



Parents Care Program[©]

Campaign to Include Parents as Equal
Partners in Educating their Children at Home



Mission

The Parent Care Program[©] Objectives

Urban Tech delivers the Parents Care Program[©] (PCP) to support parents, students, and teachers to address changes in the school environment as a result of the pandemic and to increase the social, emotional, and academic supports that improve their resilience and readiness to perform in this new online environment.

Challenges

Navigating the remote services environment

Students have spent the past several months not sitting in classrooms and not experiencing the same level of collaborative learning they are accustomed to. A return to school will emphasize the inequity of education created by the pandemic for minority students, primarily brown and black students, and how far disadvantaged students have fallen behind.

The goal of PCP is to meet and exceed goals set for academic excellence and social and emotional well-being and to take advantage of the remote services environment to reimagine and test new ways to deliver online learning anytime and anyplace. Using remote services, we aim to extend learning outside of the classroom during extended periods after school and in the summer.

Urban Tech helps families upgrade their homes with the required technology and digital services necessary for remote learning; and provides workshops to better prepare families to respond to the stressors that have emerged due to the pandemic.



Plan

A Model for Change

The PCP approach is a multi-tiered intervention that increases the expertise of parents as equal partners in educating their children by forming strong collaborative relationships in workshops between parents and the school-based team and building skills to address stress related to the pandemic. To accomplish this goal, the PCP model ensures that all homes are connected to their classrooms through high performance technology and pays parents an honorarium to assist in helping their children achieve their academic goals.



Stable, Scalable Technology Platform

Improves access to remote services and the schools' academic and SEL curriculum, provides high functioning technical support that ensures that all students and parents have access to W-Fi and can operate hardware and software systems, and ensures high performance of all schools in the pilot and beyond.



Training and Coaching Parents and Teachers

An evidence-based training and coaching program that empowers middle school parents and teachers to achieve broader collaboration objectives necessary for remote services; and increases their capability to participate as equal partners in the education of their children.



Academic and SEL Instructional Programs

A rigorous online instructional program expanded to after school and summer to help students achieve their academic goals and meet grade standards in all subject areas, address stress that is related to the pandemic, and access tutoring and mentoring for individualized instruction and support.



PCP Pilot Program



Up to five schools are invited to participate in PCP; it is estimated that up to 20 parents from each school will apply to join the pilot program.



Parents participate in both programmatic and curriculum components. PCP's first five sites are scheduled to begin in New York City and will serve as the model for PCP's expansion to other NYC schools.



Urban Tech, a 501(c)(3) educational corporation with a mission to close the divide in technology training, academic performance, social and emotional well-being, and job growth. Urban Tech leads the PCP pilot in partnership with schools and parents in CSD #17.



Partners

School Principals and Teachers



What We Have Learned

- Trained parents must be available to help students manage themselves in the home during remote services.
- Parents were needed to help students avoid the academic and SEL gaps that students, especially minority students, experience when delivery of instruction is disrupted.
- Schools need to provide high functioning technical support in homes for all students (Wi-Fi, hardware, software and remote services) and provide academic, technological and SEL support to parents and families to ensure continuity of instruction.
- A Help Desk and technology team must be in place to guide and support students who may be having instructional challenges related to technology.

Partners

Parents at Home



The COVID Experience

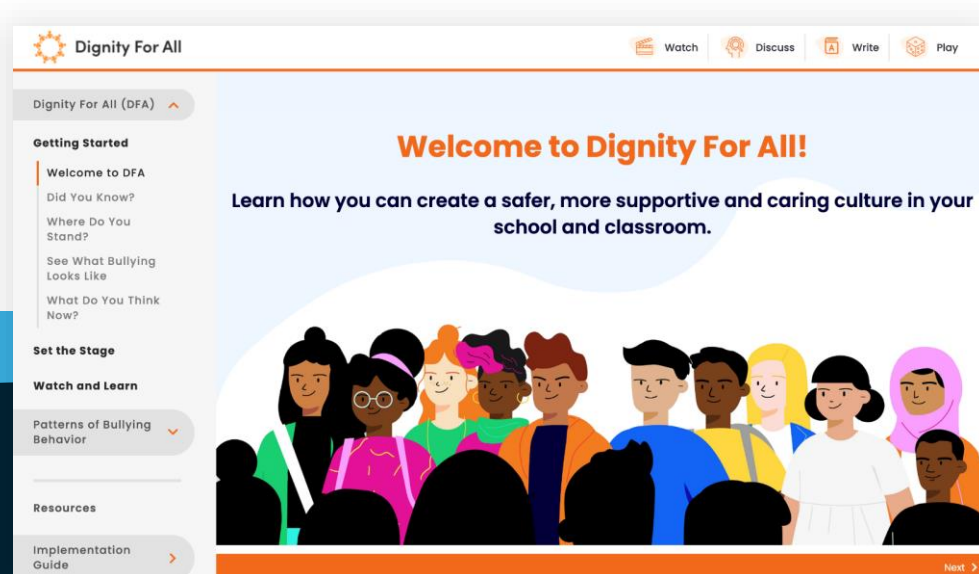
- In March 2020, NYC made the decision to close its public schools resulting from the rise in the COVID pandemic. On March 3, 2020, remote learning began in NYC. What schools and parents have learned in nine months as they implement remote services is helping our team define next steps for the 2020-21 school year and beyond.

COVID Challenges

- Parents were not trained to support the students with remote services and technical expertise; and have limited resources.
- Students were not accustomed to being instructed via online remote services.
- Some parents disrupted classes or even engaged in negative verbal interactions with their children, spouses, other children in the class and even the teacher.

Partners

Urban Tech



Founded in 1995, Urban Tech has implemented technology learning in hundreds of computer centers and schools across the country. Urban Tech's programs improve academic performance, social and emotional skills, and increase vocational competencies for high paying jobs in the new technological economy.

- Fostering an understanding of the interpersonal dynamics of communication
- Incorporating experiential learning modalities such as role-playing, group discussion, and writing
- Giving teachers and students the support and skills needed to create safe and supportive cultures in classrooms in which social-emotional learning is fostered
- Supporting, including, and empowering parents as positive stakeholders for service learning in the school community for bullying prevention, discrimination and social justice.

Dignity For All: A Model for Change

Student Service Learning

The screenshot shows the 'GAMES' section of the Dignity For All website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for Watch, Discuss, Write, and Play. Below the navigation bar, the text 'Dignity For All (DFA)' is displayed. A sidebar on the left contains a menu with 'Patterns of Bullying Behavior' and 'Resources' (Implementation Guide, Teacher Resources, Hotlink Library, Assessments, Glossary). The main content area features a heading 'GAMES' and a prompt: 'Click on items below to launch a game or activity'. Four circular icons are arranged in a 2x2 grid: 'FACT FICTION OR' (top-left), 'PERPETRATING RHYMES' (top-right), 'REWIND' (bottom-left), and 'CHOOSE' (bottom-right). A copyright notice 'Copyright © 2020 The National Urban Technology Center' is visible at the bottom left.

Interactive learning activities

The screenshot shows the 'See What Bullying Looks Like' video module on the Dignity For All website. The navigation bar and sidebar are consistent with the previous screenshot. The main content area features a heading 'See What Bullying Looks Like' and a sub-heading 'Let's look at a video that shows an example of the harm of bullying in everyday life.' Below the text is a video player showing a young boy sitting on a bus, looking out the window. The video player has a progress bar and a play button. The sidebar on the left contains a menu with 'Getting Started' (Welcome to DFA, Did You Know?, Where Do You Stand?, See What Bullying Looks Like, What Do You Think Now?), 'Set the Stage', 'Watch and Learn', 'Patterns of Bullying Behavior', 'Resources', and 'Implementation'.

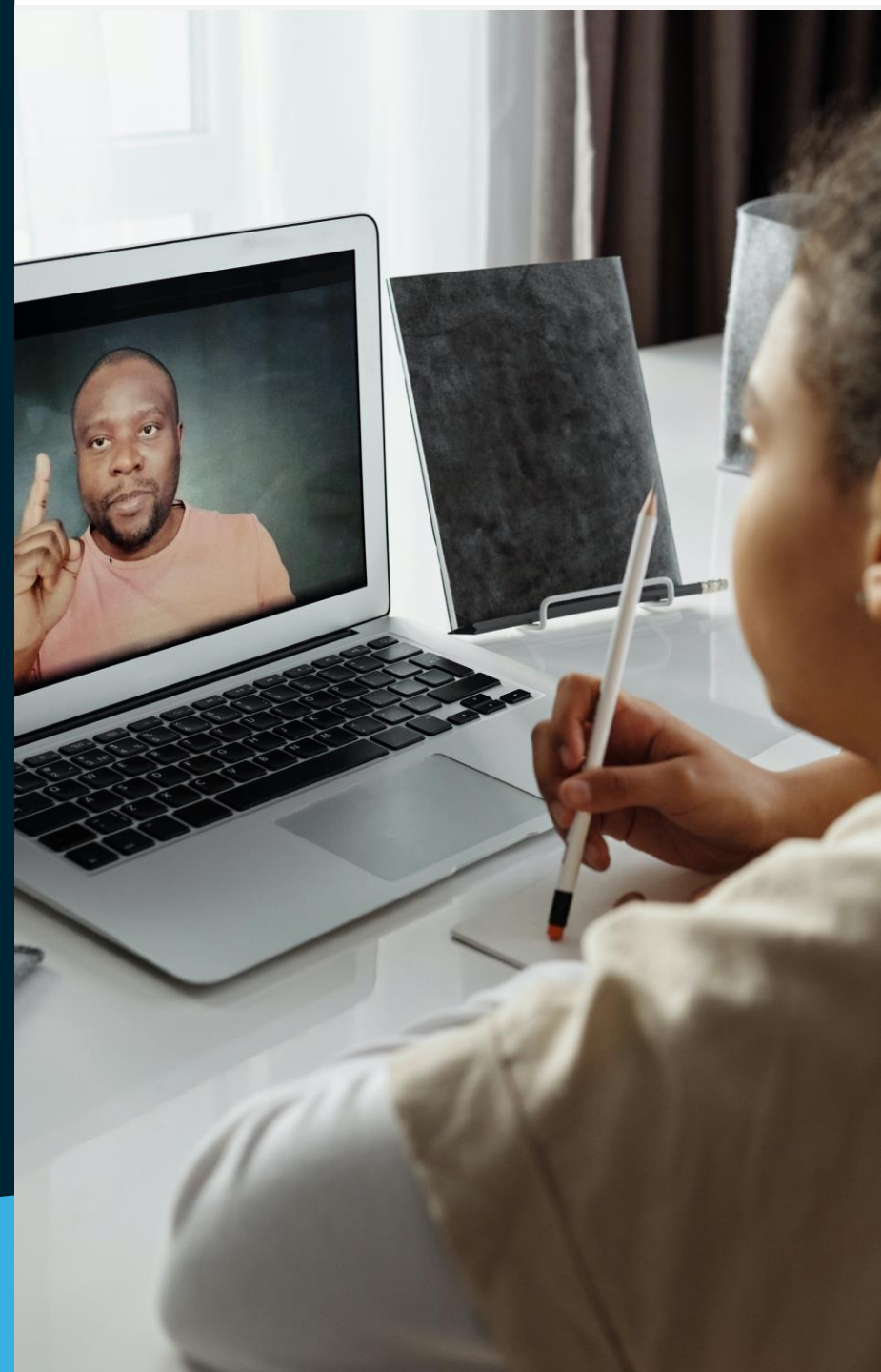
Educational modules and videos

Parents As Equal Partners

A Model For Change

The Parents Care Program[®] engages parents as equal partners in a collaborative role with the teacher to improve social and emotional well-being and academic outcomes for students, and includes the following:

- Knowledgeable parents working collaboratively with teachers
- High academic standards to help students achieve their goals in all subject areas
- Social and Emotional supports to improve resilience and readiness to perform in the new online environment



Parents As Equal Partners

Racial equality – Closing the Learning Gap

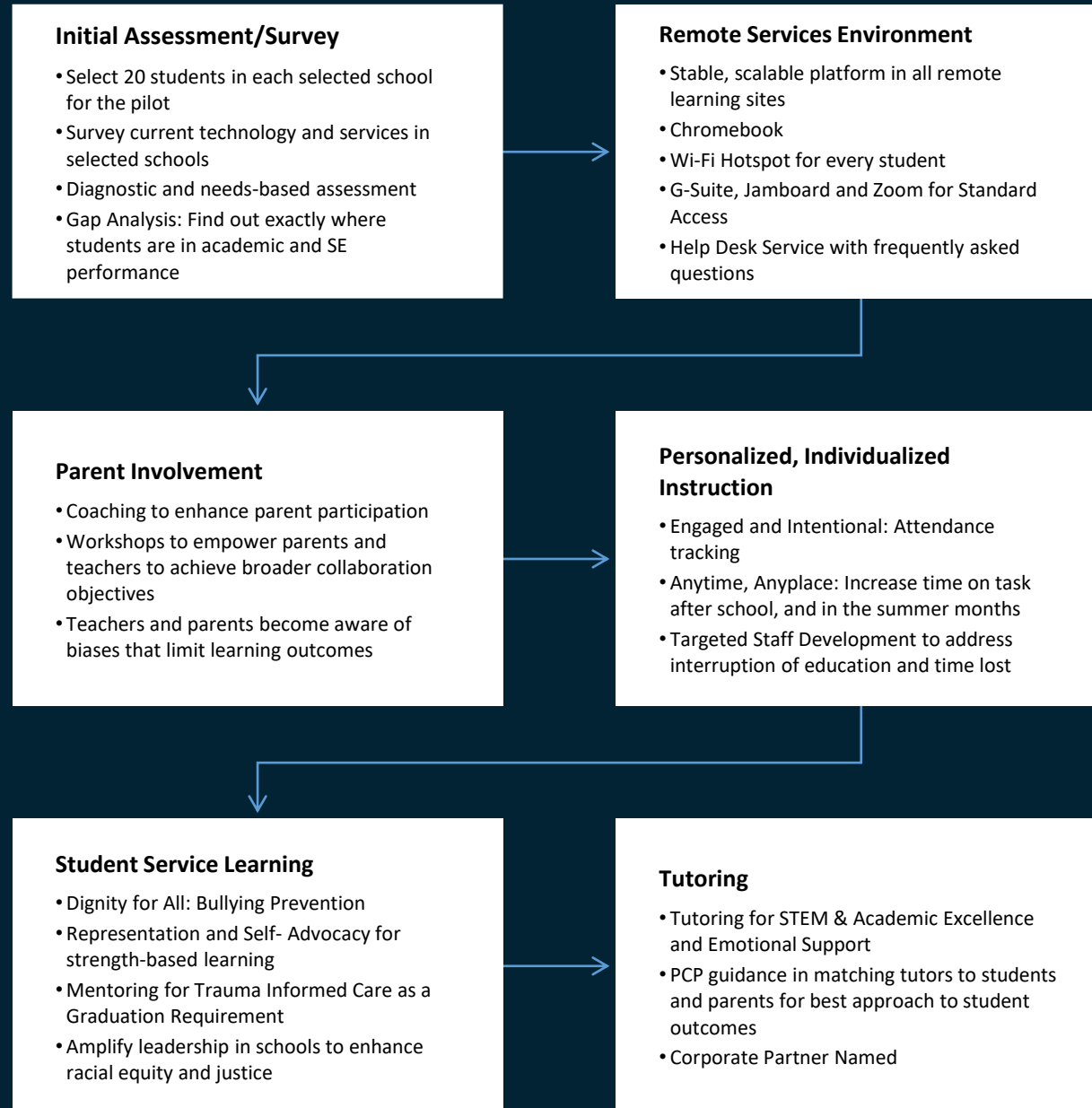
The pandemic has shone a light on how racial inequality has impacted minority families and their students due to lack of digital inclusion and inability to receive remote services in their homes.

Working together with funding partners, PCP eliminates racial disparities in communities by equipping homes with a “smart” new learning platform to ensure equal access to specialized education , social and emotional learning and 21st century technological skills. Parents are trained to work with teachers to increase students’ time on task and expand and extend learning for the entire family to avoid the danger of being left behind.



Recover and Build

Our Plan Forward





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