Follow-up Discussion

Professional Development Monthly Advisor and Planner (PDMAP)

Family Literacy

April 2010

Discussion Questions:

1. Now that everyone has a feel for the family literacy contexts of our participants, we'd like to turn to our guest discussant, Debbie Butkus. Debbie is the Training Coordinator of the Colorado Family Literacy Training Center in Colorado Springs. Debbie has just returned from the annual NCFL Family Literacy Conference in Kentucky. Debbie will share some of the conference highlights.

2. Which resources from the Family Literacy PD MAP did each of you read?

3. The Family Literacy Program Model promotes a 20 hour a week program. This intensity is not always possible. How has your program adjusted this model to work in your community with your available resources?

4. How does an adult education classroom operate differently in a Family Literacy program than in a regular adult education program?

5. How do you motivate an adult learner to participate fully in a Family Literacy program?

6. What Parent Education curriculum or activity listed on the PD MAP was new to you and might work well in your family literacy program? How does your program make decisions about incorporating a new curriculum?

7. Several of the articles described the results of Family Literacy programs. What did you learn from these findings? What results have you seen in your family literacy program?

8. What challenges are you facing in implementing a Family Literacy program? How do you meet these challenges?

9. Of all the ideas that we have discussed today, what is the most important idea you can take with you to your classroom or your program?

The four components of Family Literacy are:

Early Childhood Education This component supports the growth and development of children birth to eight years of age.

Adult Education Adult education classes include English language classes, Adult Basic Education, Adult Secondary Education, preparation for the General Education Development (GED) examination, and workplace literacy.

Parent and Child Together (PACT) Time The PACT component promotes parent-child interaction while supporting the literacy development of participating children.

Parenting Education This component provides education and support for parents regarding their children's literacy development.