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**COMPONENT: PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

**SUBJECT: EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION AND TRAINING FOR PARENTS**

**PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE:** To provide parents with educational information and training to enhance their role as the primary care provider/educator of their child. To provide opportunities for continuing education, this may lead to self-enrichment and employment.

Parents will be offered opportunities to develop and implement individualized Family Partnership Agreements that describe family goals, responsibilities, timetables and strategies for achieving these goals as well as progress in achieving them. The agency must work collaboratively with all participating parents to identify and continually access, directly or through referrals, services and resources that are responsive to each family’s interests and goals, including but not limited to, education and other appropriate interventions and opportunities for continuing education and employment training.

Parents must be provided with involvement and education activities that are responsive to the ongoing and expressed needs of the parents, both as individuals and as members of the group. The agency must provide opportunities for parents to enhance their parenting skills, knowledge, and understanding of the educational and developmental needs and activities of their children and to share concerns about their children with program staff.

Parent training questionnaires will be used to plan workshops and training sessions. Parents will be informed of the availability of support services. Training will be provided in the area of child abuse prevention and parenting. Other community agencies will be utilized to offer a variety of workshops and training sessions for parents. Parents will be informed of how and where to pursue GED or job training.

Head Start will provide training for parents and children in passenger and pedestrian safety. The need for an adult to accompany a child while crossing the street must be emphasized at the first home visit and within the first 30 days of enrollment.