

Welcome to **WOONSOCKET EVEN START...**



Woonsocket Even Start is dedicated to improving the educational opportunities of parents and children through an integrated program of adult education, parenting, early childhood, and interactive literacy in an effort to improve parents' literacy skills while helping their children succeed in school. Even Start addresses the needs of low income and educationally disadvantaged families with a goal of making positive economic and social impacts on families with young children. We work closely with community partners to provide an array of support services that include child care, case management, life skills workshops, school support and community referrals.

Woonsocket Even Start is provided at no cost to families. They must have a child under the age of 8 and meet the low income and low literacy requirements. We are in session Monday through Thursday from 9:00AM – 2:00PM. We offer classes from September through June and provide a limited summer program with home visits and field trips.

The **Adult Education** component includes *English as a Second Language (ESL)* that services parents with low English skills. We focus on improving English language skills through a curriculum of real life issues such as parenting, health, shopping, banking and job readiness. The *ABE/GED* class focuses on preparing students to take the official GED tests and to improve their literacy skills for further education or job training.

The **Parent Education** component promotes positive parent/child relationships, improves parental knowledge, attitudes and skills in the growth and development of their children, and demonstrates the importance of their role in their children's education. We also offer information on issues that support family well-being and success.

The **Early Childhood Center** provides care in a nurturing and safe environment for children 18 months to five years of age while their parents attend class. We offer a developmentally appropriate program to enhance the development of the child, advance emerging literacy skills, provide the skills needed to succeed in school and ease transitions. The center is licensed by the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF).

The **Interactive Literacy Activities** bring together parents and children with a focus on language and literacy development. Parents participate in Family Reading where each family receives a free book weekly; take home literacy bags, home visits and family field trips and activities.

Woonsocket Even Start is a certified vendor for the **10 hour RI Works Program**. RI Works parents who are required to participate in 30 hours of work activity and are currently working 20 hours may choose a secondary activity of adult education for 10 hours in an effort to improve English skills or obtain a GED.

Woonsocket Even Start
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