Family Involvement Impacts Youth Development

The Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP) has reported on the impact of family involvement in the lives of youth from early childhood through adolescence. They most recently expanded upon two key concepts that are critical to understanding the relationship among children, families, schools, and after-school activities. During early childhood, these include family involvement and complementary learning. Specifically within family involvement, three processes were found to be intertwined to create healthy outcomes for children. These processes include:

1. Parenting, including positive parent-child relationships and child-centered activities
2. Home-school relationships, including communication and participation
3. Responsibility for learning outcomes, including working with the child at home and holding regular parent-child conversations about education

In addition to these family involvement processes, complementary learning was also found to impact youth development. More specifically, there must be a plentiful amount of learning supports available to them, including families, schools, libraries, health services, and other community agencies for youth to be successful.

To learn more about these concepts and processes in a practice setting, it is important to approach family involvement in multiple ways, think about family involvement as a continuum, create mechanisms for smooth transitions between families and those who will be working with the youth, respect diversity, and create partnerships within the community. To read this full report or to learn more about middle childhood and adolescent youth development, please visit www.hfrp.org.

21st CCLC Resources

In response to 21st CCLC grantee requests at the recent conference held on December 13th, the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) has developed an interactive timeline as well as a Q & A that responds to questions posed by grantees. The new, interactive timeline will provide grantees with upcoming professional development opportunities, as well as describe fiscal and evaluation requirements. This newly developed interactive timeline along with the Q & A from December 13th’s training session, please click here: ODE 21st CCLC

Finally, the ODE has released its request for proposals (RfP) for funding new 21st CCLCs. To access the RfP, related deadlines, and additional information, please click here: 21st CCLC RfP
2008 21st CCLC Professional Development Conferences

ODE, in partnership with The Ohio State University’s (OSU) College of Social Work, is proud to offer a variety of 21st CCLC professional development opportunities in 2008. These conferences are intended to help site coordinators and other site staff improve their 21st CCLC. The following conferences have been scheduled. Please note that some dates have changed.

These day-long conferences will be held at OSU’s Longaberger Alumni House located in Columbus, Ohio. [Map] For more information or to register for an upcoming conference, please see registration instructions on page 4. In addition to these four conferences, two conferences will be held in relation to the newly developed Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR). More information related to these conferences is located on the following page.

Staffing & Project Management—Wednesday, March 10, 2008

Effective staffing and project management produce high-quality, competent staff members that encourage stakeholders to embrace the vision of the 21st CCLC. The Staffing & Project Management conference will encourage the utilization of mentoring/coaching, career advancement, and professional development opportunities to ensure that high quality staff members are recruited and retained. Presented strategies will prepare management to define, plan, and implement program components in order to ensure that 21st CCLC goals, objectives, and youth participant outcomes are achieved. Organizational structures that maximize efficiency and effectiveness will be discussed.

Parent/Family Engagement—Tuesday, April 22, 2008

The Parent/Family Engagement conference will include strategies that enhance parental/family participation in program activities through strong relationships and positive communications between parents/family and 21st CCLC staff. 21st CCLCs attending this conference are encouraged to bring a parent leader from their site with them to begin developing joint leadership. This conference will specifically address techniques that elicit high quality educational experiences for parents/guardians, foster mutual support between parents/guardians, and explore strategies for gaining input from parents/guardians in decision-making.

Learning Supports—Tuesday, May 20, 2008

The Comprehensive System of Learning Support Guidelines, formally adopted by the State School Board in 2007, address the needs of all students in the belief that every child has the right to an education that meets his/her academic needs. The Learning Supports training will provide an overview of the aforementioned guidelines and their implications for 21st CCLCs. Exemplary sites will also share their stories, allowing for others to glean key insights that may have implications for their own schools and communities.

Sustainability and Partnerships—Date TBA

Sustainability and partnerships are key in guaranteeing the continued existence of the 21st CCLC. The Sustainability & Partnerships conference will include strategies intended to maximize resources and diversify funding streams in support of long-term financial stability and maximum center outcomes. Strategies that support long-term success and aims toward future sustainability will be discussed. Please note that new ideas will be covered that build from past 21st CCLC sustainability trainings. Plans are underway for a representative from The National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention to guest speak at this event.
Ohio Quality Assessment Rubric (O-QAR) Follow-Up Information

The O-QAR follow-up training will build from the “21st Century Community Learning Centers’ Tools for Success Series: Evaluation and Accountability within your 21st CCLC” training held on December 13, 2007. 21st CCLC grantees who have completed the O-QAR will be given their results and receive on-site technical assistance and support related to using the data to guide 21st CCLC improvements. The O-QAR will now serve as all 21st CCLC’s annual evaluation. Time will be allocated for grantees to develop and write formal improvement plans that they may use in the future to guide next steps. 21st CCLC are encouraged to bring teams of people representing multiple stakeholders to this session.

O-QAR Follow-Up: Using the O-QAR for Strategic Planning (Cohort 1 ONLY)—Wednesday, February 20, 2008

This meeting will take place at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, Ohio. Map

O-QAR Follow-Up: Using the O-QAR for Strategic Planning—Wednesday, March 26, 2008

This meeting is for participants in the remaining Cohorts who wish to receive feedback on their O-QAR data. It will be held at the Longaberger Alumni House on The Ohio State University Campus. Map

Parent Academy on Conditions for Learning: Family Workshop to Help Families Support Their Child’s Learning

Parent involvement is essential to student academic achievement and success. 21st CCLCs have a parent involvement requirement aimed at helping families to support their children’s education. ODE’s Office for Family and Community Engagement has developed Parent Academy workshops for schools and community organizations to use to educate families on important topics including reading, academic content standards and creating safe and supportive learning conditions.

Currently, ODE is offering train the trainer sessions on the Parent Academy: Conditions for Learning which teaches families how to support their children during difficult times including school transitions and dealing with bullies. This Academy gives families information about the new State Board Anti-Bullying and Anti-Harassment Policy and gives the school an opportunity to talk about their school’s new anti-bullying and anti-harassment policy.

Train the trainer sessions are delivered by request, if the district or community organization has a minimum of 15 participants committed to being a trainer. This is a great FREE resource that 21st CCLCs can use to meet their parent involvement goals. Those interested in hosting a train the trainers in your community should contact Tamara Dye at (614) 644-6830, or toll-free, (877) 644-6338, or by e-mail at tamara.dye@ode.state.oh.us.
21st CCLC Professional Development Opportunities

21st CCLC Grantees must register in STARS for all 2008 "21st Century- Tools for Success Series" conferences. To register through STARS go to: http://webapp2.ode.state.oh.us/stars/

1. Select the blue Login button

2. Enter your State ID # (Two Letters and seven numbers, no dashes or spaces), birth date, and last four of your SSAN

3. Register for the Event

4. Should you experience difficulty registering in STARS, please contact Deborah Blunt at 614.644.8863.

Please see the following links for more upcoming national professional development opportunities:

http://www.boostconference.org/about.php
http://www.foundationsinc.org/events/conference/beyond11/default.asp
http://www.naaconference.org/
http://www.summerlearning.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=105&Itemid=349

Contacting ODE & OSU

ODE and OSU can be reached in relation to your 21st CCLC at:

The Ohio Department of Education
Office for Safety, Health, & Nutrition
21st Century Community Learning Centers
25 South Front Street, Mail Stop 303
Columbus, OH 43215-4183
Phone: (614) 466-2945
Fax: (614) 752-7613

The Ohio State University
College of Social Work
1947 College Road
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: (614) 292-6934
Fax: (614) 688-5578