

## Family Living Programs

### Parenting Programs Meeting the Needs of Diverse Families

#### Situation

Raising a child is one of the most challenging but important responsibilities that families face. In an increasingly diverse and rapidly changing society, new strategies and programs are needed to reach the wide range of parents and other adults who share the responsibility of rearing the next generation of children.

#### Extension's Response

UW-Extension Family Living Educators are developing new ways to reach the growing diversity of Wisconsin's parents and helping them to more effectively raise their children.

#### Outcomes

UW-Extension Family Living Education parenting programs have provided parenting information, support and guidance to hard to reach and underserved parents across the state. Examples of these efforts include:

- In Eau Claire County, the Family Living Educator provided leadership for a community partnership that delivered three, 6-session parenting series to Hmong parents and their teens, resulting in enhanced parenting skills and improved academic and developmental outcomes among the teens.
- The Kenosha County Family Living agent provided parenting workshops to parents living in a temporary housing shelter.
- In a growing number of counties around the state (including Grant, Adams and others) Family Living Educators are working with the court system to provide workshops for divorcing parents in order to reduce the potentially harmful effects that divorce and separation can have on children.
- In Dunn and Jackson counties, Family Living Educators are providing parenting education to incarcerated parents in order to enhance their current relationship with their children and to prepare them to be more effective parents when they are released from jail.

#### Contact

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