

UNLEASHING THE PHENOMENAL POWER OF PARENTING

In all the research about how children learn and fail to learn, one conclusion has stood out for years more than any other: When parents get involved, children learn more and faster, and find greater success and happiness in life.

That is why Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center started its 18-39 Parental Empowerment Program, which challenges young parents in the Marvell-Elaine community to continue their own lifetime learning and to get actively involved in their children's education by reading and problem-solving at home, interacting with teachers and participating in school activities.

There are always challenges, and a current one is the coronavirus pandemic, which has altered almost every aspect of life. Prior to the Covid-19 restrictions on socializing, parents participated in parent-teacher conferences and community outreach events to connect to educational resources. After the implementation of Covid-19 restrictions, parents have continued to be actively engaged in the education of their kids through communication with faculty and staff.

Parental engagement has never been more important or difficult. The use of family events such as reading time and connection to online resources are excellent tools to decrease the educational gap among school-age children, especially with the difficulties posed by necessary restrictions on activities to protect the health and safety of children and everyone else. BGACDC has invited more parents to join its 18-39 Parental Empowerment Program. It is time to recognize and celebrate their determination to keep their children's development advancing in the hardest and most trying of times. BGACDC salutes area parents for their resilience and dedication to the growth and development of their children.

The program is open to all parents 18-39. It supports parents returning to education by obtaining their G.E.D., on-the-job training certification, and/or a higher education degree. The program also provides resources to improve math and literacy scores in school-age children.



Diamacious Sims, BGACDC's youth and family services coordinator, works with her family members

