

Engaging Male Involvement in Head Start For School Readiness

Key research findings on Male Involvement show: children do better in school and life when there is a positive father/male involvement. Healthy male role models are vital to children healthy development.

Dads through their participation help implement the **Teaching Strategies Creative Curriculum for Preschoolers** with individualized planning for each child to assist in their development.

There are four major goals and objectives in the curriculum that assist in a child's development and learning: socio-emotional development, physical development, cognitive development and language development.

The biggest barrier to involving fathers in programming include: irregular work schedule, societal expectations and views of male involvement in children's lives related to their care and support.

If the father is engaged in the family and parents share common child rearing principles the child will be more balanced and ready for school. If fathers hear that parents are their child's first teachers it will further help encourage Male Involvement.

When fathers are regularly invited to their children's educational activities, it encourages them to be involved and let them know their participation is welcomed and anticipated by their children. Male Involvement has the potential to strengthen the child's educational experience and produce a stronger relationship between family and school.