

Family Engagement Opportunities

You are your child's first, and most important, teacher!

Each family enrolled in the Early Head Start/Head Start/UPK program has many opportunities to be involved. We invite you to partner with us to provide your child with a valuable school readiness experience.

We hope you will:

- ❖ Share information with staff regarding your child's strengths, interests, and development.
- ❖ Give input to assist in planning, such as classroom activities or individual goals to meet your child's needs.
- ❖ Share your special interests, skills, and knowledge with staff, classroom, and other parents.
- ❖ Participate in home visits with Family Educators, Teachers, and/or Resource Advocates as a way to share information and work together on setting goals.
- ❖ Participate in parent education opportunities, Parent Committee Meetings, and family activities.
- ❖ Volunteer in the classroom, or in any way that you feel comfortable. Opportunities will be provided, but feel free to suggest your own ideas. We have an open door policy. You are welcome at any time!

Other opportunities for family engagement:

- ❖ Policy Council: a decision making group made up of Early Head Start/Head Start parents and community members. The group meets monthly at Pro Action in Bath. Members work in partnership with staff to help develop and review policies and procedures. They also conduct self-evaluations of the program, receive program updates and reports from managers, make decisions about the budget and how money will be spent, and approve hiring of employees. Members may be self-nominated or nominated by other parents, and are elected during the parent group meeting in September.
- ❖ Program Planning: a group that is responsible for working with staff to complete the annual program self-assessment, making recommendations for needed corrections and following up on progress.
- ❖ Health Advisory Committee: a group of parents, staff, and community members who help define policies and offer advice on medical, dental, nutritional, mental health, and disability related concerns. This group meets twice each year.
- ❖ Education Advisory Committee: a group of parents and staff whose goal is to review and support changes to the curriculum.



Please talk with staff about any involvement opportunities that you may be interested in.

We look forward to working with you and making this year a rewarding and memorable experience for your child and family.

Thank you for your involvement!