

PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES OF PRESCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

TEAM PRESENTATION BY
LEARNING COMMUNITY CENTER OF SOUTH OMAHA

AND SPECIAL THANKS TO:
LUZ ESTHER MUÑOZ AND DIMAS BRICEÑO

learning **OF SOUTH
OMAHA**
community
center

Session Outline

- Learning Community Center of South Omaha
- 3 Keys to Family Partnerships
 - For each key identified
 - Family Perspectives
 - Concrete strategies (staff)
 - Table reflection or discussion

Objectives for our Presentation

- New strategies you can take back to programs/schools/classrooms
- Share a strengths-based perspective for working with families
- Learn from each other

learning **OF SOUTH OMAHA** community center

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND – RENEE FRANKLIN



OneWorld
Community Health Centers, Inc.



“Satellites” of the South Center

1.



Gateway Elementary

5610 South 42nd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68107



2. Educare of Omaha, Indian Hill



[Program Video](#)

Bright Spot in Hispanic Education Award

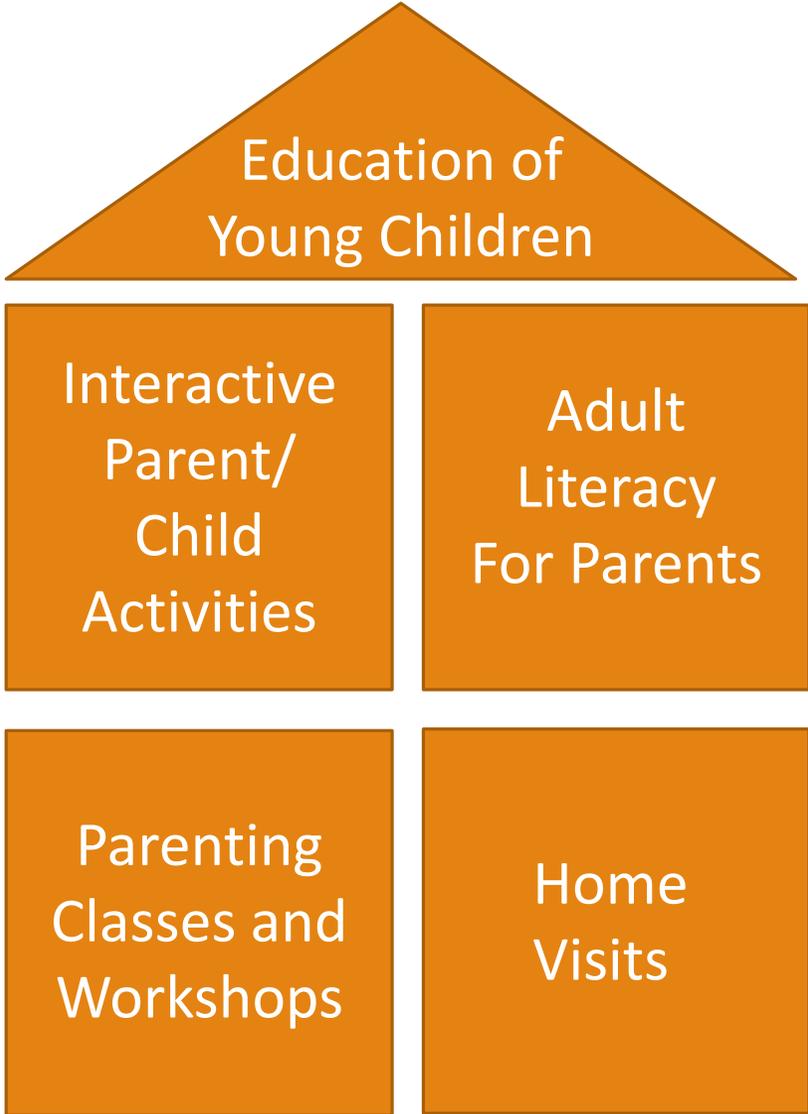


WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE

on EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE *for* HISPANICS

25 Years of Fulfilling America's Future

Family Learning Program



Parent Education— ESL + Parent Classes





Child Learning
Classrooms
(While Parents
In Class)

Outdoor Classroom for Children





Interactive
Parent/Child Activities

JOSLYN MEMORIAL

Educational Field Trips



Home Visits





3 Keys to Family Partnerships

Key #1 = Listen To Families



Key #1 = Listen To Families

Benefits:

- Identify/Address Barriers to Engagement
- Identify Cultural Accommodations Needed
- Create Programming that Works for Families

Reflection

What barriers do you already know exist for the families in your program?

2 minutes

Key #2 = Cultivate a Culture of Belonging



Key #2 = Cultivate a Culture of Belonging

Luz Muñoz and daughter Diana



Cultivate a Culture of Belonging

1. Reminders That We Care and Are Invested
2. “Family” Atmosphere
3. Administrative Considerations
4. Table Discussion

“Making room for what’s not important creates the space for people to bring up what is important”

- ELSA AUERBACH

Reminders That We Are Invested



The
the
wishes

Feliz (C
que lo p
bien!!! y a
mucho mas :)
-Fatima
-Muchas Felicid
Te deseo
muy bien, et c

Happy Birthday
for you



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
from the Learning Community Center of South Omaha





CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

One Year Completion
This certificate is awarded to

Roselia Romero

In recognition of your
Participation in Family Learning

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION

Ann O'Hara
Ann O'Hara, Director
Kim Biss
Kim Biss, Manager
4.30.15
4/30/15
2015.15

learning community center



Family Atmosphere









Administrative Considerations

Administrative Considerations

Hiring

- Mission-Oriented
- Including Families in Hiring Process
- Hire From Same Community

Focus on Quality

- Include family voice before changes
- Show desire to continuously improve in all areas



Maria Elena Mosqueda

Parent Participant -----> Staff

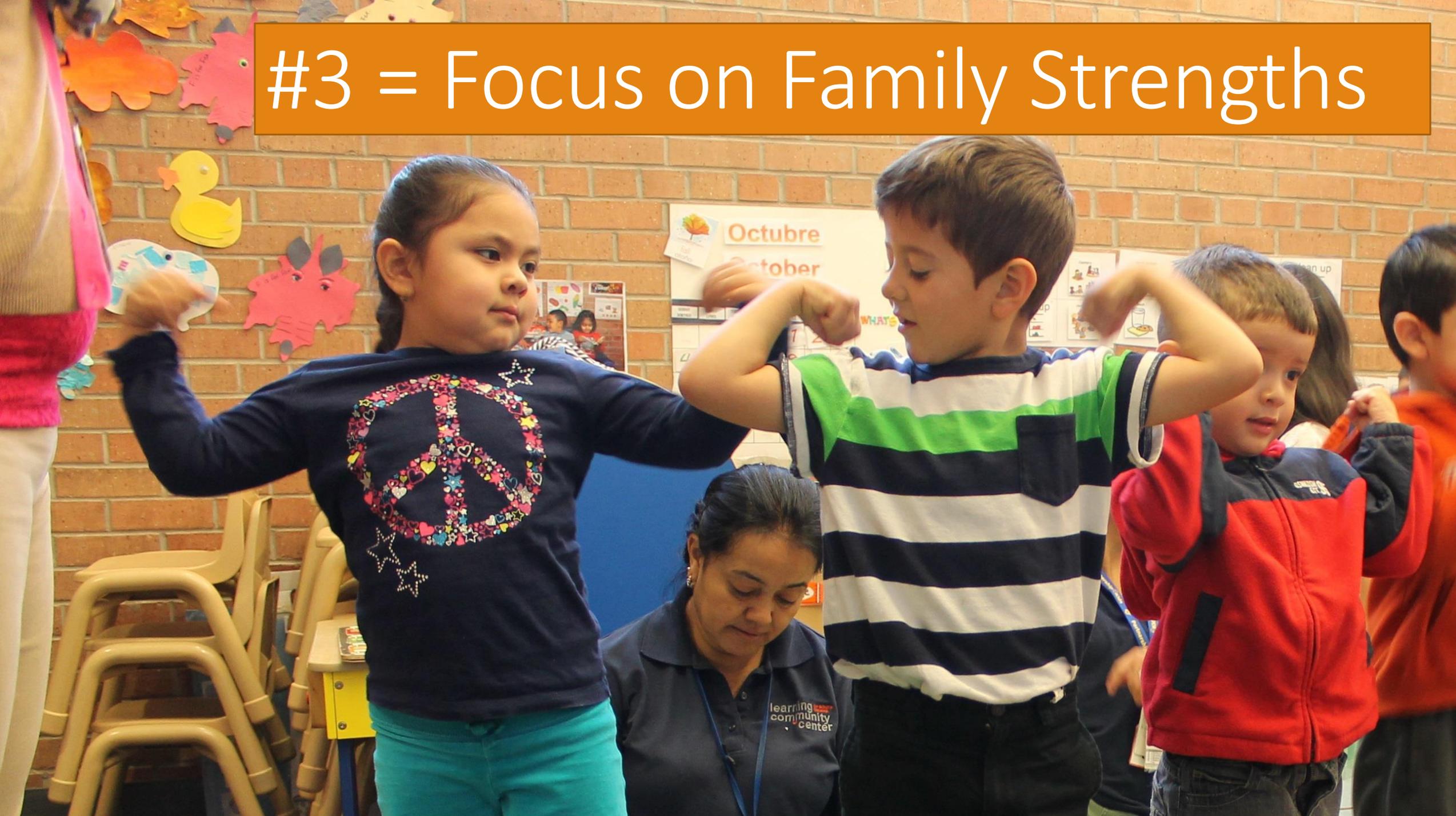


Family Participation in Hiring Process

Table Discussion

1-2 specifics to create a family-friendly atmosphere

#3 = Focus on Family Strengths



Dimas Briceño – Program Graduate



PARTNERING
WITH
PARENTS

Allow for Suggestions

- Continuous Feedback
- Dedicated time for feedback (focus groups)
- Follow Up



Parent Inclusion Ideas

- Reciprocal Conferences
- Give families home activities to complement classroom learning
- Bring families onsite for fun activities

Program Benefits

- Recruitment
- Great Ideas for Program Improvement
- Share about benefits with larger community
- Facilitating class for other families



Designated Staff to Engage Families

- Ideally - home visits
- Building relationships
- Connecting to community resources
- Shared goal setting



To have a focus on family strengths sometimes takes a paradigm shift on the part of all staff in an organization. It can require shifts in practice and even language used towards and about families and parents. There are always ways to improve in this area. Reflect on your work with clients and share one way that you or your organization could sharpen your focus on Family Strengths.



Closing

3 Keys to Family Partnerships

- Listen to Families
- Cultivate a Culture of Belonging
- Focus on Family Strengths

Thank you!



QUESTIONS, IF TIME