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Providence Talks

Welcome! *Providence Talks* is a new, early childhood literacy initiative envisioned by the Mayor and funded by the Bloomberg Philanthropies. *Providence Talks* is designed to assist families and caretakers in developing the vocabulary and language skills of their young children. This unique approach combines digital recordings, in-home coaching and other enrichment activities designed to increase and strengthen a child's language learning.

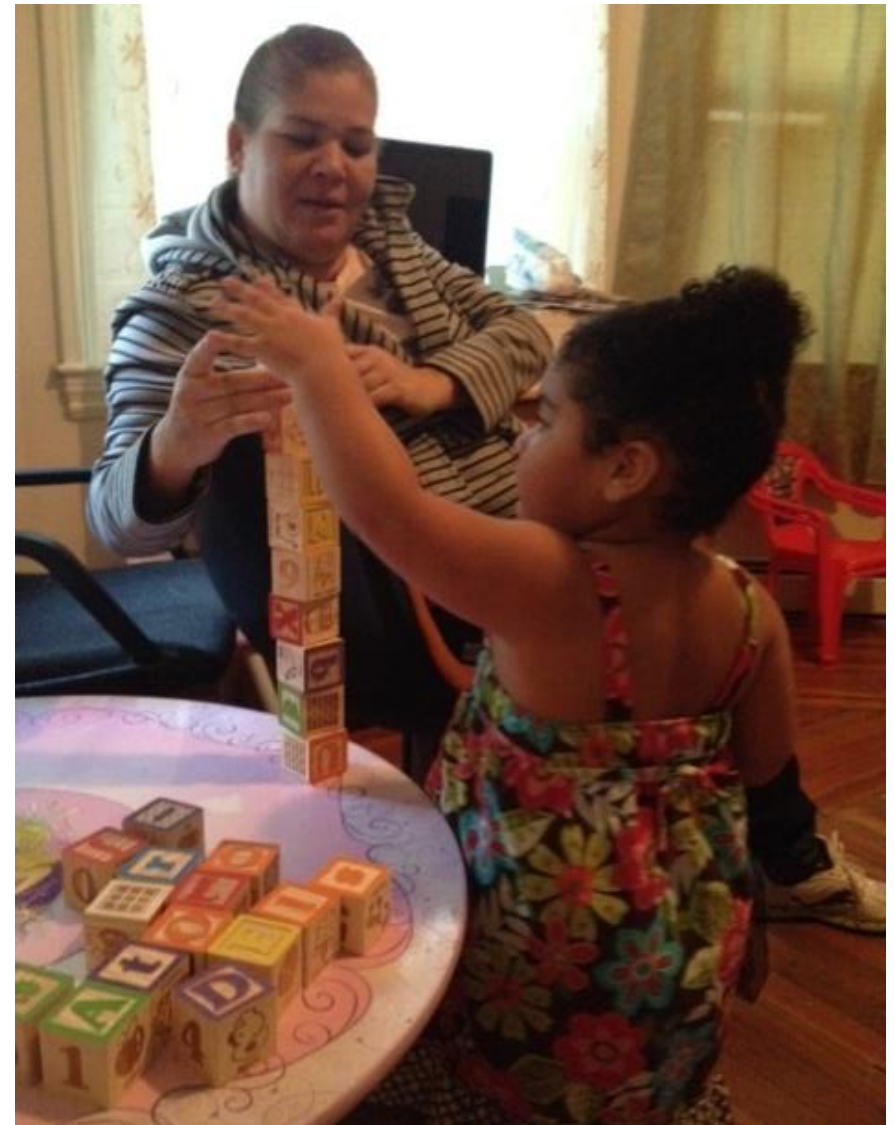
We are very excited to have you and your child take part in this exciting new program! *Providence Talks* is an innovative language enhancement program that will build your child's language development and skills and prepare them for success in Kindergarten and beyond. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns that you may have. We are available to answer your questions at any time. Thank you for participating in *Providence Talks*, we look forward to working with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Molina
Deputy Executive Director

Office (401) 421-2489 ext. 406

E-mail cmolina@providenceri.com



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Providence Talks

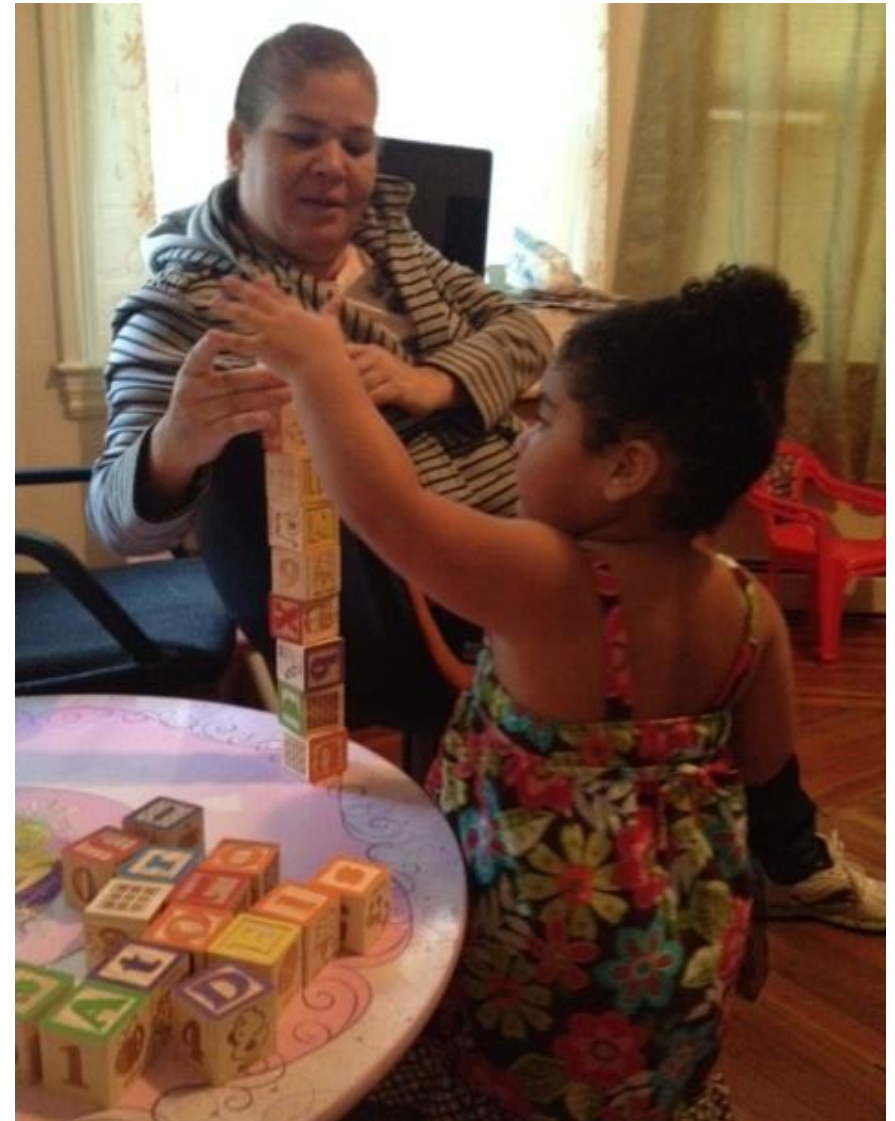
¡Bienvenidos! *Providence Talks* es una nueva iniciativa de alfabetización para la primera infancia cuya visión pertenece al alcalde y cuenta con fondos de Bloomberg Philanthropies. *Providence Talks* se diseñó para asistir a las familias y personas que tienen niños a cargo para que desarrollen el vocabulario y lenguaje en niños pequeños. Este enfoque único combina grabaciones digitales, capacitación en el hogar y otras actividades de enriquecimiento diseñadas para aumentar y fortalecer el aprendizaje del lenguaje del niño.

Es un gusto para nosotros contar con su participación y la de su hijo en este emocionante programa. *Providence Talks* es un innovador programa de mejora de la lengua que desarrollará las habilidades de lenguaje de su hijo y lo ayudará a prepararse para tener éxito en kindergarten y más adelante. No dude en ponerse en contacto conmigo con cualquier pregunta o preocupación que usted pueda tener. Estamos a su disposición para responder a sus preguntas en cualquier momento. Gracias por participar en *Providence Talks*, será un gusto trabajar con usted y su niño.

Atentamente,

Oficina (401) 421-2489 ext. 406

E-mail cmolina@providenceri.com



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Providence Talks is a new, early childhood intervention designed to help your child succeed in kindergarten and beyond. It was developed by the Mayor and is currently being implemented at Meeting Street, Children’s Friend, Federal Hill House Association and Family Services of Rhode Island.

Why is it important?

Research shows that children are often exposed to different amounts of adult talk and conversations. Children who hear more words are often better prepared for academic success. Providence Talks aims to give your child’s first teacher – YOU! – the tools needed to make sure your child’s vocabulary develops at an appropriate pace.

Who can participate?

Families living in Providence with a child ideally between the ages of 2-30 months are eligible to participate.

How does the program work?

Families participating in Providence Talks will receive home visitation sessions over a one year period, biweekly during the first five months and then one per month during months 6, 7 and 8. During these visits, your family will receive a free children’s book and special coaching on how to improve your child’s vocabulary and help prepare him or her for school. During each visit, your family will also receive a digital “word pedometer.” It counts the number of words and conversational interactions your child engages in during a normal day. You will make one recording with the “word pedometer” approximately every two weeks. No one listens to the digital recording on the “word pedometer.” Your recording is automatically deleted after it is processed.

Once a family has completed the program, a designated home visitor will complete two follow up recordings in order to check in with the family and ensure they have maintained their progress from the intervention. These “check-ins” will occur at the 12 and 18-month mark following their child’s enrollment.

Your Home Visitor will bring a personalized print-out with charts and graphs showing the number of words and conversational interactions your child experiences. You will not need to guess how many words your child is hearing – you will know with personalized reports over time.

Who do I contact if I want more information?

Providence Talks might be an exciting opportunity for you and your child! To learn more about the program, how it works, and how to be involved, please contact the Providence Talks Deputy Executive Director, Caitlin Molina (401) 421-2489 ext. 406.

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Providence Talks es una nueva intervención infantil temprana diseñada para ayudar a su hijo a tener éxito en kindergarten y más allá. Fue desarrollado por el alcalde y está siendo probado en Meeting Street, Children's Friend, Federal Hill House Association y Family Services of Rhode Island ahora.

- ¿Por qué es importante?

Investigaciones demuestran que los niños están expuestos a diferentes cantidades de charlas y conversaciones de adultos. Los niños que escuchan más palabras a menudo están mejor preparados para el éxito académico. Providence Talks quiere dar a el primer maestro de su hijo - USTED! - las herramientas necesarias para asegurarse de que el vocabulario de su niño se desarrolle a un ritmo adecuado.

- ¿Quién puede participar?

Familias son elegibles si tienen niños de 2 meses a 30 meses de edad y están viviendo en Providence.

- ¿Cómo funciona el programa?

Familias participando en Providence Talks recibirán visitas quincenales durante los primeros cinco meses y después mensuales durante mes 6, 7, y 8. Durante cada visita su familia recibirá un libro infantil gratis y hablarán sobre diferentes temas como mejorar el vocabulario de sus hijos y ayudarlos para la escuela. Durante cada visita se enfocará en el lenguaje, su familia también recibirá un "podómetro de palabras" digital. Este cuenta el número de palabras e interacciones conversacionales que su niño se involucra durante un día normal. Usted va a hacer una grabación con el "podómetro de palabra" aproximadamente cada dos semanas. Nadie escucha la grabación digital en el "podómetro de palabra." Su grabación se borra automáticamente después de que es procesada.

Su visitadora traerá una impresión personalizada con tablas y gráficos que muestran el número de palabras e interacciones conversacionales que su hijo experimente. Usted no tendrá que adivinar cuántas palabras su hijo está escuchando - usted sabrá con informes personalizados a través del tiempo.

- ¿A quién contacto si deseo obtener más información?

Providence Talks podría ser una gran oportunidad para usted y su niño! Para aprender más del programa, como funciona y cómo participar, comuníquese con su visitadora. Usted también puede llamar Caitlin Molina at (401) 421-2489 ext. 406.

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Hearing and Understanding	Talking
<p><u>Birth–3 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Startles to loud sounds Quiets or smiles when spoken to Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying Increases or decreases sucking behavior in response to sound 	<p><u>Birth–3 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes pleasure sounds (cooing, gooing) Cries differently for different needs Smile when they see you
<p><u>4–6 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moves eyes in direction of sounds Responds to changes in tone of your voice Notices toys that make sounds Pays attention to music 	<p><u>4–6 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babbling sounds more speech-like with many different sounds, including <i>p</i>, <i>b</i> and <i>m</i> Chuckles and laughs Vocalizes excitement and displeasure Makes gurgling sounds when left alone and when playing with you
<p><u>7 Months–12 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoys games like peek-a-boo and pat-a-cake Turns and looks in direction of sounds Listens when spoken to Recognizes words for common items like "cup", "shoe", "book", or "juice" Begins to respond to requests (e.g. "Come here" or "Want more?") 	<p><u>7 Months–12 Months</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Babbling has both long and short groups of sounds such as "tata upup bibibibi" Uses speech or non-crying sounds to get and keep attention Uses gestures to communicate (waving, holding arms to be picked up) Imitates different speech sounds Has one or two words (hi, dog, dada, mama) around first birthday, although sounds may not be clear

From "How Does your Child Hear and Talk: Birth to Five Years Old" by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (n.d). Reprinted with permission.

Hearing and Understanding	Talking
<p>1-2 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Points to a few body parts when asked. Follows simple commands and understands simple questions ("Roll the ball," "Kiss the baby," "Where's your shoe?"). Listens to simple stories, songs, and rhymes. Points to pictures in a book when named. 	<p>1-2 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Says more words every month. Uses some one- or two- word questions ("Where kitty?" "Go bye-bye?" "What's that?"). Puts two words together ("more cookie," "no juice," "mommy book"). Uses many different consonant sounds at the beginning of words.
<p>2-3 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands differences in meaning ("go-stop," "in-on," "big-little," "up-down"). Follows two requests ("Get the book and put it on the table"). Listens to and enjoys hearing stories for longer periods of time 	<p>2-3 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has a word for almost everything. Uses two- or three- words to talk about and ask for things. Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n sounds. Speech is understood by familiar listeners most of the time. Often asks for or directs attention to objects by naming them. Asks why? May stutter on words or sounds
<p>3-4 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hears you when you call from another room. Hears television or radio at the same loudness level as other family members. Understands words for some colors, like red, blue, and green Understands words for some shapes, like circle and square Understands words for family, like brother, grandmother, and aunt 	<p>3-4 Years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talks about activities at school or at friends' homes. Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time. People outside of the family usually understand child's speech. Answers simple "who?", "what?", and "where?" questions. Asks when and how questions. Says rhyming words, like hat-cat Uses pronouns, like I, you, me, we, and they Uses some plural words, like toys, birds, and buses Uses a lot of sentences that have 4 or more words. Usually talks easily without repeating syllables or words.

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