

Relationships with Somali childcare providers aim to aid children's development

October, 2014 – Bloomington Public Health is building relationships with Somali child care providers. The purpose is to give Somali children the benefits of quality, early childcare.



Pictured above are workshop participants and one of the trainers.

All children deserve early childhood experiences that support learning and health

Quality childcare comes from trained providers who can give children experiences that foster intellectual, social, emotional and physical health. These early experiences lay the foundation for later school and life success. It is an opportunity that all children deserve. Giving these experiences to children whose family circumstances make it more difficult can give these children a better future.

“We didn’t know we had access to all these resources.”

Workshop participant

Relationships are built by training Somali childcare leaders

Through the Tri-City Partners for Healthy Communities collaborative, Bloomington Public Health first recruited training participants. They partnered with local Hennepin County Libraries, Bloomington Public Schools and University of Minnesota Extension to reach out to Somali childcare providers in Bloomington, Edina and Richfield.

The purpose of training is to give Somali childcare providers some practical knowledge that they can pass on to others in their community. The knowledge would give children early experiences that support healthy eating, physical activity and school readiness.

A group of Somali childcare providers have already participated in trainings conducted in partnership with Hennepin Libraries and Minnesota Extension. One participant said, “We didn’t know we had access to all these resources.”

This is just the beginning of our relationship supporting quality early experiences for Somali children. Research has confirmed that quality early experiences are important in the healthy development of children, and that is the goal.

Contact for more information

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