

HFLC Newsletter

Hawaii Family Literacy Consortium/ (808) 692-8210

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Special Interest Articles:

- National Family Literacy Day Highlights
- Hawaii Family Literacy Highlights.
- National Even Start Conference.
- Initiative Updates
- Consortium Meetings
- NCFL Annual Conference

National Family Literacy Day

November 1, 2001 has been declared National Family Literacy Day by the National Center for Family Literacy. National Family Literacy Day is celebrated all over the country with special activities and events that showcase family literacy programs and the important relationship between parents and their children. In Hawaii, Governor Benjamin Cayetano proclaimed November 1, 2001 as Family Literacy Day in Hawaii, and he encouraged parents to work with their children to strengthen the family bonds through learning. One of our family literacy sites in the state, Likelike Elementary School, had a special day where the entire staff in the school wore their special Read Aloud t-shirt and had Clifford the Red Dog visit each of the classrooms to promote reading. Non-teachers were invited to read aloud in the classrooms and a calendar of literacy activities for the month of November was sent home to all parents to do with their children.

Bikers For Books

On November 4th, the Street Bikers United, in partnership with the Honolulu Advertiser and the Hawaii Family Literacy Consortium, donated new and gently used children's books to the family literacy programs across the state. This event was in conjunction with Family Literacy Day in Hawaii and the National Book Week. The bikers donated over 370 books, which were distributed to the seven family literacy sites across the state. Roy Gomez, State Director of Street Bikers United said, "We are very excited about this opportunity to help families learn to read together." Each year, various motorcycle clubs affiliated with the Street Bikers United, assist the community by generously donating toys and school supplies to our state's most needy children. It is hoped that this book drive will be an annual event for all to benefit from.



National Even Start Conference



*"We find delight in
the beauty and
happiness of
children that makes
the heart too big for
the body."
Ralph Waldo
Emerson, from The
Conduct of Life*

On October 22 – 24, 2001, the National Even Start Association held their 7th Annual conference in San Diego, California. The title of the conference was "Even Start: Impacting Literacy – Opportunities, Challenges, and Directions. Prior to the conference, the coordinators from the Even Start Statewide Initiative grants had their annual meeting too as well. The highlights of the coordinator's meeting was the opportunity to meet and share ideas with the other state coordinators, meet with the USDOE officials, and attend breakout sessions on Professional Development, State-level evaluation systems, and Setting the Stage for Change. Michael Winer, author of the book "Collaboration Handbook: Creating, Sustaining and Enjoying the Journey", shared his thoughts about "Sustaining Collaborations". Over 800 people attended the National Even Start Conference with many breakout sessions focusing in on Evaluation, ESL, Interactive Parenting, Adult Basic Education, Collaboration and Partnerships, Building Capacity, and Intensity of Service.

Statewide Initiative Grant Update

According to the federal government, current grantees are not eligible to receive another Even Start Statewide Family Literacy Initiative grant. The Department's General Administration Regulations (EDGAR) allow grantees a one-time automatic no-cost extension, as long as they notify the Department in writing with a justification and revised expiration date at least 10 days before the expiration date specified in the award (34 C.F.R. sections 75.261 and 74.25 (e) (2) (ii)). Hawaii's grant expires December 2001 and the state is in the process of applying for the one time extension at no cost for 12 additional months. This will allow us to continue our statewide initiative up through December 2002. This will not have an effect on the Even Start monies that the state receives for their Even Start project sites. This money is separate from the Even Start Statewide Initiative grant

HFLC Monthly Consortium Meetings



The Hawaii Family Literacy Consortium will be having their monthly meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2001, at McKinley Community School for Adults. The agenda for this month's meeting will have committee reports, update from the National Even Start Conference, and a presentation by the Hawaii Department of Labor and their One-Stop Centers. The meeting begins at 9:00 am. There is no meeting planned for December and the next consortium meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2002 at McKinley Community School for Adults, Room 219, at 9:00 am.

Family and Community Literacy

In the 21st century, literacy will continue to be a critical issue for disadvantaged families, but it will mean much more than traditional reading and writing skills. In an increasingly technological age, literacy will include an expanded set of skills based on computer technology. Without access to the technologies and literacies that are now essential in our culture, educationally and economically disadvantaged children, especially those with learning disabilities, may find themselves falling further and further behind.

In addition, many parents who were not successful with their own educational endeavors are often ill equipped to encourage and support their children's emerging literacy. Without intervention, parents who have experienced limited educational success, or who struggle with learning disabilities, may lack the skills and knowledge to engage their children in literacy activities at home, or to participate in their children's education.



“...many parents who were not successful with their own educational endeavors are often ill-equipped to encourage and support their children's emerging literacy.”

(Taken from an article by the CAST Universal Design for Learning)

HFLC Professional Development Training

Since August 2001, family literacy sites and the Hawaii Family Literacy Consortium have had several professional development training sessions offered to them to participate in. Training has been provided in Equipped for the Future (EFF), Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS), Competency Based Curriculum (CB), Work Sampling System, Hawaii Family Literacy Performance Indicators, and Integrating Technology into Teaching and Learning. Follow up training sessions will be occurring throughout the school year. Future training will involve the implementation of a data base system to collect data on the Hawaii Family Literacy Performance Indicators. The database is currently under construction at this time.



Carrie Kowalski and Work Sampling Workshop



Family Literacy sites working on their Logic Model plan

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://literacynet.org/hflc>

From our office to yours, please have a safe and joyous holiday season!



National Conference on Family Literacy

The 11th Annual National Conference on Family Literacy will be held at the Convention Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on March 3-5, 2002. This is the premier conference on family literacy in the nation that attracts almost 2,000 practitioners, administrators, policy makers, and literacy experts each year. For more information and registration materials, go to www.familit.org.

Highlight Site – Blanche Pope Even Start

This issue's highlight site is Blanche Pope Even Start Program. They are located on the island of Oahu at Blanche Pope Elementary School and they serve the Waimanalo community. For more information, please call the site at 259-0243.



PACT Time activity



PACT Time



Parent Education



PACT Time - Reading

About Our Organization...

The Hawaii Family Literacy Consortium was established in May 1999, by the State Superintendent of Education, to begin work on an Even Start Statewide Family Literacy Initiative to unify, strengthen and expand family literacy services in Hawaii. The task of this consortium is to develop indicators of program quality, to establish a system of support and resources for family literacy, and to build local capacity for the expansion of family literacy throughout the state. The consortium is composed of representatives of federal and state agencies, parents, educators, and private and non-profit organizations.