

Libraries as Partners in Engagement Around Housing

Handout for November 29, 2018 Learning Network Session

Familiar roles for libraries:

- Meeting space
- Good location for flyers

In Fall 2017, Home for All hosted informational dialogues at ten libraries around San Mateo County. Those sessions confirmed that libraries were a good location for education and constructive dialogue about housing. In 2018 Home for All pilot cities partnered with libraries for these additional purposes:

- Help reach a more diverse cross section of the community
- Provide “mutual learning” between City and community:
 - What are community members’ starting points
 - What is the City doing about housing

City	How the library helped with community engagement in 2018	Other things this library can do (with enough advance notice)
Burlingame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space and support for afternoon intercept interviews • Access to Newcomers Conversation Classes • Flyers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Book Bike” outreach during community events • Host small community discussions • Co-schedule pop-ups during popular programs
Half Moon Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice on best times to reach different kinds of community members • Space for pop-ups and intercept interviews • Bi-lingual flyers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informational displays with background information • Bi-lingual staff able to help with outreach and pop-ups
Portola Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poster and flyers at library for community conversation • Guidance about how to reach busy parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informational displays with background information • Outreach in community and at events • Arrange for bi-lingual staff to help with outreach and pop-ups (e.g., with caregivers) • Staff interested in being trained as facilitators

Redwood City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participated in partner planning discussion with RWC 2020• Co-hosted Latino leaders meeting• Publicized & co-hosted first community conversation April 11• Helped plan and staff bi-lingual pop-ups at multiple library storytimes plus church locations• Helped debrief outreach efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth engagement opportunities• Able to help host smaller meetings in targeted neighborhoods• Staff interested in being trained as facilitators <hr/>
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