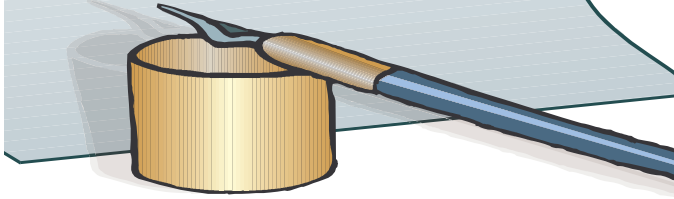


Did you know?



Children First staff and volunteers believe that all families want the best for their children. Some families, for whatever reason, may have difficulty achieving that 'best.' That's where Children First comes in to guide families in mapping out a plan of accomplishment.

Most services provided by Children First are homebased. Families can learn new techniques, new information in a familiar, real time environment.

Children First has a wealth of information on best practices for great parenting. Many families we work with do not have experiences with good parenting. With improved parenting practices, families grow more stable, grow stronger and children begin to thrive.

When children and their parents are interested in the child's performance at school, improved communication may lead to improved school grades. Improved school grades may increase interest in higher education.

Good parenting practices make stronger families with fewer crises and less drama. Less drama allows families to improve communication and allows for concentration on the issues that matter: improved educational performance, improved job performance, and increased interest in their children's education.

Children interested in higher education have more self respect, are internally motivated and strive to become productive, successful members of the community.

Children First holds an Endowment that supports the early literacy efforts in all of our programs. Thanks to a Lilly Grant in 2001, Children First has been a champion of early literacy for many years. Early literacy programming is embedded in all curriculum offered to families. Donations are encouraged to continue support of early literacy.

Serving children with special needs is only a small part of what Children First does. A larger part of our programming includes working with families to improve parent-child interaction, helping families understand child development, sharing best parenting practices and encouraging early literacy habits.

Children First is a grassroots organization and has been providing services to children and families for the past 40 years.

Children First sees the effect good parenting has on children's lives. The program may be called HOME or Healthy Families, but it's always about instilling good parenting practices in the families we serve.