Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

Spanish-language Parenting Education Program for Migrant Farmworker Parents

www.yvfwc.com

Lisa Campbell-John, Project Director lisac@yvfwc.org
Vickie Ybarra, Project Evaluator vickie@yvfwc.org

Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic

- Large community/migrant health center system
- Clinics in WA and OR
- Served >115,000 patients last year
- 64% Hispanic
- 39% m/sfw + family members

Yakima Valley, Washington State

- YVFWC service base and administrative HQ,
- Rich agricultural region,
- Produces majority of apples, asparagus, pears, hops, cherries and mint in the nation,
- County population 223,000,
- 38.7% Hispanic
- Highest concentration of migrant/seasonal farmworkers in Washington State,
- 81,175 m/sfw + family members (2000 est)

Spanish-language Parenting Education

- YVFWC Parenting Education Program, Spanish & English
- Spanish – “Los Ninos Bien Educados
- Curriculum designed for Mexican immigrant, first generation parents,
- Teaches non-punitive discipline and guidance, family communication and interaction with U.S. systems
- Builds on cultural value of children being well-behaved, “bien educados”
- Supportive teaching environment
- Not a translation of another curriculum designed in CA specifically for this population
- Center for the Improvement of Child Caring (CICC)

www.ciccparenting.org

YVFWC Implementation

- Historically targeting general Hispanic population, now target resources specifically to Migrant parents and families,
- Build in short-term and long-term evaluation,
- Importance of local partnerships with schools, head start centers, other groups
Potential Barriers for Families

- Understanding of program, importance for their families,
- Transportation,
- Language,
- Lack of childcare

Strategies to address barriers

- Bilingual/bicultural Parenting Education Coordinator, establish RELATIONSHIP with families and address individual barriers,
- Provide childcare that is age-appropriate and FUN! for kids,
- All staff who may come into contact with families are bilingual, most from m/sfw background— instructors, Coordinator, childcare workers, front-line receptionists

Outcomes

- Over 70% participation at high level (at least 8 of 12 class sessions)
- Improved family communication,
- Improved use of non-punitive discipline techniques,
- Improved mutual support and access to support services,
- Improved child behavior (“bien educados”),
- Development of long-term measures with University-based evaluation consultants