

**Family & Community Partnerships Managers
2010 Wisconsin Head Start Association Spring Quarterly**

Interfacing Our Work
Meet with State Agency, Department, or Organization Representatives

Exploring Financial Education and Outreach with Limited Income Households

Wednesday, April 14th from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Dr. J. Michael Collins, Assistant Professor, UW-Madison School of Human Ecology and UW-Extension Family Financial Management Specialist

Peggy Olive, Richland County Family Living Agent, UW-Extension Dept. of Family Development

In our increasingly complex world, financial knowledge has become an essential tool for survival. Economically disadvantaged families that lack basic financial skills are even more vulnerable to sudden economic shocks like job loss or health crisis. We will explore current research, core components, community partnership, and emerging approaches in financial education. As a result of your participation, you will gain a better understanding of best practices for financial education and learn about opportunities to expand financial literacy services to families.

Coaching: Key Elements for Positive Outcomes

Wednesday, April 14th from 11:00 a.m. to noon

Dr. J. Michael Collins, Assistant Professor, UW-Madison School of Human Ecology and UW-Extension Family Financial Management Specialist

Coaching is an ongoing collaborative process for assisting clients in changing behaviors, with a focus on long-term positive outcomes. In coaching, clients identify their unique goals and specific actions to achieve these goals. The coach helps to facilitate decision-making and accountability, while providing tools, resources, and referrals within a supportive relationship. Techniques and examples to assist with financial literacy coaching will also be shared.

Deepening the Content
Educational Opportunity

Improving Cultural Competency and Effective Cross-Cultural Communication in Our Programs and Ourselves

Wednesday, April 14th from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Gladis Benavides, Founder and President

Benavides Enterprises, Inc.

Participants will gain tools and strategies to ensure both 1) the delivery of effective, consistent culturally-competent services to a multicultural client population and 2) successful communication in diverse environments in order to enhance individual and program performance.

Effective communication is a crucial component of personal and program performance. By examining our current individual and program competencies for cross-cultural communication we will identify areas of potential improvement. To improve personal and program performance we will strive to enhance our abilities to: effectively communicate with diverse populations, identify the culturally-related needs of clients and co-workers, work with individuals from various backgrounds, and better understand the dynamics of culture within a given context. After assessing our individual communication styles we will work to hone our skills to recognize and respect differences and to develop ways to prevent, manage, and resolve conflict.

Come ready to share your experiences about the challenges you have faced, the ways you have resolved problems, and your successes related to providing cultural competent services in your community and developing effective communication at your program.

Facilitated Networking and Share Shop

Thursday, April 15th from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Trena Loomans, Family Services/Mental Health Specialist

Marathon County Child Development Agency Head Start Program

Head Start and Early Head Start Family & Community Partnerships Managers meet to network, identify and discuss current topics and trends, and share resources like program policies and products.

Prior to the Quarterly, participants are encouraged to identify current trends and items of concern for discussion as well as suggesting program policies and products to share by noticing Molly Kovarik at 608-442-6879 or kovarik@whsaonline.org. Summary lists of submitted topics, policies and/or products will be disseminated to meeting registrants prior to the event so be sure your email address is included on your registration form.