

FACE
Family and Child Education



ncfi
National Center for
Families Learning

CENTER-BASED NEWS

Site Spotlight

In December 2021, the Hannahville Indian School FACE families and staff had an event at the Elder's Complex. The FACE center-based parents and their children decorated one of the trees with nature items they made with their own hands—including stringing popcorn and cranberries along with making pinecone bird feeders. In the evening, they had the tree lighting and sang Christmas carols. There was a great turnout!

Holly Lovell, Adult Education Teacher, shared:

It was so great to see so many Elders come out to participate and to have a nice meal with us. We also got to sing *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star* in Potawatomi. The Elders were so thankful that we came and sang for them. It was such a great evening and the FACE staff and parents did an amazing job putting this event together. We also worked with Health Start from the Hannahville Health Center.

Check out the photos from the event below!



**FEBRUARY
2022**

Upcoming Events

FACE Webinar: Family
Engagement at Home
and School
*February 17; 2:00—3:00
p.m. Eastern*

FACE to FACE
Week of February 21

FACE Webinar: Center-
based Support for
Transitioning Families
*March 18; 2:00—3:00
p.m. Eastern*

FACE to FACE
Week of April 18th



Resources

The [Dollar General Literacy Foundation](#) just opened their 2022 grants! Click the links below to access more information:

- [Adult Literacy Grants](#)
- [Family Literacy Grants](#)
- [Summer Reading Grants](#)



The deadline to apply is February 17, 2022 (10 p.m. CST).



Check out pictures of distributions from Toys for Tots and Partnership with Native Americans (PWNA) at Many Farms Community School in December 2021.



Feel free to cut off the bottom portion of this page and share with parents via bulletin boards, etc.

Parent Engagement Ideas

Story Box Play!

Children love stories! Creating stories with your child puts their imagination to work while also developing their vocabulary, logic, and sequencing skills. To play, you will need 5 or 6 toys or household items that are child-safe and a container to hold the items—like a box, a bowl, or a basket.

How to Play:

- Gather 5 or 6 items into the box.
- Begin by modeling how to use the objects to tell a story to your child. As each item is introduced in your story, remove it from the box and place it in front of you. Your story should include every object in the box.
- Next, invite your child to help you retell your story or to create a new story with you using the same objects. Decide which of you will start the story and continue taking turns until the story comes to an end. Give your child time to make up the story as they take their turn.
- You can also invite your child to tell a story on their own with the items in the box. You become the audience, laughing when appropriate and clapping when the story ends.
- Take turns telling a story with the items in the box. Your child will love to see how you come up with a story and may copy some of the elements of your story when it is their turn.
- Tell a family story. Add more objects to the box and get the whole family in on creating and storytelling!

Tips for Playing:

- Include dolls, stuffed animals, or action figures—the story needs characters! Use different voices for each character.
- Include items in the box that your child already loves playing with plus items that they do not usually play with, like a Band-Aid, a spoon, or a scarf. By including unfamiliar items in the box, you are building your child's knowledge and vocabulary.
- Accept your child's contribution to the stories. Embrace and enjoy the silly stories your child is likely to create. There are many ways to tell a story. Your open-mindedness allows your child to be their most creative self when storytelling.
- Keep storytelling fresh by trading out items in the box frequently. You can choose new items with your child or your child may choose new items without you.



Site Spotlight

The Nazlini Community School, Inc. Center-Based FACE Team (Shandall Yazzie, Adult Education Teacher and Thomascita Halwood, Preschool Co-teacher) have shared some techniques they use to encourage high participation from families in their program. They have seen an increase in participation this year, compared to last year!

- Parents are given very clear expectations from the beginning of enrollment and the team lets the parents know what they are signing up for.
- Families receive weekly learning packets and materials. To support families who are learning at a distance or families with different schedules, the team provides jump drives with videos of the lessons and school materials for the week.
- The team directly teaches adults and children how to use technology.
- The team is consistent with their daily and weekly schedules and provides make-up sessions if adults or children are unable to attend.
- The team has built in accountability by contacting and reminding families through text message and email.
- The team has varied their program offerings to include whole group, individual, and paired sessions—for both adults and children—to meet unique needs of each participant.
- The adult education teacher works with each participating adult, over Zoom, to fill out Parent Engagement Logs.
- The team offers incentives for program participation.

Great job, Nazlini team!

Professional Development Opportunities

NCFL Webinar: Family Engagement at Home and School

- Thursday, February 17th; 2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern
- Register by clicking on the link here.
 - In this webinar, you will learn about how to keep open-ended, child-led parent engagement going at home and in the community. We will share a tool with 10 Parent Time and PACT Time activities suitable for home or community use—with few materials needed. You will leave with tips and ideas for keeping parent engagement a rich component of your program.

FACE to FACE

- Week of February 21st
 - Preschool: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Preschool TA along with other FACE sites in a conversation around “Lessons Learned from the First Teaching Strategies GOLD Checkpoint.”
 - Adult Education: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Adult Education TA along with other FACE sites in a conversation around “Parent Time.” Our discussion will focus on leveraging the virtual space to work with guest speakers.

FACE Webinar: Center-Based Support for Transitioning Families

- Friday, March 18th; 2:00-3:00 p.m. Eastern
 - This webinar will focus on supporting the various types of transitions families make in the FACE program. We will review the different types of transitions made in FACE, resources available for your use in this process, strategies to support families, and more!

FACE to FACE

- Week of April 18th
 - Preschool: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Preschool TA along with other FACE sites to further discuss and receive support around TS Gold.
 - Adult Education: Each site is invited to join their NCFL Adult Education TA along with other FACE sites in a discussion around “Technology Tools for Math.”

FACE News

More than thirty years after founding the National Center for Families Learning (NCFL), Sharon Darling retired from her role as President at the end of 2021.

Starting in a small Kentucky church basement in the 1970s helping adults learn to read, Darling went on to become the nation's pioneer of family literacy, which brings parenting adults and their children together to learn.

Darling's time teaching reading in a church basement was followed by three years spent researching adult literacy. With her findings hailed by the U.S. Department of Education, she traveled the country consulting with governors and policymakers as they addressed their challenges of adult literacy.

NCFL is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky with statewide offices in Arizona and Nebraska and partnerships with local cities and communities throughout the nation. A 30-year partnership with the Bureau of Indian Education has extended the organization's footprint to dozens of American Indian communities.



Along the journey, Darling met with four U.S. presidents and worked with many administrations to share the power of family literacy. Her many honors include the National Humanities Medal, Women of Distinction Award, and the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Literacy from the Library of Congress.



Sharon took great pride in working with so many determined parents and children: "It has been my greatest honor to work alongside so many hardworking, inspiring families for all these years," Darling said. "Never did I expect my life to unfold how it has, but each day I am grateful to all those who believe in the tremendous power of multigenerational learning. I am incredibly proud of the work of NCFL, and I know the next generation of leaders will engage families in education like never before."

Moving forward, Darling will continue to serve as an active member of the NCFL Board of Directors and will support the organization in a variety of ways. Please leave your well wishes for Sharon's retirement [here](#).

Thank you for reading our January/February 2022 center-based FACE newsletter!
Newsletters will be sent out via email at the beginning of every month.

**If you have any news to share from your site, please send to your technical assistant
or directly to face@familieslearning.org!**