



# Graduating Students, One Community at a Time

## Program Description:

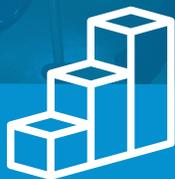
Proyecto Pastoral at Dolores Mission was founded in 1986 by community residents and the California Province of Jesuits. It has grown into a highly effective community-building organization, whose mission is to provide training, education and social services with the Pico-Aliso/Boyle Heights district of East Los Angeles. Proyecto Pastoral serves over 2,500 children, youth and families annually through its five programs.

The \$300,000 in funding from AT&T Aspire will bring Proyecto Pastoral closer to their goal of 85 percent graduation rates at Mendez Learning Center, serving Los Angeles' Boyle Heights neighborhood, by 2017. AT&T's contribution will support the implementation of the Mendez Success Plan, which seeks to increase graduation rates by 30 percent over the next two years. Funding from AT&T will support three key components of the plan: the establishment of early warning and intervention systems, a system of school and community team-based supports, and Linked Learning opportunities for youth.



While the Mendez Success Plan includes a broad combination of strategies such as multiple pathway programs, a training institute for youth workers in our community, and college readiness and transition systems, funding from AT&T will support the implementation of three key components of the plan: the establishment of early warning and intervention systems, a system of school and community team-based supports, and Linked Learning opportunities for youth.

- Proyecto Pastoral serves **over 2,500** children, youth and families annually through its five programs.
- Boyle Heights is one of LA's most populated neighborhoods (**95,000+**) and has one of the highest percentages of Latino residents (**94 percent**). **Two-thirds** of adult residents do not have a high school degree, and **1 in 4** families live below the federal poverty line.



**Funding:**  
**\$300,000**

*"Last year my grades were really low. IMPACTO helped me get my grades up and now I'm caught up with all of my credits. There are a lot of kids like me that need the help. If IMPACTO helped more students at Mendez, I think more students would get their grades up and would also help with graduation."*

Enrique Gonzaga, 10th grade student at Mendez Learning Center