



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Announcing Free In-Home Parent Education Program to Tarrant Country

FORT WORTH, Texas – The Parenting Center is proud to announce their newest program, Home Visiting, Education, and Leadership (H.E.A.L.). This is an evidence-based, in-home family strengthening program that utilizes the SafeCare Curriculum. This free, parent education program is designed to teach skills such as child behavior management and planned activities training, home safety training, parent training on how to create healthy parent-child interactions, and child healthcare education. Registration for this program is now open.

“We’re excited to be able to offer this much needed program to our community said Barbara Lamsens, executive director at The Parenting Center. “This program goes hand-in-hand with our core belief that empowering families with the necessary knowledge and skills can lead them to develop and maintain healthy lives.”

Bliss Coulter, M.S. is the program director for the H.E.A.L. Program. Prior to accepting the program director position, Ms. Coulter was a family life educator at The Parenting Center. Before joining The Parenting Center, Ms. Coulter was an investigator for Child Protective Services and has her Master’s degree in Clinical Counseling.

Ms. Coulter said about the program: “It is a great asset to the families we serve. Not only is the curriculum proven to help the prevention of child abuse and maltreatment, but parents gain essential tools to help foster a healthy environment in which their children can learn and grow.”

The SafeCare Curriculum typically provides 18 to 22 weeks of training to parents with children from birth to age 5. During 60- to 90-minute weekly home visits, trained parent educators conduct baseline and follow-up assessments, observations, and trainings with parents. Training focuses on three modules, each implemented over five to seven visits: (1) infant and child health, (2) home safety, and (3) parent-infant/parent-child interactions. During the parent training, educators explain the rationale for a particular concept, model the concept, have the parent practice the steps, and then provide feedback.

The Parenting Center was awarded the four-year H.E.A.L. grant in June, 2014, from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), on behalf of the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS). Competing with many other candidates, The Parenting Center was successful in being awarded this grant to add to their other programs that provide family members with the tools, resources and services to build successful families in the Tarrant County community. For more information on the H.E.A.L. Program, please visit www.theparentingcenter.org/heal/

About The Parenting Center:

The Parenting Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit with a mission of providing families the tools to succeed. The agency impacts over 16,000 individuals a year through its Family Life Education, Counseling, Case Management and Co-Parenting programs. To learn more about The Parenting Center’s dedication to safeguarding our children, please contact 817-632-5515 or visit www.theparentingcenter.org.

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