

Parent Education Conference – SMU – 7/15/09

Small Group Reports

1) Arminta Jacobson's Group:

- a. There is a need for programs for people of different cultures, low-income families
- b. All curriculum does not fit all audiences
- c. Perhaps CPS parents who've had positive experiences in a given program should be paired with new parents in the program (mentor-mentee relationship).

2) Steve Green's Group:

- a. The material for parent educators can be overwhelming. There is a need for a repository – one-stop shop – with parent education information.
 - i. A website that lists programs, where you can find them, and their cost. *Comment by Dr. Holden: We have generated a list of 50 programs as well as a shorter list of "evidence-based" programs. These lists are now posted on the conference website.*
 - ii. Programs that appeal to a diverse clientele.

3) Margaret Owen's Group:

- a. Many parent educators create their own curriculum. How can we share these ideas?
- b. Can we post a list of conference participants' email addresses on the website, so people can get in touch? – *Comment by Dr. Holden: I'm hesitant to post people's contact information unless they give me permission. One way around that is for individuals to join the list-serve group we are starting up.*

4) Sujata Desai's Group:

- a. How do you tailor evaluation to a specific age group?
- b. Where do you find/ how do you come up with your first survey?

5) Cindy Frosch's Group:

- a. Disconnect between home and school with parent educators
- b. Language barriers (better to have a curriculum developed in Spanish, rather than dubbed over)
- c. How can curriculum evolve to keep up with current issues (bullying, etc.?)
- d. At what level do you want to do your education/intervention?
- e. How do you get parents to understand that there is another way of parenting than what they are accustomed to?

- f. How do you communicate with families and build partnerships with them?

6) George Holden's Group:

- a. Every program has unique issues that need to be dealt with and thought through
- b. There is a need for a dialogue between people who are experienced with evaluation (researchers) and programs.
 - i. Perhaps a list on website of contact information of parent evaluators/researchers who are willing to consult with programs? *Comment by Dr. Holden: The initial list is now up.*
 - ii. The Center for Children and Families (on website) is willing to consult with programs.
- c. List on website of a common set of problems that programs have faced, and their answers?
- d. People email in problems and then share solutions? *Comment by Dr. Holden: This can best be address by the list-serve that is now up and running.*
- e. Involve more undergraduates in programs
 - i. Educate students early on in their undergraduate careers about opportunities to volunteer with programs.