Session Objectives

At the end of this presentation, you should be able to:

• Identify home visiting skills and practices important for positive parent and child outcomes
• Identify tools home visitors can use to assess skill level
• Explore professional development opportunities to improve home visiting practice
• Review resources available for on-going professional development

Session Agenda

Here's what we're doing today:

1. Role of the home visitor in promoting positive parent and child outcomes
2. Tools for home visitor skill assessment
3. Professional development opportunities for skill and practice development and improvement
4. Resources for on-going professional development
Role of the Home Visitor in Promoting Positive Parent and Child Outcomes

Historically in parent education programs, the parent educators are the experts in children’s development. In contrast, the home visitor is an empathic listener, consultant, resource, guide, advocate, and partner.” (p. 9, Klass, 2008)

The Role of the Home Visitor

Home Visitor Role: Supporting the Parent

Home Visitor  Parent  Child
A Snapshot of The Head Start Home Visitor

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<th>Degree</th>
<th>Home Visitor #</th>
<th>Home Visitor %</th>
<th>Home Visitor Supervisor #</th>
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Strengths of Head Start Home Visiting Staff

• Ninety percent of children from Spanish-speaking homes have a home visitor who speaks Spanish
• Home visitors use a variety of strategies to communicate with families who speak a language that they do not speak
• Home visitors participate in a number of professional development activities
• Home visitors report positive feelings about their current jobs

Source: Baby Faces – Learning as We Go: A First Snapshot of Early Head Start Programs, Staff, Families and Children published Feb 2011, Page 83

Key Home Visiting Practices Supported by Research

In the Chat Box:

Share a practice that you use regularly that is effective for your work with families
**Key Home Visiting Skills Supported by Research**

Home-visiting skills that effectively increase parents' developmental support for their children:

(a) Establishing a positive relationship with the parent, child, and other participating family members;
(b) Responding to each family's unique strengths and culture;
(c) Facilitating developmentally supportive parent–child interactions; and
(d) Establishing a collaborative partnership with the parent to support the child's ongoing development

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**Establishing a Positive Relationship with the Parent and Child**

- Mindfulness
- Cultural Humility
- Strengths-Based Approach
- Empathy
- Reflective Practice

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**Responding to Each Family’s Unique Strengths and Culture**

- Identify and build on family strengths
- Identify, assess and address family needs
- Be well acquainted with the resources that are available to families in the communities they serve, i.e. providing comprehensive services
Facilitating Developmentally Supportive Parent-Child Interaction

- Uses a strength-based approach in guiding parent-child interaction
- Uses materials found in the home and daily routines for promoting parent-child interaction
- Relies on research-based, home-based curriculum that is designed to offer support to parents in parent-child interaction
- Seeks out effective practices to support parent-child interaction; for example, one-on-one videotape/feedback approaches

Establishing a Collaborative Partnership With The Parent To Support the Child’s Ongoing Development

- Knowledge of child development
- How to promote positive parent-child interaction
- Use of screening & assessment to inform on-going development based on Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework (HSELOF)

Poll – Rate your practice level

How would you rate your skill level on the home visiting practices we’ve just covered?

- I’m very happy with my skill level
- I feel pretty good about my skill level most of the time
- I’m working on improving my home visiting skill level
- I wish my skill level were higher
- I’m not sure
Tools for Home Visitor Skill Assessment

Benefits of Skill Assessments

Achieve effective program implementation and improved participant outcomes by evaluating:
• The content and quality of activities that occur during home visits
• The quality of the home visitor-parent relationship

Use information gained from the assessment to:
• Inform home visiting practice
• Guide overall program improvement
• Inform continuous quality improvement

Home Visiting Assessment Tools

A Partial List of Home Visiting Assessment Tools
• Home Visiting Rating Scale (HOVRS); HOVRS-A+2.1
• Home Visit Characteristics and Content Form
• Home Visit Observation Form
• Home Visit Assessment Instrument
• Supportive Interactions with Families

*This is not an endorsement of any particular tool and not an exhaustive list
Home Visit Assessment Tools

In the Chat Box:
Does your program currently use a particular assessment tool for skill observation and reflection?

Please share “yes” or “no.” If yes, what is the name of the tool you’re using?

Professional Development Opportunities for Skill and Practice Development and Improvement

Ongoing Professional Development

Key Professional Development Strategies for Home Visitors
• Based on identified need
• Opportunities to practice skills
• Includes strengths-based performance feedback
• Is based on active and engaged learning
• Involves self-reflection
• Includes opportunities for coaching and reflective supervision
HSPPS on Professional Development

- 1302.91(e)(6) Staff Qualifications and Competency Requirements
- 1302.92(a) and (b) Training and Professional Development Standards
- 1302.92(c) Research-based, coordinated coaching strategy
- 1302.101(a) Regular and ongoing supervision
- 1302.101(a)(2)(i) Ongoing assessment of program goals, including professional development data

Training in Home-Based Curriculum

According to 2016 PIR Data, 61% of Head Start Home-Based Programs were using one of the following research-based home-based curriculum:

- Parents As Teachers
- Partners For A Healthy Baby
- Growing Great Kids

Each of these offers training in using the curriculum, and some offer additional on-going professional development

Reflective Supervision

Reflective supervision provides a safe place for home visitors to meet regularly to discuss their experiences, thoughts, and feelings about their work.

- Shahmoon-Shanook, 2000

It is a relationship for learning that is grounded in regular, collaborative, reflection.
Reflective Supervision

- Regularly examine own thoughts, feelings, strengths and growth areas
- Seek consultation with supervisor to understand own capacity and needs
- Remain open and curious
- Identify and participate in opportunities for learning and growth
- Use reflective practice in work with families
- Work less reactively and more effectively

Coaching Cycle Components are:
1. Planning goals and action steps
2. Engaging in focused observation
3. Reflecting on and sharing feedback about practices

Resources For On-Going Professional Development
Resources for Credentials & Degrees

Council for Professional Recognition Home Visitor CDA
http://www.cdacouncil.org/

Credential and Degree Programs for Staff Who Work with Families
https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/professional-development/article/credentialing-degree-programs-databases-head-start-staff-who-work

Early Educator Central
https://earlyeducatorcentral.acf.hhs.gov/

Professional Development Specific to Home Visiting

Launch Timeline:
• Nov. 1, 2017: The Institute's Custom Professional Development Platform
  • Suite of online professional development for home visitors across the country
• Dec. 31, 2017: Modules for home visitors supporting immigrant and dual language learning families
  • Cultural humility and cultural competence
  • Preservation of home languages and dialects
  • Hidden aspects of culture
• Oct. 31, 2018: My Career Compass is available
  • Personalized learning map – assess current knowledge and identify a pathway to desired skills

What’s Available in Your State?

Kansas TRAIN
MyPeers Home Visiting Community

http://www.123contactform.com/form/2130355/My-Peers

Additional Resources


Questions?
For more information, please contact us at ecdtl@ecetta.info or call (toll-free) 1-844-261-3752

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HomeVisitorWebinar_12‐12‐17