

Parent Leadership



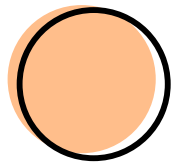
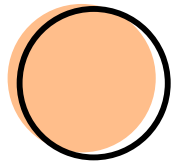
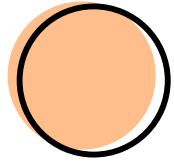
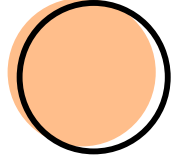


Early Head Start promotes partnerships with parents while recognizing that they are leaders and advocates in the lives of their children. Parents are their child's first teacher and greatest cheerleader!

What does parent advocacy and leadership look like? Parents advocate for their child's well-being. Parental responsibilities are similar to those of other advocacy and leadership roles. If you know how to multi-task, problem solve, make decisions, set ground rules and complete tasks – you are ready to be an Early Head Start leader!

What the research says about Advocates and Leaders?

Parents who serve as leaders and advocates in Early Head Start have . . .

	Children who experience greater opportunities both at school and at home
	Knowledge and skills for leadership, while also building connections and self-confidence
	Opportunity to assist Early Head Start to better able meet the needs of children, families and the community they serve
	Stronger communities who understand the needs of the people who live there





What are the advocacy and leadership opportunities at SCFS EHS?

Policy Council: composed of enrolled parents and community representatives who meet monthly and engage in shared-decision making with the SCFS board. Decisions that are made include fiscal, grant application/ budget, policies, hiring/ firing of key EHS staff, program options, service area and operations.

Parent Committee: Parents As Leaders (PAL) – composed of enrolled parents who meet monthly to receive updates from the Policy Council and the program. Parents offer suggestions to the program for activities and services.

» School Readiness Committee:

responsible for the implementation of the curriculum for children's learning and the Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment

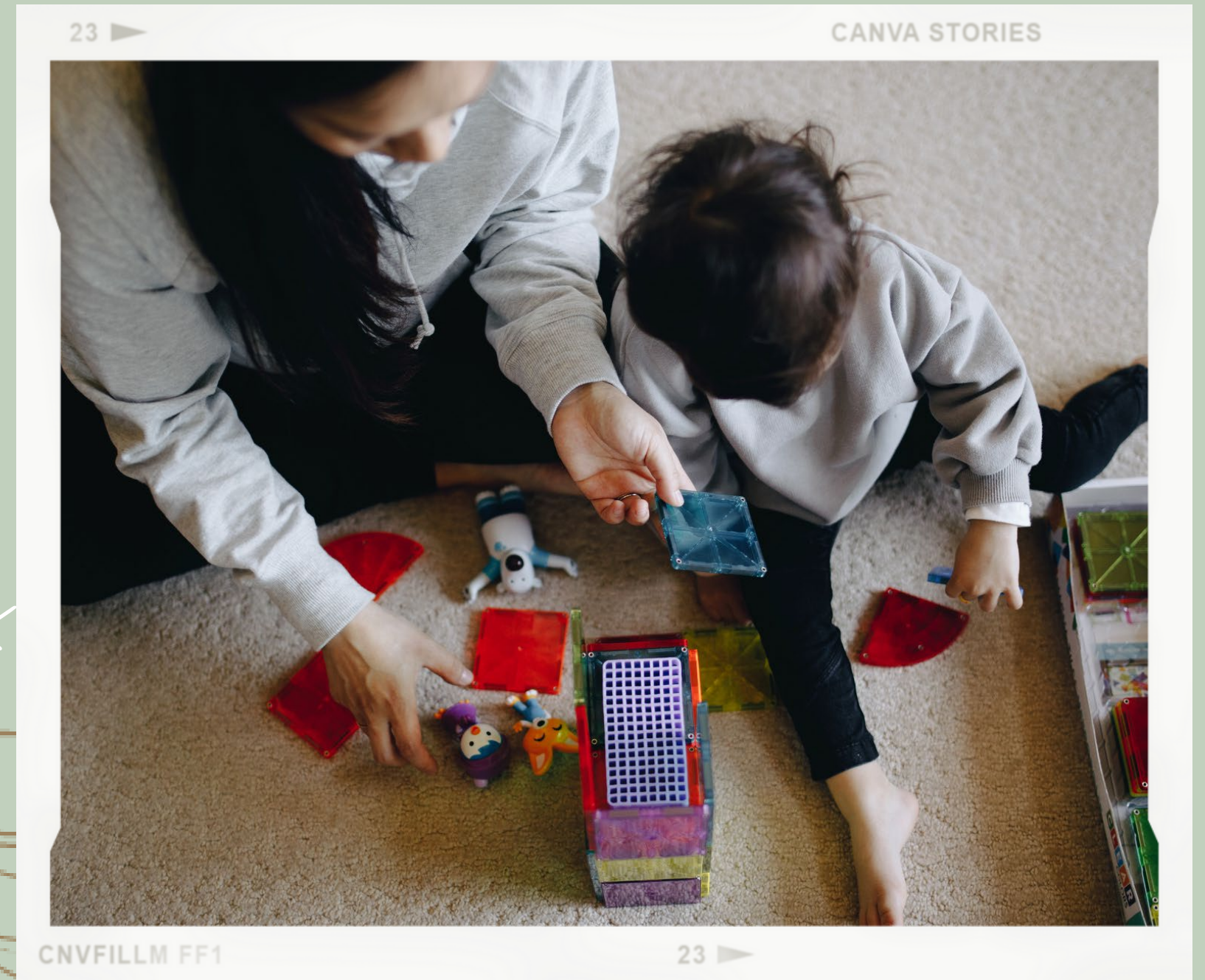
» Health Services Advisory Committee:

responsible for the implementation and oversight of health, nutrition & dental services

» Parent Trainings:

held monthly with specific topics; parents are encouraged to participate in & present at the trainings

What are the advocacy and leadership opportunities at SCFS EHS?





Serving as a leader & advocate...

Your leadership advocacy is needed in Early Head Start

- Review the Parent Handbook for more details about the leadership opportunities
- Review the monthly School Readiness Activity calendar for the dates and times of the P.A.L., Policy Council and training times
- Show up and show your leadership and advocacy skills
- Celebrate your experiences and talents that you bring to Early Head Start



Who are you going to call? *

For more information about leadership and advocacy opportunities...

- Contact your Family Service Specialist
- Talk with other Early Head Start parents
- Reach out to a management team member

Early Head Start needs your voice, please be prepared to speak up! *