

# Family Support NEWS BRIEF

A publication of

 CENTER FOR SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES



## Evidence-based Home Visiting Programs Improving Family Economic Well-being

Evidence-based home visiting programs can provide several benefits to the families they serve including help with accessing resources, education on child development, social connections, mental health support, and education and career development. Each of these benefits can address short- or long-term goals that families may want to achieve.

Additionally, home visiting program research indicates that they can also improve family financial and economic well-being. When a family sets and works on financial goals and enhances skills to manage their finances, it may lead to financial independence.

Several evidence-based home visiting programs have missions, visions, and values that contribute to family economic well-being. Research shows that several home

visiting programs have a favorable impact on family economic self-sufficiency.<sup>1</sup> These programs include Early Head Start-Home Visiting, Healthy Families America, Parents as Teachers, and Nurse Family Partnership. These programs also provide their home visitors with curriculum and materials that provide skill building and supportive strategies to support families.

There are several strategies that home visitors can incorporate into their visits with families to help support a family's economic well-being such as goal setting, money management skills, connecting families to education and career development resources, connections to public assistance programs, and problem-solving skills.

It's important that home visitors continue to provide monitoring and ongoing support. Home visitors can follow

up with the families each visit regarding their financial goals and adjust strategies as they work with them. It's essential that home visitors also develop a rapport and ongoing relationship with families to keep them motivated in achieving their economic goals.

### Sources

- 1 Sama-Miller, E., Akers, L. Mraz-Esposito, A., Zukiewicz, M., Avellar, S., Paulsell, D., and Del Grosso, P. (2017). Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness Review: Executive Summary. Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Washington, D.C.

**Parents as Teachers developed a workshop series that PAT programs or other family support programs can offer with the families with whom they work focused on family financial well-being.**

**Contact us at [FamilySupport@csc.csiu.org](mailto:FamilySupport@csc.csiu.org) about the Goals and Assets series.**

## Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Corner

**CTF Quarterly Reports (October – December) are due on January 30, 2025.**

**Child Welfare in the News** is a collection of news stories from across the country and the world on key topics related to child welfare. The included articles do not imply endorsement of any view expressed in a resource and may not reflect the opinions of Child Welfare Information Gateway, the Children's Bureau, or staff. For more information, [please read our About Child Welfare in the News.](#)

You may be interested in reading this Issue Brief found in the Child Information Gateway Library "[Separating Poverty From Neglect in Child Welfare.](#)"

## Upcoming Events

### Family Support Webinar

#### Recipe for a Healthy Home Visit

February 5, 2025, 10:00 – 11:00 AM ET

[Register by January 29](#)

### Best Practices for Engaging Male Caregivers

May 7, 2025



## Parents as Teachers Place

### Pennsylvania Parents as Teachers Courses

#### Virtual PAT Foundational and Model Implementation: February 3-14, 2025

Center for Schools and Communities

[Register for February FMI](#)

[Register for February FND](#)

#### Virtual PAT Foundational 2: February 18-21, 2025

Center for Schools and Communities

[Register for February F2](#)

### Combined Methods of Contact and Virtual Visits

As we enter the cold, rainy, and snowy season of the year programs may find it helpful to be able to keep visits with families using multiple methods of contact (combining a place-based personal visit with a virtual visit) or making use of virtual visits. Guidance from Parents as Teachers may be found in OLIVER > Model Implementation > Technical Assistance Briefs > Using Combined Methods of Contact to Complete a Personal Visit. For more information about virtual visits, go to OLIVER > Model Implementation > Virtual Visit Resources > Personal Visits.

Remember a Personal Visit is delivered by a PAT certified staff person and involves at least one parent/caregiver and one child and includes: Parent-Child Interaction activity, Developmental Centered Parenting and Family Well-being topics.



## Family Support Team

Family Support at Center for Schools and Communities provides training and technical assistance to Parents as Teachers providers, Children's Trust Fund grantees, and the Strengthening Families Leadership Team.

### [Alexia Brown](#)

Family Support Technical Assistance Coordinator  
(717) 763-1661, ext. 146

### [Jennifer Esposito](#)

Family Support Data Coordinator  
(717) 763-1661, ext. 161

### [Christine Felicetti](#)

Family Support Coordinator  
717-763-1661, ext. 104

### [Rijelle Kraft](#)

Family Support Managing Coordinator  
(717) 763-1661, ext. 221

### [Karen Shanoski](#)

Family Support and Community Engagement Director  
(717) 763-1661, ext. 139

[Pennsylvania Parents as Teachers](#) at Center for Schools and Communities

[Pennsylvania Children's Trust Fund](#)

[Pennsylvania Strengthening Families](#)

### **Family Support at Center for Schools and Communities**

275 Grandview Avenue  
Suite 200, Camp Hill, PA 17011  
(717) 763-1661

[centerforschoolsandcommunities.org](http://centerforschoolsandcommunities.org)



## Safe Kids Corner

### How to Raise a Real Estate Tycoon

My 6-year-old son, Winston, has become a real estate tycoon.

I only realized the extent of Winston's strategic understanding of things like mortgages, cash flow, and negotiation when he started playing a game of Monopoly over the Thanksgiving holiday with his Aunt Sarah.

I still consider myself a Monopoly novice but thankfully my husband, David, is more experienced, and apparently, he's taught Winston well.

"My dad always buys the properties near the start – the cheap ones," Winston announced when Aunt Sarah even considered wasting her money on Pacific Avenue.

"My dad doesn't buy the utilities."

"My dad likes to put houses and hotels on the pink properties – you can make a lot of money when you have hotels."

It was fun to listen to their discussion, watch Winston follow the rules (for the most part), and even see him learn how to manage his Monopoly cash. Winston can't wait for the day when he gets to be the banker.

Watching Winston also made me realize that toy safety is more than just buying age-appropriate toys or keeping toys with small parts away from young children – a priority for us since Winston's sister, Beau, is only 2 years old and the game pieces are a choking hazard. Finding the right toy for the right kid at the right time is also a great way to bond, have fun, and share the joy of play with the kids in your life.

Safe Kids Worldwide is proud to partner with the Toy Industry Association to promote toy safety and safe play this holiday season. Visit our [Toy Safety page](#) for tips and check out [PlaySafe.org](http://PlaySafe.org) for great guidance on selecting the perfect toy for the kids in your life.

[Source: Safe Kids Worldwide](#)