



HIPPYUSA
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

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A Love of Learning Begins at Home

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) is a parent involvement, school readiness program that helps parents prepare their three, four, and five year old children for success in school and beyond.

HIPPY helps parents empower themselves as their children's first teacher by giving them the tools, skills and confidence they need to work with their children in the home. The program was designed to bring families, organizations and communities together and remove any barriers to participation that may include limited financial resources or lack of education.

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IN THE NEWS

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Curriculum Updates in Progress

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HIPPY Alumni are Young Leaders

What better tribute to Avima's legacy than the achievements of the children in which her work had a direct impact - with visible results!

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Weekly Message

A weekly email update from HIPPY USA

Updates for April 30, 2010

This Just In.....Funding Opportunity from the Department of Education!

Today, the Department announced the availability of the planning grant application for Promise Neighborhoods (PN), a new program to significantly improve the educational and developmental outcomes of children in our most distressed communities.

Because the challenges faced by communities with high concentrations of poverty are interrelated, Promise Neighborhoods is taking a comprehensive approach designed to ensure that children have access to a continuum of cradle-through-college-to-career solutions, with strong schools at the center, that will support academic achievement, healthy development, and college and career success.

Please visit [here](#) for the full application, summary documents, and the opportunity to register for several informational and application webinars in the coming days and weeks.

Additional inquiries should be submitted [here](#). All questions submitted will be reviewed, with the most frequently asked questions posted on their web site.

The notice of a new federal grant for a neighborhood approach to educational development should have distinct appeal to HIPPY programs across the nation. From the first day of planning, every new HIPPY program is taught the value of community integration and local partnerships. Every HIPPY program establishes an advisory

committee to help realize that important outreach to other institutions, agencies, and local business.

One way to look at grant applications such as Promise Neighborhoods is to consider them as guidelines for programming excellence. If your HIPPY program does not yet meet the criteria for this funding, then use the program guidelines as a blueprint for your own growth. The funding requirements of this grant identify exactly what partnerships and resources can be achieved.

If you do meet this criteria, start writing your proposals! And let us know how the National Office can help!

[\[Read More\]](#)





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March 5, 2010

March 12, 2010

March 19, 2010

April 30, 2010

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HIPPY Photo Highlight

Shown from left: United States Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, Arkansas Surgeon General Dr. Joe Thompson, and former United States Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders. Dr. Benjamin served as the keynote speaker during HIPPY USA's National Conference last April.



HIPPY in the Media:

Click [here](#) to read a newspaper article on the HIPPY Gainesville program.

Click [here](#) for a newspaper article on CHOP CHOP, HIPPY's partner program in family nutrition and children's healthy eating.

National Office News:

- Thank you letters have been sent to conference presenters, particularly to our motivational keynote speaker Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, whose inspirational message can be linked to HIPPY in the simplest terms: Healthy children are better learners.

- HIPPY state directors are sending comments to help draft a letter response to the federal agencies implementing the new Maternal, Infant, and early Childhood Home Visiting Program. HIPPY Alabama Director Joanne Shum also created a grid that indicated how HIPPY aligned with the new federal regulations and laws. The grid can also be personalized for individual states.

- Also from Alabama...an administrator at the AL Department of Education has joined the review team working on the Age 4 curriculum. The project is currently creating the Home Visitors Guide as the accompanying document to the revised curriculum. A translator will soon be brought into the project to create the Spanish versions of all materials. A pilot test for the first book, Sounds I Hear, and associated activity pages is planned for the fall.

- A conference meeting brought together for the first time two groups of HIPPY staff from around the country. Meetings of the Coordinators' and Home Visitors' Advisory Groups allowed direct feedback on several key topics from the folks who take our program out into the community and into homes. Both groups saw good value in establishing a communications flow that promoted peer exchange as well as insight to administrative levels. The groups also offered good advice on how to recognize and reward performance excellence.

- National Program Director Gayle Hart will be traveling in Mississippi in mid May to bring the message of HIPPY programs to rural communities in that Delta state. HIPPY has an excellent opportunity to reach families in the rural South, a potential demonstrated in the

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recent growth of local HIPPY program across Southern states from Arkansas to Florida. At this time, only one HIPPY program is underway in Mississippi.

- Our new website designer, Mass Enthusiasm, came by this week to discuss marketing and branding ideas. Facebook, Twitter, text messaging, and other communication systems are rapidly making email a second choice for many people. HIPPY USA will be using these and other resources to help share our message with new audiences.

Please continue to let us know how the national office can best support your work.

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