

Mississippi Action For Progress, Inc.

Early Head Start 2010 Expansion Orientation

Mississippi Action For Progress, Inc.'s Early Head Start recently underwent an expansion. This expansion will strengthen MAP's ability to provide services to low-income pregnant women, infants, toddlers and their families. Funding for this expansion was awarded under the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**.

A 2-½ orientation was provided to orient new staff to daily service delivery. **Dr. Demond L. Spann, Human Resources Director** was there to give the group an HR orientation. He talked with them about employee relations, performance evaluations, job descriptions as well as other HR matters.

Dr. Annie H. Lewis, Early Head Start Director along with her staff, greeted the participants with smiles at the opening.



Orientation Participants



**Dr. Annie H. Lewis
Opening & Overview**



**Dr. Demond L. Spann
HR Orientation**

Dr. Lewis made it clear that this orientation was going to be "very informative" yet "fun." The group was briefed with an overview of the expansion sites and how many additional children and classrooms there would be. She let them know that Early Head Start would now be located in all nine regions within the agency. The new counties that now have EHS are Winston, Itawamba, Yalobusha, Yazoo and Tishomingo. It was expanded in Warren, Lauderdale and Perry counties. After this discussion, the participants broke into groups for specially designed activities. They rotated through these activities to ensure that everyone was included in all activities. **Dr. Dorothy S. Foster, Fiscal/Administrative Support Director**, came by to welcome the group to the orientation. She was welcoming some to the agency and some who were already with the agency were being welcomed to Early Head Start. The group let Dr. Foster know how much they were learning and how much they were enjoying it.

Over the course of the orientation, participants were instructed on record-keeping, daily schedules, classroom activities as well as a thorough look at operational manuals. They also rotated through **MAP's Early Head Start Demonstration Unit**. This unit serves as a professional training entity and provides orientation and hands-on acquisition of educational theory in early childhood development.



The final day of the orientation was “review day.” The EHS staff used a unique and innovative method for verifying that everyone retained the information they were given. EHS regulations were tested in the form of a “scavenger hunt,” where the participants had to *scavenge* through operational manuals, HS Performance Standards, MSDH regulations as well as other pertinent materials and documentation to demonstrate their knowledge. The Post-Assessment was given using a game that had the look and feel of the *Jeopardy* quiz show. Everyone enjoyed this and it was a fun way to end the orientation

With the expansion of Early Head Start, Mississippi Action For Progress, Inc., can now offer additional and enhanced services in continuing it’s dedication to young children.

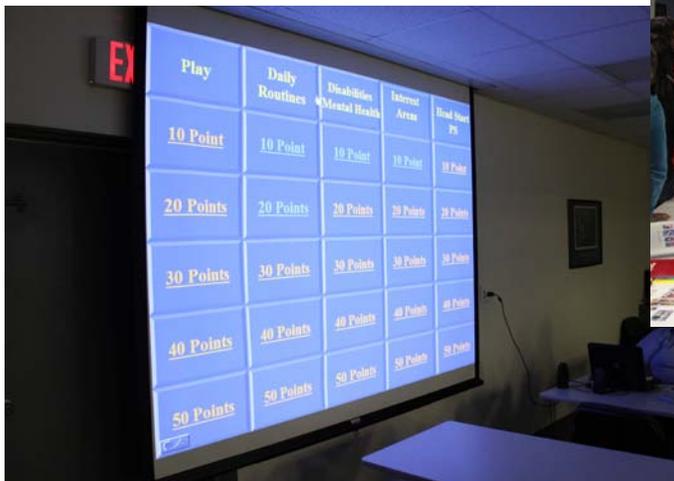


Specialized Group Activities



Facilitating Play

Work Session



“This Is Jeopardy”