

# 4 Cornerstones of Early Head Start

Cornerstones are values outlined to establish the foundations of Early Head Start

## **1. Child Development**

Early Head Start supports the child's physical, social, emotional, cognitive and language development. Child development is children developing through different stages or how children grow and learn.

The way we address this cornerstone is through developmentally appropriate environments (classrooms), home visits, parent-child activities, health needs, mental health services, and providing high quality interactions.

### 2. Family Development

We empower families by developing goals specific to their family, using the Family Journal. Goals could include – creating a family budget, obtaining GED, or college degree, obtaining driver's license or transportation.

Trainings are offered to parents according to parent needs or interest. Some training's we have offered have been Smoking Cessation, Cooking Classes, First Aid, and First Time Home Buyers among others. Parent-Teacher conferences, assistance with obtaining adult education, safe housing and income support, transportation to program services and doctor's appointments are also ways that we support family development.

#### 3. Community Partnerships

NPHS seek comprehensive resources to support pregnant women and families.

Community Partners include: WV Birth to Three, YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter, Village Network, Family Resource Network in all counties, and the Child Care Partnership grant to name a few.

#### 4. Staff Development

On-going training, supervision, and mentoring is provided to all our staff to ensure "best practices" in the areas of child development, family development, and community building. This is accomplished through Professional Development Plans that focus on goals identified by the staff with help from their professional development coach and through position specific trainings. Staff development is supported throughout each program year.



#### **Child Development**





