



NATIONAL PARENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

2019 EVALUATION SUMMARY

“Our 3-year evaluation showed that NPLI is an effective leadership development initiative that leads to profound changes in parents’ civic, personal, and family lives. These changes are the result of PLTI’s intentional efforts to develop relationships across difference, to treat each parent with dignity, and to empower parents to lead through develop their civic knowledge and skills.”

- Joanna Geller, NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity

Parents, Policy & Power

The Need

As we look across the growing divide in civic discourse, we see communities increasingly siloed, systems ossifying to keep people separated across difference. These separations are physically evident in our cities and neighborhoods, falling along race and class lines. And in an ever deepening political divide, where it’s becoming difficult to nail down biases, we struggle to find truth and connect with each other in spaces where we do not agree. How can we make necessary changes when we are not all sitting at the same decision-making table?

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Building Bridges

To strengthen democracy and to improve policies for children, families, schools, and communities, bridges need to be built across difference. We need to deepen our understanding of what is affecting each other’s lives, to co-identify problems and co-create solutions.

Decisions and policies that affect families should be made with the needs and inputs of families. But too often arenas do not intentionally prepare to welcome parents to the table. And, too often, parents don’t feel prepared or ready to join the conversation.

What is NPLI?

The National Parent Leadership Institute increases the presence and power of parents and families at decision making tables and in community problem solving spaces by:

- Growing the leadership capacity of parents, through the Parent Leadership Training Institute; *and*
- Connecting parents to leadership and advocacy opportunities through local and national networks; *and*
- Partnering with local organizations and local government; *leading to*

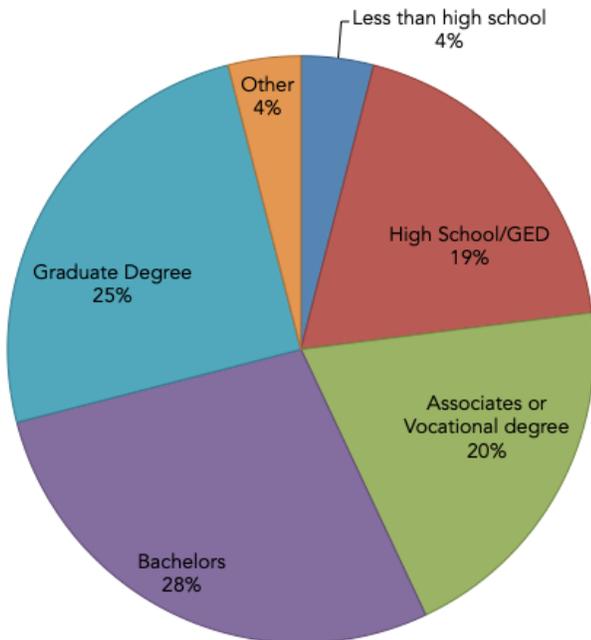
Statistically significant outcomes for graduates, immediately, and over time.

Our alumni continue to increase in their political and personal agency, as evidenced by our longitudinal outcomes.

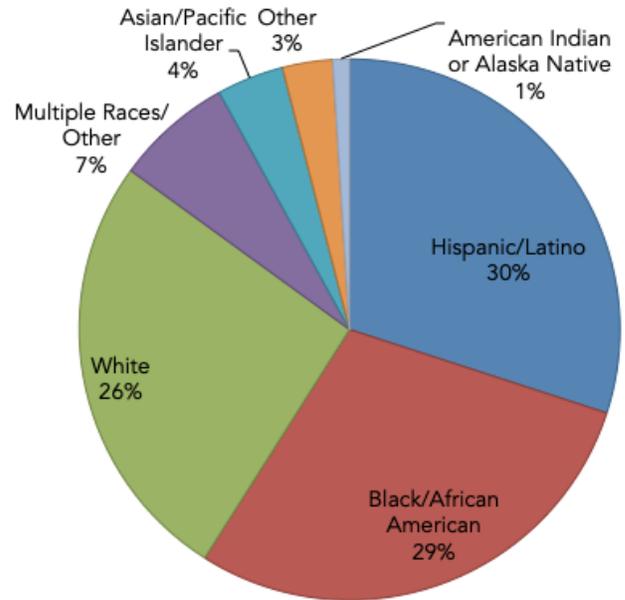
Who are NPLI Parent Leaders?

Each local site's Parent Leadership Training Institute builds intentionally diverse groups for their 20-week cohort training. This diversity is cultivated to reflect the demographics of the local context to the greatest extent possible- across race, ethnicity, country of origin, age, education, income, political partisanship, gender and sexual preference.

EDUCATION LEVEL



RACE



"After PLTI I am more open minded, [as] opposed to the tunnel vision that I used to have; I understand other people go through struggles, even those who don't look like me."

"Love. We have this whole other family with PLTI. When we see each other, we're excited, trying to find out what each other is doing. So, it's love. Each year it grows."

"I'm connected with people outside my circle now. My circle is bigger and it doesn't look just like me."

"Being in PLTI helped me better understand where others start and come from. The diverse class showed different circumstances and concerns from my own."



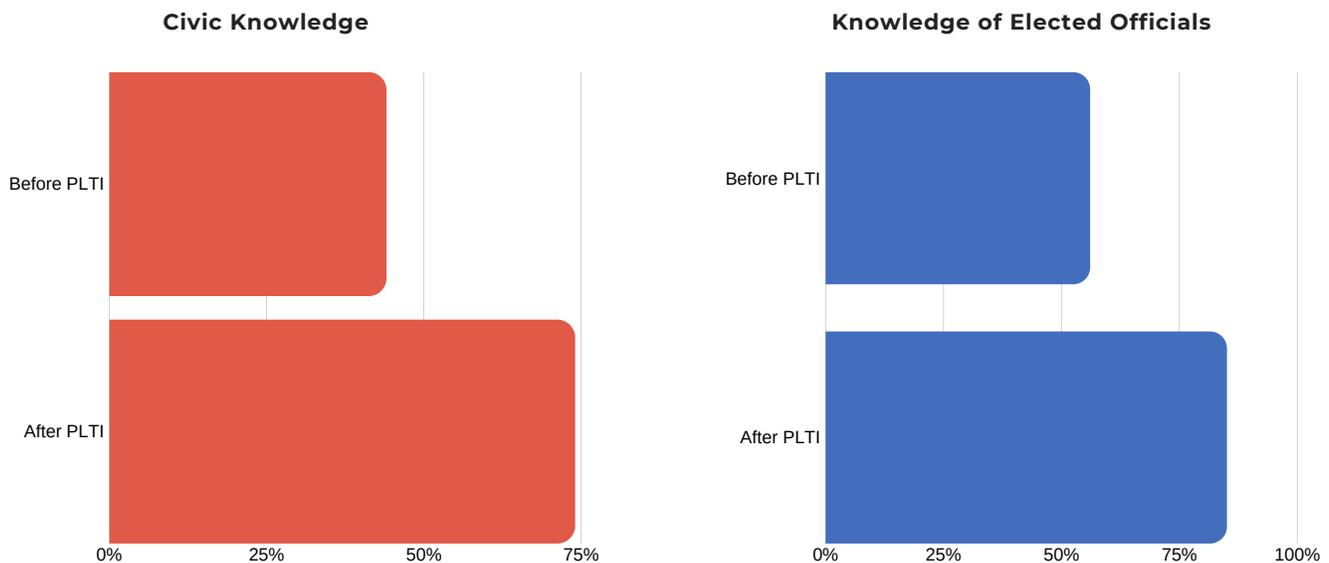
Growth in Civic Knowledge & Skills



Civic Knowledge consists of: considering alternative viewpoints, appreciating diversity, understanding the role of citizens in the political process and formation of public policy, monitoring and understanding current events, and thinking critically about political information.

Civic Skills include: Public speaking and personal communication skills, coalition- and community-building, organizing and advocating for change.

NPLI engages NYU's Metro Center in ongoing evaluation of parent leaders before their PLTI experience, after their PLTI experience, and longitudinally as alumni, measured through pre- and post-surveys, as well as through interviews.

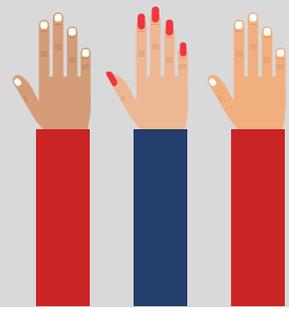


"[PLTI] me ha cambiado mucho, primero que todo el descubrir de que mi voz cuenta...el alcalde se sienta a escuchar mis quejas; yo en mis años de estar aquí nunca pensé como que yo odia hacer una cita con él e ir a hablar con él y que él se sentaba escucharme. Yo pensaba que esto era solamente para las personas que tienen puestos o cargos."

"[PLTI] has changed me a lot, first of all discovering that my voice counts...the mayor sits down to listen to my complaints. In my years of being here, I never thought that I could make an appointment with him and go talk to him and that he would sit and listen to me. I thought that this was only for people who have high positions or posts".

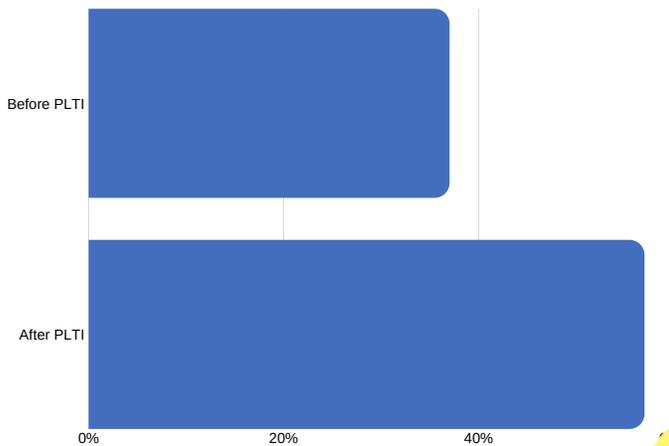
"I testified in front of the House Ways and Means Committee for WA last January. I have been asked by two different organizations to make a trip to DC for advocacy work on a national level."

Growth in Civic Action

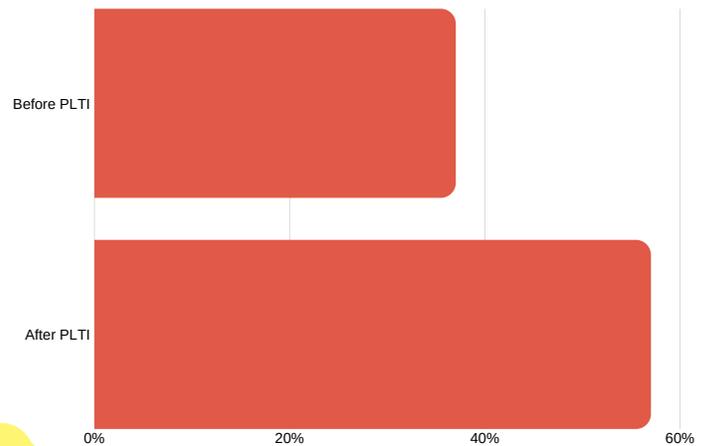


PLTI alumni who participated in the program learned skills that empowered them to more deeply engage in their schools and communities. PLTI participants worked together to shape school policies and community initiatives, met with elected officials, and ran for elected office.

Participated in a Civic Organization



Contacted an Elected Official



31% of PLTI alumni across the U.S. have worked to register voters

"I have worked in engaging others of my community to do and to work in our community's schools."

"I am currently in discussion with my community library about creating opportunities for our neighbors to volunteer and mentor in."

"I work with a public defender in making brick and mortar businesses websites accessible for the blind community."

"Mainly focused on raising the profile of my neighborhood association and doing outreach to make it a more inclusive network. Working to save our local community center from further neglect."

"A number of our PLTI graduates over the years have become involved in the community. They sit on boards. They run for office. They're part of the city council. They're part of the Board of Ed, and that's what it's all about, you know? Leadership taking authority for your own issues."