CAPE GRANTS

The NEA Community Advocacy & Partnership Engagement (CAPE) Department provides state and local partnership funding grants that are intended to assist state/local affiliates to identify, engage, and mobilize community organizations and community leaders around increasing student achievement, engaging members who have participated in leadership trainings, and creating union roles to build capacity to engage community partners.

Grant considerations are made on the following strategic priorities:

- Initiatives to Improve Student Achievement, particularly in communities of color;
- Engaging NEA members who have been trained in NEA’s leadership trainings or those who have a demonstrated record of activism for the purpose of furthering social justice activism and/or professional issues activism;
- Establishing or institutionalizing new union roles related to parent and/or community engagement;
- Focus on advancing NEA’s priority on racial justice in education.

For questions, please email CAPEGrantsPF@nea.org or visit www.nea.org/grants/58935.htm www.nea.org/CAPE

94.6%
OF GRANTS FUNDED COMPLETED
100% OF THEIR GOALS

CAPACITY
GRANTEE EFFORTS SPREAD TO
STATE AND LOCAL AFFILIATES

69 GRANTS
6 YEARS, 24 STATE AND LOCAL AFFILIATES

REACH
1 IN 4 STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE TAUGHT BY MEMBERS REPRESENTED BY CAPE GRANTEES
WORKING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

CAPE Grants have invested $2,254,500 funding 69 grants over 6 years being utilized by 24 states, districts, and schools across the country.

ACHIEVING SUCCESS

94.6%

94.6% of the grants funded have completed 100% of their goals.

OBJECTIVES AND GOALS OF THE CAPE GRANTS

- Raise student achievement, specifically among students of color
- Build capacity to engage partners at the state and local level,
- And engage members.

Important Note:
CAPE Grants are connected to advancing Racial Justice in Education
“UTLA’s participation in the Community Advocacy and Partnership Engagement Grant has been part of our social justice work in fighting for the Schools LA Students Deserve. The CAPE partnership has encouraged a new layer of leaders, many young social justice activists, to become active in UTLA and shield against detention and deportation. This partnership has enabled each of our unions and AAAJ to do things together that we could not do alone.”
– United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) Secretary Arlene Inouye

“The NEA CAPE Grants have allowed Rainier Educators of Color Network to do what our members have asked us do in addressing the needs of our educators of color and community. We are building relationships with members, students, parents and our community through listening sessions, providing professional development, and ongoing mentor training.”
– Renton Education Support Professionals President and Rainier Educators of Color Network Co-Founder Janie White

“Thanks to our CAPE Grant, Education Austin was organized BEFORE a crisis vs. BECAUSE of a crisis. Strong, established partnerships with the Latino community were the reason we were able to move so quickly when the DACA crisis hit. Those first few clinics in Austin have sparked “Know Your Rights” clinics across the country, helping families and educators feel safe and informed.”
– Texas AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Montserrat Garibay

“Many of us across Santa Clara are concerned about the attacks on public education—but we weren’t coordinating. The CAPE grant has helped provide us with a space to bring different constituencies together. Now we have parents, educators, district leaders, and community organizations working together to fight for the schools our students deserve.”
– Evergreen Teachers Association President and Grassroots Education Movement (GEM) Silicon Valley Co-Founder Brian Wheatley
CAPE Grants Inspire Organizing and Change with other Local and State Affiliates

CAPE Grantees create, build, and strengthen local coalitions for their members and students to advance the priorities of NEA

Example of capacity building:

Four CAPE grantees led an effort for eight large urban local affiliates to join together with their community partners to create the California Alliance for Community Schools.

SAFE ZONE SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAP

CAPE Grantees focused on DACA and supporting immigrant students inspired local affiliated across the country to pass “Safe Zone” School Board Resolutions for immigrant students.

COMMUNITY

Community partnerships take effort. They’re complex, long-term, and vary from community to community. But the win for communities of color is worth it.