

# Heart of Isaac Community Center FACT SHEET

#### **Mission & Vision**

Isaac School District's (ISD) mission is to provide a safe, supportive learning environment by promoting critical thinking, creativity and innovation, social, emotional and physical health, and democratic responsibility so that every child can reach her or his highest potential. Our vision is to prepare students to engage in a dynamic and complex world with endless opportunities for personal and professional growth.

### **Heart of Isaac Community Center**

The Heart of Isaac Community Center (HOI) is a new project of the Isaac District. The Isaac District is dedicated to student success and recognizes the importance of addressing their community's health/social service needs so that students can achieve their highest potential. Creating a Family Resource Center (FRC) at ISD furthers the District's mission by developing and supporting parents so that they can improve their quality of life, and become better equipped to nurture their child's academic/life success. The HOI will serve as a "community health hub" where:

- Families will have access to information:
- Will be connected to resources that can provide them with support to overcome challenges;
- Create healthy connections with community organizations and peers; and
- Participate in opportunities that promote leadership and giving back to the community.

ISD was intentional in including the community in the development of the Heart of Isaac. Utilizing a "community driven" approach, we partnered with Isaac parents, residents, school staff, and community partners to identify areas of need and potential programming/services to be offered at the HOI and in the development of the strategic plan for the project. ISD also has developed unique cross-sector partnerships with community agencies to strengthen and leverage resources to maximize the support we can provide to families.

### **Isaac Parent** *Promotores*

Part of the work of Heart of Isaac is to not only serve as a "community health hub" where families can obtain support services but to also to provide opportunities for leadership development. By developing parents and community residents we are not only promoting sustainability of the Heart of Isaac but we are empowering parents to be change agents in their family, school, and community, ultimately improving the quality of life and well-being for children and families residing in the Isaac community.

The leadership development approach that we utilized to achieve this was the Promotor(a) Model (aka Community Health Worker model). A Promotor(a) is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison/link/intermediary between institutions and the community to facilitate access to services. A *Promotor(a)* also builds individual and community capacity by increasing knowledge and self-sufficiency through a range of activities such as outreach, community education, informal counseling, social support and advocacy."

Through a collaborative partnership we were able to leverage resources and funding to bring MHP Salud's Promotora/Community Health Worker Core Competencies training to the Isaac community. Parent and community leaders in the Isaac community were identified to participate in this training and gain certification as a Promotor(a)/Community Health Worker. We currently have a consistent, strong group of 22 parent *Promotores*. The ISD Parent *Promotores* group meets bi-weekly to continue participating in trainings, leadership development opportunities, and supporting the district in promoting school events/activities and peer-to-peer support to other parents/residents in the community.

> To learn more about the Isaac School District #5 initiatives please contact: Sarah C. Gonzalez at 623-217-0438 or sgonzalez@isaacschools.org



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# **Isaac School District Community Partners**

ISD has partnered with community agencies to provide amazing resources/services that will be provided to all of our students and their family members, regardless if they are insured or uninsured. The following community partners have made a HUGE commitment to the Isaac Community and want to support in addressing the challenges our students and their families face so that teachers can focus on what they do best, and that is teach!

#### **Keogh Health Connections**

Will base enrollment specialists at each school site, and will include the Heart of Isaac Community Center, to assist families in accessing/enrolling for; AHCCCS, Marketplace, SNAP, and/ or cash benefits. Will additionally connect families to additional resources as needed.

#### Valle Del Sol

Will provide clinicians to all schools sites, and will include the Heart of Isaac Community Center, to provide individual/group therapy and prevention classes (anger management, substance abuse, bullying, etc.) to children and adults, uninsured and insured. In the Fall of 2018 school year, Valle will place a clinical school liaison in the 3 middle schools to provide comprehensive behavioral services/trauma informed care to students, parents and professional development to school staff. They will also provide primary care services through their medical clinic on 27th Ave & Van Buren, which was opened in August of 2017.

Note: Valle's team is working closely with ISD Counseling Department for referrals for behavioral health services. They are working closely with ISD Parent Educators for referrals for primary care and case management services.

#### **Parson's Dental and Orthodontics Clinic**

Will provide dental screenings, x-rays, dental cleanings, and oral health education to students who are insured or uninsured, on a monthly rotating schedule. They will also accept referrals for parents, family members, and school staff, for dental care regardless if individuals are insured or uninsured. Parson's has also offered ISD free implants to any employee in need.

Note: Parson's is working with ISD Nurses to coordinate school site dental clinics and to receive referrals for dental care.

#### Isaac Healthy Kiddos Healthy Communities Program (HKHC)

Through a collaboration with Keogh Health Connection, Valle Del Sol, Dignity Health Medical Center, ASU ChiR, ISD was awarded funding to provide wrap around services to students and parents, insured or uninsured. Keogh and Valle Del Sol will work hand in hand to provide enrollment assistance (AHCCCS/Marketplace/SNAP/Cash benefits) and case management services through the support of a Community Health Worker. Wrap around services can range from; food boxes, uniforms, employment, transportation, legal assistance, adult education, etc.

Note: HKHC can be accessed through ISD Parent Educators through a referral process.

# **Creighton University Nursing Department**

Will provide Bachelor Nursing (BSN), Master Nursing (MSN) and Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) to support students at all school sites, including HOI. Some examples of services Creighton Nurses will provide include: Vision screenings, Hearing screenings, Height/weight, BMI checks, updating immunization records, Professional development for school nurses, preventative Health topics for students (lice prevention, hygiene, diabetes, opioids, etc.).

Note: Creighton nursing students is working with ISD Nurses to coordinate school site services.

#### **ASU School of Social Workers**

Will provide Bachelor (BSW) and Master (MSW) level Social Work Student interns to support school sites, including HOI, with addressing student and parent health and social service needs.

Note: ASU social work students work with HOI Director to coordinate school site services.