



2600 50th Street
Kenosha, WI 53140

Phone: (262) 605-2375

Fax: (262) 605-2400

Even Start Family Literacy Program

What Is The Even Star Family Literacy Program?

The federally funded Even Start Family Literacy Program is a school-community partnership that helps break the cycle of poverty and illiteracy by integrating early childhood education, adult literacy or adult basic education, and parenting education into a unified family literacy program. Even Start is implemented through cooperative projects that build on high-quality existing community resources, creating a new range of services for children, adults, and families. The Program helps children and families achieve the academic standards set forth by the State and uses instructional programs that are based on scientific reading research to...

- ✓ enrich language development, extent learning, and support high levels of educational success for children from birth through age ten and their parents;
- ✓ provide literacy services of sufficient hours and duration to make sustainable changes in a family;
- ✓ provide integrated instructional services for families, where children and their parents learn together to develop habits of life-long learning; and
- ✓ support families committed to education and to economic independence.

What does Even Start provide?

Adult Education provides parents with basic skills, including English, life skills and the opportunity to earn a high school credential.

Early Childhood Education provides opportunities for children to learn from birth and focuses on the education of very young children from birth through age ten. Family Literacy programs work in the areas of physical development, social-emotional development and cognitive development and emphasize children's eventual success in school.

Parent Education provides parents with a wide variety of learning topics including parenting strategies, how to be advocates and role models for their children, and strategies to support their children's learning.

Interactive Literacy Activities provide a tie "to increase and facilitate meaningful parent-child interactions focused primarily on language and literacy development in a high-quality environment where they can learn and play together."

Home Visits provide a means for delivering literacy instruction in a familiar setting and to emphasize that parents are the child's first and most important teacher.

Who is eligible to participate in Even Start?

- ✓ Families who reside in the Kenosha Unified School District attendance area and have children birth through age ten
- ✓ Families in which at least one parent does not have a high school diploma, requires English classes or wants to improve basic education skills
- ✓ Families who receive food stamps, WIC or other services for low income households

STAFF

Coordinator

Juan J. Torres

Community Liaison

Paola Rojas

ESL Instructors

Debra Solomon

Vicky Barquero

Kimberly Ellis

Infant Specialist

Christy Mattson

Virgen Rodriguez

Early Childhood Specialists

Susan B. Cook

Melissa Kolaczewski

Emily Cawler

Amy Bouas

Edie Dudek

Laverne Harris

School Age Specialist

Paula Gutierrez

Taylor Thomas

