



FAMILIES: THE VITAL LINK



SPRING 2003

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HIPHY Expansions

HIPHY Partnerships Pave Way For Expansions

In this era of tight budgets there appears to be a bright light for HIPHY Programs as they identify resources to sustain their programs. It is very interesting to note how local agencies, program coordinators, and supervisors have all worked together to find very creative methods that capitalize on the use of existing community resources. These programs have discovered collaborative and innovative strategies to expand or to integrate the HIPHY model into their established networks.

Several programs have partnered with local housing authorities and both entities have increased their capacities to provide high quality services to more families. HIPHY programs have become the beneficiaries of free space, reduced program expenses, the ability to employ workers from the targeted communities, and have gained greater access to families residing in the communities. The authorities have benefited by being able to provide an educational family literacy preschool program for their parents and children. The common issues of transportation and child care have been practically eliminated for low income families, due to the fact that these programs are located within walking distance for these families.

Some programs are funded through local school districts utilizing Title I dollars. These center based programs are able to utilize the resources at the various schools. Oftentimes, joint parent meetings are held and parents are offered additional services they would not otherwise have been eligible to receive. There are other HIPHY programs that have joined hands with local Head Start/Even Start programs that already exist within their communities. These early childhood intervention programs work well together because they all foster a strong parent involvement component, one of these programs has reached out to serve children of incarcerated parents.

In spite of these partnerships, the integrity of the HIPHY model has not been compromised. In fact, these programs have been strengthened and enhanced to serve more children and families. If you are interested in exploring how you may incorporate any of these programs into your communities, you may contact the local HIPHY program or the state office.



Sarasota YMCA's HIPHY/PAT/Even Start Collaboration

The Even Start Family Literacy Program at YMCA Children, Youth and Family Services, Inc., works to improve the educational opportunities for families in North and South Sarasota County. Even Start targets families with children from birth to age seven. The Parents As Teachers (PAT) program staff works with families with children birth to age three, while the HIPHY Staff covers families with children aged 3, 4, and 5.

Even Start has **four components: Adult Education, Early Childhood Education, Parenting Education, and Parent and Child Time (PACT)**. HIPHY and PAT programs offers early childhood education training to their staff for educating parents. Home visits are conducted to train parents one-on-one using the HIPHY or PAT materials on how to work with and teach their children (parenting education). Both HIPHY and PAT programs encourage parent and child to work together (PACT). Through a collaboration with the Manatee Community College offers parents a choice of access to ABE or GED trainings, thereby fulfilling the adult education component. As one Sarasota parent puts it, "I love being part of HIPHY, PAT, and Even Start because it encourages me and my kids to love learning and to explore new things."

▲ ● ■ ★ HIPPY Brightens Futures

HIPPY PLUS PROGRAMS



HIPPY and Head Start at Orlando 4C's

Community Coordinated Care for Children, Inc., or 4C's in Orlando which is the Head Start grantee for Osceola and Seminole Counties, has partnered with the 4C's HIPPY program in Orange County to bring HIPPY to families residing in these two counties. This partnership is a natural one considering the philosophies of HIPPY and Head Start. Both programs are concerned with the social, physical, and cognitive development of preschool children. Head Start's philosophy is to include the entire family and community in creating a nurturing environment to foster social competence. HIPPY serves as a vehicle that the entire family can use to stimulate educational interactions between parents and children, and create a home environment conducive to family literacy.



Center for Family Services expands to become the largest Florida HIPPY Program

The mission of The Center for Family Services is "to preserve and strengthen individual and family life through professional, affordable counseling and other services. The agency promotes the physical, emotional, and social well being of families, children, and adults, and assists them in developing their own capabilities to sustain satisfying lives." HIPPY is one of the several programs offered by The Center for Family Services in keeping with its mission.

The HIPPY program at CFS started with 39 families in 1997-98, and in 1998-99 served 92 children and families. HIPPY was implemented in Boca Raton Housing Authority (Dixie Manor), Boca Isle East housing complex, and Delray Beach Housing Authority (Carver Estates). All three sites are low income subsidized housing communities. There is a large (and still increasing) number of Hispanic, African, and Portuguese families in these communities. HIPPY is funded primarily via Children Services Council of Palm Beach County, to provide home instruction to economically disadvantaged families, and this program has numerous partnerships including the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), libraries, early childhood agencies, churches, schools, media, etc.

In 2001-02, Center for Family Services was asked to expand its services to become the lead agency for ALL Palm Beach County HIPPY programs—namely, Belle Glade HIPPY, Boca Raton HIPPY, West Palm Beach Center of Excellence HIPPY, and School Board of Palm Beach County HIPPY.

DeMarchia Gibson was hired as the Program Director. Five new HIPPY coordinators were hired and trained to continue the HIPPY services at five sites. Families speaking English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole are served in 8 geographic locations at these five sites: Belle Glade, Boca Raton, Delray Beach, Lake Worth, Pleasant City, Riviera Beach, Westgate, and West Palm Beach. This Palm Beach County HIPPY program is now the largest HIPPY program in Florida. The program served more than 460 children with 34 HIPPY home visitors in 2001-02.

Lakeland HIPPY Families Receive Services From Healthy Families Program

The HIPPY Program at Early Childhood Resources in Lakeland is collaborating with Healthy Families in Polk County, Brain Minders, the Lakeland Housing Authority (LHA) and LHA Youth Program. Healthy Families and HIPPY collaborate by informing each other about parents that are in need of the other program's services. Healthy Families and the HIPPY program are both located in the Lakeland Housing Complex at West Lake Apartments. Healthy Families provides services such as parenting skills, child development information, nutrition information, referrals to other community services and family strengths.

HIPPY is also collaborating with Brain Minders, a program that works with children that are three, four, or five years old at our group meetings to instruct them on how to be safe when playing, riding bicycles or tricycles, and riding in vehicles.

FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

In The Sunshine State

HIPPY is on the Right Track



Findings from the Florida HIPPY Parent Survey show:

- Over 87% of HIPPY parents report they are more aware of the importance of reading as a result of participating in HIPPY.
- At least 70% of HIPPY parents report they are reading with their children either daily or at minimum of three times a week.

To review a press release with the above findings, go to the Florida HIPPY website and click on "Research and Evaluation."

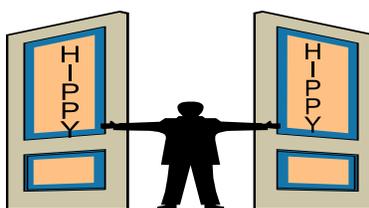
7 Super Things Parents & Caregivers Can Do

1. Talk often with your children from the day they are born.
2. Hug them, hold them, and respond to their needs and interests.
3. Listen carefully as your children communicate with you.

4. Read aloud to your children everyday, even when they are babies. Play and sing with them often.
5. Say "yes" and "I love you" as much as you say "no" and "don't."
6. Ensure a safe, orderly, and predictable environment, wherever they are.
7. Set limits on their behavior and discipline them calmly, not harshly.

(Taken from Early Childhood-Head Start Task Force, U.S. Dept. of Education and Health & Human Services, located at website address www.ed.gov.)

WELCOME ABOARD

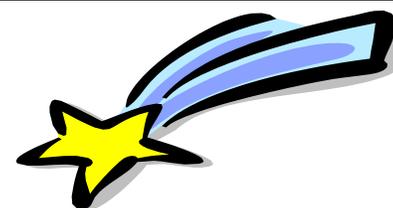


We extend a warm welcome to the newest HIPPY family members:

Orlando HIPPY Program
at Community Coordinated Care
for Children, Inc. with
Brittany Zaehring, HIPPY Supervisor

**HIPPY Training & Technical
Assistance Center**

Vicki Mark, Staff Assistant



HIPPY Stars Shine In Florida:

At the Florida State HIPPY Conference 2003 the following HIPPY Staff Members were presented Service awards:

Five (5) Years or more of SERVICE with HIPPY:

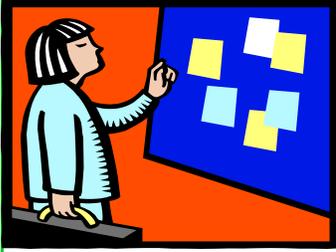
- ◆ **Barbara Brigety (6)**, Duval County Public Schools, Jacksonville
- ◆ **DeMarchia Gibson (6)**, Center for Family Services, West Palm Beach
- ◆ **Jone Williams (8)**, YMCA Children, Youth and Family Services, Inc., Sarasota

Ten (10) Years or more of SERVICE with HIPPY:

- ◆ **Thelma Calloway (12)**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami
- ◆ **Estherlily Sweeting (12)**, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, Miami
- ◆ **Mary Lindsey (12)**, Hillsborough County Center of Excellence, Tampa

VOLUNTEER with HIPPY:

- ◆ **Alice Greenwood**, Ft. Lauderdale---Quilt



Home Visitors Corner

(This section can include success stories of home visitors, or any issues that may relate to home visitors. Therefore, if you would like to submit a story or relevant issue, please feel free to forward it to the HIPPY T&TA Center.)

Scenes from our Successful Florida State HIPPY Conference 2003



CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

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To Learn More About the



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visit our website at:

<http://floridahippy.fmhi.usf.edu>

FUNDERS AND PARTNERS

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