



ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR FRIENDS OF FAMILY ENRICHMENT NETWORK

Family Enrichment Net-
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Head Start & Early Head Start Family Community Partnership

Family Community Partnership is an integral component of the Head Start and Early Head Start experience. Family Community Partnership ensures that children are school ready by working with families to realize the importance of education, for themselves and their children. Family Advocates work with parents and families in Early Head Start to promote early reading and literacy through educating and modeling activities with families. We also work with expectant families in Early Head Start. With our expectant families we focus on prenatal and postnatal education in addition to, supporting families through a healthy pregnancy and guiding them towards a healthy delivery. With Head Start families, Family Advocates emphasize pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten readiness skills. We provide literacy resources and activities to families on home visits. Family Advocates act as a liaison between the classroom and the home, helping to encourage and reinforce the educational activities taking place in the classroom. In both Head Start & Early Head Start, we work to educate families about social and emotional development by providing resources and referrals available through the program and the community. Through monthly home visits with a Family Advocate, families are provided guidance and support to create and achieve both personal and family goals. During home visits, Family Advocates build relationships with families and learn ways to assist them in building the skills necessary to advocate for their children and their family. We offer information, support, and referrals to community agencies. For many families, monthly home visits are essential to assisting families in working toward their goals. Since September 2015 we have conducted 3,100 home visits with our families in both Broome and Tioga counties.

This year we continued our focus on the Parent Family Community Engagement (PFCE) framework to help better guide our goal oriented relationships with families. PFCE identifies seven family engagement outcomes that assist us to organize and identify goals. These areas are Family Well Being, Positive Parent-Child Relationships, Families as Lifelong Educators, Families as Learners, Family Engagement in Transitions, Family Connections to Peers and Community, and Families as Advocates and Leaders. Throughout the year, our families have achieved 957 goals in those areas. Supporting families to meet goals in these areas helps us to ensure that children are ready for school.

For more information about Head Start & Early Head Start Family Community Partnership please contact Karen Foley, FCP Coordinator at 723-8313 ext. 807.