

## Parents as Teachers™ Wyoming State Office E-Newsletter

### *New Health Care Reform and What it Means for PAT*

Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Enacted as part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

On March 23rd, President Obama signed the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law. This landmark legislation includes an important provision that establishes a home visiting grant program. Congress added a new section to Title V of the Social Security Act.

The bill requires states to develop quantifiable, measurable 3- and 5-year benchmarks in the following areas: (the bolded areas are those that tie directly to what PAT programs do internally for families through regular visits)

- **Improvements in maternal and newborn health;**
- Prevention of child injuries, child abuse, neglect, or maltreatment, and reductions in emergency department visits;
- **Improvements in school readiness and achievement;**
- Reduction in crime or domestic violence;
- **Improvements in family economic self-sufficiency;**
- **Improvements in the coordination and referrals for other community resources.**

A state must submit a report to the Secretary after 3 years demonstrating improvements in at least 4 of the aforementioned areas and another final report to the Secretary after 5 years outlining improvements in each of the 6 areas.

### **What Program Models Qualify – Standards of Evidence Outlined–**

The bill states that 1 or more service delivery models can be used as part of a state's home visiting program. However, the bill does require that the state use at least 75% of the funds to implement a home visiting model or models that meet the following evidence based criteria:

- Has been in existence for at least 3 years;
- Research-based, grounded in empirically-based knowledge and linked to program determined outcomes;
- Associated with a national organization or institution of higher education;
- Program standards that ensure high quality service delivery;
- Demonstrated outcomes in the aforementioned benchmark and participant outcome areas;
- Evaluation results "using well-designed and rigorous"- Randomized controlled research designs, and the evaluation results have been published in a peer-reviewed journal; or Quasi-experimental research designs"

### **Maintenance of Effort Clause and What that Means:**

The bill includes a brief maintenance of effort clause requiring states to use the home visiting program grant funds to supplement, not supplant other funding sources. The legislative language does not provide information about a base year or other clarifying details about implementation of this clause. To read a summary of the bill and to access the National Center for Parents as Teachers fact sheet click here: [Summary of the Bill](#)

### *Parent Education Network– WY State PIRC Presents*

**Did I Iron My Clothes for This...** Our newest blog for all Parenting Issues and everyday occurrences that take place while raising our lovely children. Below is an expert from our first posting; check it out!

Yes, we promise that this won't be your "mama's" blog! We are working to make this a candid approach to what people **really** think about life as a parent—at home, at work, and supporting your kids at school. We have decided that we would start this little adventure by highlighting four "series" that will have a point, drum roll please.....

**Because, I Said so.....**I know, I know—creative aren't we? Stay tuned to entries about when a parent's judgment is questioned—and find out that "because I said so" is sometimes the only answer we have!

**The Edge of Reason....** We know sometimes that parents and schools don't see eye to eye—and that sometimes those issues seem to be a little short on the rationality of it all. Too many times we let emotion interfere with our better judgment—and yes, we are going to write on it!

**Breaking Outta the Box....**if you continue to do things the way you have always done them—you'll get what you've always got! In this series we will discuss how "we've always done it this way" is NOT the way to do it—thinking outside of the box is the way to be!

**Toddler Episodes....**how could we have an early childhood component if we don't share our best stories about our favorite little people with ideas on how to deal with it?? This series will keep you in stitches! - So visit and subscribe we promise you won't be sorry!



### Upcoming Events

- ♦ **P-3 training** in Canon City, CO May 3-7. Contact Erica Severson (303) 863-8016 or at [www.cpcfonline.org](http://www.cpcfonline.org)
- ♦ **High Five for Kids** Online Training. Fee \$35.00 (guide cost) contact Pam Moschner 314-432-4330 x251.
- ♦ **3-K and 2-K training** in Colorado August 3-4 and August 2-6 respectively. Contact Erica Severson (303) 863-8016 or at [www.cpcfonline.org](http://www.cpcfonline.org)
- ♦ **Explore the Path to Literacy** Online Training. Fee \$50.00 (guide cost) contact Pam Moschner 314-432-4330 x251.



### Helpful Links

[Quality Improvement](#)

[Research and Evaluation](#)

[Wyoming Children's Action Alliance](#)

[DFS– Early Childhood](#)

[Connect for Kids](#)

[National Center for Family Literacy](#)

[Reading is Fundamental](#)

[Parent Information Center](#)