FAMILY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



Success Begins At Home



"The FLI challenged me to get out of my comfort zone and learn something new. This experience empowered me to take action to transform my life."

Wanda Ramos, Parent, Orlando FLI



The Family Leadership Institute (FLI) is a multifaceted educational curriculum focused on providing families with the knowledge, tools and inspiration to help their children succeed in school and in life.

The Family Leadership Institute (FLI) was originally designed as a culturally-specific educational program focused on providing immigrant and migrant Hispanic families the knowledge, tools and inspiration necessary to help their first and second generation children succeed in school and in life.

The FLI curriculum continues to help families of diverse ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds grow as individuals, parents and leaders.

Through a series of ten modules, parents are provided the skills, abilities and attitudes necessary to enhance their own personal success to serve as better role models for their children.

During the FLI program, parents are encouraged to become engaged in their children's education in an effort to achieve academic success.

The workshops are conducted in both English and Spanish. Each workshop contains a series of lectures, participant discussions, storytelling, role-playing, group and individual activities.



Proud FLI Graduate presents the Flores-Romero Action Plan. Houston, May, 2008.



FLI Parents work together at a FLI Workshop.





For the last thirteen years, Consuelo has dedicated her life to empowering a new generation of leaders. She has worked with over one million children and their parents across the United States through Educational Achievement Services, Inc. (EAS), a human development company she founded in 1994.

As a grassroots activist, Consuelo saw first-hand the challenges that many families were facing. She knew that they needed to take their communities back so she created the Family Leadership Institute curriculum. Today, the Family Leadership Institute is helping families succeed in over seven states throughout America.

Born and raised along the border in a small barrio in Laredo, Texas, Consuelo Kickbusch is all too familiar with the challenges of poverty, discrimination and illiteracy. Although she grew up without material wealth, she was taught by her immigrant parents that she was rich in culture, tradition, values and faith.

The values she learned as a child were reinforced throughout her career in the U.S. military. After graduating from Hardin Simmons University, Consuelo entered the U.S. Army as an officer.

After a twenty-two year career in the military, Kickbusch chose to honor her mother's dying wish to get back to her roots and become a community leader. Since then, she has dedicated her life to preparing tomorrow's leaders today.

"What I learned in the Family Leadership Institute is that no matter what background you come from the FLI is for everyone and everyone can excel."

Rigoberto Alvarez, Parent, Las Vegas FLI





educational achievement services

Educational Achievement Services, Inc. (EAS) is a human development company that strives to motivate, inspire and develop the next generation of leaders. With long-term programs, one-day conferences, trainings, or motivational speeches, EAS serves clients ranging from corporations to school districts and helps many people from corporate executives to school children.

Educational Achievement Services (EAS) was founded in 1994 by Retired Lieutenant Colonel Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch. Kickbusch started the company from her living room on a dream and a prayer. Today, EAS is a multi-faceted company offering many different programs, products and services to clients like Wal-Mart, Boeing, and McDonalds. Staying true to its core values and "service before profit" motto, EAS also works with the community at a grass roots level in schools, churches, and family centers across the country.

EAS was founded on eight *CORE* values including: Humility, Gratitude, Respect, Dignity, Courtesy, Work Ethic and FUN!

Additionally, EAS, Inc. also offers SLiCK, which stands for Student Leadership Inspired by Consuelo Kickbusch. SLiCK is a revolutionary, innovative and interactive series of student leadership workshops geared towards nurturing the leadership skills within students to achieve personal growth in a desire to create positive change in their lives and community.

SLiCK was created as an individual program, but it enhances the teachings of the FLI Curriculum. When the FLI and SLiCK operate simultaneously, it is an ideal combination which maximizes the effectiveness of both programs.



"I learned that as a leader, I must have a vision and need to formulate a vision for my family. I remind my children everyday the importance of education."

Virginia Alvarez, Parent, Houston FLI



The objective of the Family Leadership Institute is to teach parents and caregivers the art and skills of family leadership in support of academic achievement and life success for their children by using a practical, ten-step approach.

Goals

- Increase engagement of families in their children's education.
- Provide purpose, tools, and direction to parents and their children to achieve academic success and success in life.
- Produce a cadre of knowledgeable and committed parents and caregivers who actively support school and community efforts to benefit their children and encourage other families to do the same.

Program Features

- Modules can be tailored to the specific needs of individual schools and school districts.
- Workshops can be delivered in English or in Spanish by licensed FLI practitioners.
- The FLI program incorporates community resource speakers to inform participants of the types of local assistance available.
- The FLI can be coupled with existing and/or specifically designed English-as-a-Second Language/adult literacy programs.

Highlights

- The FLI has graduated over 2,000 graduates nationwide.
- The program has been recognized by the Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA) Department of Education as one of the three "Best Practices" parent programs in the country.
- Research-based data shows improved parental involvement and increased academic achievement for Houston Independent School District (HISD.)

"The FLI caught my attention because I didn't have much communication with my husband and now we talk more and we have a better relationship with our daughter who also has changed positively in her way of being and now has better grades." Margarita Alvarez, Parent, Las Vegas FLI



The FLI Curriculum is based on a 10 module approach. Each session focuses on different leadership development topics that can include guest speakers, group activities and field trips.

1. Home: Where Leadership Begins

Each participant is able to identify his or her own leadership style and preference.

2. Self-Identity: Past, Present & Future

Parents define elements of self-identity and explore how self-esteem affects the family.

3. Living in Two Worlds: Cultural and Generational Perspectives

Cultural pride and traditions are highlighted. Participants will learn about the pressures children face related to drug and alcohol experimentation, peer pressure, teenage pregnancy, depression, suicide, and other relevant issues.

4. Storytelling and Journaling: Valuing Literacy through Family History

The value a family places on literacy in the enjoyment of reading has a profound effect on the ability of children to acquire the reading skills essential to success.

5. Education: The Key to a Better Future

Parents focus on the essential role of education in the economic, social and intellectual well-being of their children. Facts and national statistics on reading and mathematics are presented.

6. College Field Trip: What Does Success Look Like?

Participants visit a local community college or a fouryear university to understand that a college education for their child is attainable and is a realistic family goal.

Clovis, NM parent listens to the facilitator's message during a FLI workshop.

- 7. Improving Family and School Relationships: Partnerships for Success Strategies for building relationships with teachers, staff, and administrators are addressed. Parents become true advocates for education and school staff.
- 8. Facing Challenges at Home: Coping Strategies for Success Participants set goals after they identify the obstacles and behaviors that keep them from achieving personal and family goals, such as healthcare issues and financial education.
- 9. Creating a Family Action Plan: Roadmaps to Success Parents develop their vision, missions, goals, and objectives, creating an action plan of how to support their children to achieve success in school and in life.
- 10. Celebrating Family Academic Excellence: Success As a Way of Life The culmination of the course includes families making presentations to members of the local school board or other educational administrators. Participants share their successes and their children's academic progression.



Linda Rivera is recognized for her contribution to the FLI program.



Las Vegas graduating class Dec. 2007.



Parents and School Administrators listen to the keynote speaker at the Dec. 2007 Las Vegas graduation ceremony.

FLI Parent Graduation

The final element of the Family Leadership Institute is a graduation ceremony for parents who have actively participated in the program (criteria for graduation is determined by the school district). Certificates are given to each qualified parent and a keynote address is given by either the facilitator of the program or an administrator of the local school district.

"This is a program that I think is very good because one learns a lot on how to talk to our children, give them advice and exchange experiences."

Rigoberto Alvarez, Parent, Las Vegas FLI



Dr. Gene Schmidt Superintendent, Bridgeport School District

"Love for learning begins in the home. The Family Leadership Institute's simple but powerful message to the families of Bridgeport, Washington became the rally cry, which led to increased parent involvement and launched our school district on its way to two National Title 1 Distinguished School awards and created a strong family-school partnership. As family participation in the educational lives of our children increased, so did the improvement in student achievement in the classroom. The reception to the FLI training was unbelievable. New community leaders emerged. Our Latino population gained a voice. New Latino businesses were opened in town. Student achievement in school improved. A community once divided became whole."

David Briseño Executive Director of Federal Programs, Clovis Municipal Schools

"The Family Leadership Institute is the foundation for our parental involvement program in the Clovis Municipal Schools. More than any program I have had the pleasure to implement in my 25 years in education, the FLI truly transforms the participants in the program into leaders and effective parents. After 5 years of implementation and with over 400 parent graduates of the FLI, our graduates can be found on a number of school level committees and just recently, two of our shining stars represented parents on the District's strategic planning committee. They are everywhere and are having a positive impact on the education of their children."

Elizabeth Celeste Humphries, Supervisor Title III, Multilingual Programs, HISD

"The Family Leadership Institute sponsored through Title III funding has been in the Houston Independent School District for the past 5 years, graduating over 600 parent leaders. This program has improved the lives of many families as well as the academic achievement of their children. We have had parents continuing their education, opening their own businesses and even one parent that became a bilingual teacher in our district."



Contact Us!

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