



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
H. Martin Lancaster, President

September 22, 2005

MEMORANDUM

To: Comprehensive Family Literacy and Even Start Coordinators

From: Randy Whitfield, Ed.D.
Associate Vice President, Academic & Student Services
Basic Skills Department

Subject: Family Literacy Initiative Grant

The North Carolina Community College System Office has awarded a training and technical assistance grant to Motherhead, Inc. for the program year 2005-2006. The grant again provides opportunities for site visits, trainings, and regional round table meetings for staff working in comprehensive family literacy programs, including Even Start. In her role as the N.C. Training Coordinator for Motherhead, Inc., Michele Wheeler will be in contact with you as she coordinates different aspects of this initiative.

During site visits, Michele will observe classroom sessions and talk with staff in each of the four components of the family literacy program. Specific information will be documented about recruitment and retention strategies, appropriate assessment, component integration, program intensity, as well as classroom literacy interactions and strategies. Following the visit, a summary report will be written and submitted to Katie Waters at the System Office and Don Carter with Even Start. Program highlights, best practices, and site visit information will also be included in an annual report on family literacy compiled by Motherhead, Inc. and distributed through the System Office at the end of the 2005-2006 fiscal year.

Several trainings are scheduled for this new fiscal year. Additional training opportunities will be added to the calendar as program needs are identified. A listing of training dates and times can be found on the Motherhead, Inc. web site as well as the community college web site.

Last year four regional round table sessions were held with a total of 85 people in attendance, representing 22 different program sites. These sessions provided an opportunity for comprehensive family literacy program staff to inform and support each other as professionals in the field. This year we are delighted to have the opportunity to

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offer regional round table sessions again. Our advisory group met this summer to analyze feedback about the first year of round table sessions. As a result, the session has been lengthened (9:30am - 2:00pm) and a presenter has been added to the agenda. This year's speaker will be Dr. Bertha Gorham, who has more than 30 years of experience in educational research and program evaluation. She has a broad background in early childhood development, parenting, and family literacy, with an emphasis on early intervention with at-risk populations, program development and evaluation. Her topic will be "What Research says about Effective Practice." Through large and small group activities, Dr. Gorham will help us move from research to practice as we encourage positive interactions between parents and children. Four dates and locations have been set for the 2005-06 year.

October 14, 2005 Blue Ridge Community College
Continuing Education Bldg, Rm 122
College Drive
Flat Rock, NC
(828) 692-3572

November 4, 2005 JE Broyhill Civic Center
1913 Hickory Center Blvd
Lenoir, NC
(828) 726-2401

February 24, 2006 Educational Resource Center (ERC)
396 Elementary Dr.
Fayetteville, NC
(910) 678-2536

March 3, 2006 TBA
Kinston, NC

Save the dates and register for the session your staff would like to attend by calling (919-781-2088) or emailing (motherread@earthlink.net) Motherread, Inc. Registrations will be accepted up until two-weeks prior to each round table.

Please take advantage of some of the numerous professional development opportunities offered through this initiative. It looks like we'll have another exciting year!

c: Presidents
Senior Continuing Education Administrators

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