

Best Start Watts Willowbrook CBAR World Café Story



Watts Community from Our Eyes



Residents of Watts

- The Watts community is a culturally diverse group of people who have lived in the area anywhere from 4 to 40 years. Those who have lived in Watts for a long time have seen a lot of good changes happen over the years, and this makes them proud to be a part of the community.



Residents of Watts

- Residents of Watts do their best to support each other despite language barriers. Even though language barriers still exist between African American and Latino residents, there is willingness to change and become a more united community.



School Involvement

- **Volunteering and getting to know people in the community, especially in the housing developments, are just some ways that people get information and learn about resources. Being involved in schools is a big priority for many Latino mothers. Parents attend school meetings (mainly parent-teacher conferences) and events in hopes of making connections with teachers and principals.**



School Involvement

- They also like to volunteer in the classrooms to observe their child's environment and how they are interacting with children. Some parents even see this volunteering as a way to advocate for their children especially with problems such as bullying and gang recruitment.



Aspirations for Children

- **Parents in Watts really want to see their children succeed in school and become leaders in the community of Watts. They want their children to be able to attend college and then come back and help make Watts a better place.**



Aspirations for Children

- Parents are eager to learn about ways that they can help their children succeed because they understand they are an important part of the child's success. To support this they are asking for parenting classes, workshops for cooking, English and even therapy sessions.



Aspirations for the Community

- Residents of Watts see that there is a lot of collaboration, respect and communication between neighbors, which is one of the reasons that they are happy to live in Watts.



Aspirations for the Community

- They want this community engagement to continue through community clean-up activities (to get rid of trash and graffiti) and work to convert empty lots into outdoor activity spaces for children and families.



Families in Watts

- Families in Watts enjoy doing many activities with their children, especially eating meals together. Families also enjoy playing at the park together.



Families in Watts

- It is interesting to know that mothers are becoming more active in the community, and taking on more responsibility for their health as well as their family's health. For example, many women attend health fairs (a popular community event) to get health information for the family.



Families in Watts

- Because mothers are becoming more active, some fathers are helping more to help raise and take care of the children at home.



Thank you



TEAMWORK

Contact Information

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