



Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
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November 12, 2010

To: Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors
Subject: Letter of support for Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors

Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors approached our program, Engaging Latino Communities in Education (ENLACE), about the possibility of hosting a training for a variety of early childhood related programs across New Mexico. The prospect of collaborating with Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors was graciously received, as the program appeared to be very promising.

The training did not let any of the attendees down. The early childhood professionals that attended from throughout New Mexico were profoundly affected. This impact carried through to the work that they do in the community. All of the organizations have plans to implement Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors and many have already started.

Young Children's Health Center's program, Más Mama, is one of the programs that has already begun the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors class. This program serves Spanish-speaking teen mothers in the International District in the city of Albuquerque. The mothers have become even more engaged with the addition of the Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors curriculum. These mothers said that this is the first time that the information comes to them at a level they can internalize and apply to their lives.

The design of the curriculum is truly remarkable as its theory is founded in popular education. This carries through the many facets of the course and especially in the activities. The mothers that participated through Más Mama were able to really understand the stages of child development presented in the 'How My Child Grows' section because the activities were so engaging. Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors enables the facilitators and the parents to enter into a dialogue so that the parents can absorb new information in a way they can relate to. It is not just the theory but the exercises that help the parents expand their horizons as their child's first teacher.

We fully support the efforts of Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors as it is a program that truly increases parents' ability, knowledge and tools to teach their children. The consequences will benefit our students, parents and the community at large.

Sincerely,

Jessa Bunker
ENLACE New Mexico
Educational Site Coordinator

Dr. Lawrence Roybal
ENLACE New Mexico
Executive Director