

**Data Collection and Analysis for Adult Learning
Experiences
Prepared for Early ON Centre, Stone RD site
Report on Parent Learning Opportunities**

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This report is on the analysis of the data collected from parents who access the Early ON centre in the Guelph location at Stone Road Mall Guelph. According to EarlyON Child and Family Centre, The EarlyON Child and Family Centre at the Guelph Community Health Centre provides child-centred, responsive programs and services for all children aged birth to six and their families. All of the EarlyON programs are guided by the pedagogical document, *How Does Learning Happen?*, introduced by the Ministry of Education in 2014 and based on best practices in early learning and care. The four foundations of high quality early learning and care outlined in HDLH are: Belonging, Well-being, Expression and Engagement which we make ongoing concerted efforts to improve on, in all of our programs. (2016)

Agency Information:

In Guelph, Ontario, The Early ON centres and The Guelph Community Health Centre are the main platform for providing support to parents and centre and home-based childcare providers. The Early ON centres in Guelph, along with the Guelph Community Health Centre provide supports and programs to parents in the areas of breastfeeding and postpartum support, registered programs, parent support programs, a parent outreach worker program and family resources. The current programs offered for parents, through the Early ON centres and some run in partnership with community agencies are Infant massage, 1,2,3, Come play with me! For 2 to 4 year olds, Speed River Walking Group, Birthday Books for children 1 to 6 (run in partnership with GPL), Circle of Security and Strengthening Families (in partnership with CMHA), Baby Basics, Early Years Pathways, registered parent workshops and various parent and child playgroups scheduled each month.

The Early ON centres manager explained that the parent groups and learning are usually provided during the parent-child playgroups with an informal, facilitator lead format, this happens during the infant playgroups running on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. These groups offer learning and information on parenting in the areas of sleep, nutrition, feeding, self-regulation and technology. The manager stated that technology was a current trend they were noticing in parenting. The manager also shared that most one time parent workshops were something they were seeing poor attendance in and one of the reasons why they were looking at informal facilitator run parenting playgroups. The manager shared that this method was very popular with their parent and family population. The manager also shared that the agency partnered courses had a very good attendance pattern and that they always had waitlists for these programs.

The families supported by the Early ON centres are those with children in the age range of 0 months to 6 years of age, with most children being between 0 to 18 months and accessing programs regularly.

With this information, it is relevant to note that a pattern of programming based on empowering parents to confidently raise healthy children is a strong focus for the

Early ON centres and The Guelph Community Health Centre. It can also be noted that this agency is open to providing programs and supports that meet the demands and schedules of the parents accessing their sites. With this information in the forefront of the project, a survey was created to realize the topics of interest, around raising healthy children, for these parents.

Survey Results

The survey asked five questions to parents to better understand their learning interests, parental concerns, best time and method to access learning and any other relevant topics, information or learning platforms that would better meet their needs. According to the data collected the learning needs of the parents surveyed were:

Most interested in learning-Activities to promote learning growth, with 53.3% of the parents indicating.

Main parental concern-Healthy development, with 40% of the parents indicating.

Most accessible learning mode-Online learning, with 53.3% of the parents indicating.

Preferred learning time-Daytime between 1:00 and 4:00, with 66.7% of the parents indicating.

A few parents indicated other learning requests in the way of healthy sleep, sibling conflict resolution, discipline, toileting and emotional regulation. There was a request for flyers or pamphlets available for take home learning and information.

Recommendations

In conclusion of the project and based on the data collected by way of, the interview with the site manager, programming already offered by the Early ON centres and the survey data, my recommendation for an adult learning opportunity would be in the method of an online webinar or video conference. This learning opportunity would focus on healthy childhood development and include some information around behavioural challenges, social development and providing a self-reg approach to supporting these challenges and growth. I would also include a take home printable resource with some activities to promote learning growth and support healthy childhood development. I would also provide a link to the Nippising Developmental Screen website for parents to access the screens for their own personal use.

During the agency manager interview, a question was posed about offering online learning experiences for their family populations. The manager shared that the Early ON centres had not done any work or offerings around online learning but expressed an interest in exploring that method of learning. The centre manager also shared the barriers to this method of learning being around costs and staffing requirements around the creation and implementation of such a project. I believe that providing

this learning opportunity, as an online learning, would also offer the agency a glance at the success of such learning opportunities, in a way that does not require financial backing.

References

EarlyON Child and Family Centre. (2016). Retrieved June 29, 2019, from <http://guelphchc.ca/early-years-centre>

Google Forms - create and analyze surveys, for free. (n.d.). Retrieved June 4, 2019, from <https://docs.google.com/forms/u/0/>