



Communities 4 Families

Grant Report

Date: May 2015

Organization: Filipino Women's Initiative

What is the name of activity for which the grant was used?

Wiggle, Giggle & Munch
Positive Discipline for Everyday Parenting program

Describe your program and its success

The 2 programs build community amongst participants. They were able to spend time together on a weekly basis and found new family friends, which is very important for new families who are looking for sense of belonging and community while having opportunities for their kids to learn with other kids and spend time with them.

One child came to the program so that she would get used to socializing with other kids, learning songs, crafts and stories in a fun way. The child was shy in the beginning but later became very active and every week she wanted to come to the program.

One of the parents shared how much she appreciates the program because she gets to spend time with her kids and she can continue doing what she learn at home. She is a stay home mom and it is very important for her and her children to socialize and be in an environment where they can have fun and learn new things together. They love the song and dance that we have at Wiggle, Giggle and Munch.

Also, in the Positive Discipline program, the parents established strong relationships with one another and really took the session to heart. They are always sharing how the program positively impacts their parenting style and relationship with kids and family especially that they are in a new country, with new environment and culture and ways of raising kids. Parents in the beginning were shocked with the parenting laws in Canada but later accepted it and appreciated the value of providing warmth and structure to children and having the time to listen to their children as well.

The Positive Discipline group created an online chat group, so that they will still continue their communication even if the program is over. They still share articles and stories through the chat group and ask questions about parenting and other resources. The group is looking forward to have new programs in September and they are strongly requesting for it to happen.

What do you think was the biggest impact of this program?

We would like to thank Communities 4 Families for this incredible opportunity to run this kind of program in the community. It helped us get to know one another better and allowed us to spend time with our children and learn different activities that we can do at home. This also gave us an opportunity to allow our children to learn in a fun environment.

The Positive Discipline program and other parenting programs are very important for all parents. Also for newcomer families who came to Canada for a better life for their children and family. Sometimes, it is not easy in the beginning, but with programs and supports like this, they are being helped to adjust in this new place, learn new skills and information, connect with the bigger community and contribute to their new place.

One of the participants commented that if their child is learning new things from school, they also need to learn as parents so that they can grow and build their lives together in this new place. She said, that because of the Wiggle, Giggle and Munch program and Positive Discipline, she knows that she can be the best mom she can be to her two daughters.