



PALO ALTO COLLEGE
**EDUCATE
SOUTH**

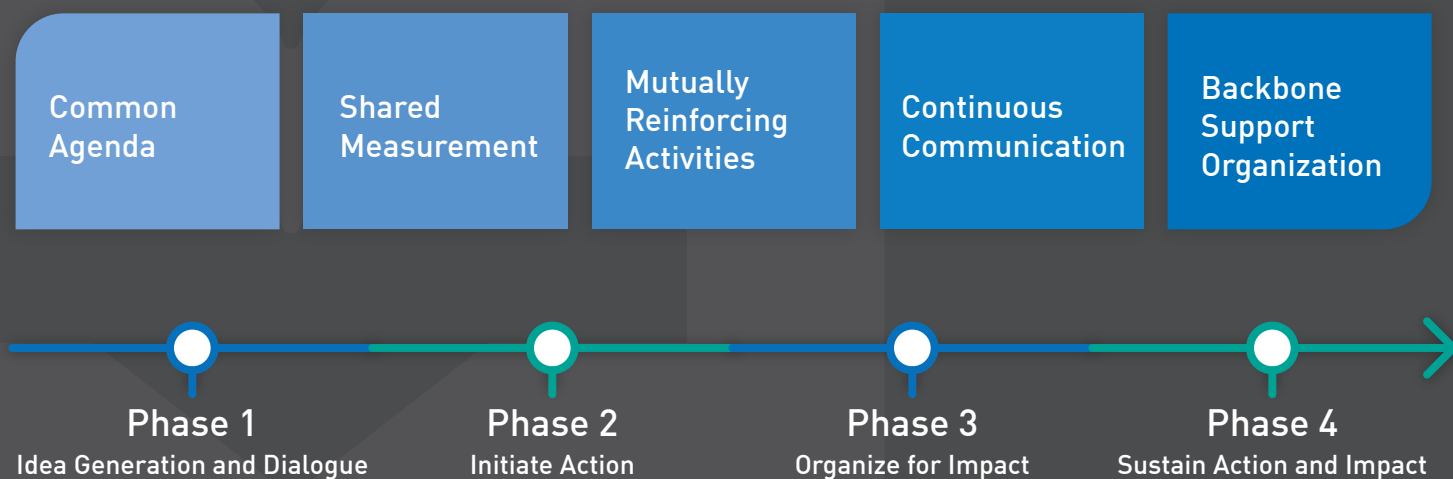
Increasing educational attainment
in south San Antonio and Bexar County

Overview

As an institution of higher education, Palo Alto College is deeply committed to eradicating poverty through the transformational power of education. Educate South is a community effort led by Palo Alto College focused on beginning educational awareness at the earliest years by building public and private partnerships that create and sustain a college-going culture in south Bexar County.

Collective Impact Model

Educate South seeks to fundamentally change how we approach social change in our community through five conditions for collective impact. Utilizing this collective impact model, we will initiate a phased approach to action and impact.



Guiding Principles

In order to fully develop the potential of our community's children, Educate South embraces the fact that education starts at birth. Through three phases impacting children of all ages – from newborn through high school – Palo Alto College is committed to building a college-going culture in our community through existing programming and developing new and innovative ideas.

Exposure

- Newborn connection
- Adopt-a-School
- Palomino Pumpkin Patch
- Winter Wonderland
- Eggstravaganza
- PACfest

The exposure phase seeks to introduce families and their children – from the time they are newborns – to a college-going mindset and establish an affiliation with higher education.

Educate South seeks to ensure that our community is exposed to higher education and comfortable with the idea of being on a college campus.

The exposure phase also connects with pre-school and elementary-aged children through initiatives such as newborn connection and adopt-a-school, and also exposes children to a college campus through family-oriented events, like Palomino Pumpkin Patch, Eggstravaganza, and PACfest.

Exploration

- Summer Camps
- CORE4 STEM
- Endorsement paths
- TRIO programs
- Discover PAC

This phase helps children become familiar with the many opportunities and resources available in college. This progress will occur throughout a student's K-12 experience and provides opportunities for a deeper level of engagement.

Students in elementary through high school can participate in Palo Alto College Summer Programs and CORE4 STEM Family Day which

expose students to the fine arts and STEM opportunities at the College.

As students advance into high school, they can explore high-wage, high-demand careers through endorsement paths that align with Alamo Institutes. Students can also participate in TRIO programs, which prepare high school students to be college-ready by high school graduation.

Experience

- Dual Credit
- Early College High School
- AlamoPROMISE
- Experiential Learning

The experience phase encompasses early access to college education and students' transitions after graduation.

By providing early access, high school students can get firsthand college experience by participating in college credit-bearing courses. This is accomplished through the Dual Credit program (up to 42 credit hours) and Early College High Schools, through which students can obtain an associate degree while still in high school.

To support students' transition to college, high school students can participate in College Connection, which helps students navigate the Palo Alto College enrollment process. Many high school graduates from south San Antonio and Bexar County may also be eligible for the AlamoPROMISE program which provides two years of no-cost college tuition.