Family Living Program Report

February-March 2016

Programming Efforts:

**Child Development Days** in Melrose-Mindoro and AC-H-M School Districts – these events provided opportunities to engage, promote, explain, invite, refer families with young children to Extension programs. Some of the results of this year’s visits included making contacts with local school staff to develop some marketing strategies for programs in the Melrose area, set up local site for offering the Taking Care of You series, families signed up on mailing lists for parenting newsletters, promotion of educational opportunities available in the agriculture and youth development programs.

From a parent – “I think there might be interest in a Strengthening Families program and I would help with getting the word out.”

**Strengthening Families Program** is continuing through the 12 week program. **Parenting the** **Preschooler**, a 3 session program, is being used with a group of parents using face-to-face sessions and e-mail where I e-mail a scenario to the parents and they return their ideas, suggestions, and questions.

This is a cross-program effort with Monica, Lisa, and Alex.

Observation from the facilitators “The youth just seem to be more involved each week as they head off to their group.”

**Taking Care of You series** – have completed 4 weeks of the 8 week program. Highlights of each session are being reported in the Banner Journal as a feature by one of the class participants/reporter for BJ.

This is a cross-program effort with Monica.

From a participant – “I am sorry I had to miss this week but I did complete something on My Joy List (this list is where the participant identifies something that gives them energy, inspires, elevates their mood) and I felt really good about that.”

**Ho-Chunk Head Start Family Day** – participated in this annual event with a display of family/parent programs and activities that focus on their Literacy (“becoming more aware of skills that can strengthen our family”). Also presented two mini-presentations on Children & Money and Family Communication.

Introduced the March Money $mart display for March at this event Saving Your Money. The display will now be placed at the Head Start Center through the month and the staff will provide related activities for the children and the parents will receive the monthly newsletter.

Support Programs/Meetings:

Participated in the monthly Family Living Program area wisline with focus on Using 2015 Reporting Results.

Participated in the monthly Family Living Tech Talk wisline with a focus on Screen Time for Children

Preparation for Staff Retreat program along with office team members

Met with the Farmer’s Market Committee