

Olean Family Connections

Families with children to 7-years-old



Integrated family literacy program for families with children up to 7-years-old:

- *Program components include early childhood education, parenting, and adult basic education.*
- *Instruction and services are offered at the center as well as during in-home visits.*

Results



- *Participants showed significant increases in school readiness skills as measured by the Pre-School Inventory.*
- *Children showed significant increases in receptive vocabulary and in estimated verbal and literacy-related skills.*
- *Adults showed a significant increase in literacy skills.*
- *Parents reported a significant increase in the help they give to their children in skill acquisition.*

The Program

Olean Family Connections is a unified, holistic approach to early childhood education, parenting, and adult basic education skills. It is a family literacy program for families residing in Title 1 attendance areas with one parent who qualifies for services under the Adult Education Act. Existing Adult Education Centers, Head Start, Even Start, and Early Childhood Centers can be used for this project.

Olean Family Connections empowers low-income parents to become full partners in their child's education by:

- Providing instruction and services in a Learning Center environment;
- Supplementing instruction with in-home visits; and
- Addressing individual, family, and program needs through case management and counseling.

On-going staff development is an integral part of the program.

Professional Development

Training includes a one-day visit to the demonstration site and assessment of readiness to replicate. A 2-day in-service training is then provided at the replicating site, including one day of follow-up training 60 days after implementation. On-going phone consultation with the D/D is available at no charge.

Costs & Funding Options

Training expenses include travel costs and trainer stipend. Staffing for 100 families includes: (1) case manager/social worker, (1) adult education teacher, (1) early childhood education teacher, (2) teacher aides, and (4) home visitors. Staffing is appropriately reduced at sites serving less than 100 families.

Facilities needed include (1) adult education classroom, (1) early childhood classroom, (1) child care area, and a combined parent/program office area. Possible funding sources for replication include ESEA Title VI.

Learning Standards

The program addresses early literacy.

Contact

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