

Presentation Handout



National Center
for Family Literacy

Family Literacy

Drawing on the Power of the Family

The family is the strongest element in shaping lives. It's the most powerful support network there is. It's where the cycle of learning begins, where the attitudes of parents about learning become the educational values of the children.

Through intensive education of more than one generation, family literacy programs build on families' strengths and provide the tools and support they need to become stronger and more self-sufficient.

The National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) leads the field of family literacy. NCFL developed and supports the national family literacy model which integrates adult education instruction, early childhood education, interactive literacy activities for parents and children, and parent education into one comprehensive program.

The Head Start Family Literacy Project (HSFLP) is a five-year cooperative agreement with NCFL to provide training and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of Head Start and Early Head Start grantees to implement comprehensive family literacy services.

As parents acquire new educational, social, employability and life skills, they are able to enhance the literacy skills of their children. The Head Start Family Literacy Project supports the continued efforts of Head Start to build on family literacy as one pathway to self-sufficiency.

NCFL's organizational vision is to create and support systems which enable families to become self-sufficient through educational programs for parents and children together. Its mission is to provide leadership for the field of family literacy; promote policies at the national and state levels to support family literacy; design, develop and demonstrate new family literacy practices for replication; deliver high quality, dynamic, research-based training, staff development and technical assistance; and conduct research to expand the knowledge base of family literacy.