



FST “Connecting Families”

Volume 1, Issue 3

Fall 2010

FST “Connecting Families” provides:

- Single session parent workshops
- 3-4 session workshops
- 8-10 week series
- Guest speaking
- Training in group work
- Children’s social skills program and child-minding are sometimes included.

Objectives:

- For parents to share, learn, build trust and understanding with other parents.
- Build stronger community support.
- Help parents understand their own parenting practice based on self-identified goals and philosophy.
- Introduce techniques, strategies, tips and ideas

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FST article gone viral

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Above, co-facilitators, Gillian Frise & Kadija Hayir presenting certificate of participation to a parent in “Connecting Families” Program at Firgrove Public School, March 2010.

FST “Connecting Families” Fall Programs

Childminding is available for all groups

+where shown: child programs for kids age 4 + up

Rexdale:

“Connecting Families” 9 sessions

- Thursdays 10:30-12 noon, Oct. 14-Dec. 9.
- at 920 Queen’s Plate (NW corner of Rexdale Blvd)
- In partnership with Macaulay Child Development Centre
- **Topics:** *sibling relationships, nutrition, “Peace Begins at Home”, raising sexually healthy children, positive discipline, early literacy*

Neptune: (near Dufferin + Lawrence)

“How to Help my Child with Homework” + children’s program

- Oct 19th, 6-7:30pm + dinner
- at Baycrest Public School (145 Baycrest Ave,)
- **PLUS 2 workshops in November**

Lawrence Heights: (Dufferin + Lawrence)

A) “Success at School” + Ali-Aden’s JumpMath Children’s Tutorial

- 8 sessions Mondays 4:30-6:00 p.m. Sept 27 Nov 22
- Toronto Community Housing Resource Centre (10 Old Meadow Lane)
- In partnership with Lawrence Heights Parent’s Association
- **Topics:** *success at school, nutrition, raising sexually healthy children, positive discipline, early literacy, Toronto Public Library*

B) “Connecting Families” + Abdi Dheere’s children’s sports program

- 4 Saturdays in November 1- 2:30pm + lunch at noon
 - ◊ **Nov. 6: “How to Motivate Your Child to Succeed in School”**
 - ◊ **Nov 13: “Effective Parent Child Communication”**
 - ◊ **Nov 20: “Setting Appropriate Limits and Expectations”**
 - ◊ **Nov 27: “How to Help Children Be More Responsible”**
- at Lawrence Heights Community Centre (5 Replin Rd).
- In partnership with Abdi Dheere’s East African Community Assoc.

Downtown: at Yonge Street Mission (YST)

“Connecting Families” 4 sessions

- Mondays 1-3pm, Oct. 18th to Nov. 8th
- Located at YST: 270 Gerrard Ave (east of Parliament)
- **Topics:** *Active Listening, Increasing good behaviour through positive attention, Encouraging Cooperation, Success at School*

Scarborough:

“Connecting Families” + children’s program

- workshops to be announced in November at Crescent Town

Upcoming Programs

Our FST Parenting Column in *The Immigrant Post Magazine*

- “Schools Out: Tips on How to Keep Children Learning” (July 2010)
- “From a Seed: Kadija Hayir, A Somali woman leader, Cultivates her Garden and Her Community.” (June 2010)
- “Education: A Shared Responsibility Among Parents and Staff” (May 2010)
- “When Parent’s Get Involved they Succeed: Ali-Aden’s Successful Tutorial Program” (April 2010)
- “The Reality of Bullying in Your Child’s Life” (March 2010)



www.immigrantpost.ca

To view all of the articles and find out more about FST Connecting Families and the *Community and Neighbourhood Development Program* and other useful resources for families **Please visit**

www.familyserVICEToronto.org



Parent Facilitation Train-the-Trainer

12 participants from “Connecting Families” programs throughout the GTA are developing parent facilitation techniques in our 5 module program this Fall. An important element of this program is for parents to build and share resource ideas from each other and their respective communities.



Topics: “Connecting Families” philosophy, Facilitation skills, Group Planning, Content & Community Awareness.

Facilitators: Kadija Hayir, Halima Hussein and Gillian Frise

FST article goes Viral

The article in the Immigrant Post, “From a Seed: Kadija Hayir, a Somali woman leader, Cultivates her Garden and Her Community”, is being read all over the world via the internet because of the inspiration it brings to people. Kadija Hayir is a coordinator and parent facilitator for FST “Connecting Families”.



Please follow this link to read the story:

[“From a Seed: Kadija Hayir, A Somali woman leader, Cultivates her Garden and Her Community.”](#)

Upcoming Winter Groups:

Downtown:

- FST Church office, 355 Church St.
- workshop series



Jane and Finch:

- Firgrove Public School
- 8 sessions

MORE GROUPS TBA



Left, father from “Connecting Families” receiving his parenting certificate, 2010.