Language Learning Project



Goal of the project is to improve professional development and training for early learning educators to better support the needs of young Dual Language Learners (DLLs).

Component 1: Two Central Valley Cohorts

Goal: Provide professional development and training for caregivers and educators

What: Two cohorts in the central valley, Kern and Tulare County, are participating in a multiple agency professional development model. This model addresses supports for young Dual Language Learners (DLLs) birth to five year of age across early care and education settings in their communities. The Language Learning Project is based on the Fresno Language Project, which was created as a multi-agency collaborative to ensure all children have a strong foundation in both English and their home language upon entering kindergarten. The project is implementing innovative practices—including Personalized Oral Language(s) Learning (POLL) strategies, which are concrete approaches to support language learning in multiple environments. The POLL strategies were developed by nationally renowned early childhood experts Dr. Linda Espinosa, Dr. Carola Oliva-Olson and Elizabeth Magruder.

Model:

- Participating classrooms/settings take part in 5 Saturdays of professional development over the school year
- □All participating classrooms take part in a minimum of one coaching/classroom observation a month and one coaching/reflective conversation a month to support the implementation of strategies learned in the professional development trainings
- All participants complete a pre and post survey administered by the independent evaluator, Harder & Company, to measure the impact of the professional development series

Community Partners Include:

■Kern County:

Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Buttonwillow Unified School District
Community Action Partnership of Kern (CAPK)
Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO Wonderful Preschool Lost Hill and Delano
Early Head Start/Head Start

■Tulare County:

Tulare County Office of Education Head Start State Migrant Family Child Care Education Network

Participants:

- □ 1 Department/Organization Director
- □ 19 Early Learning Site Supervisors
- □ 10 Coaches
- 84 Teachers/assistants in infant and preschool programs

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Component 2: Leadership Orientations

Goal: Development of resources and dissemination through state-wide Leadership Orientations

What: Four state-wide Leadership Orientations will be conducted in the spring of 2020. These orientations are designed to disseminate the Dual Language Learner Toolkit to agencies and communities across California. The toolkit is based on the innovative practices—including Personalized Oral Language(s) Learning Strategies (POLLS), which are concrete approaches that support learning in all environments for children birth to five years of age. The toolkit was developed by early childhood experts including Dr. Linda Espinosa, Dr. Sue Bredekemp, Dr. Carola Oliva -Olson, Elizabeth Magruder, Whitcomb Hayslip and members of the Fresno Language Project leadership team.

Model:

- ☐ Participants will receive a full-day of training on the Language Learning Toolkit
- ☐ Participants will complete a pre and post survey administered by the independent evaluator, Harder & Company, to measure the impact of the institute

Leadership Orientation



Participants in the Leadership Orientation include:

- □ Department/organization directors
- □ Early learning site supervisors/directors
- Coaches