

Padres y familias del programa Head Start en el condado de Prince William, de Manassas, Virginia Entrevista con un padre de familia: Morena V. Guevara

(links for viewing and download at end of transcript)

Morena V. Guevara: [Speaking in Spanish] Hello, my name is... And two children... I thank God that I have had the opportunity for my children to participate in the Head Start program. My children suffered from abuse by their nanny, who cared for them for three years. She mistreated them, and my children were abuse victims, but because of that bad experience my children have had the opportunity to participate in the program.

My first child was participating in the Head Start program at West Gate School. He had some wonderful teachers and I am very grateful to them. Also, I am very grateful to my social worker, Yvonne, because she helped me overcome the abuse that my children suffered. My oldest son, Nielson, was four years old at the time. He had a developmental delay and had the developmental level of a 24-month-old. Thanks to them and to the program, he reached his developmental level and is now in the first grade.

My other child -- my second child, Rene, who is in Head Start right now, was really affected by the abuse. However, as a result of having had the opportunity to attend the seminars and lectures that the program provides to parents, I have been able to cope and move on with my family. I try to participate in every opportunity that the program provides.

Right now, I am not working so I have had the great opportunity to be able to participate in my child's classroom. I am the president of the classroom at the Sinclair School in Manassas and, also, a member of the parent committee, the Policy Council. I always try to take part in the activities and of everything that the program offers in order to provide a better education to my children and help them develop better. I always want to learn more so I can help them in the future.

I would tell other parents to make time to learn more about the program because it is an excellent program that helps not only the child, but also the parents and the family as a whole. You learn how to educate them so they behave at school, at home and in their environment. It is good for parents to be always close and to participate in the program.

The program teaches discipline and how to nurture children. I also had the opportunity to participate in a CPR training, which was very useful to me, because my son, Rene, who is now in Head Start, suffers from seizures when he has high temperature. I now know what to do in those moments. I think that a parent who is not involved in the program is missing out on a great opportunity.

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-- Premalink for viewing (requires Flash and javascript)

<http://videos.sorensonmedia.com/HEAD+START/000173-Morena+Guevara+Parent+Interview-2011-SD360p/358b377520323g44d4wba884c94bfd6f586e>