

Sample: Approximately 200 Head Start parents

Measures:

- Program collected data on child and family characteristics
- Family Expectations for School Readiness Involvement (FESRI in English and Spanish)
- Family Involvement Questionnaire (FIQ in English and Spanish)
- Program records on family involvement and kindergarten transition activities made available to families and activities completed by families

Caroline Shanti

Project Title: Understanding Parental Engagement: Investigating the Home Visitor Experience and Context

Mentor: Marji Erickson Warfield

Project Funding Years: 2012-2013

University Affiliation: Brandeis University

Project Abstract: This exploratory study will examine the individual, program, and agency factors that impact home visitor ability to engage parents. The study has three primary goals: 1) to understand the push-pull between standardization and individualization as it takes place in EHS home visiting programs; 2) to understand how home visitors develop the ability to achieve engagement; and 3) to integrate the findings from goal one and goal two to understand how implementation choices made by individual programs impact home visitor ability and experience in engaging parents. This is a comparative case study, with the primary form of data collection being 30-minute phone interviews with EHS program managers or directors. Findings will inform replicable models of approaches to team building, mentoring, supervision, and training that could be implemented across the spectrum of possible program design in EHS.

Sample: 28 home visitors and 8 supervisors from four Early Head Start Home Visiting Programs in Region 1.

Measures:

- In-depth interviews with home visitors and supervisors

Diana Westerberg

Project Title: Student-Teacher Relationship, Cortisol Reactivity, and Behavioral Outcomes of Children Attending Head Start

Mentor: Julia Mendez Smith

Project Funding Years: 2012-2014