



Mayor's Office for Education and Children

Denver's Great Kids Head Start
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March 20, 2012

"Caminante, son tus huellas, el camino, y nada más; caminante, no hay camino, se hace camino al andar.." Antonio Machado

In my life, I have been privileged to participate in many educational conferences and sessions, particularly in the field of early childhood education; nevertheless, my introduction to Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors has introduced me to a new level of involvement with children and families. It is for this reason that I am excited to write this letter in support of the staff and vision of Abriendo Puertas.

Over the past two years, Abriendo Puertas has taken its place amongst the best practices for engaging and empowering families who live in the gap. I am referring here to families who often maintain rich informal networks and internal resources. Yet, despite their natural resiliency, these families just as often struggle to navigate the broader social systems and leverage the resources required to comfortably support their success and the success of their children.

Abriendo Puertas is not merely a tool for training parents; it is, as its name attests, a doorway to the creation of new possibilities as it facilitates the connection of the minds and hearts of its participants. Abriendo Puertas creates a space where participants come together to approach their unique circumstances from within the context of their collective desires and resources utilizing the concept of popular education. Abriendo Puertas doesn't presume answers but provides its participants with tools and new ways of looking at themselves that supports them in discovering their own leadership paths, as individuals and as a collective.

Yes, as the quote above has been paraphrased, "we make the road by walking." Abriendo Puertas is committed to inspiring its participants to make their own way by opening doors to new ways of thinking as a collective while celebrating and drawing on the gifts of the individual. Thank you for supporting this program in its mission of opening the doors to possibility.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin A. Jimenez-Galvan | Family Services Administrator
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