ENRICHING THE COMMUNITY

A monthly publication for friends of Family Enrichment Network

Enriching the Community through Governance

One of the reasons Family Enrichment Network is successful is the behind the scenes work of our governance groups help make Family Enrichment Network stronger. As an agency that provides Head Start and Early Head Start services, we are required by Federal Rule to have an Agency Board and a Head Start and Early Head Start Governance System. The Head Start and Early Head Start Governance System is called Policy Council.

Policy Council is responsible for many of the same activities as the Governing Board, including: being part of our Annual Community Assessment and our program self-assessment; reviewing and approving all Head Start/Early Head Start Funding Application; and making program decisions to best meet the needs of our communities. Policy Council is also responsible for program matters including the employment of staff to the program; Head Start fundraising spending and activities; working in the Head Start community to ensure our objectives and plans are relevant to our families and their children.

The Policy Council Chairperson has membership on the Agency Governing Board to ensure that Head Start information is shared with the Board. This also allows the Policy Council Chairperson to receive information of Agency-wide priorities and share that information with the rest of Policy Council at their monthly meetings.

In a recent leadership meeting with our Office of Head Start (OHS) Program Specialist, Governing Board and Policy Council members had an opportunity to discuss their role in our governance structure. Our OHS Program Specialist was truly impressed by their work, knowledge, and contributions.

For more information about Family Enrichment Network Programs, please visit us at <u>www.familyenrichment.org</u>or call (607) 723-8313.



The mission of Family Enrichment Network is to provide supportive services for the optimal development of children and families. We believe in coordinating children and family services using a comprehensive and collaborative approach to improve their quality of life while ensuring the greatest value for our investment in child, adult, and parent development.