



# How Business Can Support Family Involvement

## "Flextime"



29% of employees in the U.S. now offer this option. Core hours are often mandated (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.), but workers have flexibility beyond those hours. This gives them an opportunity to visit schools and share in child care responsibilities.

## Job Sharing/Part Time Work

Studies indicate that many parents would prefer to forego full-time job for a part-time job that would give them more time for their children. Job sharing and part-time arrangements can reduce burnout and job dissatisfaction.

## Provide Information

lunch time seminars addressing parenting, health, community resources



on-site libraries with books and videos on parenting and parent involvement

literacy training, educational opportunities

## Improve Child Care Options



Provide on or near site child care centers or support centers in the community. More than 55 percent of large companies take advantage of a federal law that provides for Dependent Day Care Assistance Plans, which allows employees to set aside up to \$5,000 of their pre-tax salaries for child care.

## Reinforce Good Students

Look at school transcripts when hiring after-school, part-time, or summer jobs. Encourage students to develop their job skills by taking tougher courses in school.

## Participate in a School-to-Work Program

These programs encourage employers to team up with parents and schools to help students learn job skills and perform well at work. Businesses are now working with high schools to create internship and apprenticeship programs. For more information call School-to-Work Opportunities Information Center at (202) 60-7278.



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## Support Your Local Schools

Insist on higher standards, demand accountability, reward good performance, and give workers flexibility and tools to get the job done.

Support your employees in attending parent conferences and other significant school activities during the school day.

Provide opportunities for students and their teachers to visit the workplace.

Donate equipment, expertise, or money toward

A project of The Florida Partnership for Parent Involvement

Center of Excellence ♦ Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute ♦ Florida's Children's Forum  
Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters ♦ Hillsborough County Head Start ♦ Hillsborough County Even Start

raising local schools' standards.

**For more information contact:**

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**The Center for Parent Involvement** (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at [www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi](http://www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi). The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Parent Involvement, Provider Tip Sheets, #8: How Business Can support Family Involvement

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