PEPS PROGRAM EVALUATION AND COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Parents, group leaders, staff, and professionals from community-based organizations met in 2019 in independent focus groups and interviews to share in-depth feedback about PEPS (peps.org) and parent support in their communities.

All parents need social support

All parents need quality affordable childcare

Low income parents need affordable housing

Low income parents need access to basic needs

Immigrant and refugee parents need translation and language support

Teen moms need to feel less judged by community members and access to transitional housing

community needs

"I didn't know there was

other mothers in this

school and now I can

talk to these mothers

and know that they have

babies and if I need

advice, I can just come

up to them like, Hey,

help me out. Do you

have some advice?"

-Cocoon House Focus

Group Participant

"I was a first time

mother, and because

you're in a different

country and you don't

know how the systems

work. It helps me get

out of the house and it

is good for me and my

daughter to socialize

with others."

-Open Arms Focus

Group Participant

"I didn't know where to

go when I was pregnant,

but coming to PEPS,

they'd pass their babies

around, hold them, and

they taught me some

ways to parent [my

daughter] and read her

books and stuff like that."

-Cocoon House Focus

Group Participant

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS OF PEPS MODEL

POSITIVE

GROUP SIZE



GROUP LEADERS



NEW MOMS ONLY GROUPS



NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED GROUPS

NEUTRAL

COUPLE ONLY GROUPS





THREE-MONTH GROUPS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE GROUPS

NEGATIVE

HOSTING IN HOMES



PROGRAM FEE

Negative perception Positive and negative perception OR neutral perception Positive perception

PILOT GROUP* PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

CONNECTIONS WITH PARENTS continued after the

group ended

The group **DEVELOPED TRUST** Moms felt **SUPPORTED** AND INCLUDED in a community

*Partnerships with Open Arms serving spanish-speaking moms and with Cocoon House, Crossroads High School, and Compass Health serving teen moms

NON-JUDGMENTAL

Strong interest in **DEVELOPMENTAL MOMENT** and learning

about babies

NEXT STEPS FOR PEPS

Engage in advocacy efforts to improve family outcomes

Explore further adaptions to accessible fee structure

Pay more attention to identity and intersectionality in programming

Invest in and collaborate with partners to deliver effective groups

Offer groups in languages other than English

Continue to embed racial equity into all parts of PEPS Ensure local leadership and accessible community sites for groups