

### Parents are Children's First and Best Teachers!

We know that optimal growth and development occur within nurturing relationships. As a parent, you are the most important relationship that your child will have! That is why it is important for parents to be present and to participate in home visits. But the learning does not stop there.

For your child, the everyday moments that you have with them - taking a bath, walking in the park, reading a book, even changing a diaper- are learning moments. These moments are filled with interesting things to see, hear, taste, touch, smell, explore and do.

As a parent, you can use these moments to support your child's learning and development by talking to your child about what you are seeing and doing, singing together, connecting through physical touch, and so much more! Your Home Visitor can give you lots of ideas to extend learning beyond home visits.

#### **Our Mission**

Early Head Start is a program offered by Adrian Public Schools Early Childhood Programs. Our mission is to work in partnership with children and families to create a foundation for success in school and in life.

We utilize evidence based teaching tools in order to ensure children have the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary for success in school, for later learning and life. Most importantly, we work with parents to ensure that they have the skills and resources necessary to support their child's learning and development. Please contact us if you would like more information.

### **Contact Us**

Early Head Start Phone: (517) 263-1118 Fax : (517) 264-1381

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services; A Parent's Guide to the Head Start Home Based Program Option



## EARLY HEAD START HOME-BASED

# PROGRAM

A free program for infants and toddlers under the age of 3 and pregnant women

### The Early Head Start Home-Based Program

Whatever the age of your child, helping him or her learn and grow is a big job. It is an exciting job. It is a hard job. Every mother and father, every family, can use some support. You can get this support from an Early Head Start Home Visitor.

Early Head Start Home Visitors can help by:

- Providing education about your child's development
- Helping you to use your home environment to create rich learning opportunities that support your child's development
- Completing developmental screenings so that you can be sure that your child is developing normally and receive the necessary supports if there are any concerns
- Coordinating with medical and dental health providers so that your child receives the health care needed
- Linking your family with additional supports in the community based on what needs you have

### What to Expect from Home Visits

During home visits, the home visitor will talk with you about how things are going with your child and your family. They will present an activity or experience for you and your child to share together. These activities promote child development and early learning in one or more key areas. Home visits occur once per week for an hour and a half.

"Our home visitor helps us think about how our baby is doing and gives us good ideas for things to do with him."

-Mother & Father of Infant

### Family Partnership and Goal Setting Process

In the first few weeks of working together, your home visitor will ask you some questions to get to know you and your family. The home visitor will ask about medical history, routines, foods your child eats, hopes/dreams for your child, challenges for your family, etc. They will ask about what goals you have for your family and what supports you need to reach those goals. Your goals will be the basis of the work with your family and the home visitor.



### **Socializations**

Socializations are group experiences where you, your child, and other parents and their children come together. Socializations are a time where you can build on the goals created during home visits. Socializations occur twice per month at the Garfield Building in Adrian, MI. There are many benefits to attending socializations, including:

- Watching how your child responds to what is happening around him/her
- Having a chance to talk to other parents of young children
- Attending presentations about safety, nutrition, discipline and other topics of interest
- Participating in fun activities with your child and other families
- Giving your child an opportunity to interact with new people