman (opposite page): Parent Nelsy Colon



"I wanted my daughter to understand the American school system. We moved here from Puerto Rico not long ago. It's been a big cultural shift for us. The tools we learned through the No Child Held Back program engaged me more fully with both her teachers and school resources."

-Nelsy Colon Vega, Parent

Step 5: Getting Connected and Bridging the Digital Divide

Chromebook Training &
Building Parent/Student/
Teacher Relationships

In this step, parents receive an individual Chromebook so they can build a stronger relationship with their child's teacher. By logging into Powerschool and Naviance, parents can become true partners in the dual capacity framework.

Parents get their own email and Google account so they begin to bridge the digital divide, with expectations to log in and email teachers.

Photos (this page): Parent Terri Morrison, Coach Tynima Toney (opposite page):
Parent Dioseline Angulos Matos





"Through NCHB I received a Chrome Book. I learned how to use it during the training and then taught what I had learned to my daughter. Now, she is using the Chrome Book to engage more deeply with all the resources that technology has to offer at home and at school. She needs this to work in the real world, for jobs, and get school work done. She has access to a whole universe of information. Her world of learning just got much bigger."

-Dioseline Angulos Matos, Parent

Step 6:

Building Teacher/ Parent Collaboration

*Navigating the Naviance College &
Career Readiness Software
Program, Monitoring Progress
and Assigning HPU Coaches*



Parents explore the family engagement portions of Naviance and develop a relationship with teachers. Each parent builds bridges with the relevant school staff according to the child's success plan, with the support of their HPU parent coach assigned to stay with them after the training.

The coach and NCHB coordinator help the parent maintain the right mindset to foster positive collaboration with the school.

Photos (this page): William Ball and his grandson Christopher Ball (opposite page):
Parent Walter Zaldivar



"We moved here from Peru about five years ago. None of us speak English very well. Through NCHB I learned the rights that my kids have to education even though we don't speak English. I realized that telling teachers about my child's language challenges can help them help my child more effectively."

-Walter Zaldiver, Parent

Step 7: Making the Student Success Plan Come to Life

*Connecting Students with
School and Community
Programs and Internships*



Parents and their HPU parent coaches work together to overcome barriers to learning and connect the student to resources inside and outside of school such as mentorships, college prep programs, and internships.

Parents are encouraged to explore other programs offered within the city and the community so that their child's success plan comes to life.

Photos (this page): Student-Raqueliris Martine Colon, (opposite page):
Leidy Diaz, mother, and Neyshaliz Silva, daughter



“My daughter and I created a Student Success Plan together. We used the Naviance system to help my daughter figure out what she really wanted to do with her life. My daughter is now a student at Tunxis Community College studying criminal justice. I’m so proud of her.”
-Leidy Diaz, Mother



Knowing Our Families

The Chavez Family

"We moved here from Cuba about a year and half ago. One of the biggest challenges we face is the fact that we are in a whole new culture and whole new school system. My kids have to learn a new language and adjust to a new

neighborhood in very little time. The No Child Held Back parent program coupled with the support of HPU coaches has given us an invaluable understanding of how the school system works and linked me into a helpful community of parents."

-Lisbeth Chavez, Mother





Lisbeth Chavez, Mother
Hernan Guzman Borges, Father
Gema Gabriela Guzman Grillo, 16 yrs
Lyliette Guzman Chavez , 9 yrs
Liher Guzman Chavez, 3 yrs



Knowing Our Families

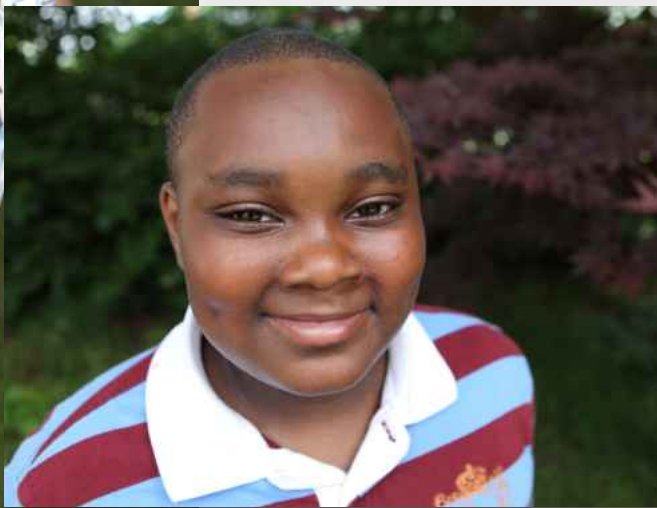
The Colon Family

"We moved to Hartford from Puerto Rico several months ago. Neither my daughter, Raqueliris, nor I speak English very well. Raqueliris was having a really hard time in school because the advanced classes she wanted to take were only taught in English. The No Child Held Back program helped us learn what resources exist for Spanish speaking students."

-Nelsy Colon, Mother

Nelsy Colon, Mother
Yadriel Rodriguez, 9 yrs
Raqueliris Martinez, 17 yrs





Knowing Our Families

The Robinson Family

"I believe my lack of education has helped me to push my children more in regards to their education. If you know better, then you do better. I want my children to get the most out of school. No Child Held Back has given me the support I need to guide my kids towards excelling in school and the tools to help my children discover their passions."
-LaShawn Robinson, Mother



LaShawn Robinson, Mother

Jarod Thompson, 17 yrs

Jhiyear Thompson, 13 yrs

Nazxir Hall, 9 yrs

Jalayah Hall, 8 yrs

Tinasia Glasco, 4 yrs



Knowing Our Families

The Smith Family

"I have lived in Hartford my whole life. Bringing up four children as a single mother has not been easy. Financial challenges and transportation issues have made it hard to provide the support my kids deserve. One of the most important things that No Child Held Back has shown me is how to use new technology to further their learning. I am really excited about all that I have learned and look forward to using it to help my kids reach their fullest potential."

-Lucy Smith, Mother



*Lucy Smith, Mother
Amber Smith, 17 yrs
Robert Smith, 14 yrs*





Knowing Our Families

The Morrison Family

"I've lived in Hartford for 46 years. One of the most challenging parts of the public school is the inequality in schools. Some schools have so much access to technology while others have hardly anything. Through No Child Held Back, I obtained and learned how to use the Chrome Book. Now, my whole family is all able to learn how to use technology and connect to the internet."

-Terri Morrison, Mother



*Teri Morrison, mother
Shakyra Asaim, 16 yrs, daughter
Jayden Rivera, 2 yrs, grandson*





Knowing Our Families

The Mulero Family

"My family lives in a really dangerous neighborhood. Gunshots wake up my kids at night and we see drug addicts in the doorway to our apartment building. My kids often don't get enough sleep because they are scared. My kids get to school and they are so tired. How can you learn when you can't sleep? The things that happen in our neighborhood are hard to control. Through HPU coaching services I have learned the things I can control, like how to navigate and engage more effectively with the schools so my kids get the most out of their learning experiences."

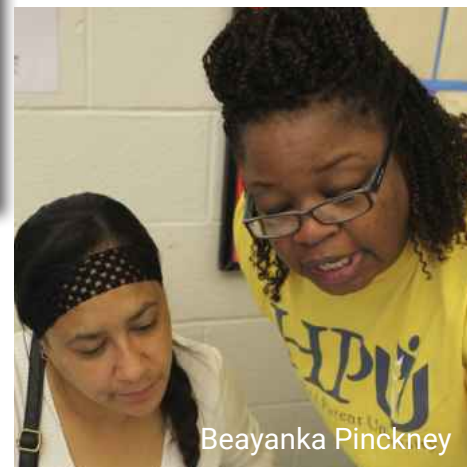
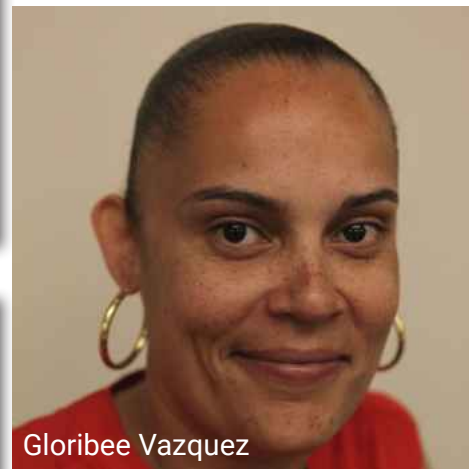
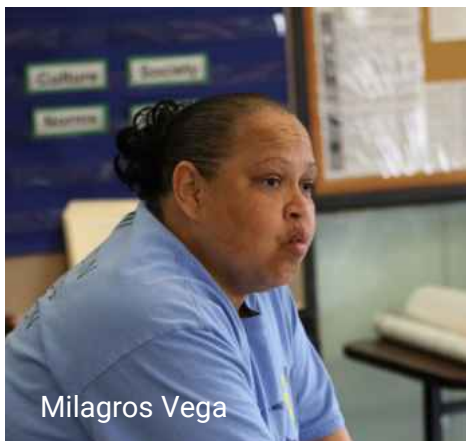
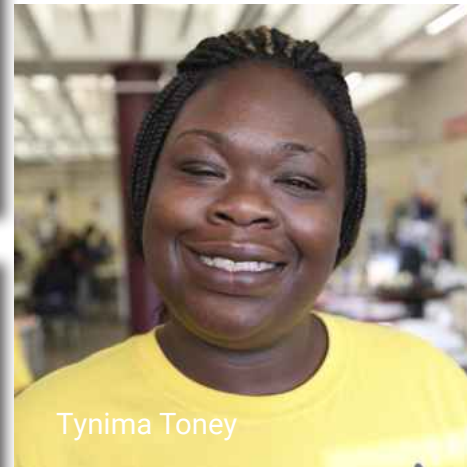
-Petra Mulero, Mother



Petra Mulero, Mother
Viktoria Pratts, 14 yrs
Jose Pratts, 13 yrs
Elijah Cashdollar, 6 yrs
Emmanuel Cashdollar, 5 yrs

Hartford Parent University Coaches

*Thanks to all the Hartford
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dedication, including:*





Thank You



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"It was great doing the No Child Held Back training program with my mom. I realized that she could become an active partner in my education and help me reach my goals in life. I also learned about my mom's own dreams and aspirations.

We are a team in learning and in life."

*- Raqueliris Martinez-Colon, student at
Bulkeley High School*



No Child Held Back
TM

A Seven Step Transformation

1. Why Are We Here?
2. Student Centered Learning
3. Know Your Child
4. Find Your Purpose
5. Getting Connected and Bridging the Digital Divide
6. Building Teacher/Parent Collaboration
7. Making the Student Success Plan Come to Life

No Child Held BackTM

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