Written by
Monday, 21 September 2009 15:06

A pilot project launched in the Phillips Community in early September 2009 designed for African American and Somali, child care providers' grandparents, uncles and aunts, reaching 50 children. Transportation, books, snacks, field trips, library visits, take home activities and visits, assessments, adult training classes, are available at no cost. Instructors are skilled and certified working with families and children three days a week 3 hours each.

The intention of the project is to help parents, extended family members and the community to be aware of the skills their children need to be successful in school. We want the community to be aware "this is not a day care", but a project which is designed for adult participations and mentoring with the child in their care, focusing on best educational practices. Research shows a great start in school begins with the confidence of child self-assurance and the belief that they can be successful in math, reading and writing. Children with healthy social/emotional development are likely to be successful throughout their formal school years.

2009-2010 the School Readiness Project offers two separate programs. Morning classes held for the African American Community and specifically designed around language, culture, tradition and values. Afternoon programs held for the American Indian Community ensuring that culture; language, beliefs and values are sustained and honored.. Both programs specific focus is education and skill building priming children 0-5 for school.

If you would like to take part in this free project, please contact Louisa Cox, Lead Program Coordinator at 612/721.0112 Extension 113 or email louisa@ecrc1.org .