

Promoting Positive Parenting
Among Latina Mothers in EHS
“18th Annual Birth to Three Institute”

- Elena Wright-Aguilar, MSW Student
Cindy Cruz, LGSW
Certified ABC Parent Coaches
- Partners for Parenting Project University of Maryland


Presentation Overview

Objectives

- Explore the delivery of evidence-based parenting program in the context of Early Head Start
- Discuss lessons learned from this project and others on the engagement of Latino parents


Attachment & Biobehavioral Catch-up
(ABC) Intervention

- Developed by Mary Dozier, U of Delaware
- Grounded in attachment theory and research
- Two randomized trials with children in child welfare
 - Foster parents
 - Birth parents
- Relatively brief, consisting of 10 sessions
- Delivered to mothers and infants in their HOMES



ABC Intervention

- Manualized curriculum
 - Content around themes
- Use of videotapes
 - Every session recorded
 - Clips shown to caregiver to illuminate behaviors
- IN-THE-MOMENT COMMENTING
 - Focus on parent strengths
 - Focus on target behaviors
 - Links between parent behavior, relevance to intervention themes, and child outcomes



ABC Themes

-  Parental nurturance
-  Following child's lead with delight
-  Reducing threatening and/or frightening caregiving behavior
-  “Overriding” one's own history and/or non-nurturing instincts
-  Exclusive focus on these “target” behaviors

Example of Nurturance

- Videoclip

Following the Lead

○ Videoclip

Delight

○ Videoclip

Early Head Start Partners

United Planning Organization (DC)	Rosemount Center (DC)	Catholic Charities/ Kennedy Institute (DC)
Family Services, Inc. (MD)	Lourie Center (MD)	CentroNia (MD)

Study Participants



- In home-based EHS at least 3 months
- Biological mothers over 18 years of age
- Infants between 6 and 18 months of age
- Infants not receiving early intervention services (Part C)
- Primarily Latina families

EHS vs. ABC

Approach	Focus	Interaction
EHS: Conversational parent education	EHS: Parent-child interaction that promotes child development	EHS: Models interactions
ABC: Skill-based parent coaching	ABC: Parent-child interaction that promotes attachment	ABC: Coaches during interactions

EHS vs. ABC (Cont.)


“It’s a different class that she [the ABC parent coach] gives because for me, [home visitor] from Early Head Start plays, she played with my daughter, and [the ABC parent coach] didn’t because she wanted to see the [baby’s] attachment to me.”

ABC participant

Montage

○ Videoclip

Family Engagement



What factors can cause a family to disengage?

Reasons for Disengagement

- Time demands and scheduling conflicts
- Daily stressors
- Family/Neighbor conflicts
- Immigration challenges
- Program approach
- Providers

Family engagement in the context of ABC delivery

ABC Delivery and Family Engagement

- If a mother thinks she needs to improve her bonding or attachment relationship with her child, she is more likely to stay engaged.
- If a mother receives frequent positive feedback about how well she is interacting with her baby, she will gain confidence in her ability to change when feedback is not as positive.

Initial Engagement Approach

- ABC program is introduced by EHS home visitor to parents
- Brief initial engagement discussions (ride alongs)
- Financial incentives

ABC Provider Strategies

- Clarify expectations for the ABC sessions
- Reinforce positive parent change via immediate feedback (commenting and video review)

Alliance between mother and ABC parent coach

- Personal bond with provider
 - Delighting in parent so parent delights in child
 - Involvement with ABC provides them with a gratifying experience - the “joy” of being with their infants
- Collaborative relationship for developing ABC parent target goals
 - Mom is more likely to engage in the program.

Cultural Considerations for Family Engagement in ABC program

- Bilingual staff engaged in enrollment and delivery of services (Research assistants, parent coaches)
- Parent manuals in Spanish
- Certified parent coaches
- Intervention fidelity was high

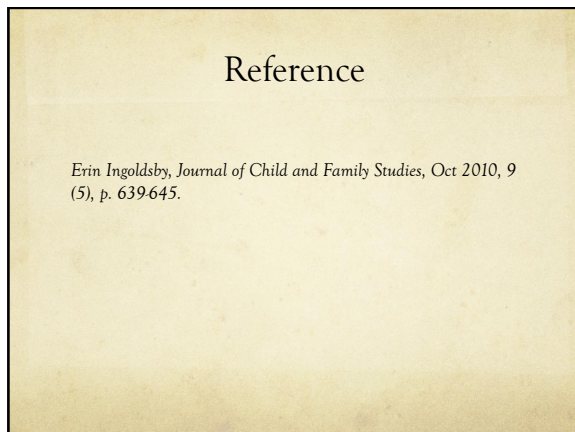
Myths About Parenting Practices

- Videoclip

Application of Family Engagement Strategies Through Case Studies

- Group Activity
- Read case scenario
- Discuss following questions with your group:
 - What strategies could you use to facilitate engagement
 - What factors interfere with engagement?
 - What would you do to support this family?





P4P Research Team

Dr. Lisa Berlin UMB (Principal Investigator)	Dr. Brenda Jones-Harden - UMCP (Co-Principal Investigator)
Alexandra Alvarez	Andrea Buhler
Ellen Craven	Cindy Cruz
Margo DeVoe	Sheyla Guevara
Laura Jimenez Parra	Allison West
Elena Wright-Aguilar	

Elena B. Wright-Aguilar
Cindy Cruz

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Contact Information

Cindy Cruz
ccruz@ssw.umaryland.edu
Phone: 443-721-7164
Elena Wright-Aguilar
eaguilar@ssw.umaryland.edu
Phone: 443-681-8619
