



Santa Clara County  Office of Education

Veronica Arellano
Brazelton TouchPoints

Champions for Leadership
June 11, 2013

Goals

- Professional goals
 - To gain a deeper understanding of my own leadership style
 - To enhance my communication
 - To continue my education (IFECMHC)
 - Future to obtain a management position with Head Start program

Head Start of Santa Clara & San Benito Counties

Program History

The federal Head Start program was launched in the summer of 1965 as part the "War on Poverty." It was an eight-week summer program for low-income preschoolers designed to give them a "head start" on school and life. From the beginning, it has been a comprehensive program that includes early childhood education, health and nutrition, social services and parent education, and empowers parents to participate fully as decision-makers and effective advocates for their children and their communities.

Goal of TouchPoints

- Optimal child development
- Healthy, functional families
- Competent and health professionals
- Stronger communities



The Experience of Touchpoints for Families

- Providers who learn about and used Touchpoints:
 - Welcome families with respect and understanding
 - Value families questions about their child and care giving
 - Listen without judgment
 - Treat parents as the most important person in their child's life
 - Respect and value a family's culture and experiences
 - Shared with the excitement of a child's development
 - Join caregivers in advocating for the best care and services
 - Help family's connect in their community
 - Offer guidance and support to help caregivers understand and respond to the predictable ups and down of their child growth and development



Project Goals

- Staff will learn about Touch Point principles and parent assumptions. Staff will work towards strengthening their relationship with children and families. Families will feel valued and supported as they enter our Head Start Program.
- Train staff using Touch Point principles. Develop an orientation process that is family-focused for Head Start preschool families. This is a family friendly process which will enhance parent/child relationship and will support parent's role as first and lifelong educators of their children.



Project Accomplishments/Successes

- A family-focused orientation each year, will provide ongoing opportunities for Head Start staff to establish strong, supportive relationships with the families. TouchPoints trainings will help staff utilize the Touch Points guiding principles in their daily interaction with parents.



Project Timeline

- Project planning started in January-February 2013
- Implementation of TouchPoints to the staff will be in August 5-9, 2013
- Project will provide three full day training to all Family Advocates with Head Start
- Training location will be at COE office

CFL Accomplishments/Success

- Myers Briggs Personality
- Shared/collaborative decision making, problem solving, and within teams
- Enhance my Education/Certificated (IFECMHCP)

