



## **Community Planning Council**

The Community Planning Council was established by Greenwich United Way to encourage the most effective and efficient health and human service delivery system for Greenwich. Comprised of community leaders, nonprofit service professionals, Greenwich United Way board members, and community volunteers, the work of the Planning Council, particularly through its periodic Needs Assessments, has led to the development of some of the Town's most valued programs and institutions.

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### **Community Planning Council Meeting**

**Thursday 4/11, 8:30am, Children and Youth: Greenwich Achievement Gap, Greenwich United Way's Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) Program**

#### **Children and Youth: Greenwich Achievement Gap**

Michelle Krepak, Outreach Program Supervisor, Greenwich Parents as Teachers  
Gloria Bran, Parent Educator, Greenwich Parents as Teachers  
Sindy Orellana, Parent Educator, Greenwich Parents as Teachers  
Sophy Abreu, Pre-School Instructional Coach, Greenwich United Way

**According to the Greenwich United Way's Needs Assessment, over the past ten years, focus groups have cited the need to close the achievement gap as the most important issue to address. The achievement gap begins at birth, is clearly established by age three and continues through high school and beyond.**

#### **Highlights from the Presentation:**

The presentation covered the two core components of Greenwich United Way's Early Childhood Achievement Gap Solutions (ECAGS) Program: Greenwich Parents as Teachers (GPAT), an evidence-based home visitation program and Pre-school Instructional Coaching at community-based pre-schools, utilizing the Jim Knight model.

Home Visitation Program - Greenwich Parents as Teachers:

- GPAT utilizes the evidenced-based Parents as Teachers (PAT) curriculum founded in 1981.
- The GPAT approach includes: personal visits, resource networking, group connections and developmental screenings which are facilitated by two bilingual Parent Educators.
- Services begin prenatally or up to 12 months and continue until the child turns three years old.
- First- and second-time moms and dads are eligible for the free program with low-income family eligibility.
- Home visits focus on: parent/child interactions, developmental centered parenting and family well-being.

Pre-School Instructional Coaching:

- Instructional Coaching (IC) is an effectual method for teachers to implement the use of research-based techniques in their classroom to improve their practices and student outcomes.
- Compared to traditional professional development, instructional coaching has a more significant impact on teacher's instructional practices.

The goal of IC is to implement proven research-based practices to improve teaching practices in the classroom while addressing prevalent issues that teachers face.

#### **Next Community Planning Council Meeting:**

Thursday, 5/16, 8:30 am, Temple Shalom, Topic: Basic Needs – Local Mental Health Services

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