

## **Advocates for Younger Generations Using PCHP**

**Success for Our Kids.** Advocates for Younger Generations (AYG) is a statewide Colorado nonprofit of bipartisan community leaders committed to helping prepare young children from vulnerable families for success in school and life.

AYG, with local affiliates in Jefferson and Mesa Counties, will launch and grow pilot sites of the Parent-Child Home Program (PCHP) in these counties. AYG will also develop small pilots in other communities, and eventually implement PCHP, which has a 35-year track record, throughout the state in a high quality way.

AYG will conduct extensive research on the implementation of PCHP in Colorado, with the assistance of the PCHP national office, and AYG's nationally known researchers.

**Reaching Out to Vulnerable Families.** AYG chose PCHP from several home-visiting programs because of the outstanding educational outcomes it produces for young children in at-risk families who are:

- Living in poverty
- Non-native English-speaking
- Low literacy or illiterate
- Living in isolated rural or urban areas
- Recent immigrants
- Teen parents, single moms or dads, or grandparents raising grandchildren.

**PCHP Outcomes.** PCHP graduates enter school prepared to be successful.  
Program participants:

- Improve their IQ scores by 17 points
- Enter school as prepared as their middle class peers
- Are 50% less likely to need special education services
- Perform at or above state and national norms throughout elementary and middle school
- Graduate from high school at the same rate as middle class students.

**How PCHP Helps Parents Be Their Child's First Teacher.** PCHP is an intensive home-visiting model for families with 2- and 3-year olds. Well-trained and supervised paraprofessionals visit families twice a week for 30 minutes each time, with a total of 92 visits over the course of two school years. Each week the home visitor brings a gift of a book or an educational toy, as well as the curricular material for the week, and then models reading, playing and conversation activities for the parents and children. These activities:

- Develop the cognitive and social-emotional skills children need for school success
- Create literacy and language-rich home environments
- Provide parents the skills to be their children's first and most important teachers.

Though participants in the program are high risk and low income, PCHP sites across the country retain 80-85% of program participants for the full two years. This intervention program currently is being implemented in 14 states and three foreign countries.

**PCHP Rated Highly Effective.** Beginning in the 1970's, PCHP has been repeatedly recognized as a highly effective program—by the U.S. Department of Education, the National Governors Association, and many others. In 2011 a study of children's programs commissioned by the British Parliament recommended 19 programs from around the world as highly effective. Two of them are home-visiting programs: the Nurse Family Partnership and PCHP. Also in 2011, the Growth Philanthropy Network selected PCHP as one of 6 programs that should be replicated nationally (others included Teach for America and KIPP schools).

Additional information about the scope of the problem, national studies, videos, etc. is available.

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