

Tri-County Community Council, Inc.
Head Start/Early Head Start

Part: 1302 Program Operations
Subpart: E- Family and Community Engagement Program Services
Section: 1302.51 Parent Activities to Promote Child Learning and Development
Subject: Multicultural Communication

Policy

Meetings and interactions with families must be respectful of each family's diversity and cultural and ethnic background.

Procedure

1. Support and respect for a family's values and beliefs will be shown through the incorporation of the child's home language in the classroom and the use of a translator as needed.
2. A concentrated effort to communicate with children should be made through the use of simple words or phrases in the child's home language being used daily in the classroom, dining room, and at play area.
3. If a small number of children speak in another language, staff will learn and speak several words a day in the child's home language to provide reassurance to the child.
4. Words from the child's home language should be incorporated into the daily lesson to show support of the child's culture.
5. Utilize song, language, and music material in the child's home language in the lesson plan to help reassure the child and to provide classroom exposure to learning another language.
6. Literature in a child's home language will be available in the classroom.
7. An interpreter will be accessible for parent conferences and emergencies.
8. If a majority of children speak the same language, then staff will be trained or bilingual staff will be available to provide regular interaction with the children in their home language.